

**D****Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)*****D. Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)***

The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) on its website within one month after the signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

Please describe your institution's international (EU and non-EU) strategy. In your description please explain a) how you choose your partners, b) in which geographical area(s) and c) the most important objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (with regard to staff and students in first, second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles). If applicable, also explain how your institution participates in the development of double/multiple/joint degrees. (max. 5000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Strategy of international cooperation

Based on previous experience, monitoring and evaluation of on-going projects, needs analysis and overall institutional strategy, we aim to:

- extend and consolidate network of cooperating organizations in order to make the cooperation mutually beneficial and long-term strategic partnership
- foster and diversify international cooperation to organize projects concerning student and staff mobilities, capacity building and innovation transfer based on preferences, needs and strategic goals of stakeholders
- continue in building diverse (geographically and thematically) network to improve the quality of higher education in (international) social and humanitarian work (traineeships in developing countries, joint projects with EU and non-EU universities, capacity building)

In order to ensure achievement of these aims, strategy is specified as follows:

- 1) Partners are chosen based on needs analysis, previous contact and/or good references, quality requirements and their specific assets in order to assure and improve quality of higher education in offered study programmes. The partnerships are established after mutual agreement on roles and benefits of key stakeholders.
- 2) Partnerships are established in order to constantly build diverse network in terms of geographical and thematic orientation. Geographically, we aim to cooperate with partners in both developed and developing countries which is based on content of our study programmes (charitable and social work, international social and humanitarian work). Both kinds of partnerships can contribute in good practice and innovation transfer as well as improvement of higher education in humanitarian and social work. Orientation in various developing countries situation is necessary, therefore we tend to cooperate with countries mainly in Latin America, Africa, South-East Asia. In developed countries, we cooperate with organizations and institutions focused on social work with different target groups, especially immigrants, hence we aim to cooperation with EU countries as well as North America and Australia.
- 3) Objectives of mobility activities are set in four perspectives: benefits of partner organizations, participants, our institution and the sector.
  - a. Firstly, we target on contribute to the partners' outcomes quality improvement through the capacity building projects, knowledge alliances, innovation transfers and mobilities and contribution of professionals and capable students.
  - b. In terms of participant benefits, objectives can be seen as enlarging their experience in a different environment and improvement of their language skills. This can help students and staff to gain specific knowledge and acquire new skills in order to better perform their tasks and to ensure their higher employability. Mobility can also form participant's attitudes to be more tolerant and cooperative, they are prepared to work in globalized society.
  - c. Our institution's objectives are to improve quality of the provided courses and offered study programmes through international mobilities and innovation transfers. We want to achieve better quality of our alumni in order to be more employable and useful for the society. In addition, we want to develop competencies of our staff and contribute to the growth of knowledge due to research projects. Target groups of mobility activities are mainly students (especially disadvantaged), staff and experts from abroad.
  - d. We also contribute to the sector development aiming at validation and dissemination of international projects' outcomes, promoting and mediating international cooperation in social and humanitarian work, linking higher cross sector cooperation among education institutions, research and local companies and organizations.

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

International cooperation projects in teaching and training are to be proposed and implemented based on needs analysis of our institution, potential partners and beneficiaries. We want to share our know-how and experience in teaching and training in order to contribute to the development of the sector (charitable and social work, international social and humanitarian work) and higher education quality improvement. Especially, we are interested in involvement (as coordinators or partners) in projects in following areas:

- trainings for professionals from both EU and non-EU countries in humanitarian work,
- study programmes or short cycles for non-EU students, related to social and/or humanitarian work,
- traineeship arrangement for students and/or professionals abroad in local social services organizations (and vice versa)
- development projects in non-EU countries

Prior to the project implementation, in depth needs analysis as well as feasibility study and communication with key stakeholders are necessary. Prior to the project implementation, in depth needs analysis as well as feasibility study and communication with key stakeholders are necessary. Sustainable funding scheme has to be found and implemented in order to achieve goals of our involvement.

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda\*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve. (max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Expected impacts of our participation in the Programme on the modernization of our institution can be seen in five dimensions based on priorities of the Modernisation Agenda.

1) Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs

- systematic contact and research of human resources needed in the field of social and humanitarian work
- increase of amount of graduates based on needs of the society and companies
- promote study opportunities in the field of social and humanitarian work

2) Improving the quality and relevance of higher education

- internalization and improvement of study programmes quality through innovation transfer, knowledge alliance and study/work mobilities
- improvement of relevance of graduates' knowledge and skills based on evaluative research of study programmes and organizations' needs analysis
- quality assurance of graduates' level of knowledge and staff competencies

3) Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation

- increase of amount of mobilities and their quality within EU as well as in Third Countries
- establishment new long-term partnerships contributing to the development of key stakeholders
- implementation of new international cooperation projects beneficial for students, staff and beneficiaries of these projects

4) Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development

- promotion of cooperation among local actors (youth organizations, social partners, companies and organization, higher education institutions) in order to support policy and regional development
- applied research based on needs in the field of social and humanitarian work organizations
- cooperation among relevant higher education institutions in the region and worldwide on specific projects (see above)

5) Improving governance and funding

- establishment of network of co-operating organizations in compliance with project specification with clear division of tasks and funding
- improvement of communication and task division process within our institution to be able to adapt social and economic environment changes and new project opportunities
- effective and efficient use of funds based on international cooperation strategy and its priorities, diversification of funding portfolio