

## 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]

Since 2005 we have been taking part in European programs. At first we participated through a consortium with Madrid Town Hall, but since 2010 we have been participating on our own. Nearly 80 of our students have trained abroad and 10 of our teachers have also had a training period in a foreign country.

Our partners are chosen in different ways. Some of them have contacted us in their search of a host institution; some others are the result of preparatory visits we have made to different countries; several are direct personal contacts from students or teachers from our staff and others are contacts of our previous partners.

We try to make agreements with schools because it is easier for us to explain how our compulsory on-the-job training periods work, because they usually have something similar in their curriculum. Nevertheless, some of our partners are companies that we consider suitable for our students' learning.

We choose our partners in countries that can be interesting for our students because of their technological innovation or their relevance in a particular sector. In any case we consider that any country can be a potential partner because every country has something to offer.

We encourage mobility for our students, including those who have already finished their studies, through Leonardo program. We also promote mobility for the staff because we consider that a training period abroad is an invaluable contribution for our students' formation as well as a very interesting experience for the staff. The school profits from the different experiences and they contribute to the general improvement of the institution.

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]

It does not apply

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]

Training abroad is an opportunity for our students and also for our institution itself. It makes these kind of studies more attractive to a population of a wider range and gives prestige to the institutions that carry them out. The effect on the number of students that enroll at the institution is quite relevant.

Our students are aware of the fact that training abroad is an invaluable complement for their studies as it gives them the possibility to put into practice the theoretical knowledge they have and check if it meets the needs of a global labour market. They are also very interested in improving their linguistic competences which is a relevant consequence of the stay abroad.

At the same time, mobility improves the quality of the contents of these higher education studies because they can be contrasted with real needs. A collaboration is established between the school and foreign companies or institutions, that is very satisfactory for both, as it highlights the weak points of the curriculum for future improvement.

Mobility should be a priority for vocational training schools, and it is for us, because it is our future. Schools that promote it will be best positioned to improve their teaching. The relationship between the school and foreign companies is very important for the future development of our students and for the adaptation of the contents we teach to the requirements of the companies.

We encourage donations and agreements with different companies to get additional funds that could serve to improve the equipment and resources of our school.

\* COM (2011) 567 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0567:FIN:EN:PDF>)