

## **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]

To increase institutional performance in terms of modernization and internationalization, University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati has a strategy focused on: developing international collaboration with universities, research and development institutions or international academic organizations, based on inter-institutional agreements; increasing the number of staff and student mobility; affiliation to academic organizations and/or international scientific societies; participation in international research and cultural programs; participation in international competitions.

The partners are chosen based on common interest regarding improving, development and fair benefits of the academic communities of the partners. In regard of modernization and internationalization of the institution, the prestige of the partners prevails over geographical area interest. Top EU and non-EU universities are of basic interest in ensuring high-quality learning activity and research.

Geographical area plays an important role especially for regional development, benefiting of local resources and supporting local and regional communities. Common history, traditions and culture are expected to contribute to an increasing number of mobility and outcomes for partners.

Mobility activities are focused mainly on staff and students in the first and second cycle due to their more general curricula and existing opportunities for study and work placement. To improve student mobility, in terms of quality and number, continuing improvement of curricula is undertaken. Curricula are adapted to the need of labour market, by increasing professional skills based on national qualification frameworks. Since the national qualification frameworks are linked to the European Qualifications Framework, which are based on learning outcomes, improvement of curricula leads to the continue increasing of the employability and entrepreneurship at local, regional and European level. For a better matching of graduate skills with labour markets, continuing attention, support and mentoring is paid to traineeships. To encourage the student mobility, clear procedures for recognizing learning and work placement gained abroad are set out based on ECTS and Diploma Supplement. University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati is issuing the Diploma Supplement to its graduating students, in which recognized learning and/or traineeship activities undertaken during the student's mobility period and location of these mobility activities are listed.

For the third cycle students, participation in joint degree ensures the recognition of doctoral studies in both countries of the two partners. Doctoral students are considered as early stage researches and they are contributing to research and development of local, regional and European economy. Joint degrees are started and developed based on common research area and opportunities to implement the research outcomes in economy of both partner countries. Participation of our institution in joint degree supports high technology transfer and a wider base for research.

University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati ensures mentoring and adequate support to its mobile staff and students for a fair preparation of their mobility periods. Preparation of student mobility concerns differences between partner institutions and/or enterprises and particular aspects regarding traditions, cultural and linguistic challenges. The preparation consists of meetings and discussion with former mobile staff and students. Language preparation is a crucial element to ensure success in mobility outcomes and it will be evaluated during selection process. Students and staff are closely supported and mentored regarding the preparation of their mobility.

To increase the number and quality students and staff, our institution is attracting the best students, academics and researchers from outside the EU by developing new forms of cross-border cooperation and attractive curricula. Non-EU students and staff are seen as important sources of income for our institution.

Mobility of teaching and non-teaching staff is encouraged and supported to increase the number and quality of this mobility. Staff exchanges, both for teaching and training, ensure continue improvement of staff activity as well as improvement of curricula to current and emerging labour market needs and increasing employability and entrepreneurship of the graduating students.

Cooperation between University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati and its EU and non-EU partners is based on inter-institutional agreements that foresee activities and mobility of staff and students.

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]

To organize and implement EU and non-EU cooperation projects, University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati is establishing first the objectives for its participation, assuming the role it intends to play and the results which it expects to achieve. The foreseen results of participation in cooperation projects assume to be sustainable and balanced to lead to future development of our university international involvement and visibility. University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati makes decisions regarding the strategic partnerships taking into accounts both prestigious universities and partners from geographical and subject area priorities.

University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati undertakes to support fully any student and staff participating in committed projects. Concrete support measures and adequate mentoring are foreseen allowing participating mobile staff and students to carry out their project work, allocating additional resources, providing financial management, study programme accreditation procedures, academic recognition procedure and ensuring dissemination and exploitation of project results.

Participation in international projects is seen as an important aspect of the professional development of the staff and of the modernization of our institution, and is considered an important component in staff evaluation.

University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati commits to implement outcomes which are resulting from participation in projects either as a long-term strategy or a short-term solution. Our university ensures the visibility of project activities and results in order to exploit and maximize the products in the institution itself and beyond. By dissemination activities, using Internet, presentations at meetings and posters, University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati commits to raise awareness within the academic community and beyond not only of the project results, but also of the funding possibilities of such activities which can therefore lead to spin-offs and other initiatives

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]

Participation of University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati in the Programme will contribute to support the modernization and internationalization of European higher education. By signing this Charter, our institution states and confirms that its participation in the Programme is part of its own strategy for modernization and internationalization, as is already stipulated in the Charter of University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati. This strategy acknowledges the key contribution of mobile staff and students, and of participation in European and international cooperation projects, to the quality of its higher education programmes and student experience.

By signing this Charter, the University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati undertakes to contribute to the European Union's modernization and internationalization of higher education, which includes 5 priorities:

1. Increasing the number of higher education graduates to provide graduates and researchers to fulfill Europe needs;
2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education by improving the quality and relevance of teaching and researcher training and to equip graduates with the knowledge and core transferable competences they need to succeed in high-skill occupations;
3. To provide more opportunities for students to gain additional skills through study or training abroad, and to encourage cross-border co-operation to boost higher education performance;
4. To link higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development;
5. To create effective governance and funding mechanisms in support of excellence.

By agreeing to the principles of the Charter, University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati will work towards achieving these objectives by participating in the following activities:

Key Action 1: student and staff mobility within Europe and from/to Third Countries, and in joint master's degrees

Key Action 2: strategic partnerships, knowledge alliances, capacity building with neighbouring countries, capacity building with Third Countries

Key Action 3: networks and policy support measures.

University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati commits to make mobility and cooperation as central elements of its institutional policy and, to this end:

- to develop cooperation with partners in other EU or non-EU countries in the framework of a clear strategy for internationalization;
- to promote and support student and staff mobility, including from underrepresented groups, and further develop non-discrimination policies;
- to outline a clear policy towards the development of integrated, transnational teaching activities;
- to recognize the importance of, and provide visibility to, the results achieved by their staff members engaged in individual mobility or in cooperation projects with strategic partners;
- to take into account the results of internal monitoring of European and international mobility and cooperation activities to date, thus further developing its international performance.

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