



ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT 2014-2020

Institution's international (EU and non-EU) strategy

Development of the internalisation is one of the most important priorities in the activities of the College. We enhance the internalisation at home: the modernisation of curriculum, involving the international dimension, adapting study programmes to be taught for local and foreign students in foreign languages, activities that help students develop their intercultural abilities and internationality awareness, research and development activities. The College introduces innovations constantly, updates the content of the study programmes, searches for new forms of teaching and learning, applies innovative study methods and means that attract local and foreign students.

We select our partner institutions from all countries participating in Erasmus programme, especially neighbour states and North East countries, following the recommendations of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania and national priorities of the Republic of Lithuania. In a case of student mobility for studies and staff mobility for teaching, we sign inter-institutional agreement with institutions which are holders of Erasmus Charter for Higher Education.

All signed agreements correspond to minimum requirements for Erasmus Bilateral agreements. Students' mobility for studies is foreseen for the 1st cycle studies and placements. Since 2008 the College has agreement for double degree programme for students from 3 study programmes. The preparation of double degree programmes is foreseen in the Strategic Activities Plan. In 2012-2015 it is foreseen activities to prepare joint study programmes with partner institutions.

The main objectives of international strategy

1. To increase the numbers of incoming and outgoing students for study and training from all study programmes which are realised in the College and develop special and generic transversal competences, e-skills, creativity and flexibility and a solid understanding of their chosen field;

2. To support and increase the numbers of incoming and outgoing staff exchanges;
3. To include the international dimension into all study programmes and adapt them for the local and foreign students to be taught in a foreign language assuring quality and relevance;
4. To promote visibility and attractiveness of the institution worldwide;
5. To increase students professional, social and intercultural skills and foster employability and entrepreneurship through mobility;
6. To enrich teaching, improve learning experiences, facilitate access through distance learning, and virtual mobility, streamline administration;
7. Attract students, academics and researchers from outside the EU and develop new forms of cross-border cooperation.

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

International cooperation projects in teaching and training will be pointed to establish international cooperation with neighbouring countries with the aim of building capacity of institutions and modernising higher education institutions from EU and non-EU countries which are part of Bologna zone. The modern curricula with related component of student, staff mobility will be activities of such cooperation as well as modernisation of education.

The expected impact of participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your Institution

The College is expecting such impact of the modernisation:

1. Involved students from all underrepresented groups and to 'non-traditional' learners, including adults; provided more transparent information on educational opportunities and outcomes, and tailored guidance to inform study choices and reduce drop-out.
2. Improved the quality and relevance of higher education: encouraged a greater variety of study modes such as part-time, distance and modular learning, continuing education for adult returners and others who already are in the labour market; increased the use of virtual learning platforms. Invested in continuous professional development for staff, recruited sufficient staff to develop emerging disciplines and rewarded excellence in teaching.

3. Strengthened quality through mobility and cross-border co-operation: attracted the best students, academics and researchers from outside the EU and developed new forms of cross-border cooperation; involved learning mobility into curricula, ensured the efficient recognition of credits gained abroad through effective quality assurance, comparable and consistent use of ECTS and the Diploma Supplement, and by linking qualifications to the European Qualifications Framework; improved access, employment conditions and progression opportunities for students, researchers and teachers from other countries.

4. International attractiveness enhanced through close, effective links between education, research and business; fostered the development of entrepreneurial, creative and innovation skills in all disciplines and in all three cycles, and promote innovation in higher education through more interactive learning environments and strengthened knowledge-transfer infrastructure. Promoted the involvement of institution in the development of integrated local and regional development plans.