

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]

Istanbul Aydın University aims to be one of the most acknowledged international universities in Turkey and abroad. Its research objectives are focused on serving the industry both in local and global scale by giving great importance to professional training. To achieve both objectives of research and graduates with internationally acknowledged professional competence, IAU took measures to enhance the quality and the standards of both education and the research facilities within the institution. By hiring internationally recognized academicians, IAU aims to strengthen academic staff, reach higher quality in education and promote a competition based research. A substantial budget is in place to award international projects and publications. In addition, IAU has been investing in state of the art laboratories and latest technologies in education both to train competent and up to date professionals and to attract international researchers to its campuses. IAU believes that its leadership in higher education is and will make an example for Turkey and the World.

Because of the assumed mission briefed above, IAU selects its partners among institutions which has similar understanding of education and research, that is, which has a clear understanding of contemporary industry needs and potentials as well as a clear intent towards academic research that will support and shape the formation of today's world for the generations to come.

Although until now the Erasmus grant set the geographical area that our students and staff realized their mobility in, we aim to extend cooperation more actively with our partners from all over the world. Our main objective in international cooperation is to enhance the quality of education via mobility of student and staff while providing the world as an open ended field for our students to find their specific interest and passion which will direct them towards their leadership positions in the future.

We aim to cultivate an international mentality that the transformation of local needs should be approached with a global perspective among our students. To realize such an objective, IAU provides its academic staff with the opportunity to keep an up to date agenda of research and academic refinement through international cooperation. This is also an essential argument for the determination of partners for each academic field. That is, needs describes the partners such that they will make the establishment of healthy bridges between educational and research aspects of functional curriculums. Internship is an important part of IAU curriculum required for all first and second cycle students. IAU gives importance to in-job training and aims to provide international internships to its students. The involvements with third cycle students whose mobility are constantly increasing is also anticipated.

IAU aims to be a leader in Life-long learning and give special attention to the organization of international and national short cycle courses and summer schools. Our partners will be major actors and play a big role in organizing such courses.

Within the framework of the Turkish Higher Education Council's authorization, double / multiple and Joint degrees are created from within the academic units and with priority and special attention given on the part of International Academic Relations and Projects Coordination Office.

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 Academic Relations and Projects General Coordination Office's main goal is to support and encourage students, academic and administrative staff to participate in international programs. The Coordinators of all four offices that work under the general framework are Erasmus Coordination Office, International Relations Office, International Academic Relations Office and International Student's Recruitment Office. The IARPC Team holds monthly meetings with each Faculty where agreements, exchange program possibilities, summer school possibilities, research projects, organisation of international scientific and cultural meetings and conferences, enhancement of Erasmus and other bilateral agreements are discussed. These meetings trigger potentials for more international activities and/or help the development of each other.

Each Faculty has an International Activities Coordinator under which four other coordinators work on the organisation and implementation of international activities: Faculty Coordinator for International Internships, Faculty Coordinator for International Events, Faculty Coordinator for International Cooperation (Research and studies) and Faculty Coordinator for International Summer Schools, Double Degrees and Transfer Students.

On the basis of departments, Departmental Erasmus and ECTS Coordinators work to disseminate information and implement Erasmus Program and other international activities as well as supporting the academic life of students abroad and the orientation of incoming students.

This is the prevailing organisational structure that may and will be modified according to developing academic and logistical needs throughout the internationalisation progress of IAU.

IAU's main strategy in internalisation is extending and enlarging the mobility and cooperation with tools provided by the programme in order to achieve the implementation of an 'international culture' within the university and among its staff and students.

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]

IAU is a higher education institution steadily changing with a very rapid pace since it functions with an international vision, indexed towards the modern world. IAU expects the programme to have a great impact on keeping up the modernisation of the institution via the cultivation of research and knowledge exchange in line with the globalized world. The programme's major input to our university is expected to be through the opportunities it provides to our academic staff reflected onto the quality of education. Academic staff that attend exchange activities naturally become leaders in research and international project accomplishments. Therefore, by providing the base for academicians to participate in international projects, research activities and curriculum development, IAU expects to create a healthy competitive climate, resulting in contributing to the relevance of higher education.

Through promoting the Erasmus Programme among students, IAU aims to introduce its graduates to an international agenda long before they start their professional life. Students that have previously attended mobility return with a changed perspective on higher education. By giving students opportunities that the programme provides IAU expects to direct students to a modern experience of higher education as aware and motivated professionals of the future.

IAU has substantial amount of business partners and recognizes the significance of linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development. Since its foundation in 2003, IAU's persistent goal has been to raise professionals according to regional needs as well as international change. IAU expects the programme to further support and prize this objective. The programme will also give an opportunity to use partnerships in international platforms.

Through the programme, IAU expects to provide more funding for international projects and research while increasing the number of students that has participated in international mobility to 20% of its graduates by 2020.

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