

**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]

As a current holder of the Extended Erasmus University Charter with a large network of university partners, we aim to advance our internationalisation strategy through student and staff mobility, research collaboration and co-operation in organisational management and development. Explicit University policy in the coming decade includes focus both on Europe and rest of the world with the new programme guidelines. In the mission statement for 2016 is to become a modern, internationally recognized and prestige university, taking part in the common European academic education and science space. In order to achieve this and thereby increase the quality of exchange, LLU needs to develop new cross border links and strengthen existing also with the non-European partner universities. Thereby the Erasmus mobility needs to be widened and strengthened. LLU is developing tools and putting efforts to include students at all levels in international cooperation and exchange, as well as promoting teaching and administrative staff mobility for teaching and training. Attracting the best students, academics and researchers from outside the EU is the key driver of the quality. Staff from companies are also supported to deliver training courses or workshops in HEI oriented towards real case approach. To further motivate students to study abroad and use cross country educational programmes, LLU is not only emphasizing the added academic value of studies at partner universities, but also the increased employability through training system and contacts with companies. Cooperation will bring the best examples of implementation of innovative practices in education, training and creativity.

The main ambition is to develop learning opportunities for individuals, both within the EU and beyond, including study and training, teaching and professional development. By extending cooperation links LLU will increase attractiveness of Latvian and European higher education and at the same time support the development of higher education worldwide, also fostering student degree mobility at master level and attract the best students.

International cooperation is also continued with LLU strategic partners in Baltic and Nordic regions (BOVA University Network and NOVA University Network) in the meaning of master and doctoral level intensive courses, joint master study programmes, and intensive programmes for all level students and teacher education development between long-term partners, which is adoptable also to non-European partners. Thus developing links between higher educational institutions and enterprises promoting creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship by offering relevant learning opportunities. There are International cooperation and capacity building projects between higher educational institutions with the objective to support the modernisation and internationalization. International dimension in educational programmes is also important for students that do not participate in mobility. Consequently, a European and global perspective will be systematically integrated in the courses and programmes offered in Latvian and English.

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]

The University will focus on priorities such as quality and innovation in teaching, enhancing links with the companies, together with the better recognition of skills gained through mobility under Education Europe mechanism. Use of Horizon 2020 – the framework programme for research and innovation will cover all relevant EU research and innovation funding, ensuring a high degree of policy coordination and maximising synergies between initiatives. There are number of expected developments using European Social Fund for education and training.

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]

Strong impact is foreseen out of the international mobility of students, researchers and staff together with the growing internationalisation of higher education, therefore the University is increasing the quantity of higher education graduates at all levels, enhancing the quality and relevance of human capital development in higher education, creating effective governance and funding mechanisms in support of excellence and to strengthen knowledge triangle between education, research and business.

The reform and modernisation of higher education depends on the competence and motivation of teachers and researchers, thus we are encouraging the use of skills and growth projections and graduate employment data in course design, delivery and evaluation, adapting quality assurance and funding mechanisms to reward success in equipping students for the labour market. The University is developing a greater variety of study modes, more use of ICT in learning. Partnership and cooperation with business is as a core activity for multidisciplinary and cross-organisational cooperation through reducing of regulatory and administrative barriers of partnerships between institutions and other public and private actors.

Equal access and opportunity is central to University's mission. The University is committed to a comprehensive policy to Equality and Diversity for all its staff and students and seeks to provide a learning, working and social environment in which the rights and dignity of all its members are respected, and which is free from discrimination, prejudice and intimidation. Through its Disability Equality Scheme, the University is committed to improving access to its courses, facilities, buildings and social life.

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