

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

2014

1. 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).

The European Law Faculty is aware of the importance of European and international cooperation in the higher education system and research. That is why the Faculty included the acquisition of the new Erasmus Charter 2014-2020 into its strategy of strengthening modernization and internationalization. The Faculty chooses its partner universities/faculties according to the adequate programs and fields of study that correspond with its programs of law. Besides that the Faculty enables students and staff to come up with ideas about possible future partner faculties. The Faculty employs professionals from the law field in order to bring new and modern dynamics into the teaching process. The teaching process at the Faculty is conducted by experts who are involved in international events. They include their practical findings from their field into the teaching process: a judge of the European Court of Human Rights, a member of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, a member of the Venice Commission, a judge of the Court of Justice of the EU in Luxembourg. The Faculty has the privilege of having a geostrategic location where many cultures and nations flow together. In terms of location, the Faculty is linked to the Gorizia region and neighbouring Friuli-Venezia Giulia which makes it a borderline between west and east, north and south, European and non-European (Union). In choosing its partners the Faculty tries to be the bridge between different cultures in order to bring them closer, e.g. development of cooperation with the University of Udine since many of the Faculty's students speak Italian and the region historically is very culturally impressed both by Slovenian and Italian culture. It should be noted that the Faculty was founded when Slovenia was accessing the European Union and consequently it is originally oriented to the monistic view of the relationship between the EU law and Slovenian legal order. The Faculty is also dedicated to pay special attention to the transfer of legal knowledge to students in the territory of South Eastern Europe, and in this context a closer cooperation with the state and competent European institutions has been planned. The location near the border allows for its close contacts in the legal field with institutions across the border and organisations of Slovenes who live abroad. Another geographical area the Faculty is very interested in is the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe. The Faculty already signed the Agreement of Cooperation with five non-EU faculties and the implementation of transnational higher education strategy is the Faculty's short- and long-term priority. The Faculty plans to sign similar agreements with Istanbul AYDIN University. In this regard again the Faculty tries to bring the European Union and Western Balkan countries (or better said potential European Union candidates) higher education systems closer. The Faculty strongly believes this will boost the development of European integration. The most important objectives of our mobility activities are students. The Faculty encourages them to go abroad and to experience studying or internship training in Europe and in the world at first hand. The Faculty supports students of all three cycles (Bachelor, Master and PhD). The second target group of its mobility activities is the Faculty's staff. The Faculty is aware of their importance as promoters of the Faculty abroad. The Faculty started developing double degrees with the South African University of Stellenbosch in the area of conflict and dispute settlement. The Faculty recently hosted professor Barney Jordaan from this South African University at the conference titled Legal and Alternative Dispute Settlement where our professors and students had the opportunity to learn about mediation and negotiation skills from an English expert. The Faculty's another priority is with the help of current and future university cooperation partners to organize further international conferences.

2) 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).

We plan to further nurture our Erasmus partnerships with the University of Udine, Eötvös Loránd University Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, University of Leipzig and Universidad de Deusto and develop new ones. The European Faculty of Law in Nova Gorica is the leading partner of the project "The Development of the Web Platform and Relevant Mobile Applications for the Implementation of E-Learning" and five other universities/faculties (European School of Law and Governance (Pristina, Kosovo), International University "MITSO" (Minsk, Belarus), The Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement at the University of Stellenbosch Business School (Stellenbosch, the Republic of South Africa), Faculty of Administrative and European Studies (Podgorica, Črna Gora) and Educons University (Novi Sad, Srbija) are strategic partners. These faculties agreed to develop or cooperate in the development of the application and the implementation of the project for the development of the web platform and mobile applications for higher educational undergraduate and postgraduate, as well as professional educational contents for their implementation in the form of long distance e-learning. This project is an innovation in the Slovenian higher education system. Besides that our Faculty also plans to deepen the cooperation with academic exchanges of staff and students and to nurture this strategic partnership in the future. Another important strategic cooperation is also the one with another Slovenian regional faculty; The Graduate School of Government and European Studies in Kranj.

3) 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).

The European Law Faculty in Nova Gorica is the only private faculty of law in Slovenia. It was founded in 2005, when it was the first faculty of law in Slovenia to follow the European Bologna model of study. The Faculty is important especially in regards of economic and intellectual development and as being the only one in the region of Nova Gorica. Not all students can afford living expenses in the capital city so the Faculty is of prime importance for the regions development of higher education. The Faculty had a lot of students coming back from the capital because it provided them with the opportunity to study in their home region. In general, the location and social environment of the Faculty provide good opportunities for the development of study activity as it is expanding in Primorska. Beside that the Faculty decided to put even stronger emphasize on the research component with the help of its Institute for Real-Estate Management, Center for Comparative Law and Center for Intellectual Property. Faculty's special organizational unit is also Center for administrative education established in 2008. With the help of this Center the Faculty will organize seminars and other forms of lifelong-learning. The Faculty includes PhD students into teaching at program courses. Additional new strategy to strengthen cooperation with these centres and educate young researchers is being prepared. The Faculty already has procedures for recognizing learning and experiences gained outside formal (informal) education and training, e.g. individual research work, included in its Rules of Study. Another strategy in progress are information meetings for students and staff for different outside faculty learning possibilities such as summer schools. Faculty strives to uphold the human rights, which is why it guarantees gender equality in the student and employee exchanges, does not favour economically and socially more advanced countries and also supports international activities of participants with special needs. The Faculty makes it possible for new students with motor development disorders to visit lectures, study via e-learning and participate in all activities of the Faculty with no problems. The Faculty already provides more effective and personalised learning experiences with its e-learning, modular learning, teaching and research methods (open method) and through its international projects tries to increase the use of virtual learning platforms. Alumni club was established as a mean to preserve communication, career guidance and exchange of experiences between diplomants of the Faculty. The Faculty has already started strengthening its quality through Agreements of Cooperation with non-EU partnerships (transnational higher education and double degree) mentioned before and Erasmus cross-border co-operation. Through this Agreements the Faculty wants to diminish unnecessary administrative barriers for mobility.