

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS) 2007-2013
THE JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN

a) Please describe briefly your institution's strategy, objectives and priorities for its Erasmus activities (mobility, multilateral projects, etc.) and any other actions in the context of the Lifelong Learning Programme (2007 - 2013).

b) Please also provide information on the following points:

What specific actions are planned to give visibility to Erasmus activities and what type of publicity will be given to the Erasmus University Charter and the EPS?

What kind of arrangements, if any, does the Institution ensure to comply with non-discrimination objectives (e.g. actions related to gender equality, integration of disabled students and staff, enhancement of social and economic cohesion and combating of xenophobia and racism)?

The overarching priority of the European strategy of the University with regard to Erasmus activities is to aim at realising the objectives of the Bologna process and Lisbon strategy and contributing to the construction of a European Higher Education Area. To this end, the University aims to participate and take advantage of Erasmus Mobility of Individuals, Erasmus Multilateral Projects, Networks, Accompanying Measures, as well as other sectoral LLP programmes.

Within this context the objectives of the University until 2013 will be in particular

1 to support and increase its all ongoing activities within the Erasmus programme, in particular student and teacher mobility, by signing new bilateral agreements, and to ensure the highest quality in their organization

2 to promote student vocational training opportunities through new Erasmus placements and Comenius assistantships

3 to promote the participation of teaching staff in thematic networks and intensive programmes

4 to improve the quality and attractiveness of education

4.1 to complete redesigning its current curricula and study programmes into 3-tier system

4.2 to carry out regular evaluation and quality control of all its current study programmes and to aim to have all of the programmes awarded accreditation

4.3 to continue setting up new attractive and competitive study programmes, including joint degree programmes

4.4 to continue increasing the number of courses and programmes offered in English

5 to stimulate and expand international research cooperation

6 to support further development of distance learning methods through such initiatives as e-learning, interactive television and multimedia knowledge centre

7 to continue the modernisation of information and communication technology facilities

In order to give wide visibility to Erasmus activities and Erasmus University Charter, the university will take advantage of the measures, which have been successfully taken so far. To this end, university-wide information meetings and fairs are planned to be organized as well as emailings to all university staff and students. The activities are going to be advertised through local media. Moreover, the new EPS will be publicized on both Polish and English university website.

In all the abovementioned actions, the University will continue to adapt its policy in line with the Academic Statute not to discriminate against any individual in matters of admission, employment, housing, services or in the educational programs or other activities based on non-meritorious factors including, but not limited to, discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability. Our university, which currently provides special facilities for students and teachers with visual, hearing and

physical disabilities, will continue taking measures aiming at improving conditions for educating disabled students and their full integration into all aspects of the academic life.
Quality of academic mobility activities:

What kind of specific measures are implemented in the institution to ensure high quality in academic mobility activities?

Details should be provided on: recognition and credit systems, the provision of information on curricula, information and counselling of outgoing students, tutoring and integration of incoming students, provision of student services (in particular accommodation), preparatory and refresher language courses, support and acknowledgement of staff mobility.

The ECTS system (ECTS credits, learning agreement, transcript of records) is used in all faculties and with regard to all outgoing and incoming students. Study periods abroad are fully recognised by the university and subsequently acknowledged in the Diploma Supplements, awarded to all graduates. At central level at our university all potential candidates and outgoing students are provided with information and counseling by the International Exchange Section (IES), which coordinates mobility of individuals. The information on curricula is made available in the form of ECTS packages/brochures received from partner universities, electronic information, via links to the websites of universities or direct email contact with foreign coordinators. To enhance the quality of information and counseling in this regard (face-to-face information/advice to students, information sessions, etc.), the detailed information from Erasmus students' questionnaires is made available on the Erasmus programme website of our university. Outgoing students also participate in meetings with previous Erasmus students to have the opportunity to gain as thorough and reliable information as possible. At departmental level, students are academically counseled by Erasmus departmental coordinators. Tutoring and integration of incoming students is coordinated by the IES and greatly assisted by student 'guardian angels' assigned to each foreign student. Apart from an orientation day and rich cultural programme throughout their stay, incoming students are offered a free intensive course of Polish language. All incoming students are offered rooms in university dormitories or assistance in finding housing elsewhere. They have the same access to all university facilities as regular Polish students. Teaching activity abroad is acknowledged as an important part of academic career and taken into account in career advancement. Outgoing and incoming teachers are offered help with practical arrangements by IES.

Quality of student placement activities:

What kind of specific measures are implemented to ensure high quality in student placements? Give details on how the work-programme and the placement agreements are prepared and implemented. Please describe the practical arrangements agreed between the parties. Please specify also the monitoring and evaluation of the placement (s) period as well as its recognition in the curriculum.

Placements will be carried out on the basis of inter-institutional agreements; the agreements will be concluded through hitherto university individual contacts with partner institutions and through intermediary organizations. The practical arrangements are in line with the European Quality Charter for Mobility. Placements will be organised in close collaboration between the parties. Supervision and monitoring will be carried out by the tutor and International Exchange Section (IES) on the part of the university and the mentor appointed by the host organization. The IES of our university will provide general preparation before the participants' departure including linguistic, legal, cultural and

financial aspects. It'll also provide logistical support i.e. information and assistance with travel arrangements and insurance. Other practical aspects will be as a rule arranged by the host organization. The mentor of the host organization will be responsible for helping the participants with their effective integration into the host environment, linguistic support and advice, monitoring the placement on the spot; he or she'll be also contacted for further information by the IES and the tutor. The students will be provided with a Learning Agreement and a placement contract endorsed by the university, the host organization and the student. Full recognition will be given by our university for the placement period spent abroad, which will be additionally acknowledged in the Diploma Supplement, awarded to all graduates. Students will also receive certificates issued by the host organization.

The placements will be evaluated on the basis of questionnaires filled by participants and feedback from the host organization, in particular the mentor. On their return to their home country, participants will also be offered guidance by the university on how to make use of the skills acquired during their stay in their further career.