

## **Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)**

### ***D. Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)***

The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy 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]

The purpose of IOC's international strategy is to develop both local and European partnerships and to secure funding from a number of sources such as the Erasmus+, Regional Ministry of Education and other local, national and international funding sources. An important element of the international strategy is to develop both local and European partnerships in order to secure these European funds. Until now IOC's local partnerships exist with:

Open University of Catalonia, UOC

Public Security Institute of Catalonia, IOC collaborates by offering language training courses for Catalonia's national police and firefighters.

Association of Computer Scientist Engineers, ATI, IOC signed a cooperation agreement for providing ICT students to be partners of ATI and helping them in vocational integration and careers guidance.

At the international level, IOC has been involved in PAP projects under Grundtvig sector in the last 4 years:

2009-1-DK1-GRU06-00864 Grundtvig partnership ICT networking.

IOC Coordinator 2011-1ES1-GRU06-35094 Grundtvig partnership Digitclass

More info: <http://ioc.xtec.cat/educacio/en/ioc-centres-projects#grundtvig>

This previous experience has given IOC background experience and a network of contacts from different educational sectors. The IOC's European contacts currently include several countries.

IOC's International team is always keen to discuss new project ideas with prospective European partners. For more info:

<http://ioc.xtec.cat/educacio/en/what-is-the-ioc> and <http://ioc.xtec.cat/educacio/en/ioc-centres-projects>

IOC's international strategy has the following objectives for the future.

Qualitative:

Ensure the internationalisation of the school involving all the staff members and students. Provide information about opportunities to students and staff. Design a European Development Plan (EDP) according to the management team that includes all the educational sectors. Plan meetings to promulgate. Erasmus+ actions (K1 and K2).

Publish on IOC's website the Mobility guide for students.

Publish the projects in which the organization is involved.

Establish clear and transparent criterias of participants selection in mobility projects and partnerships.

Join international networks and European associations.

Help staff and students preparing project proposals.

Ensure a link between international activities, teaching and guidance to reach students.

Establish networks of training providers.

Internationalization and implementation of qualification requirements ( NQF, EQF and ECVET)

Quantitative: Two annual meetings for all the staff. Internal virtual space for publishing information.

Term newsletters with news relating to internationalization in the schools (mobilities outgoing and incoming).

Publication of results and experiences of mobilities and projects on the home webpage. Reports of projects.

Feedback from students and staff Collect the volume of mobilities in each educational sector from students and staff and their duration.

Action plan

As the International office is a new unit in the school, the plan presented can be modified in some aspects related to the calendar and the planned actions for introducing corrective measures thus improving the EDP. By now, the action plan is: Before the end of this course, the International office will organize a meeting among staff presenting the International team and their plan for the next two or three years. At the beginning of next course, the International office will organize a meeting presenting the project that had been approved under last call K2 action 2014. This output will help to define the plan of action for the future.

During the first term of 2014-15 the draft version of the EDP will be presented.

The second term of 2014-15 the EDP shall be circulated for preparing K1 mobility projects at the same time that partners and companies are searched for establishing mobility agreements and new partnerships.

Finally, at the end of the course 2014-15 the evaluation and dissemination of the European activities will improve the EDP for the next year and introduce corrective measures.

For student mobility the action plan will address the agreement, preparation and arrangements before the exchange; guidance and support during the exchange; and reporting and recognition of skills after the exchange.

Partners will be chosen according to their profiles following the procedures used during previous projects.

The coordinator of the International office is involved in international forums, for searching partners and companies.

The conditions for being our partners are: Teach the same or similar studies. Share similar concerns about the use of ICT.

Offer innovative methodology and didactics. Associate with e-learning schools.

The IOC is not biased as to geographical areas when preparing student mobility but considers urban areas where English

is spoken as either the mother tongue or foreign language as being in the best interest of our students.

Please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme.

If not applicable, please explain (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Following Europe 2020 strategy, IOC's international strategy wants to plan international cooperation with the aim of: helping staff and students discover how international activities relate to their training and professional development; giving direction to international cooperation and making it more systematic; helping in managing the activities and helping staff in their practical work; ensuring that there are enough resources to carry out the international activities in practice.

IOC needs to motivate educators to share good practices, their problems and their solutions to achieve the goals of the Europe 2020: "In a changing world, we want the EU to become a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy. These three mutually reinforcing priorities should help the EU and the Member States deliver high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. Specifically, the Union has set five ambitious objectives - on employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate/energy - to be reached by 2020. (JM. Barroso, P. of EU).

The goal of the international strategy is to design a plan of action that will ensure the international perspective of the IOC. The plan of action shall include:

analysis of IOC's operating environment in each educational sector

its mission as an international strategy

core skills

its values

These elements will help to decide on:

the vision for the future

its strategic goals

the practical steps that should be taken to achieve the goals

In the last call of Erasmus + K2, IOC has presented as a coordinator K2 for adult education (GRECOL) and it has been invited as a partner in a K2 for school education (FIFOWEU) and in a K2 addressing more than one field (VISE). If some of these projects are approved the previous contacts with the potential partners will be stronger and will provide opportunities for students' mobilities and new Erasmus+ projects.

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on the modernisation of your institution. Please refer to each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda \*and explain which are the policy objectives you intend to pursue.(max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]

International projects will create opportunities for trainee contracts or studying abroad, for exchange of experiences among teachers and other staff, for development and quality assurance work. Moreover, these various funds enable staff and students to experience an European dimension.

IOC's expected impact for the future:

- Students will be prepared for a job application abroad.
- Teachers will gain knowledge about educational and working situations abroad.
- The employers will have the chance to get to know applicants from different European origins, thereby possibly open their minds.

At the European level, international objectives of VET were clarified in the Bruges communication, the aim of which is to support the Europe 2020 strategy .

Evaluation is a key element for measuring impact, so in the following years IOC's participation will be measured according to the progress and quality of the work done in the phases of preparation, implementation and dissemination of projects using the plan of action described in previous sections, collection and analysis:

The number of participants involved in mobilities

The learning outcomes after participating in mobilities or projects.

The results of surveys before and after attending Erasmus+ actions measuring the impact in students and staff.

The changes experienced in IOC organization.

The benefit to learners of the IOC in the long-term perspective.

The number of people recognising and validating the competences gained during the mobility using Europass Mobility.

IOC's participation hopes to modify attitudes and behaviours about Euroscepticism as a key phenomenon. Moreover, managing and assessing mobilities projects before, during and after their life can help to follow the key issues for the modernisation of Europe's HE Systems:

1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates:

Increase the number of young people or adults completing tertiary education by 2020 using NQF and EQF.

Include disadvantaged people and vulnerable groups helping to avoid and reduce school dropout (adults, migrants, social-risk people,...)

2. Improve the quality and relevance of HE:

Staff exchanges and practical experience can help attune curricula to emerging labour market needs.

Exploit the transformational benefits of ICTs to impact learning experiences and virtual mobility using virtual learning platforms.

3. Strengthen quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation:

Increase professional development, social and intercultural skills and employability.

Use tools as the EQA. Register for academic recognition and mobility for ensuring the effective recognition of credits earned abroad (ECTS and Diploma Supplement)

4. Make the knowledge triangle work: Linking HE, research and business for excellence and regional development:

Establish links between education, research and business, be open minded and create new types of cooperation.

Use partnerships to improve transfer knowledge among HE and business.

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