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Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

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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]

International cooperation is one of the College strategic goals with highest priority. This is why, since the very first day of the College existence, together with the key business processes, activities have been initiated to establish international contacts and realise at least the basic forms for future cooperation development. Not only through Erasmus mobility, Effectus puts significant effort to develop other aspects of international cooperation such as continuous organisation of study visits abroad with the objective of sharing knowledge and experience and paving the road for future individual professional options by widening social network. The objectives achieved through international activities primarily include exchange of experience which surpasses the national framework, increasing the teaching process quality which has direct impact on the higher quality of the learning outcomes and subsequently the quality of professionals in the labour market. Such teaching and non-teaching mobility has as a result comparability in the international area of education and higher levels of expectations achieved. Effectus also highly regards this policy as one of the ways of continuous monitoring quality and changes in concepts and consequently updating the teaching material. By creating these preliminary conditions for international activities for its staff the College has upgraded the competences and recognition of its experts outside Croatian borders and thus promotes Croatian education policy and culture. Boosting international cooperation and mobility belongs to the external quality system evaluation and ensures comparativeness of our study programmes in the education market and their competitive position in the programmes selection process.

Most importantly, through international mobility students of Effectus will gain additional and wider professional knowledge and adequate language competency along with intercultural sensitivity and effectivity.

In the previous two years Effectus has organised and realised teaching and non-teaching mobility activities within the Erasmus programme but also through cooperation with HEIs out of the Erasmus framework. Teaching staff of Effectus hold classes for three years in a row lasting one week every year and totalling to 30 hours each.

According to the experience and already developed network, Effectus chooses partners primarily in the closest geographical area and in the European countries that are less distant but it is our intention in the near future to develop a wide range of partners in Europe and worldwide. Fundamental criterion for choosing partners is the curriculum compatibility and quality and organization of the study and business system drawing on the common contact points in the field of study. International activities that include teacher and/or students are equally important to Effectus and are promoted as equally valued. Effectus has not defined any target group as more important or privileged.

So far, the conditions necessary to enable student exchange have been created and they primarily relate to cooperation established through signed contracts. Considering the current status of international cooperation it can be concluded that since the first day of the College existence actions have been continuously planned to ensure resources necessary for international activities and development of successful international cooperation. Therefore, Effectus expects to have opportunity of developing double/multiple/joint degrees soon but has not participated in such programmes yet.

The main goal Effectus wants to achieve through different international cooperation activities has been and remains providing possibility to our students to become equal members of the professional European family that will work to their benefit and of this community.

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]

In line with its Strategic Development Framework Effectus endeavours to participate in life-long learning projects initiated by the European Commission or partners in the participating countries. Implemented Triple Helix model ensures strategic linking and integration between academic institutions, industry/business and public authorities being imperative for the development and prosperity of society. Integrated learning approach fosters comprehensive development and enhances employability of a professional.

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]

Study programmes of Effectus are harmonized with the Croatian National Qualification Framework. Upgrading and adapting curricula to the developments in the field of science and profession will equip students with knowledge and skills corresponding to the emerging labour market needs. International mobility will further enable students to keep pace with the changes encountered in the jobs of tomorrow. This is a key way to achieve flexible and labour-market oriented teaching and sustainable quality system of Effectus. Council for Curricula Development and Review comprises distinguished entrepreneurs and professors from HEIs in participating countries who contribute to improve training courses and foster advancement in every aspect.

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