

1. ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Participation in Erasmus+

Describe how you plan to participate in Erasmus+ actions in the future.

Explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution.

Note: The following types of Erasmus+ activities are open to HEIs:

- Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility of individuals:
 - Mobility project for higher education students and staff
 - Student mobility for studies
 - Student mobility for traineeships
 - Staff mobility for teaching
 - Staff mobility for training
 - Blended intensive programmes
- Key Action 2 (KA2) - Cooperation among organisations and institutions:
 - Partnerships for Cooperation
 - Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities
 - Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees
 - Partnerships for Innovation
 - Alliances for Innovation
- Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support to policy development and cooperation.
- Jean Monnet Actions

Strategy, objectives and impact

What would you like to achieve by participating in the Erasmus+ Programme? Which are the policy objectives you intend to pursue? Describe how the participation fits into your institutional, internationalisation and modernisation strategies.

What is the envisaged impact of the participation on your institution? Explain how you expect the participation to contribute towards achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy. Explain how it will contribute to making your institution more modern and more international. Explain how you expect the participation to contribute to the goal of building a European Education Area.

Note: The objectives should be clear, measureable, realistic and achievable.

Indicators

For each objective, define appropriate indicators for measuring achievement (e.g. mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects, sustainability/long-term impact of projects, etc.). Link the targets to a timeline.

 *If you change your activities or objectives, please don't forget to update the EPS on your website and inform your Erasmus+ National Agency.*

Participation in Erasmus+

As a newly established higher education institution, Anatolia American University - U.L.E. (AAU) is committed to actively participate in the Erasmus+ Programme. Participation in Erasmus+ will contribute to the institution's strategic goal of strengthening international cooperation, enhancing the quality of education, and fostering intercultural competence and European citizenship among students and staff. The institution aims to promote high-quality mobility, international cooperation, and the development of intercultural and global competences among students and staff, while contributing to the European Higher Education Area. Participation in Erasmus+ will also support the institution's commitment to promoting inclusion, digital transformation, environmental sustainability, and active citizenship within the European Higher Education Area.

The university plans to participate in a range of Erasmus+ actions, with a particular focus on mobility activities under Erasmus+ Key Action 1, as well as cooperation projects under Erasmus+ Key Action 2. In the longer term, the institution also aims to engage in initiatives supporting policy development and academic cooperation under Erasmus+ Key Action 3 and Jean Monnet Actions.

Participation in Key Action 1: The university will prioritise participation in student and staff mobility activities, which are central to its internationalisation and academic development strategy. Through Erasmus+ mobility agreements with partner institutions, AAU will facilitate outgoing student mobility for

studies, allowing students to spend a period of study abroad while receiving full academic recognition upon return. Incoming Erasmus+ students will also be welcomed and integrated into the university's academic community. Course offerings for each term are published online ahead of time (<https://www.anatoliauniversity.edu.gr/academics/course-offerings>) and the catalogue of all courses is publicly available, allowing partner institutions and students to prepare learning agreements prior to mobility. Programme Coordinators and Academic Advisors will supervise course selection and ensure that credits obtained both at AAU and abroad are fully and automatically recognised in accordance with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

The institution also intends to participate in Erasmus+ traineeship mobility, enabling students to gain professional experience through placements in companies, research centres, and organisations abroad. These traineeships will complement academic learning by strengthening employability, professional skills, and intercultural competencies. Programme Coordinators, Academic Advisors, and the Career Office will work with students to ensure that traineeship activities are academically relevant and aligned with programme learning outcomes.

The university strongly encourages staff mobility for teaching and training, recognising that international academic exchange contributes to the development of innovative teaching practices and strengthens institutional collaboration. Faculty members will be encouraged to participate in teaching assignments at partner institutions, allowing them to share expertise and contribute to international curricula. Administrative and academic staff will also be supported in participating in training mobility activities, enabling them to exchange best practices with colleagues at other European institutions.

In addition to traditional mobility formats, the university aims to participate in blended intensive programmes (BIPs) that combine short-term physical mobility with virtual collaboration. These programmes will enable students and staff to engage in interdisciplinary and international learning experiences while promoting flexible and inclusive forms of mobility.

All mobility activities will be implemented in full compliance with the principles of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education.

Participation in Key Action 2: Beyond mobility activities, AAU seeks to actively engage in Erasmus+ cooperation projects, to support innovation, knowledge exchange, and institutional development. The university plans to participate in Partnerships for Cooperation, collaborating with European higher education institutions and other organisations to develop innovative teaching practices, digital learning approaches, and joint educational initiatives. In the longer term, the institution will contribute to more advanced cooperation initiatives such as the European Universities Initiative, promoting deep institutional alliances between European universities and Alliances for Innovation, to strengthen cooperation between higher education institutions, research organisations, and industry. Participation in these initiatives will directly support the development of innovative educational approaches and enhance the international visibility of the university.

Participation in Key Action 3 and Jean Monnet Actions: In the longer term, AAU also intends to explore opportunities under Key Action 3 and Jean Monnet Actions, to support policy dialogue, teaching, and research on European integration. Through these initiatives, the university will promote academic engagement with European studies, encourage interdisciplinary dialogue on European policy issues, and strengthen cooperation between higher education institutions and public organisations.

International activities under the Erasmus+ Programme will be coordinated through clearly defined institutional structures responsible for mobility and cooperation initiatives. Mobility activities for students and staff will be coordinated by the International Programs Office, which will oversee the organisation and implementation of exchange and mobility opportunities, working in collaboration with academic departments and relevant governance bodies. Cooperation projects and international research initiatives will be coordinated by the EU Funding Coordinator, in close collaboration with the Research Committee and the Associate Dean of Research, who will support the development, application, and implementation of European cooperation projects. In addition, the Student Services Office will provide practical and administrative support to mobility participants, including assistance with integration, student services, and other aspects of the mobility experience. Through this division of responsibilities, the institution ensures effective management of both mobility and cooperation activities while maintaining strong coordination between academic and administrative units.

Academic staff, Programme Coordinators, and institutional leadership will collaborate to ensure that Erasmus+ activities are integrated into the university's academic planning, teaching, and research activities. Administrative services will support mobility participants throughout all stages of the mobility cycle, including application procedures, learning agreement preparation, recognition of credits, and reintegration after mobility. At the same time, research and academic support structures will assist faculty members in preparing and managing cooperation projects funded through Erasmus+. Through

these coordinated efforts, the university will establish a sustainable framework for participation in Erasmus+ activities, ensuring that mobility and cooperation projects contribute meaningfully to institutional development, academic innovation, and international engagement.

Strategy, objectives and impact

AAU is a teaching- and research-oriented higher education institution that places strong emphasis on international academic engagement, interdisciplinary learning, and student-centered education. With programmes offered in English and a diverse student body that includes local and international degree-seeking students as well as international study abroad cohorts, the university is well positioned to participate actively in European academic networks. Participation in the Erasmus+ Programme will allow the institution to further strengthen its international profile, expand opportunities for academic mobility, and deepen cooperation with higher education institutions across Europe.

The institution recognises international mobility and cooperation as key drivers of innovation, academic development, and intercultural learning. Through Erasmus+, the university seeks to expand opportunities for students and staff to engage in international exchange, develop sustainable partnerships with European institutions, and integrate international perspectives into its educational and research activities. International activities will be embedded within the university's governance and academic structures to ensure their long-term sustainability. In implementing these initiatives, the institution will follow best practices in international programme coordination, supporting mobility, partnerships, and European cooperation projects.

Participation in Erasmus+ activities will be aligned with the programme's horizontal priorities, including inclusion and diversity, digital transformation, civic engagement, and environmentally responsible mobility practices.

Through its participation in Erasmus+, AAU will pursue the following **objectives** during the ECHE cycle.

Objective 1: Expand high-quality international mobility opportunities. A primary objective is to increase participation in international mobility activities for both students and staff. The university will establish bilateral agreements with European partner institutions, support annual outbound mobility of students for study or traineeship placements, host incoming Erasmus+ students across all programmes (as they are all taught in English), and facilitate staff mobility activities for teaching or training purposes. These mobility activities will allow participants to gain diverse intercultural experiences, develop international competencies, strengthen academic collaboration, and contribute to a more internationally engaged academic environment.

Objective 2: Strengthen international academic cooperation and partnerships. The university seeks to develop sustainable partnerships with higher education institutions, research organisations, and other stakeholders across Europe. Through Erasmus+ cooperation initiatives, the institution will participate in Key Action 2 cooperation projects, particularly Partnerships for Cooperation, develop collaborative academic initiatives and international learning activities, and encourage faculty members to participate in European research and education projects. These initiatives will promote knowledge exchange, strengthen research collaboration, and contribute to the development of innovative educational practices.

Objective 3: Enhance the quality and internationalisation of teaching and learning. Participation in Erasmus+ mobility and cooperation activities will support the modernisation of teaching practices and curriculum development. The university will integrate international and intercultural perspectives into academic programmes, promote collaborative learning approaches and project-based teaching methods, and encourage faculty members to incorporate knowledge gained through international mobility into their teaching practices. Exposure to international academic environments will enable faculty members to adopt innovative pedagogical approaches and strengthen the global relevance of academic programmes.

Objective 4: Promote inclusive and accessible international mobility. The institution is committed to ensuring that international mobility opportunities are accessible to a broad and diverse student population. To support this objective, the university will provide clear information and guidance on mobility opportunities, offer academic and administrative support throughout the mobility process, and ensure accessible infrastructure and appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities or special needs. These measures will ensure that international mobility opportunities are inclusive and accessible to all eligible participants.

Participation in Erasmus+ is expected to have a significant and lasting **impact** on the university's academic environment, institutional development, and international engagement.

Increased internationalisation of the academic environment: Erasmus+ mobility and cooperation projects will strengthen the international dimension of the university by increasing the presence of international students, visiting scholars, and collaborative academic initiatives. This will contribute to a more diverse academic environment and promote intercultural dialogue among students and faculty.

Modernisation of teaching and learning practices: International academic exchange will enable faculty members to adopt innovative teaching methods, digital learning tools, and collaborative pedagogical approaches. Knowledge and experience gained through Erasmus+ mobility and cooperation projects will be disseminated within the institution through seminars, workshops, and faculty discussions, ensuring that the benefits of international collaboration contribute to the continuous improvement of teaching and academic practices.

Strengthening institutional capacity for European cooperation: Participation in Erasmus+ initiatives will enhance the university's institutional capacity to participate in European programmes and manage international projects. Institutional structures responsible for international programmes and research support, including the International Programs Office and research coordination bodies, will develop expertise in European project development, international partnership management, mobility administration, and programme implementation. This capacity-building will strengthen the institution's ability to engage in future European initiatives.

Enhanced student competencies and employability: Students participating in Erasmus+ mobility or cooperation activities will benefit from international academic experiences that contribute to the development of intercultural and language skills, exposure to diverse academic perspectives, and improved adaptability and professional readiness. These competencies are essential for graduates entering a globalised labour market and contribute to the broader societal impact of the university's educational mission.

To ensure the effective implementation of Erasmus+ activities, the university will establish internal monitoring mechanisms to evaluate the progress and outcomes of mobility and cooperation initiatives. Key performance indicators will include: the number of mobility participants, the number of active international partnerships, participation in European cooperation projects, and participant satisfaction and feedback. These indicators will be periodically reviewed by institutional leadership and relevant administrative units to assess progress toward strategic objectives and identify opportunities for further improvement.

Through its participation in Erasmus+, AAU will contribute actively to the objectives of the European Education Area, which promotes mobility, cooperation, excellence, and inclusiveness in European higher education. By expanding mobility opportunities, strengthening institutional partnerships, and promoting innovative teaching practices, the university will contribute to the development of a more interconnected European higher education system. Participation in Erasmus+ will facilitate the exchange of knowledge, the development of collaborative academic networks, and the promotion of shared educational values across Europe.

Through sustained engagement with Erasmus+, AAU will become an increasingly active member of the European higher education community, actively contributing to innovation, academic cooperation, and the development of a more integrated and internationally connected European education system.

Indicators

To ensure the effective implementation of its Erasmus+ strategy, AAU will monitor progress using quantitative and qualitative indicators linked to each strategic objective. Initial monitoring will be conducted by the institutional units responsible for mobility and cooperation initiatives: the International Programs Office, the Career Office, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Faculty, the EU Funding Coordinator, the Research Committee, the Associate Dean of Research, the Academic departments, and the Student Services office. Final monitoring review will be conducted by the Provost.

Objective 1: Expand high-quality international mobility opportunities.

Indicator	Target / Timeline	Responsible Unit
Number of Erasmus+ bilateral agreements with European partners	Establish 3–5 agreements in Years 1–2; expand to 5–10 by Years 3–4	International Programs Office
Number of outgoing students for study	3–5 students per year in Years 1–2; 5–10 students per year in Years 3–4	International Programs Office
Number of outgoing students for traineeships	3–5 students per year in Years 1–2; 5–10 students per year in Years 3–4	Career Office
Number of incoming Erasmus+ students hosted	3–5 students per year in Years 1–2; 5–10 students per year in Years 3–4	International Programs Office
Number of staff mobility activities (teaching/training)	1–2 activities per year in Years 1–2; 3–5 activities per year in Years 3–4	Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Faculty
Participant satisfaction with mobility support	≥80% satisfaction based on annual surveys	International Programs Office & Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Faculty

Objective 2: Strengthen international academic cooperation and partnerships.

Indicator	Target / Timeline	Responsible Unit
Number of Erasmus+ cooperation project proposals submitted	At least 2 proposals in Years 1–2; 2–4 proposals in Years 3–4	EU Funding Coordinator & Research Committee
Number of Erasmus+ cooperation projects implemented	1–2 projects within the first ECHE cycle	EU Funding Coordinator & Research Committee
Number of academic staff participating in cooperation projects	Minimum 5 staff members involved annually by Year 3	EU Funding Coordinator & Research Committee
Number of international partners engaged	At least 3–5 partners per project by Year 3	EU Funding Coordinator & Research Committee

Objective 3: Enhance the quality and internationalisation of teaching and learning.

Indicator	Target / Timeline	Responsible Unit
Number of courses integrating international perspectives	At least 2 courses per programme by Year 2; expand to all programmes by Year 4	Academic Departments
Number of faculty participating in teaching mobility	1–2 faculty per year in Years 1–2; 3–5 per year in Years 3–4	Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Faculty
Number of workshops/seminars to disseminate mobility outcomes	1–2 events per year in Years 1–2; 3–4 events per year in Years 3–4	Research Committee & Associate Dean of Research
Student feedback on international	≥80% satisfaction based on annual	International Programs

learning opportunities	surveys	Office & Student Services Office
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Objective 4: Promote inclusive and accessible international mobility.

Indicator	Target / Timeline	Responsible Unit
Availability of clear mobility information	Online materials updated annually; workshops each academic year	EU Funding Coordinator, International Programs Office & Student Services Office
Participation of students from diverse backgrounds	At least 20% of underrepresented students and students with fewer opportunities by Year 4	International Programs Office & Student Services Office
Accessibility of administrative and academic support	All mobility participants receive support pre-, during, and post-mobility	Programme Coordinators, International Programs Office & Student Services Office
Participant satisfaction with support services	≥80% satisfaction based on annual surveys	International Programs Office & Student Services Office

Progress toward all objectives will be reviewed annually by the Provost, in collaboration with the Academic Council, the Director of the Department of International Programs & Student Services, and the research governance bodies. Key performance indicators will be evaluated to assess the effectiveness of Erasmus+ implementation, to identify areas for improvement in mobility support and project management, to ensure the sustainability and long-term impact of mobility and cooperation initiatives, and to align future activities with institutional internationalisation strategies and the objectives of the European Education Area.