

D. Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

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]

SIRNAK UNIVERSITY (SU) is located in the Southeast of Anatolia, was established in 2008. Currently, it has three faculties and three vocational schools. Our university is new and promising, it has 2,485 students and staff of all degrees and qualifications. Our university is a hope for the youth and the community of the region to catch up with the rest of the country and the developed world. Sirnak province borders both Iraq and Syria, and it's not too far from Iran. This location makes a meeting point for diverse cultures and a gate for economical interactions. Since participating in EU Education Programmes in the 2010-2013 academic year, our university has extended the scope and volume of its activities, the most dramatic increase being in the number of outgoing students, followed by increased staff mobility. On a smaller scale, we have received staff from Europe and been involved in arranging symposiums and workshops. Within the university, the benefits of participating in these activities include heightened awareness of and interest in Europe and the wider world, more openness regarding academic issues, affirmation of the importance of language learning, experience in interacting with other cultures and increased debate concerning our position in the global community. We are improving our facilities with the aim of internationalising our university. We also want to improve the relationship with the European Universities. The most important point is to develop our internationalization strategy for this new term.

As for the involvement in the LLP and Erasmus, our university still has a large capacity for expansion in many areas as the interest is high amongst both staff and students. We keep on providing information to ensure that all members of the university are aware of the opportunities available. We are hoping to include all the sections of the university in the EU programmes and to all academic departments, and provide all the students the opportunity to apply for studying or placement mobility. So far our university has signed one general memorandum of understanding or bilateral agreements with sixteen institutions in eight countries covering seventeen academic fields. Our partners located in the west and the east Europe. Our internationalization strategy and its learning and teaching strategy aim at promoting longer term and sustainable enterprise for mutual benefit. Sirnak university intends to enhance its involvement in coming years. We want to improve mobility opportunities for students and staff, also, to develop our partnerships, co-operation, teaching and training projects with research-intensive institutions.

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 2012 we set up the Project Implementation and Coordination Office within the Rectorate of SU, currently two staff are working in this Office. However we are planning to recruit two Project experts who possess a fair knowledge and experience in preparing and implementing EU projects and operations.

SU overall aim is:

- To promote preparation and implementation of the projects which will enable the academic units progress
- To coordinate between the applicants and the institutions,
- To strengthen and collaborate with potential projects' stakeholders
- With the help of Project experts and coordinators, to ensure the preparation of Action Calls of EU,
- To monitor all the process of the Project activities in regard to Project management and partners,
- To publish all the Project promotional activities prepared by SU on the webpage,
- To provide the necessary information in regard to Action Calls for all the academic units,
- To follow up all the Action Calls of both EU and non-EU, and to inform all the academic units.
- To provide consultation, research and informing services to the academic units regarding the projects' preparations and implementations
- To establish a joint communication and information database for all the teaching staff and academic units

Our specific objectives are:

- To plan scientific and technologic researches which could help develop and progress our university, and prepare the vital provisions and carry out the implementations,
- To participate in forming and enriching the institutional entity of our university,
- To enhance and execute the articles of the regulations regarding the theoretical and practical training curricula.

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]

The expected impact of our participation in the Erasmus Programme for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda ;

Priority 1: Increasing attainment levels and strengthening the social dimension of higher education: it will enable us to widen the participation and raising completion rates of underrepresented groups (due to the factors such as socio-economic background, disability, etc.) and non-traditional learners (part-time students, those with demanding family responsibilities, adult learners etc.) This priority will multiply the social dimension and awareness raising and development of social responsibility of SU, community outreach activities and community-based access routes of SU.

Priority 2: Improving the quality and relevance of higher education, including through cooperation between higher education institutions and the labor market; It will promote our active cooperation between our partners and stakeholders such as; enterprises, professional organisations, chambers of commerce, social partners, local / regional bodies etc. We are planning to contribute by providing the labor market demands and offer employability.

Priority 3: Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation: As we are in the Information Age, as some scientists call it the "Network Era", we have to ensure some innovative strategies to create networks to provide mobility and to have compatible integration with each other. This compatible integration will remove all the barriers to mobility at SU.

Priority 4: Knowledge Alliances: This Priority will bring together businesses and SU to strengthen and develop its innovation potential, thanks to the provision of a comprehensive set of joint activities, involving new learning and teaching methods, the design and delivery of new multidisciplinary curricula and innovative courses.

Priority 5: Improving governance and funding: It will promote our educational administration and development of the strategic capacities. It will also enhance our good governance. Funding will also help us to improve our budget management, to manage such kind of resources efficiently.

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