



ERASMUS+ POLICY DOCUMENT

Partnerships

All partnerships are based on one or more academic units, departments or faculties. Arrangements are initiated by the unit through academic activities or research projects. When choosing to forge a new partnership, we focus primarily on academic networks and R&D collaboration while also considering student preferences. Agreements are signed at the institutional level and recorded in the relevant institutional and national databases. UMB aims to establish strategic partnerships important for the development of the institution both in terms of the quality of teaching and study programs and in research. We also aim to involve enterprises / businesses and the community in collaboration for R&D purposes and to provide placement opportunities to our students. All UMB priority geographical areas are in line with those of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth policies focusing on teacher training and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy focusing on the training of energy assessment experts.

Erasmus +

Participation in Erasmus + is a top priority for UMB and the Senate of the university supports the institution's agenda in this area through mobility funding and participation in collaborative projects. UMB has institutional coordinators for Erasmus + mobility of staff and students. We have specific information on the Erasmus + Mobility Opportunities website for students and staff, and we organize information meetings about the Erasmus + program, mobility projects, and project opportunities.

Mobility: Student and staff mobility programs

To achieve an appropriate implementation of student Erasmus+ mobility, we take measures to encourage students to opt for a mainly one-semester period in Europe; Erasmus + ambassadors, Erasmus + student forums and information meetings are some examples of activities in this regard. We continue to institutionalize our Erasmus + programme.

UMB aims to have a better balance in the ratio of students incoming and oiutngoing. Most of our students who conduct a mobility are within the Erasmus + framework. To increase the number of incoming foreign students, we plan to evaluate our programs each year to make them more attractive to foreign students; one of the methods we will apply is to prepare qualification packages to facilitate student integration throughout a semester. (30 ECTS). Through a series of academic and social activities, we aim to strengthen the integration of foreign students. We have support for students on both campuses who take care of organizing these activities and will continue to increase and strengthen this sector.

Staff mobility under the Erasmus + program is a way to increase student mobility with our Erasmus + partners. We aim to increase the number of staff mobilities for both teaching and training. To achieve this, we will review our Erasmus + procedures to make it easier for our staff to apply mobility grant. UMB allocates extra funding for Erasmus + staff mobility when it deems it





necessary and encourages the arrival of foreign staff as guest lecturers; The IRO organizes a staff mobility week each year in collaboration with the respective faculties.

• Collaboration on project-basis

UMB aims to increase its external funding for education and research projects with the Horizon2020 and Erasmus + program. The goal is to build the administrative competence and capacity needed to advise and assist staff in designing good projects and applying for funding. At the office we have set up a group of university projects with this program. This activity will be further developed and other special funds we plan to enable to develop strategic partnership and joint application process; we aim to achieve the synergies of Erasmus + engagements and other collaborative programs supported by the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation.

• European Agenda

UMB's four development missions are:

- 1. To contribute to the sustainable development of the country and throughout the region through education, research, innovation and cooperation;
- 2. increase the number of research groups and academic units to support its aim of being accredited as a university;
- 3. prioritize international cooperation on research and innovation and increase internationalization of education at home and abroad;
- 4. to be attractive to young students, to be close to them and to build a reputation for developing higher education.

Participating in Erasmus+ programme is needed to accomplish this mission. UMB aims to ensure up to 70% achievement of their goals by students admitted to its programs; we have envisaged some measures in this regard e.g. identifying specific groups of elite students in each study program. We believe that by providing inter-institutional exchange opportunities we can contribute to the recruitment and achievement of our students' goals.

Improving quality and identifying as the country's elite institution is a permanent priority for UMB. Our study programs seek to provide a broadly-based education in research and development of community-implemented projects and, for all study cycles. We are looking for high quality education, supported by the Performance Assessment Commission, through the annual evaluation and evaluation of the best teaching, where research and innovation-based education are the main criteria.

Students are involved in research-based education, from the Bachelor level to the higher level. Digitization of teaching and learning is at a high level and is continually refined; we have introduced the student database and the classrooms are equipped with modern teaching techniques. We are aiming for more international cooperation that will use our opportunities and cooperation in further developing this field of activity.

As a higher education institution offering study programs in the fields of economics, law, social and political science, public administration, education, engineering and teacher training, we are in close contact with and cooperation with the labor market. Most of our study programs are prioritized in the employment of graduates in business and local administration. Departmental and





project research groups respond to labor market needs studies. Experts from businesses and local administration engage in teaching with students and many students pursue and implement projects in collaboration with local entrepreneurship, in a job that is part of their thesis defense of Bachelor and Master degrees. UMB organizes the Biennial Conference on Democracy of Participation and Sustainable Development where staff members are also invited to testify about the quality of our graduates and the degree of their qualification.

Through the Erasmus + program, we aim to engage more with local, regional (and, furthermore, European) enterprises regarding different training and foresee developing joint projects that link the institution to entrepreneurship and society.

We intend to increase by about 20% by 2023 the number of students completing a study or training period abroad. Students from most of our study programs have mobility opportunities within their curriculum and exchange relationships with international partners with similar programs and courses of interest to their students. All students have a pre-approval for courses they develop that will be automatically equivalent to their education upon returning to UMB; all students receive a Post-Graduate Diploma Supplement and we use the European Qualifications Framework to determine the learning outcomes for all courses and apply this to the results of the exchanges. UMB sees foreign students as an asset and we aim to increase the number of foreign students in our study programs. UMB would also like to increase the number of students going abroad, and we would like to see more and more of our students choosing to study abroad through Erasmus +. We would like to have more students from the Erasmus + program countries. By utilizing the staff mobility program as the right arena for new recruitments and strongly considering it, we look forward and hope for synergy with other collaborative programs attended by other partner universities. In line with the country's policy, UMB aims to link education, research and innovation in all fields of activity and in all our study programs. We encourage inter- and multi-disciplinary collaboration for innovation and aim to integrate students into research where the staff of the institution is involved; we expect more students to be involved in collaborative projects under the Erasmus + program.

To improve management, we continuously work to develop and improve our internal procedures. We aim to increase external funding from projects / activities and think that each of our units should be involved in at least one European project. To promote and encourage the application of external funding, we apply with concrete schemes for both scientific research and education collaboration and we have built the academic capacity and organized competencies needed to support project development.

• Expected results from Erasmus + projects

Enhancing quality and outcomes in higher education: UMB will be oriented towards e-learning methodology to improve the quality of students' training and their acquisition of work experience. UMB will initiate the opening of new avenues to use distance learning and empower current modes of study. Skills cultivation is a central concern of all study programs at UMB and the core focus is on career services to undergraduates.

Increasing quality through mobility and cross-border collaboration: The student experience is broader than the academic endeavor; special focus will be on integrating global citizenship into education and university community experience as well as enhancing student employability;





transferable skills will be incorporated into the curricula and form part of the academic culture of UMB.

Implementing a triple helix job: It's about the connection between higher education, research and doing business and regional development. Emphasizing innovation, UMB will increase and multiply links between technology research organizations, businesses and SMEs; UMB's approach is to integrate all stakeholders in a row to ensure consistency and consistency.

Setting up a University Consortium: In the form of a partnership in higher education, the Consortium will be a cooperative educational structure and a major economic force in the region. The reputation and diversity of institutions will support them in attracting students and staff, not only from their respective countries and neighboring countries, but also from the EU and the country.