

Erasmus Policy Statement 2021-2027

The improvement of international cooperation has been set as one of the most important objectives in the LUM University strategic plan 2021-2025, given the importance of crosscultural learning for the increase of professional, social and intercultural skills for students, faculties and staff members. By signing this Charter, LUM University undertakes to contribute to the European Union's modernization and internationalization agenda in higher education through the promotion of students and staff mobility within EU and non-EU countries, the participation in European and International Cooperation projects, the improvement of the quality of higher education programmes and student experience. The development of International Cooperation of LUM University since its establishment in 1995 has been carried out through several phases in order to reach its current stage of internationalization. As a result it is institutionally present in the European educational environment as well as in other parts of the world. LUM University obtained the ERASMUS Charter in 2004. So far we have been working with several higher education institutions from different countries (France, Spain, Romania, Polonia, Unghery, Germany, Greece, Portogallo, Lituania, Slovenia, Turkey etc.)

Our institutional strategy for international cooperation is based on 3 pillars: -Increase the number of mobility opportunities in EU and non-EU countries for our outgoing students; -Improving the quality of teaching and scientific research in the Departments; -Creating an attractive international environment for incoming students from EU and non-EU countries by focusing on strategic partnerships and innovative joint degree programs.

In order to be effective, we have decided to play a double-sided strategy for incoming and outgoing students, that puts the capacity building for international teaching and research at the center. With regard to geographical areas, according to the 2021-2027 period we will focus on: -Western European Union Countries (France, Spain, Portogallo, Belgium, Austria, UK, Germany, Ireland) and Northern-European countries (Netherland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway) and attractive non-EU countries (USA, Latin America, India, Russia, China), in order to give outgoing students new learning opportunities from developed countries or international attractive countries. We have already established Bilateral Agreements with some countries and we are actively working on others; - Countries from Eastern and South-Eastern EU (Romania, Lituania, Polonia, Unghery, Slovenia, Greece, Turkey) and South-Eastern neighbors (Serbia, Kosovo, Croatia, BosniaHerzegovina, Albania, Montenegro), mainly through the ALUM network. In the choice of the partners, we privilege flexibility, quality of research, organization and faculties. Good strategic partners are little and

flexible universities, where we can also activate a dialogue with faculty members for scientific projects. So far, we have had a very successful track record of partnerships established with developing countries where we can play a real first mover role. Concerning target groups, we believe that our core is in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd cycle. We observed that mobility carried out in the 1st cycle is easier depending on the field of study where students can find more corresponding subjects. In the 2nd cycle (Msc) the number of corresponding subjects is lower and students prefer the Erasmus Placement Programme. In the 3rd cycle, we expect a growth of mobility according to the Ph.D. policy that requires a semester of exchange. According to the international capacity building, we also consider staff members to be a priority target.