

Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

The University of Zielona Góra as an institution providing learning and training opportunities contributes to the development of the European Community as an advanced knowledge-based society. The mobility and international cooperation is the central element of our policy, therefore we: develop cooperation with partners in other EU or non-EU countries in the framework of a clear strategy; promote and support student and staff mobility, including from underrepresented groups, and further develop non-discrimination policies; outline a clear policy towards the development of integrated, transnational teaching activities; recognize the importance of, and provide visibility to, the results achieved by our students and staff members engaged in individual mobility or in cooperation projects with strategic partners; take into account the results of internal monitoring of European and international mobility and

cooperation activities to date, thus further developing our international performance.

The University will make every effort to be able to participate in all the Actions offered by the Programme, thereby building high-quality international cooperation and developing the internationalization of the university. The cooperation is and will be conducted on the basis of following fundamental principles:

- Respect in full the principles of non-discrimination set out in the Programme and ensure equal access and opportunities to mobile participants from all backgrounds
- Ensure full recognition for satisfactorily completed activities of study mobility and, where possible, traineeships in terms of credits awarded (ECTS system). Ensure the inclusion of satisfactorily completed study and/or traineeship mobility activities in the final record of student achievements (Diploma Supplement or equivalent),
- Charge no fees, in the case of credit mobility, to incoming mobile students for tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities.
- To ensure high quality in academic cooperation and full accessibility our University carries out activities only within the framework of prior agreements between Institutions. These inter-institutional agreements are based on a comprehensive understanding of the partner institution, compatibility of academic profiles (level/standards considered adequate for mobility activities) and a relationship of trust.

The University searches partners among HEIs, enterprises and other institutions interested in cooperation for education and training. Selection of partners is held due diligence, to ensure that established partnerships are going to be long-term active and ensure balance struck between academic interests and other factors. The agreements identify shared quality requirements specific to the planned exchanges as well as basic time-lines required in management of exchange and projects. The partnerships are monitored and updated. Within the Programme the University will continue fruitful cooperation with previous partners and will establish new cooperation with partners in all geographical areas (Participating countries, third countries neighboring the UE such as: Western Balkans, EPA, South-Mediterranean, other third countries such as Russian Federation, ACP, Asia, Latin America, Industrialized Countries). Due to previous experience and trends in international cooperation, the main areas of university's activity will be: Participating countries, East - European neighboring countries and Asia.

The activities concerning learning and training are dedicated to the following target groups: Students of all fields of study of Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level, who want to study, train abroad and take part in international projects in order to develop their personal skills, scientific careers, that can increase their professional development and job prospects.

HEI staff-academic staff from different scientific areas and disciplines as well as non-academic staff involved in the provision of services within the university. The participation in the Programme will contribute to development of the participants' professional skills but also in general of all human resources of the university. The university provides for mobile participants, in particular for students and staff with special needs and disabilities, necessary assistant, counseling, tutoring, integrating and preparation activities. They are offered before, during and after the mobility.

There are being constantly developed programs taught in foreign languages, especially in English. Therefore the university will continue cooperation within existing double diploma programmes but also intends to increase number of them as well as take part as a coordinator or a partner in multiple degrees within international consortiums. The Participation in transnational teaching activities will increase number of programmes offered, foreign students and academic staff, what will increase the attractiveness of the university.

The university supports the development of projects in which students and staff of the university are involved. Supported will be activities leading to: the development of curricula, in particular education in foreign languages, development of professional and personal skills of the participants, cooperation within the knowledge alliances and sector skills alliances as well as projects focused of capacity building and networks and policy support measures. The university will build partnerships in projects with existing partners, which are already well known but also will search for new partners from EU and non EU countries (educational institutions, youth organizations, businesses, local and regional authorities and NGOs, etc.) to run international projects. The university will promote founding opportunities and good practices as well as results of the projects. There will be provided supporting actions for students and staff involved (searching partners, administrative, financial and organizational support, counseling ect.). The university engages own infrastructure (educational, research and administrative), human and financial resources to run international projects. The participation of University in international projects will lead to the development of curricula in line with the needs of the European market, innovative practices in education, training and youth activities, promoting employability, creativity and entrepreneurship.

The university undertakes to contribute to the European Union's modernisation and internationalisation agenda in higher education. Strategy and development activities undertaken by the university are accordant to the Priorities of the Agenda.

1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe Needs – The aim of the university is improvement of the quality of education, research and university relations with social and economic environment. By participating in the Programme there will increase the number of mobile students and staff, foreign degree students and number of programmes thought in foreign languages. The activity within mobility and projects is a good impulse to development of professional

and scientific careers, especially young scientists. It prepares to the participation and competition in European and global market.

2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education. The University is constantly adapting their educational offer to needs of a local, national and European labor market. Participation in the program will equip graduates with the knowledge and core transferable competences they need to succeed in high-skill occupations; It will improve exchange of information about the labor market needs and help to involve employers and labor market institutions in the design and delivery of Programmes implementation of innovative learning approaches and delivery method as well as CTs and other new technologies.
3. Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation. The Programme provides opportunities for our students and staff to gain additional skills through study or training abroad, and to encourage cross-border co-operation to boost higher education performance and attractiveness of the university for best students, academics and researchers from and outside the EU.
4. Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional Development. Participation in the Programme, especially in training mobility and transfer of innovation project activities will lead to the strengthen 'knowledge triangle'- linking university, research and business. It is also a great opportunity for university units such as Science and Technology Park to develop transfer of knowledge and innovation from the university to the business driving economic development and competitiveness of the Region.
5. Improving governance and funding. The Programme enables the diversification of the funding system of the university.

Participation in the Programme provides for the institution bigger autonomy. As autonomous institution the university can specialize more easily, promote educational and research performance and foster diversification within higher education system. The financial support encourages to focus efforts on individual strengths, and develop incentives to support a diversity of strategic choices and to develop centre of excellence.