

D Declaration on Erasmus strategy

D. Declaration in Erasmus strategy

The institution undertakes to publish this overall strategy (the 3 parts) on its website within one month of signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

Can you describe your institution's international strategy (EU and non-EU)? In your description, explain (a) how you choose your partners, (b) in which geographical region(s) and (c) the most important objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (as regards staff and undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students, including short courses, whether for study or placement purposes). If applicable, explain how your institution is involved in the development of dual/multiple/joint degrees. (max. 5000 characters)

Original language [FR]

Paul-Valéry University (UPV) has a long tradition of international openness which, over the years, has manifested itself through the implementation of numerous academic partnerships, mobility programmes and scientific collaborations. Today, at a time of increasing internationalization of higher education and research, UPV is determined to place its training and research offer even more strongly in an international dynamic while affirming its specificity as a university of letters, languages, arts, humanities and social sciences (according to the weekly magazine, *Le Point*, 19 April 2013, UPV is the country's n°1 ranked university for undergraduate success in letters and humanities).

On a European level, UPV has pursued an active exchange policy under the Erasmus programme since 1987 (339 agreements). We welcome students from most European countries (24 partner countries) and encourage our students, teaching and administrative staff to participate in the programme; the number of incoming and outgoing mobilities has been steadily increasing in recent years.

Thanks to its many other cooperation agreements (97), UPV welcomes students from all over the world and offers a wide choice of destinations to the university community for studies, internships, research work and exchanges of best practices. The International Relations Department offers high quality reception and follow-up, with personalised care for students and guest colleagues.

In recent years, UPV has actively participated in the main European education and training programmes. In addition to Averoës, our university is involved in two other Erasmus-Mundus mobility programmes, Eden and Backis, and intends to reinforce this dynamic by piloting new projects.

UPV is also engaged in a process of internationalization of its training courses through the introduction of joint diplomas and decentralized training. The creation of the Franco-Chinese Institute in 2010 is an example of innovative cooperation, involving Paul-Valéry University, Paris-Sorbonne and the People's University of China.

In terms of international outreach, research makes a major contribution to UPV's international influence, thanks to the growing involvement of teams and laboratories in European projects (for example, the 1st European innovative research project in human sciences for the Languedoc-Roussillon region (LexArt) is being developed at UPV). The numerous bilateral or multilateral cooperation agreements, and participation in international networks of excellence such as the Coimbra group or the Latinus network, encourage the emergence of joint projects and the visibility of our research teams (LABEX ArcHiMedE and the Ancient Egyptian Lexicography Foundation, for example).

For the years 2013-15, the action carried out by the International Relations Department was based both on consolidating partnerships already in place and launching new projects. The target geographical areas are diverse, with priority for neighbouring countries (European and southern Mediterranean) with which we have close ties. North America is also an area where UPV has a long tradition of cooperation. Looking forward, we currently aim to strengthen our partnerships in South America, South-East Asia, especially India, China and Thailand.

The partners are chosen from the networks in which UPV is involved, either thanks to the links existing between teacher-researchers from different institutions or thanks to the contacts established during UPV's involvement in partnerships such as Erasmus-Mundus, Tempus, etc. In addition, potential partners are canvassed by colleagues who are particularly involved in UPV's international relations. The correspondence or complementarity of the partners' training offer with that of UPV, as well as their expertise and experience in specific fields, are determining factors in our choice of partnerships.

The target groups for our international mobility activity are undergraduate students (mainly 3rd year) and Master students (1 and 2). Particular focus is placed on doctoral students, through the implementation of an active policy of co-supervision of theses and European labelling. While teaching mobility has always been important at UPV, in recent years the emphasis has also been placed on the mobility of administrative staff.

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of European and international cooperation projects in education and training related to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [FR]

Cooperation between higher education institutions is at the heart of the internationalization process initiated by UPV. Mobility for the purposes of studies, training, teaching, research or exchanges of good administrative practice is a source of enrichment for the beneficiaries but also for their home and host institutions.

UPV implements multiple actions to strengthen the levels of competence and qualification of individuals and institutions: partnerships to organise mobility, joint and double degree training, relocation of training, institutional collaboration for the exchange of expertise and best practices, etc.

Thanks to its International Relations Service (SRI) and in close collaboration with the various components of the university (UFR, Institutes, Directorate of Research and Doctoral Training), UPV actively supports the involvement of its staff in European and international cooperation programmes (Erasmus, Tempus, Erasmus-Mundus, Alfa, etc. grouped together in the 2014-2020 Programme). It promotes this via its web pages (IR and Research sites), targeted communication actions (news of calls for tenders, external events, etc.), its website and also information and awareness-raising meetings.

The SRI plays a unifying and motivating role within the university community, favouring three approaches to developing international projects:

- Accompaniment of teacher-researchers, whether they wish to coordinate a project or have been asked to be partners
- A source of propositions, by promoting projects that meet the strategic priorities of the institution
- Involvement in projects further to external requests.

The SRI also monitors the programmes and projects implemented, in liaison with all the parties involved.

Can you explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernization of your institution (and this for each of the 5 priorities of the Higher Education Modernization Strategy*) with regard to the policy objectives you intend to achieve? (max. 3000 characters).

Original language [FR]

UPV's international influence is linked to its ability to train students capable of meeting the challenges of a professional world and a society in constant transformation, in a context of increasing internationalization of intellectual, economic and social activities. Students should be provided with the necessary qualifications for successful professional integration and optimal international exposure. This requires continuous improvement in the quality and relevance of the training on offer in relation to the needs of the labour market, an ever closer link between research and training, and between the university and the world of work, a closer relationship between the university and its socio-economic environment, and a growing involvement in international collaborations.

UPV will play an active role in strengthening the European area of higher education and research, in particular through the following actions:

- Implementation of targeted strategic partnerships for innovative transregional / transnational training: decentralised training, distance learning, double degrees, etc.
- Implementation of measures to encourage, support and enhance the international mobility of students and staff: personalized coaching, diploma supplement, international alumni networks, career mobility, etc.
- Reinforcing the internationalisation of doctoral training by developing joint thesis supervision and promoting the acquisition of cross-disciplinary skills: ICTs, entrepreneurship, languages, fundraising, etc.
- Reinforcement of multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches to training and research activities.

The expected impact of UPV's participation in the Programme is multiple and multifaceted:

- Improving the quality of university training through exchanges of good practice among teachers and administrators (teaching methods, evaluation systems, institutional functioning, decision-making processes, organisation of services, quality approach, etc.), institutional collaboration, joint training and research projects, development of networks.
- Improvement of the employability of graduates through the improvement of their linguistic, interactional and intercultural skills, and through the disciplinary and methodological openness resulting from their mobility and enabling them to develop their professional project and prepare for a complex labour market.
- Better match between the supply of university training and research and the expectations of the business world Strengthening the links between higher education and the world of work (e.g. through internships) by placing training and research in a multidimensional context: local, regional, national and international.

*COM (2011) 567 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM.2011.0567.FIH.CE.PDF>)