**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]**

Uskudar University, as a specialist University on "Behavioural Health and Science" aims to provide the highest worldwide standards in knowledge, projects and academic output, developing resources, realizing cooperations and training highly qualified people.

In our institutional strategic plan we are planning to realise the following targets by 2017. We are targeting at sending each academic/administrative staff abroad for the purposes of granted mobility and exchange mobility. We are planning to increase the quantity of bilateral agreement. We are also planning to expand the quantity of beneficiaries as incoming and outgoing students. We are intending to reach at %10 mobility rate in four (4) years for outgoing academic/administrative staff, and for the following four years %10 increase rate. We are also planning to update the bilateral agreements and make at least two new agreements for each year. We are planning to reach at %10 mobility rate in four years for outgoing students and for the following the two years %10 increase rate. In relation to our International strategy, we are planning to increase our effective relations within the context of the Erasmus exchanges. We choose our partners provided that they have enough courses in English for which they are expected to have 30 ECTS minimum. Also, we care the suitability of the course match. As long as these mentioned points are available, we can agree to cooperation. As for the geographical areas for agreement, we do not define in advance any specific geographical destination to make an agreement. We just prefer the destinations where they mostly work and study in English language. Right now, we do not have any specific target groups for steps of mobility. In the future, however, we will be planning to clarify the target groups. Under the Erasmus programmes, we do plan some joint programmes with European institutions with the support of close relations with our heads of departments or our academic staff.

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]**

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]**
As the members of Uskudar University, we have read and declared to be involved in the following principles of modernisation policy of the EU as stated on first and second pages of the annotated guidelines of the commission:

1. By signing this Charter, our Institution undertakes to contribute to the European Union's modernisation and internationalisation agenda in higher education, which includes 5 priorities:

   1 - Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs.
   2 - Improving the quality and relevance of higher education
   3 - Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation
   4 - Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development
   5 - Improving governance and funding

By agreeing to the principles of the Charter, the Institution will work towards achieving these objectives by participating in one or several of the following activities:

Key Action 1: student and staff mobility (within Europe and / or to / from Third Countries); joint master's degrees

Key Action 2: strategic partnerships, knowledge alliances, capacity building with neighbouring countries, capacity building with Third Countries

Key Action 3: networks and policy support measures Participation in activities under Key Action 1 and Key Action 2 should be underpinned by high quality mobility of staff and students to, and cooperation with, HEIs and other strategic partners such as enterprises, regional authorities, etc. Therefore, the Institution should make mobility and cooperation the central elements of its institutional policy and, to this end:

- develop cooperation with partners in other EU or non-EU countries in the framework of a clear strategy for internationalisation;

- 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 (joint courses / modules / curricula, double / multiple / joint degrees);

- recognise the importance of, and provide visibility to, the results achieved by their 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 its international performance.

The HEI modernisation and internationalisation (EU and non-EU) strategy has to be described in the Erasmus Policy Statement submitted at the application stage. This policy statement (corresponding to the answers of the 3 last questions of the application form) has to be published on the HEI website within one month after the signature of the ECHE awarded by the European Commission.