

Erasmus Policy Statement (2021-2027)

1.2 Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): your strategy

Your Erasmus Policy Statement should reflect how you intended to implement Erasmus after the award of the ECHE. Should you wish to add additional activities in the future, you will need to amend your Erasmus Policy Statement and inform your Erasmus National Agency.

What would you like to achieve by participating in the Erasmus Programme? How does your participation in the Erasmus Programme fit into your institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy?

(Please reflect on the objectives of your participation. Please explain how you expect the participation in Erasmus to contribute towards modernising your institution, as well as on the goal of building a European Education Area¹ and explain the policy objectives you intend to pursue).

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

Üsküdar University, as a specialist university in the field of Behavioural Health and Sciences founded in 2011 by the Human Values and Mental Health Foundation. Üsküdar University aims to provide the highest worldwide standards in knowledge, projects and academic output, developing resources, realizing collaborations and training highly qualified people. Üsküdar University adopting a multidisciplinary approach it is successfully achieved to link behavioural health with psychology, philosophy, health, genetics, engineering and communication sciences. The academic units at all levels in Üsküdar University involved in erasmus actions as stated in the internationalization strategy. The internationalization strategy of our University accepts the important contributions of staff and student mobilities and their participation in European and international collaboration projects to gain the quality of higher education programs. Depending on the general internationalization and modernization strategy, Üsküdar University is regularly evaluated by independent organizations within the framework of a qualified, transparent and reliable education target. These studies are very important in order to contribute to the improvement of universities and the quality of education. Within the framework of the studies carried out by the relevant units of Üsküdar University, accreditation studies are carried out through independent international organizations. The documents received to date include FEDEK, PEARSON, TS EN ISO / IEC 17025: 2012 and TS EN ISO 9001: 2015. Our university has the necessary infrastructure for health informatics, brain computer interface (BCI) and artificial intelligence studies. Üsküdar University has been selected as the "Center of Excellence" in Turkey by TWAS-UNESCO (World Academy of Sciences for the advancement of science in developing countries. <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/science-technology/basic-sciences/international-basis-sciences-programme/world-academy-of-sciences-twasc/>). Our university carries out "Behavior Genetics" studies in Molecular Biology and Genetics. Our university offers clinical and practical opportunities for students interested in Psychology and Behavioral Health Sciences. Üsküdar University, is the first and only university representing Turkey at the G20 Summit. Currently, over 1500 international students from more than 100 countries study at Üsküdar University. Üsküdar University considers establishing bilateral relations with universities all over the world as an important tool in the internationalization of its programs, teaching and research. Üsküdar University aims to continue developing high quality mobility plans as well as international joint or double degree programs. By joining the Erasmus program in the next 2021-2027 period, Üsküdar University seeks to achieve sustainable and continuous growth in internationalization and modernization efforts for excellence in teaching, research, community service and lifelong learning, including graduation. Erasmus program has already contributed a lot to these processes at Üsküdar University with the projects carried out under Key Actions 1, 2 and 3 in previous periods. The aim of Üsküdar University so far is to achieve quality assurance at all levels, including student and staff exchange, starting from selection procedures to credit transfer. From staff training planning to implementation of training results; To meet the international ideas in every cycle and to apply new techniques in lessons from teaching planning. Üsküdar University attaches importance to foreign language teaching for higher education in higher education and one of the corporate education languages is English. Erasmus mobility also helps promote 2nd language learning by using OLS support functions for students attending teaching, internship or Erasmus process abroad. Üsküdar University is committed to promoting shared values and inclusive education in the campus environment by taking partners from all types of higher education institutions and covering a wide geographic scope across Europe. In addition, Üsküdar University aims to increase the number of students participating in the Erasmus internship program with its consortium and other project studies. Üsküdar University does not discriminate against any individual or individual on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, language and religion as a basic principle that guides its general strategy. Üsküdar University is committed to abiding by the universal principles and norms of human rights and freedoms in all relationships and rejects discrimination at all levels. Üsküdar University is committed to contributing to the EU's higher education agenda in the new phase of the program (2021-2027). After the ECHE is awarded, Üsküdar University is expected to continue to benefit from various mobility projects under Key Action 1. The increase in

¹ For more information on the priorities of the European Education Area, such as recognition, digital skills, common values and inclusive education, please consult the following website: https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en

Erasmus student and staff exchange will also encourage further cooperation with our Erasmus partners in Key Action 2 and 3 projects.

Please reflect on the Erasmus actions you would like to take part in and explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution. Please explain how your institution's participation in these actions will contribute to achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy.

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Within the scope of the new Erasmus program, Úskúdar University wants to participate in relevant KA2 and KA3 projects, as well as KA1 projects like youth mobility projects focusing on learning mobility with EU management, International Credit Mobility with the participating countries, internship consortium and career management and education. The participation of Úskúdar University in these actions will contribute to teaching and serving the society and at the same time to achieve excellence strategies in research. Research is a component of the university's task of teaching, researching and serving society. Various components of the Erasmus Program are considered crucial to implement our research strategy for the next Erasmus period (2021-2027). Úskúdar University's research policy is based on the understanding of producing the most advanced studies in a wide range of fields and disciplines. Research activities at our university include projects that improve discussion, seminars, workshops, courses and conferences in addition to using an interdisciplinary approach, our research policy has a global reach. Úskúdar University will follow the policy objectives required to call upon all staff on project development and to ensure that the Úskúdar University Project Office (PARGE) works closely with the Erasmus Office. Both offices are highly experienced in providing administrative support during the preparation of all kind of projects and implementation of their contracts.

What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on your institution?

Please reflect on targets, as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators in monitoring this impact (such as mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects (under the KA2 action), sustainability/long-term impact of projects etc.) You are encouraged to offer an indicative timeline for achieving the targets related to the Erasmus+ actions.

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The main institutional purpose of our participation in the Erasmus program is to maintain the high quality of education, to support the innovative, current curriculum and to add an international dimension to education. In order to do this, Úskúdar University is determined to increase the number and quality of international agreements within the scope of the program. Between 2021 and 2024, we will begin to establish strategic partnerships with universities in the field of behavioural sciences. The partnership must comply with the internalization priorities of Úskúdar University and provide mutual benefits to both partners. Our second aim is to increase the number of mobile students to 10% of our total student number between 2025-2027. As part of our strategy under the new program, we plan to take part in various collaborations for innovation projects. Úskúdar University will focus primarily on European countries and North Africa in addition to Southeast Asian partnerships for geographical diversity. When choosing Erasmus partner universities, Úskúdar University primarily considers the language of instruction of the host institution. The mission of Úskúdar University is to have partners from all over the world. The quality of the agreement is very important for Úskúdar University. Between 2021-2027, we will ensure that agreements are of high quality for academic units and students. In exchange programs, we will also ensure that the university fulfills the balance goal between incoming and outgoing students. Students and university staff requests are also taken into account when reviewing and making new agreements. Úskúdar University has more than 250 student exchange and cooperation agreements from 30 different countries. For long-term impact, we will aim to make the best use of our Erasmus budget by distributing all our funds to participants according to the relevant program rules and regulations.