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Erasmus+ 2014-2020 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.

The goals for Uppsala University are to:

- Pursue research and education of the highest quality
- Play an active role in global society, promoting development and innovation
- Be far-sighted and open to change in all facets of its work
- Strengthen its position as a world-leading university and contribute to making our world a better place

Uppsala University acknowledges that internationalisation is a key component in our strategies to reach the above goals.

International cooperation represents a means for improving the quality of research and education at Uppsala University. The establishment of partnerships is guided by the desire to build quality relationships, with a long-term perspective and good reciprocity, selecting partners that are both compatible with and complementary to Uppsala University. Departments are encouraged to develop multidimensional partnerships linking students in first, second and third cycles with staff and faculty. Uppsala University recognises the importance and potential of collaboration with partners beyond mobility and will continue to support departmental multilateral EU-projects as well as double and joint degrees.

The establishment of well-grounded strategic collaborations with select universities, in addition to targeted, multifaceted actions and initiatives in a number of regions of importance is an effective way to position the university as a world leading provider of higher education. Uppsala University is a member of several international networks and centres for academic collaboration, both within Europe and the rest of the world. These networks and centers serve as platforms that allow us to further develop research and education environments that attract researchers, teachers, postdocs, doctoral students, and students from all over the world.



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The university's main priority for the coming years in the area of student mobility is to increase the number of outgoing mobility. This applies to both learning mobility as well as teaching mobility. Examples of measures in line with this focus include a strategy for increased visibility, study abroad curriculum integration and changes in programme structure to allow for both shorter and longer mobility periods for all students. Joint programmes and joint courses offer opportunities for integrated and sustainable staff exchanges.

With regard to incoming students, our goal is to increase the number of second cycle international students from Europe and beyond, with a particular focus on Latin America, South Africa and Asia. Uppsala University has a long history of participation in cooperation projects with institutions in low and middle income countries and the university intends to continue to expand its efforts in actively playing a part in the global community.

Uppsala University is dedicated to providing equal opportunities for all staff and students. The Equal Opportunities Programme provides direction and structure for the university's systematic work for equal opportunity in research and education. The International Office runs information campaigns, targeting first year students in particular, aiming at ensuring that a study abroad period is a possibility open to all students. The goal is to raise awareness of the many different international opportunities offered to students at the earliest possible stage in their education, allowing students to plan ahead. The university is also committed to the Bologna process. Transparency and recognition of credit from other higher education institutions (HEIs) is a necessity in providing students with the confidence to undertake mobility.

Equality and diversity is also important in the recruitment of academic staff and researchers, an area that continues to be a priority at Uppsala University. The university strive to recruit in open and international competition. In this regard, in addition to being a key part of staff development, teaching mobility is also an excellent way of showcasing the university and building cross-cultural understanding. Not only does it contribute to "Internationalisation at Home", providing international dimensions to locally based students and staff, it also enhances academic excellence in the world through facilitating the direct transferral of knowledge, ideas and pedagogy. We welcome visiting academic staff and appreciate the influx of new perspectives and their contribution towards curriculum development.

The publication of the Charter and the EPS on the University's website will highlight the rights and responsibilities of all staff and students.



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2. 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.

The university is active in a number cooperation programmes, including Erasmus Mundus, Erasmus and Tempus. It is natural then that the strategy for the organisation and implementation of the new Programme 2014-2020 will be strongly influenced by the successful structures, strategies and routines already in place at Uppsala University.

Short term mobility, and integrated study programmes and dual degrees are equally important in the university's internationalisation strategy, as the two serve very different purposes. University-wide projects and credit mobility agreements are developed and managed by the International Office with support and expertise from academic staff. Departmental learning mobility, including joint programmes and joint courses, is designed to be developed and implemented by faculties and departments based on interest from research groups, teachers and staff.

Cooperation on innovation, best practices and capacity building may stem from different units within the university depending on the nature of the project. Establishing joint programmes on second and third cycle level is actively encouraged. The university is in the process of establishing support mechanisms and forums for sharing experiences internally and externally. Developing deeper cooperation with selected strategic partners and networks is of key importance for realising high quality joint activities. Linking the expertise and infrastructure of complementary HEIs contributes to cost effectiveness and facilitates academic excellence for Europe as a whole.

Cooperation with neighbouring countries, as well as Asia, Latin America and Africa is already a priority for Uppsala University and the new Programme may enable the university to strengthen these knowledge alliances and allow for further capacity building.



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3. 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.

Highly skilled individuals with experience from learning in an international environment, create a multitude of international networks. These networks form the basis for future cross-border cooperation within the academic sphere as well as the business sector, which will play an important role in overcoming the difficult economic situation that Europe is currently going through. To increase the number of individuals with international learning outcomes within all cycles, Uppsala University is currently defining mobility windows within each study programme and will continue to develop focused credit mobility in conjunction with specific study programmes. We believe that these actions are necessary to increase the number of graduates as well as adding value to the existing degrees.

Mobility and international collaboration for researchers and teachers are important factors in our university's mission to create a world-leading academic environment. The university's participation in the Programme will be a crucial component in our ability to benchmark the university internationally, improve the quality of teaching and research and to maintain and improve our international relevance.

Sweden's share of the highly-skilled work force is well over the Europe 2020 target for Higher Education attainment for 30-34 year olds. Sweden also enjoys a relatively low unemployment rate in comparison with other European countries. Swedish students have access to a government grant and loan scheme that not only financially supports studies in Sweden, but also studies outside Sweden.

A key instrument in further modernising our institution is linking education and research with industry. Uppsala University acknowledges the opportunities provided through the Erasmus scheme with regards to practical placements and internships. Relevant, high quality placements allow students to gain additional skills needed in their future careers. We anticipate that the new Programme will continue to support the on-going work of strengthening and developing these valued opportunities, providing a framework for expansion in geographical areas outside the EU. The university also welcomes EU initiatives for knowledge sharing regarding placements in all sectors, such as creation of a centralised platform for traineeship offers

Students at Uppsala University are encouraged to link their degree projects to industry, allowing students to apply their theories in real life situations and projects. "Drivhuset", an organisation supported by Uppsala University, helps creative, entrepreneurial students to establish and run new businesses. Drivhuset Uppsala has so far supported 839 new businesses initiated by students.