



ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

AMEU-ISH newly adopted development strategy (2016) is highly internationally oriented and focuses on strengthening institution's internationalisation and its staff and students' mobility as its top priorities necessary to remain competitive and offer excellent knowledge and educational possibilities for students and staff in contemporary society at the local as well as global level. The main three aspects of internationalization strategy are: (a) to increase mobility, staff (academic, research) and students exchange, as well as to increase the number of foreign students and lecturers; (b) to give priority to research integrated into international research networks; (c) to establish an independent publishing house for dissemination of AMEU-ISH scientific achievements in Slovenia and abroad.

During the upcoming years AMEU-ISH will strengthen its participation in international academic and research networks for an increased international cooperation with strategic partners. AMEU-ISH stresses the importance of having quality cooperation with a limited number of strategic partners rather than to have a large amount of inter-institutional agreements. Furthermore, EU remains the most important geographic area for AMEU-ISH and incoming European students constitute the main target group. Apart from European cooperation AMEU-ISH also tends to strengthen its cooperation with specific geographic areas linked to its academic and research activities and interests (Western Balkans, Adriatic region, Central Europe and South America in particular). The faculty will continue to work on building international partnerships with close connection to study programmes. New features, for example, summer schools for incoming student are being planned. AMEU-ISH aims to establish a permanent strategic partnership with field related partner HEI to deepened the cooperation in form of increased research cooperation, joint research grant proposals, opportunities for researchers', teachers and other staff exchange. Main objectives of AMEU-ISH international cooperation and mobility activities include: (a) enhancing education quality; (b) supporting international exchange; (c) meet the demands for the skilled graduates on a national and international labour market. The most important target group of AMEU-ISH mobility activities are students on undergraduate and postgraduate (doctoral, masters) level. The future goal is that the majority of students at the postgraduate level will spend part of their study abroad, attend international conference and publish in international peer reviewed publications. On the academic staff level international experience will be given a more distinct internal merit value. The joint degree programmes will be developed with partner HEI in neighbouring countries (Austria, Croatia) and Third countries.

AMEU-ISH considers EU a priority geographic area and activities like Erasmus mobility, Erasmus Mundus and Jean Monnet activities extremely important part of the new AMEU-ISH internationalization strategy. Some of the goals related to international cooperation projects are: (a) increase academic staff mobility that will impact the home institution learning environment (b) provide students with international dimension to their education; (c) encourage and support PhD students to participate in international research projects, actively participate at international conferences and publish in international peer-reviewed

publications; (d) encourage and support PhD students to spend a part of their study abroad.

AMEU-ISH participation in Erasmus + Programme is part of its strategy for modernization and internationalization. The contribution of staff and students' mobility as well as AMEU-ISH participation in European and international cooperation projects is of crucial importance for the increase in quality of AMEU-ISH study programmes and students experience. We will work towards achieving these objectives by 1) student and staff mobility, joint degrees within Europe, 2) strategic partnerships, knowledge alliances, capacity building with neighbouring countries and regionally 3) networks and policy support measures.

The expected impact of AMEU-ISH participation in the programme on its modernization for each of five Modernization agenda priorities is as follows:

1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs: opportunities for studies and trainings abroad are a very important aspect for recruiting new undergraduate and postgraduate students and thus increasing enrolment levels. We will perform staff and student exchanges as well as invite foreign visiting lecturers.

2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education: academic exchanges give opportunities to compare teaching methods, discuss learning outcomes and discuss curriculum. A developed active network among researchers from different HEI enables academic staff to represent the latest findings in their respected subject areas. The participation in the programme will contribute to critical thinking, improved language skills, new perspectives on learning and lecturing and improved chances on labour market. Personal and professional development benefits of international mobility will be actively promoted among students and the staff. Prospective employers will be acquainted with the transferable skills and competences associated with the international mobility experience, such as intercultural communication and language skills.

3. Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation: Cooperation with our HEI partners will expand our knowledge and experience of other education systems and qualifications. We are constantly searching for new contacts and partnerships, focusing on the similarities of courses content in order to ensure their recognition in curriculum. An approval process ensures that a student's course choices are acceptable for recognition and progression. All placement opportunities are evaluated, including the Learning Agreement, accommodation, travel, health policies and the study and research environment.

4. Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development: The objective of AMEU-ISH participation in the programme is to effectively exchange knowledge, skills, experiences and acquire new competences between the education, business and research sector. We are well aware of the importance of economic success of a country and region and hence the priority of educational institutions to enhance partnerships between education and training institutions and the broader society. Regional development will be addressed through the goal of establishing regional academic and inter-sectoral cooperation partnerships.

5. Improving governance and funding: in order to create effective governance related to international activities AMEU-ISH is going to further develop methods for selecting exchange students and to strive to reduce obstacles for studying abroad. To improve the methods for informing and inspiring students and staff for international cooperation and mobility. Regarding mobility, we are committed to extend the range of the international

cooperation and mobility opportunities we can offer to AMEU-ISH staff and students as integral or optional credit mobility components. This will include academic and student placements in participating countries.

