

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 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)

Modernization through internationalization is the key goal of the international strategy of Ordu University. With an exceptional academic staff, a wide range of educational opportunities, strong international connections and dedication to development, Ordu University is one of the leading universities of the region. International programmes are among priorities in the scientific and educational activities of our institution.

The primary objectives of Ordu University's mobility programmes are to create an international atmosphere on campus, help students deepen their understanding of the world, raise cultural awareness and develop a European citizenship identity. We also adopt the recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning defining the competences each European citizen needs for personal fulfilment and development, employment, social inclusion and active citizenship.

ODU enthusiastically supports the European modernization and internationalization agenda in higher education. It embraced the Bologna Process from the very beginning. Participating in the Erasmus Programme has been an integral part of ODU's institutional strategy. Erasmus has helped enhance the mobility of staff and students at ODU, as well as the participation in European and international cooperation projects, with excellent results.

One of the target group of mobility activities are the students, who participate in both study and traineeship programmes in significant numbers. Either first-cycle as well as second and third cycle students should be offered a wide range of mobility services. For most of the students it is a chance to go abroad for the first time and to get to know different cultures and different learning habits. Students get a chance to test both their academic performance and their social skills in competitive international environments. The university has mandatory internship programmes in some faculties and vocational schools. In this case the practical experience in companies abroad is of great value. The interest of academic and administrative staff in the participation in mobility programmes is increasing every year. At this point ODU sees a great potential for promoting cross-border scientific exchange, international research projects and the intercultural qualification of his own university staff.

With new agreement and mobility opportunities, the staff and student will be able to widen their horizons and in addition to this, cultural barriers and expectative prejudgments will be abolished which will also contribute to the development of international relations of countries. To activate these agreements, the staff of International Relations Office organizes some informative activities and conferences for the students and staff to encourage taking advantage of these mobility programs.

ODU accepts students, academic and administrative staff from various countries. Incoming mobilities are highly appreciated as they are believed to contribute to personal and academic developments of both students and staff. Visiting lecturers and students encourage them to participate in new projects, mobilities and broaden their experiences. In addition, during the study period at ODU, no type of discrimination as to religion, belief, race, gender and age, etc. is allowed.

The interaction between various cultures and identities on campus and at partner institutions is hoped to create an international outlook and bring new perspectives to our students and faculty as well as administrative staff.

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