

ERASMUS+ POLICY STATEMENT
of the State University of Applied Sciences in Jarosław

The State University of Applied Sciences (PANS) in Jarosław is located in the south-eastern part of Poland and its task is: to enable young people, who come from small or medium-sized regions to study, to overcome barriers to study and to provide local labour market for the professionals to be employed in the business and administration, economics, pedagogy, tourism, but also nursing and social assistance, construction, surveying or IT one. PANS in Jarosław creates conditions for the development of science and research work collaborating with universities and research institutions in the country and abroad, participates actively in the national and international cooperation and the students exchange. Signing the multiple contracts with the universities in Poland and abroad is the effect of mutual cooperation. The foreign policy of University authorities is resulted in putting into practice the European and international values. The university is interested in constant enlarging the circle of foreign partners with whom it intends to pursue projects within the framework of educational and research programs. The increase in the students mobility and the teaching staff is considered an important factor of the development. The institution takes part in many international educational programs both as a leader and as a partner. Thus, it undertakes all actions aimed at constantly increasing academic mobility.

PANS tries to create a wide and attractive programme offer and to improve the educational standards in its teaching activities. Aiming to create an integrated European Higher Education Area and taking into consideration the provisions of the Bologna Declaration, the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) has been implemented in all the proposed faculties. Due to this system we try to promote national and European qualification structure to increase the mobility of the teaching staff and the students as well as to improve educational programs. To increase the attractiveness of PANS for foreign students the efforts are applied to enrich the offer of subjects and programmes in English. The educational objective is to transfer the theoretical and practical knowledge to graduates, making them competent employees sought in the local market.

We support foreign language learning and the use of modern information and multimedia technologies. Being aware of the role of Universities in knowledge transfer process the State University of Applied Sciences in Jarosław is actively collaborating with institutions and enterprises in the region. The authorities of the above mentioned University make every effort to ensure broad access to program participation in order to prevent discrimination and xenophobia and to encourage and support the disabled participants.

PANS in Jarosław confirms that its participation in the Erasmus+ Programme is a part of our strategy for modernisation and internationalisation. This strategy acknowledges the key contribution of student/staff mobility and of



participation in transnational cooperation projects, to the quality of its higher education programmes and student experience. The strategy aims to reinforce the quality of student and staff mobility, as well as of cooperation projects.

PANS has established the special office to ensure high quality in academic mobility issues. The Head of the Department of International Relations and Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator is responsible for organizational and promotional activities, concerning the administration service of the incoming and outgoing students and staff, establishing contacts with other institutions.

Those, who are interested in the Erasmus+ Programme, have an easy access to information. In order to activate students and the teaching staff, strong emphasis is placed on the Erasmus+ Programme promotion as well as on the activities informing about its possibilities and principles. If necessary, students may also benefit from individual counselling of institutes coordinators as well as from the counselling of Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator.

The Erasmus+ Programme supports the implementation of strategic objectives of our University in relation to internationalisation as a tool to improve the quality, attractiveness and accessibility of education and the functioning of our institution, included in the mission and strategy of internationalisation. We undertake to respect the principles relating to equal treatment and non-discrimination, mobility, participation in multilateral projects, sustainability of results, their promotion and dissemination, and to ensure that the principles of the ECHE Charter are publicised.

The University is committed to: fully respect the principles of non-discrimination and transparency, full acceptance of all positively graded subjects the student has attended during studies abroad, not to collect any tuition fees, use of laboratories or libraries from incoming students, ensure full and equal access for all participants, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, have an ECTS credit allocation procedure, implementation of the European Student Card Initiative, promote the Erasmus+ mobile application among students, implement and promote environmentally friendly practices through the Erasmus+ programme, promoting civic attitudes among program participants. We are going to implement the priorities of the programme by undertaking the necessary steps to implement digital mobility management in line with the technical standards of the European Student Card Initiative, by encouraging the participation of individuals with fewer opportunities as well as by promoting civic engagement and encouraging students and staff to get involved as active citizens before, during and after their participation in a mobility or project.

PANS is going to be connected to the Erasmus Without Paper Network, which enables the university to exchange mobility data related to student and staff mobility with other institutions, what is the main goals of the European Student Card Initiative. We will manage the mobilities more efficiently by following the Erasmus Without Paper Initiative which provides digital infrastructure and also by promoting Erasmus+ mobile App for students - using Erasmus Dashboard for universities (directly connected with Online Learning Agreement - OLA). PANS disposes internal tool/in-house built mobility management software which will be connected to the EWP Network in the future. It will also include a commitment to work together to fully digitalise the internationalisation processes at the Institution and the administrative processes around

managing mobilities, achieve automatic recognition of credits earned abroad, and make the programme more environmentally friendly. We are aware of that Erasmus is going digital. The University declares to further boost the role of youth, education and culture policies by participating in building a European Education Area by 2025, reinforce the cultural dimension of the European Union and bolster youth participation.

The internationalisation strategy aims to enhance learning mobility and educational opportunities in the EU, empower young people, in particular by encouraging them to participate in civic and democratic life, and harness the potential of culture for social progress and economic growth in Europe. Automatic mutual recognition of diplomas and learning periods abroad to facilitate learning mobility in Europe and improving the teaching and learning of languages to ensure that more young people become proficient in foreign languages. We expect the participation in the Erasmus+ Programme will contribute towards modernising of PANS as well as developing the European Education Area. We intend to implement the European Student Card Initiative which is designed to boost learning mobility by reducing administrative burdens and costs for students and education and training institutions. We will make all efforts to develop European Universities network which boost cross-border cooperation through long-term institutional strategies as well as promote innovation and excellence, increase mobility for students and teachers and facilitate language learning thanks to that European higher education will be more competitive. The policy objectives we intend to pursue are: spending time abroad to study and make internship should become the norm, school and higher education qualifications should be recognised across the EU, knowing two languages in addition to one's mother tongue should be standard, everyone should be able to access high-quality education, irrespective of their socio-economic background and people should have a strong sense of their identity as a European, of Europe's cultural heritage and its diversity.

Basic principles by implementing the Erasmus+ principles in practice are: inclusion and equal treatment.

PANS aims to improve its competitiveness by improving the quality, attractiveness and accessibility of educational offer and increase of the students and staff mobility, both in terms of educational mobility and professional development, through participation in European educational programmes as well as mobilization of partnerships. Our institution's participation in mobility actions will contribute to achieving the main objectives of the institutional strategy such as: increase the mobility of students of all levels and fields of study – this is reflected by the increase in the number of bilateral agreements signed by PANS, and by the variety of academic disciplines available for mobility, to promote the development of study programmes instructed in foreign languages, to make the PANS academic offer appeal to foreign students seeking admission for study, to develop the student placement system, to increase the teaching staff mobility as well administrative employees.

The range of tasks related to international programmes includes: the constant improvement of rules and procedures of recruitment, monitoring the quality of instruction the student receives abroad, recognition of study outcomes achieved at partner universities, integration of incoming students through the system of mentors and the orientation week, integration of incoming teachers into the PANS study curricula, maintaining international contacts in the scope of mobility, and managing

the programmes at the university, to make use of international cooperation in Erasmus+ to date as a basis for joint educational programmes, as well as for joint science and research projects.

By participating in the Erasmus+ Programme we would like to achieve and ensure the positioning of the PANS in the world educational environment based on the formation of the University decent image (brand), international reputation, implementation of the fully recognitions of the results gained abroad according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), competitive advantages in the scientific field, highlighting the results of scientific and research activity in the world. Innovative educational and informational environment creation by means of implementing modern scientific, engineering and technological achievements, implementation of the competence-based approach, application of information and communication technologies, E-learning and management, pedagogic innovations development and implementation, these activities will be ensured by participation in Erasmus+.

Concept of the State University of Applied Sciences in Jarosław states that the main strategic objectives in internationalisation strategy are: strengthening and development of international cooperation in order to gain experience and establish high standards of scientific and teaching activities in accordance with the Bologna process, achievement of the international standards of educational services quality, realization of joint international scientific researches, expansion in opportunities of student mobility for studies and internships (also graduates), expansion in opportunities of staff mobility for teaching and training. Participation in the Erasmus+ Programme facilitates the university integration into the global educational and scientific space, what is included in the modernisation Strategy 2020, such as: participation in international projects and programs, correspondence of curricula to European and world standards, development of programs with common and double diplomas, rising positions in leading world rankings, ensuring the teaching of courses in English, increase in the number of foreign students, development of international agreements, academic mobility of scholars, teachers, administrative staff and students. All these priorities are possible to provide via the Erasmus+ Programme activities.

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