

Università Europea di Roma's Erasmus+ Policy Statement (EPS) 2021/2027

Università Europea di Roma is a private, Catholic university located in Rome. It began its activity in 2005 and is part of an international network of universities (Red Anáhuac) widespread in many countries.

Against this background, internationality takes the form of an intrinsic feature, which it has aimed at consolidating and increasing, by including, within its five degree courses, several teachings in English and constantly promoting mobility initiatives.

Holder of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) since 2007, it is committed to an internationalization process addressed to cultural integration and knowledge sharing.

Participating in the Erasmus+ program remains the trigger for the internationalization dimension development in terms of international visibility and attractiveness, transnational research and learning. It is of utmost importance in the institutional modernization process too, as it compels it to enhance its educational offer and rethink and adjust practices for the benefit of both outgoing and incoming students, professors and staff members.

Università Europea di Roma's core mission is to:

- ✚ foster the **development of people of positive action through “service learning”**: students are compelled to take part in meaningful extracurricular activities, to raise their understanding of sending/hosting culture, build international contacts networks, actively participate in society and develop a European citizenship and identity sense. Thus, students find that academic theories or concepts are illuminated by their experience in the community and conversely, that their experience in the community is explained through relevant theories and concepts;
- ✚ **offer international career opportunities** to students and staff: Università Europea di Roma is strongly committed to promoting mobility of individuals understood as the principal tool for building a European Education Area based on greater employment opportunities and lower poverty levels/gender gap; student mobility is a special focus;
- ✚ **sustain and develop its position as a research and teaching institution of high international quality**: professors' mobility is strongly promoted in this sense;
- ✚ **gain visibility and international support** for its own initiatives.

Erasmus+ and Exchange Programs together with Double Degree and Summer School options have had a deep and stimulating impact on the whole university and are strongly promoted within the academic community. Università Europea di Roma wants a greater number of students to enjoy the opportunity of studying abroad, fostering the acquisition of new methodologies and the establishment of learning outcomes in line with the educational objectives of their degree course, but not necessary present in its educational offer. While the value of exchanges can be quantified in terms of the development of personal and professional competences, mobility also matters for Università Europea di Roma in providing a highly visible sign of cooperation between individuals and institutions from a wide range of countries. Recognizing the collaboration and sharing of good practices between institutions as essential for the quantitative and qualitative improvement of its participation in the Erasmus+ program, Università Europea di Roma has the ambition to implement KA2 as well in the near future.

As far as full recognition is concerned, Università Europea di Roma is committed to making automatic recognition happen, consider all ECTS stated in the transcript of records (ToR) as counting towards the degrees

of outgoing students, provided that the courses listed match those indicated in the learning agreement. To do so, Faculty advisors conduct a deep quality check on the learning agreements before and during mobilities. Once recognition has been given, the International Relations Office undertakes to provide partners a different ToR that gives proof of how many ECTS and which grades were indeed recognized upon the return of the student, making the process more transparent and building trust.

Università Europea di Roma's objective is to increase the mobility of professors as well: professors' exchanges are valued and encouraged as part of the university's policy to continue to develop bilateral and transnational partnerships and teaching staff mobility is expected to double during the program period.

With regard to recognition, staff mobility is taken into consideration when it comes to professional development.

Università Europea di Roma will also strive to facilitate the academic community's access to internationalization at home initiatives, such as enrollment in global/international coursework, interactions with international students, and participation in global/international curricular activities, as it believes that such chances may yield benefits for students' multicultural awareness and development of global, international and intercultural competencies. This participation is valorized, within students' curricula, through the acquisition of ECTS. Outgoing students are awarded an *International Competences Certificate* which gives the right to the acquisition of extra 1-2 points when graduating as well.

A new approach to bilateral cooperation is also being pursued and will further be implemented: Università Europea di Roma is planning to focus on the quality of cooperation by monitoring and evaluating existing partnerships and by applying specific requirements to new ones such as:

- ✚ common areas of interest and sharing of institutional values
- ✚ excellence centers in relevant teaching and research fields
- ✚ a strategic focus on internationalization

While increasing availability of higher education is relevant, Università Europea di Roma is aware that one major problem is represented by the lack of sufficient and progressive student support, especially for students coming from lower economic background. Our institution aims at improving the quality of teaching and research so that it could be better meet the criteria for allocating national funds from the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR), resulting into greater money supply to be invested in mobility programs. To the same end, it intends to implement more cooperation agreements with private bodies.

Ultimately, Università Europea di Roma pays particular attention to the issue of disability and is committed to ensuring the presence of adequate facilities and staff in order to meet the needs of people with disabilities, respecting the principles of non-discrimination and inclusion.

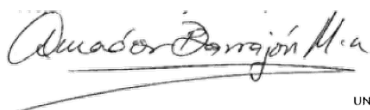
This variable is also important when choosing new institutional partners.

Endorsement of the Organization

This Erasmus Policy Statement is part of Università Europea di Roma's ECHE 2021/2027 application form, signed by its Legal Representative on March 17th, 2021.

Rome, March 25th 2021

Legal Representative of the institution, Dean
Prof. P. Amador Barrajón Muñoz, L.C.



UNIVERSITÀ EUROPEA DI ROMA