

**D****Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)*****D. Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)***

The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy 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. (max. 5000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Universidade de Lisboa (ULisboa) is the institutional offshoot of the merger of the former Universidade de Lisboa and Universidade Técnica de Lisboa. ULisboa is set to develop the international activities initiated by the former institutions, according to its new strategy and vision. ULisboa is actively involved in international scientific and educational cooperation, both through agreements with specific universities and research institutes, and in the framework of associations, networks and programs, adding a special meaning to its motto, "From Lisbon to the World".

ULisboa promotes, develops and transmits cutting edge scientific, technical and artistic knowledge, encouraging innovation, and adapting to the changing needs of society in terms of the surrounding culture and growing internationalisation. ULisboa assumes a strategic investment in teaching, learning, research and innovation in order to participate in the global knowledge system.

ULisboa furthers its "internationalisation" by implementing teaching strategies that make explicit and viable connections between local experience and global debate, foster intellectual curiosity for a wide range of cultural experiences and perspectives, and enables students and staff to build the knowledge, expertise and confidence to participate in international contexts.

The University forges strategic partnerships with numerous prestigious Universities worldwide. Its partners includes European and Third Countries' institutions. Given the special links that a similar language allows, the university has privileged relations with universities in South America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay) and Africa (Angola, Cape Verde, Mozambique, S.Tomé, South Africa). The historical links of Portugal with some regions in Asia (China, East Timor, India, Indonesia, Japan, Macau, Russia, South Korea and Thailand) enable the creation of robust international exchange programs.

ULisboa has an extensive cooperation network worldwide and has been internationally acknowledged for its teaching and research achievements. The University has a large experience in mobility Programmes financed by the European Commission, namely Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus and Tempus and, the former Programmes, Alfa and Alban.

Mobility is a crucial part of the internationalisation process. ULisboa is willing to increase significantly the mobility of its students in all cycles of studies and its teaching and administrative staff until 2020. Student mobility is an experience of added-value both for students and for HEIs, as it enables the development of specific skills and the acquisition of relevant competences for their academic, scientific and professional life. Mobility has also a major role in the employability of ULisboa students. Staff mobility integrates the internationalisation and modernisation processes, and is important to foster the advance of knowledge and to activate the review and improvement of procedures that aim at enhancing the quality of teaching and the services offered. Staff mobility is also an avenue to improve the language competence of teachers and administrative staff, favouring the internationalisation of the home institution.

The development of joint master degree programs is one of the international priorities of ULisboa of fostering student and staff mobility as well as an opportunity to develop integrated curricula with foreign institutions, strengthening relationships and knowledge sharing with counterpart departments.

Please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme.

If not applicable, please explain (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

The Program Erasmus+ contributes significantly to reinforce ULisboa's internationalisation strategy. Aware of the opportunities that the Program offers in teaching and training, the university will continue to encourage the participation of its Schools in international cooperation projects through networks and consortia. ULisboa assumes the role of coordinator in various projects, as well as of partner in others.

The international priorities in its strategy are the increasing number of students in mobility programs, ensuring the full recognition of mobility periods; the offer of placement opportunities in international companies and research units; the pursuit of agreements with prestigious European and non-European universities, particularly in new partner countries; a marked increase in the use of English in all study cycles; the reinforcement of support services for international students; the pursuit of equal opportunities to all candidates regardless of gender, race, politics or religious belief; the growing participation of its Schools in international cooperation projects, networks and consortia with HEIs and organisations worldwide. Concerning vertical mobility, to establish the University as an institution of choice for international students, welcoming students in all their diversity, ruled by a student-centred ethos, providing students with curricula, faculty, infrastructures and support services designed with their needs in mind. In general, the aim is to promote mutual participation in research projects, co-tutorship of doctoral programs, and exchange of teaching staff and students. ULisboa will continue developing Jean Monnet projects, in a sustained effort to maintain the existing Excellency labels. The participation in the Erasmus+ Programme is also an opportunity to strengthen the links with our partners from the research Projects within the framework of H2020.

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on the modernisation of your institution. Please refer to each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda \*and explain which are the policy objectives you intend to pursue.(max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Priority 1: The participation of ULisboa in the Programme will provide graduates with an International experience, essential to their role in the future. ULisboa offers a large range of courses that reflect the needs of the market and is committed to support the access to HE from diversified groups. ULisboa supports programmes to initiate graduation students to develop research projects linked to companies, in order to improve qualifications and to promote research careers.

Priority 2: The sustainability in all its dimensions is present at the ULisboa Agenda through the involvement of its academic community. Training and hands on approach methods are important components of HE. ULisboa exposes its students to different visions of their study areas, improving the quality of their training. The participation in consortia of mobility for placements enables the students to acquire relevant professional expertise directly related to their studies, in an international environment and with high quality standards, generating valuable knowledge flows.

Priority 3: ULisboa will continue to promote its high levels of quality standards at national and international levels, promoting education that guarantees the required competences for the demanding employment market. ULisboa has a Quality Management Council with the mission to promote and monitor quality, to guarantee national and international standards. The integration of trans-national research teams is of the utmost importance for the efficiency of the existing technological, scientific and human resources. Therefore, the cooperation through the Programme will promote relevant initiatives for international joint and double degrees.

Priority 4: ULisboa is strongly involved in applied research projects, technological development and innovation, and in fundamental research. Research activities occur within Research Centres and Units, accredited in the national science system. Most of them are a reference in the scientific community and have international recognition. Conscious that the promotion of knowledge circulation and the development of applied research will have an impact on regional and societal development, the university promotes entrepreneurship and innovation by the mean of knowledge alliances, and participating in networks and international projects within the Programme.

Priority 5: To improve governance and funding, the University applies a strong leadership and simultaneously promotes the internal initiative and the autonomy of the Schools. The allocation of funding based on international performance is used to strengthen the quality and Excellency achievements. The participation of ULisboa in Erasmus+ Programme is essential to reinforce the cooperation links with European HEI therefore, developing projects and partnerships, and creating new opportunities for funding.

\* COM (2011) 567 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0567:FIN:EN:PDF>)