

# Erasmus Policy Statement

## Overall Strategy

Since its foundation in 1925 the University of Physical Education, Hungary (TE) has made connection with several internationally acknowledged higher education institutions in the field of sport sciences all over the world. These relations have more and more significance for TE in order to be able to meet the challenges both on national and international level. Currently we have about 40 valid bilateral agreements, most of them are signed under the Erasmus+ programme, but we have some still active cooperation agreements signed in the past 25 years for academic exchanges, joint research programmes, scientific collaboration and development to which the new international credit mobility programme could give a great boost.

Our professionals, teachers, researchers, students often go abroad to teach, study, do internship, lecture, do research; owing to them our institution can make new contacts easily. Our students in bachelor, master and doctoral programmes, teachers, researchers, and administrative workers are really interested in possibilities to go abroad. Our incoming students enliven the days at TE, they make forever friendships with Hungarian students which often become professional relations. Attendance on lectures of incoming professors is outstanding, as they transmit new knowledge to our students and professionals both, furthermore several times these lectures draw the attention of our students to mobility opportunities.

TE, which regained its independency on 1 September 2014, would like to enhance its international reputation, for which our international professional relations give the appropriate basis: in Europe we have important collaborations in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Italy, Poland, Croatia, Romania, Turkey; in North-America in Canada and the United States; in Asia in Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, India. Additionally a lot of students come to our coaching course supported by the International Olympic Committee not only from Europe and Asia, but from Africa. Our aim is to intensify our cooperation with the old partners and to find new ones especially in Asia and South-America. The priority of Asia in our internationalization process is shown by the preparation of a joint master programme with our Taiwanese partner university which would be a huge step and a unique opportunity in the field of sport education.

General objectives:

- The priority of the Erasmus+ objectives
- Take advantage of opportunities given by the Erasmus+ not only in programme countries but also in partner countries
- Enhance the level of programmes in foreign language at our University
- Rise the number of incoming and outgoing students, teachers and staff
- Development of learning material
- Improve the standards of teaching and research at international level
- Ensuring the foreign practice for students to help them to enter the job market

The development of a healthy population, which's keystones are the physical education and the daily sport, is a main target both in the European Union and all over the world. University of Physical Education is the centre for this in Hungary where our programmes ensure the quality teaching of the future professionals in PE and sport, for whom the experiences gained abroad are inevitable; furthermore there are worldwide recognized lecturers at our University who usually attend international conferences and participate in the forming of national and EU sport policy.

Thanks to our professionals our University have been participating in several EU funded programmes and projects which develop our teachers and students in more ways. In these projects we have evolved curriculum at European level, educational materials or we teach European studies at our institution. However among these programmes the most important for us is the Erasmus+ which agitates the highest number of our students and lecturers, staff and gives us the opportunity to show ourselves internationally.

Before we had a lot of bilateral agreement which became inactive during the years, so after getting back our independency we renewed only those which give the legal basis of active cooperation.

Besides studying students require more and more opportunities to do their professional practices abroad so we would like to make connection with foreign companies, organizations where our students can do internship.

Furthermore we continuously develop our on-line courses in foreign languages, which ensure professional training to students who cannot leave their home or only for a short time.

The professional and infrastructural development of University of Physical Education enables to teach more and more students hereby high-qualified professionals can enter the job market in the field of sport and education of PE. In Hungary the sport is a priority sector so the work of these professionals is really important and their responsibility to propagate the healthy lifestyle which means that our University has a great impact in developing the healthy population of the future, for which we need modern and long lasting teaching materials, equipment to attract youth and elder people doing sport to get professional knowledge.

Mobility participants' role is significant in approaching the knowledge and disseminating the research results in the field of sport science. Moreover these students and staff can transfer their theoretical knowledge to practice so prove their significance and reality.

University of Physical Education draws the attention of its citizens to mobility opportunities on information days, on its websites. We give extra financial support from our budget to raise mobility demand and the professional acknowledgement means also motivation not only for students but for teachers and staff too.

Mobility objectives:

- We do not discriminate our students by their sex, race, social background, religion, identity, age and handicap.
- We help our incoming and outgoing students, teachers and staff in every way
- Our incoming students are equal to every other students of the University, they are exempt from fees such as tuition fee.
- The selection criteria of outgoing students are educational, scientific and sport results, professional and social activities,
- language proficiency.
- The selection criteria of outgoing staff and teachers are the work plan, the language proficiency and the professional experiences.
- We offer free language courses (including Hungarian as a foreign language) to our outgoing and incoming students.
- We offer free language courses (including professional language) to our teachers and staff.

It is inevitable to support educational and research programmes and cooperation with foreign universities to be able to sustain the competitiveness of our University, as broadening our

knowledge is the basis of education which ensures that we give professionally well-prepared workers to the job market.

The sources given by the state and the European Union are appropriate bases for the international appearance of University of Physical Education although we aspire to make more money for these objectives by our services.