

# 1.Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): your strategy

1. 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 Education Area<sup>1</sup> 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)

Erasmus + KA103 Project carried out by the International Office within the scope of the Exchange Program contributes to the internationalization of Maltepe University with student and academic staff exchange by means of more than 180 ERASMUS Agreements, Internship Consortium Projects and more than 30 International agreements. By applying for KA203 ERASMUS+ Internship Mobility Consortium Project and initiating the mobility within the scope of this project, it is aimed to apply for ERASMUS+ Strategic Partnership Project KA2 in the field of Youth and Higher Education. By making application for the project and ERASMUS+ Joint Master Program within the scope of Mobility Project KA107 between ERASMUS+ Program Countries and Partner Countries, it is planned to contribute more to internationalization.

Increase in the number of foreign students is considered as an important support for our university to achieve its internationalization goal. Maltepe University participates in foreign education fairs and workshops for this purpose, and web page and candidate student page

prepared in foreign languages, brochures, catalogs, posters, etc. are also used effectively in the promotion of the university.

Maltepe University aims to reach and maintain the highest quality standards in education and training and R&D studies as well as in the fields of service to the society. Our university also aims to cooperate both nationally and internationally on the scale of all the academic units it covers. Maltepe University continuously participates in appropriate networks or educational fairs to promote staff and student mobility. The University aims to spread the Erasmus+ exchange to new subject areas. Maltepe University welcomes all academic staff from abroad and works to improve its curriculum. The University encourages changes in course structure that will increase student mobility. Maltepe University has 16 years of experience in participating in the Erasmus program and has been a leading university in Turkey since the beginning of the Erasmus program. All students are asked to work under the supervision of their department coordinators and to be in contact both with them and the Erasmus office during the exchange. Outgoing students are prepared and informed about the process by means of pre-departure meetings, and feedback and advices from the previous year's exchange students are received. Students from abroad are informed about all accommodation and transportation options before their arrival at Maltepe University. Maltepe University offers accommodation opportunity for all incoming staff and students in the dormitories on campus at the most affordable prices.

Maltepe University guarantees to choose those who participate in the program regardless of gender, ethnicity, race, religion, nationality, social or economic background. Students with disabilities are supported with extra points in the elections according to the rules of Erasmus User Guide. When promoting ERASMUS<sup>+</sup>, the university encourages students with disabilities to apply for ERASMUS<sup>+</sup>. Department coordinators are in contact with all mobility and internship students and monitor their progress during the exchange. Maltepe University aims to increase our program and visibility in our city, country and international area, continuously. According to our Graduate Communication with Alumni and Career Application and Research Center (MIKAM), students with Erasmus experience have more employment advantage than students who do not participate in the program. The Erasmus grant and the program contents are the motivating and encouraging elements. The Erasmus Office supports and facilitates the process so that academic staff can gain international experience. Participation

in the program is expected to help more employment opportunities in the labor market and motivate participants especially in this context.

With the renewal of ECHE and the use of ECTS, Maltepe University aims to assist in the recognition of academic studies in the program countries and to ensure that our students are evaluated at an international level sustainably. The Program helps participants discover their creative skills and improves their communication skills as well as their learning skills. The Erasmus+ program is promoted effectively on the web page, on social media accounts and on campus. All of our departments have pleasant relations with universities in the program countries and make Erasmus agreements with various departments. Maltepe University ensures that all ECTS credits gained during the mobility are automatically recognized after the submission of transcripts by the host university, without any attempt by students. After the recognition of ECTS credits, the degree can be viewed on the student's registration transcript and Diploma Supplement.

Our goals on internationalization stated in 2020-2024 Maltepe University Strategic Plan are to increase the number of international students, the share of foreign academic staff in the total employment ratio and the number of programs providing education in foreign language (<https://www.maltepe.edu.tr/Content/Media/CkEditor/2202202010170071-20202024%20Stratejik%20Plan%C4%B1-Senatodan%20sonra-22.02.2020.pdf>).

Efforts will be maintained in order to increase the number of students and staff who benefit from international exchange programs. International Student Exchange (ERASMUS, Mevlana etc.), Foreign Students, Foreign Academic Staff, International Staff Exchange (ERASMUS, MSCA etc.), Projects carried out with international cooperation, International Congress, symposium, conference, seminar, panel, artistic. activities, awards received in international scientific, artistic and design competitions, number of articles/citations in international indexes, cooperation with international universities, institutions and organizations in the field of higher education will be increased.

Studies in our university will become beneficial to the extent that it contributes to the construction of a “research-based university”. Maltepe University has set goals for becoming a research-based university. In addition, our university has established the required infrastructure for Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) and Online Learning Agreement (OLA) studies. In Erasmus mobility, there can be some situations requiring fast communication and correspondence. In

this regard, it is important to establish digital infrastructure in the context of fast communication from the most negative to the most positive conditions.

The goal of all international activities that desire harmony with the world is to overcome the classical structure of learning process and to develop a platform where all kinds of view gain value. Maltepe University has placed its Erasmus strategy on this axis.

The changes and developments targeted to be achieved through the Erasmus program are summarized as follows:

- ▶ To be able to create a student and staff model that thrives on international cultural environments and renews itself,
- ▶ To be able to construct a learning model which can define its own cultural codes,
- ▶ To be able to develop creative, critical and attentive thinking skills,
- ▶ To be able to adapt to multilingual and multicultural environments,
- ▶ To be able to become an individual with a developed social responsibility which is far from prejudices,
- ▶ To be able to create a high level of respect for basic human rights in their behavior, actions and relationships,
- ▶ To be able to be aware and to have strive for lifelong learning activities,
- ▶ To be able to have a productive determination of life planning,
- ▶ To be able to develop practical life skills,
- ▶ To be able to have strong communication, coordination and cooperation skills.

2. Please reflect on the Erasmus actions you would like to take part in and explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution. Please explain how your institution's participation in these actions will contribute to achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy. Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

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and academic staff exchange by means of more than 180 ERASMUS Agreements, Internship Consortium Projects and more than 30 International agreements. By applying for KA203 ERASMUS<sup>+</sup> Internship Mobility Consortium Project and initiating the mobility within the scope of this project, it is aimed to apply for ERASMUS<sup>+</sup> Strategic Partnership Project KA2 in the field of Youth and Higher Education. By making application for the project and ERASMUS<sup>+</sup> Joint Master Program within the scope of Mobility Project KA107 between ERASMUS<sup>+</sup>Program Countries and Partner Countries, it is planned to contribute more to internationalization.

We have several different steps to implement our international activities. First of all, we call for student and staff mobility according to the criteria in the *Erasmus Practice Handbook*. Together with all digital media including our Web page and social media accounts, we announce all mobilities by hanging banners, distributing information notes, and holding meetings at regular intervals in the University. Following the students' Erasmus mobility applications, we continue with the Erasmus Language Exam. After the student's Erasmus grade is determined, we announce the list that includes the list of universities to be attended by students at partner universities within the framework of bilateral agreements, and the list that includes the success rating of the internship students. At the end of the exchange program, we ask for a final report from all students and staff participating in the program. Academic and administrative staff follow almost the same process as students. We accept applications and as Erasmus Office, we help them prepare their own documents. We select the staff according to the appropriate criteria announced for learning and teaching mobility within the framework of the Erasmus program. We plan to improve the Erasmus staff and student mobility so that more people can benefit from it.

In addition, in order to increase our existing bilateral agreements, we hold meetings continuously with all of our Academic Units, and we reach the relevant universities as Erasmus Office in line with the requests from our students and faculty members and make new bilateral agreements where mutual compliance can be achieved.

This contributes to achieving the strategic goal related to internationalization of Maltepe University stated in the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan (<https://www.maltepe.edu.tr/Content/Media/CkEditor/2202202010170071-2020-2024%20Stratejik%20Plan%C4%B1-Senatodan%20sonra-22.02.2020.pdf>).

### 3. What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme

on your institution? Please reflect on targets, as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators in monitoring this impact (such as mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects (under the KA2 action), sustainability/long-term impact of projects etc.) You are encouraged to offer an indicative timeline for achieving the targets related to the Erasmus+ actions. Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

The most significant predicted impact of our participation in the Erasmus<sup>+</sup> Program on our institution is the increase in the level of internationalization. It is planned to increase the efficiency of international exchange programs by raising the number of programs providing education in foreign language and the number of academic and administrative staff who speak foreign language. ISO 9001: Our University, which has the 2015 Quality Management System Certificate, aims to become a modern world university in the light of its Quality Policy, by creating, implementing and maintaining a quality management system that contributes to the present and future by producing new information and technology and contributes to the increase of the level of welfare our country. Financial support given to Erasmus mobility participants by the National Agency, more participation in cooperation projects, sustainability and long-term effects of the projects are detailed in 2020-2024 Strategic Plan of our university. The schedule for achieving the objectives of ERASMUS<sup>+</sup> actions in qualitative and quantitative indicators is presented below. (<https://www.maltepe.edu.tr/Content/Media/CkEditor/2202202010170071-2020-2024%20Stratejik%20Plan%C4%B1-Senatodan%20sonra-22.02.2020.pdf>). At the end of 2021, all the Erasmus Inter Institutional Agreement will be renewed and new erasmus agreement will added.

TARGET CARD 1										
Objective		Increasing the level of internationalization								
Target		Increasing the effectiveness of international exchange programs								
Performance Indicators		Effect on the Target (%)	Initial Value (2019)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
P.I.1.1.	Number of outgoing students using exchange programs	20	30	33	36	40	44	48	1 year	1 year
P.I.1.2	Number of incoming students using exchange programs	20	8	10	15	20	25	30	1 year	1 year
P.I.1.3.	Number of incoming academic/administrative staff through international staff exchange programs	20	8	10	15	19	21	23	1 year	1 year
P.I.1.4.	Number of outgoing academic/administrative staff through international staff exchange programs	20	19	22	24	26	28	30	1 year	1 year
P.I.1.5.	Number of foreign students	10	350	400	500	750	900	1000	1 year	1 year
P.I.1.6.	Number of agreements made	10	8	10	13	15	18	21	1 year	1 year

TARGET CARD 2										
Objective		Increasing the level of internationalization								
Target		Increasing the number of programs providing education in foreign language								
Performance Indicators		Effect on the Target (%)	Initial Value (2019)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting Frequency
P.I.2.1.	Number of undergraduate programs providing education in foreign language	40	16	16	16	17	17	18	1 year	1 year
P.I.2.2.	Number of master's programs providing education in foreign language	20	3	3	4	4	5	5	1 year	1 year
P.I.2.3	Number of doctoral programs providing education in foreign language	25	0	0	1	2	2	3	1 year	1 year
P.I.2.4	Number of foreign academic staff	15	9	10	10	11	12	12	1 year	1 year