ERASMUS CHARTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION 2014-2020

The European Commission hereby awards this Charter to:

SABANCI UNIVERSITY

The Institution undertakes to respect the following principles:

+ Respect in full the principles of non-discrimination set out in the Programme and ensure equal access and opportunities to mobile participants from all backgrounds.
+ Ensure full recognition for satisfactorily completed activities of study mobility and, where possible, traineeship in terms of credits awarded (ECTS or compatible system). Ensure the inclusion of satisfactorily completed study and/or traineeship mobility activities in the final record of student achievements (Diploma Supplement or equivalent).
+ Charge no fees, in the case of credit mobility, to incoming mobile students for tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities.

The Institution further undertakes to:

- **When Participating in Mobility Activities**

  **Before Mobility**

  + Publish and regularly update the course catalogue on the website of the Institution well in advance of the mobility periods, so as to be transparent to all parties and allow mobile students to make well-informed choices about the courses they will follow.
  + Carry out mobility only within the framework of prior agreements between institutions. These agreements establish the respective roles and responsibilities of the different parties, as well as their commitment to shared quality criteria in the selection, preparation, reception and integration of mobile participants.
  + Ensure that outgoing mobile participants are well prepared for the mobility, including having attained the necessary level of linguistic proficiency.
  + Ensure that student and staff mobility for education or training purposes is based on a learning agreement for students and a mobility agreement for staff validated in advance between the home and host institutions or enterprises and the mobile participants.
  + Provide assistance related to obtaining visas, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.
  + Provide assistance related to obtaining insurance, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.
  + Provide guidance to incoming mobile participants in finding accommodation.

  **During Mobility**

  + Ensure equal academic treatment and services for home students and staff and incoming mobile participants.
  + Integrate incoming mobile participants into the Institution’s everyday life.
  + Have in place appropriate mentoring and support arrangements for mobile participants.
  + Provide appropriate linguistic support to incoming mobile participants.

- **After Mobility**

  + Accept all activities indicated in the learning agreement as counting towards the degree, provided these have been satisfactorily completed by the mobile students.
  + Provide incoming mobile participants and their home institutions with transcripts containing a full, accurate and timely record of their achievements at the end of their mobility period.
  + Support the reintegration of mobile participants and give them the opportunity, upon return, to build on their experiences for the benefit of the Institution and their peers.
  + Ensure that staff are given recognition for their teaching and training activities undertaken during the mobility period, based on a mobility agreement.

- **When Participating in European and International Cooperation Projects**

  + Ensure that cooperation leads to sustainable and balanced outcomes for all partners.
  + Provide relevant support to staff and students participating in these activities.
  + Exploit the results of the projects in a way that will maximise their impact on individuals and participating institutions and encourage peer learning with the wider academic community.

- **For the Purposes of Visibility**

  + Display this Charter and the related Erasmus Policy Statement prominently on the Institution’s website.
  + Promote consistently activities supported by the Programme, along with their results.

On behalf of the Institution, I recognise that implementation of the Charter will be monitored and that violation of any of the above principles and commitments may lead to its withdrawal by the European Commission.

A. Nihat BERKER
Legal representative
TR ISTANBU20
Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

D. Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) 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]

The main strategic aim of SU is to maintain the high quality of education, to support creative curriculum and to integrate an international dimension to education. In order to accomplish this, in the context of the programme, SU is committed to increase the number and quality of international agreements. We want to initiate strategic partnerships with universities that are research focused highly ranked and giving comparative advantage. The partnership should fit within the internalization priorities of SU and provide mutual benefit to both partners. There should also be a sufficient interest, capacity and support for the development and sustainability of partnership from both sides. Partner selection also depends on the disciplines they cover, the logistics they have for welcoming students and staff. The regional focus of our strategy is mainly European countries and the immediate neighbours of Turkey (CIS countries, Middle East, the Gulf and North Africa).

Within the context of our mobility activities, we aim to:

- Increase the number of mobile students to 10% and maintain reciprocity
- Increase the number of international students to 10%
- Enable our students to benefit linguistically, culturally and educationally from the experience of pursuing academic studies in another country.
- Establish mobility schemes at master or doctoral level leading to joint/double programmes
- Increase and encourage researchers' mobility
- Bring innovative ideas, share good practices, learn the skills and up-to-date knowledge in respected fields by staff mobility
- The target groups for mobility are respectively undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff members

IRO together with RGP Directorate encourages and gives administrative support for the establishment of double/multiple/joint degrees. The university especially prioritize research oriented double degrees at the PhD level.

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

SU has actively been involved in the Erasmus Exchange Programme (LLP) and as such have the Erasmus Charter and have all systems, structures and culture developed from the ground up and apply ECTS system. We have been actively involved in five Erasmus Mundus Projects covering three lots.

As part of our strategy under the new programme, we are also planning to be involved in several cooperation for innovation projects.

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve. (max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]
In line with EQF, Turkey has created its own national qualifications framework. SU has established programme outcomes, linked them with NQF and also created matrices between learning outcomes of each and every course with the programme outcomes. SU will be using ECTS as the only credit system starting from 2013-2014 academic year. SU has civic involvement projects that are compulsory for all undergraduate students through which the university targets underrepresented groups in Turkey. The graduate employability of SU alumni are monitored annually. SU also runs surveys that measure employer and alumni satisfaction. In terms of enhancing mobility and international cooperation for quality, SU will actively involve in KA1 of the programme.

Foundations development programme created a special curriculum for all first year students at SU. SU has a rewarding system for excellent teachers that are presented on an annual basis. Moving between programmes is very simple and transparent at SU. All study abroad periods are recognised fully and incorporated into the transcripts of students. Our career office together with human resources department is in the process of creating mechanisms for non EU student and researcher employment.

Through the establishment of RGP, the SU is the leading institution in Turkey in the creation the knowledge triangle. Under the RGP, there are 3 offices: Project Development Office, Project Management Office and Technology Transfer Office. These offices work cooperatively to carry out planning, development and management of projects, development of any industrial relations and projects, innovation, technology transfer, and intellectual property (IP) management. SU has also a company 'Inovent' focusing on the commercialization of early stage technologies with a particular focus on fostering faculty based entrepreneurship. Since its launch, Inovent has incorporated 19 start-ups, 3 of which as Inovent seed fund companies. SU is also a consortium partner of Enterprise Europe Network since 2009.

In 2012, SU was declared to be the most entrepreneurial and innovative university by the new index of the Ministry of Science and technology. SU also obtained the “University-Industry Cooperation Award 2012” organized by the Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology in the 1st University-Industry Cooperation Summit. SU received the award conferred on Universities that have received support for the highest number of Industrial Thesis Projects. SU succeeded to receive TUBITAK funding for 10 years for technology transfer among with 9 other universities.

Thus, SU strategically aims to develop cooperation between university and industries focused in innovation. SU accordingly will be active in KA2 action of the programme.

Through the establishment of endowment fund, SU is trying to diversity in funding sources. Annually, SU finances are evaluated by an external professional company. The university now also holds ISO9001 certificate.