

In the following sections of the application form, you will need to explain how your institution will fulfil the ECHE principles if the Charter is awarded. You are encouraged to consult the [ECHE Guidelines](#) for support in completing this application.

Please note that your Erasmus+ National Agency will monitor your Erasmus Policy Statement and your answers to the questions given in the application. The Erasmus+ National Agency reserves the right to request more information on your activities and propose supplementary measures, for the purposes of monitoring and implementing the Charter principles by your institution.

## 1. ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

### 1.1 Erasmus activities included in your EPS

In this section, you need to tick the Erasmus activities covered by your Erasmus Policy Statement. Please select those activities that your HEI intends to implement during the entire duration of the Programme.

#### Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility:

The mobility of higher education students and staff

#### Erasmus Key Action 2 (KA2) - Cooperation among organisations and institutions:

Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices

Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities

Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

Partnerships for Innovation

#### Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3):

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support to policy development and cooperation:

### 1.2 Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): your strategy

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)

The measures and targets of Oulu University of Applied Sciences' (Oamk) internationalisation are based on the policies to promote internalisation in Finnish higher education and research (2017–2025), Oamk's strategy 2020-30 and the agreement between Oamk and the Ministry of Education and Culture.

We have a strong commitment to the principles of the Erasmus Charter. Erasmus Programme will enable achieving our goals in international collaboration. Internationalisation is strongly emphasised in the new strategy of Oamk: "In education we develop cooperation between higher education institutions. Especially we enforce our participation in international networking activities that aim at offering all our degree students an opportunity for an internationalisation period abroad, or for a joint or double degree. Through the international network collaboration, we will expand the financing base of research, development and innovation activities."

Main measures of Oamk's internationalisation activities related to the Erasmus+ programme are

- Development of volume and quality of teacher, staff and expert mobility in all field and levels.
- Increasing the volume and quality of student mobility and amount of credits completed abroad (incl. practical training) in all fields in degree cycles 1 and 2.
- developing the amount and quality of teaching in English. At Oamk in all Bachelor's degree programmes it is obligatory to accomplish at least 30 ECTS credits taught in English (or in another foreign language).
- Concentrating and deepening partnerships towards diverse alliances within which joint cooperation plans are drawn up for development of teaching, RDI work and mobility.
- Enhancing networking of research, development and innovation and project activities

Implementation of digital mobility management and promoting even more environmentally friendly practices will contribute to modernisation of Oamk. We do not only expect the participation in Erasmus+ programme to contribute towards modernising our institution but we also know that participation in Erasmus have had and will have an enormous impact on our actions and achievements in international higher education.

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)

The opportunities offered by the new Erasmus programme will be utilised versatily in implementing the targets of Oulu University of Applied Sciences' (Oamk) institutional strategy and action plan of internationalisation. The main emphasis of Oamk's participation in the Programme lies on student and staff mobility in and outside Europe and their development with all partners, as well as in building double and joint degrees with selected partners.

Emphasis will also be in building partnerships and strategic and knowledge alliances for Cooperation and Innovation in order to exchange practices in the selected target areas. These partnerships aim at joint research, development and innovation projects funded later by other EU's funding programmes.

For example an objective from our institutional strategy "...we are an active actor in networks and alliances and all the work done there will advance the implementation of our main tasks" will be strongly supported by an instrument like Erasmus+. Together with the most strategic partners we will also check the possibilities of creating European University Consortium to function as the spearhead of our internationalisation.

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the priorities of the European Education Area, such as recognition, digital skills, common values and inclusive education, please consult the following website:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-cu/european-education-area\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-cu/european-education-area_en)

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Already in the previous programme period we have adopted a policy of including min. 30 ECTS cr of teaching in English or other foreign language that can be completed either in Finland, or abroad across all our degree programmes. This policy will continue and the content and quality of teaching in English will be further developed. This policy guarantees also that there is sufficient amount of studies in English available for incoming students, too.

In addition to the existing and new or planned bachelor-level double degree programmes, within the partnerships we intend to establish double degree programmes also in the Masters degrees together with our international partners and utilise the Erasmus Mundus activity which will further support the deepening cooperation envisaged in our strategy.

Blended mobility projects will also be used to deepen the curriculum cooperation with the partners and it can also be seen as step towards jointly offered education.

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)

Erasmus+ programme will have a vital and far reaching impact on internationalisation of Oulu University of Applied Sciences. According to institution's new strategy the internationalisation, and mobilities as part of internationalisation, have a strong role in the development of the institution and internationalisation is also seen as a tool for assuring good quality of both the education as well as operations of the institution. Funding from Erasmus+ Programme enables more and more extensive mobility activities and other internationalisation development than relying only on institution's own budget. Funding has been used and will continue to be used for organising support services to mobility participants which will on its own part enable even better quality assurance for mobility activities.

As a result of taking part in the Erasmus+ programme we aim at a significant increase in student mobility across all our educational fields and in all schools. The indicators in the quantitative goals are the mobility figures, i.e. numbers of mobility periods and their duration. One indicator is also **the amount of funding received and used for the activities.**

**We will be monitoring the qualitative aspects of mobility through meetings with the students, final exchange reports, feedback questionnaires and the EU Survey results where we have already now received evidence of high quality of our support services for mobility.** In student exchange one indicator will be also the number of credits students gain during their study abroad which will also reveal the suitability of the studies our partners offer, and this information can be used also in the development of the partner network. One indication of the increased quality of study abroad periods and partnership network in the recent years has been that even though the number of outgoing students has declined, the number of credits accredited from abroad has first risen and then stayed on this higher level despite the declining mobility figures.

On institutional level we aim at enhancing our participation in the joint development projects under the KA2. In these the indicators will be the number of applications and number of accepted projects. Through these projects we seek a deeper and further reaching cooperation with our international partner institutions and expanding the financing base of research, development and innovation activities.