



WYŻSZA SZKOŁA EKOLOGII I ZARZĄDZANIA W WARSZAWIE **UNIVERSITY OF ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT IN WARSAW**

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT **2021-2027**

The University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw (UEM) was established in 1995 by the decision of the Ministry of National Education and entered into the register of non-state higher education institutions under the number 62. The University is one of the most renowned private technical – artistic universities in Poland. It meets both the Polish and the European teaching standards due to the highly certified didactic and scientific staff and extensive technological base.

The University's mission is based on the highest quality, modern and flexible education of students who will:

- be capable of meeting the development needs of the information society and the knowledge-based economy,
- enrich professionalism and intellectual mobility in the human capital of Mazovia, Poland and the European Union,
- create new technical, economic, artistic and cultural values in the spirit of sustained development and according to the expectations of the present and future labour market.

The authorities of the University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw are fully aware that an international and intercultural dimension must be integrated into teaching, research and service to maintain a high quality of education. The importance of international cooperation in education and research is truly understandable and is recognised that it should become the day-to-day reality of education at the University.

It is also believed that preparing future leaders and citizens for a highly independent and globalised world requires a higher education system where internationalisation promotes cultural diversity and fosters intercultural understanding, respect and tolerance among people, favouring the development of international solidarity, human security and helps to build a climate of global peace.

In order to implement the internationalisation assumptions of the University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw, being one of the key elements of its development strategy, the University actively participates in Erasmus + Programme.

THE MAIN GOALS of the University's activities in the field of stimulating international cooperation are:

- modernisation of the UEM,
- improvement of the attractiveness, accessibility and quality of higher education and
- building and strengthening the European Educational Area.

PRIORITIES aimed at achieving the goals defined above include:

- further development of cooperation with partner institutions from Europe and selected regions of the world and expanding its scope with new partners by increasing the number of bilateral agreements and increasing the diversity of study programmes to which cooperation relates;
- improvement and development of international cooperation procedures in force at the University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw;
- promotion of international students, teachers and staff mobility, in particular among people with fewer opportunities, for economic, social, cultural, geographical, health or reasons such as disability or educational difficulties;
- widening and developing knowledge, skills and competencies of mobility participants, especially in the field of increasing professional competencies, their self-esteem and self-confidence, foreign language proficiency and consequently also attractiveness in workplace and labour market,
- improvement of pedagogical workshop of academic teachers and enrichment of teaching methods, educational materials and tools by intensifying teachers mobility;
- increasing the effectiveness of the University's operation and the quality of student service through the development of employee mobility, including the development of language and digital competences of administrative employees;
- promotion of innovation, entrepreneurship and creativity in education, research and student service;
- comparison and improvement of study programmes by drawing on international standards (benchmarking);
- expanding the offer of studies conducted in English and promoting them internationally;
- continuous improvement of the procedures of full automatic recognition of gained learning outcomes and activities satisfactorily completed during mobility of students, teachers and staff of the University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw;
- operate in an environmentally friendly manner and promote sustainable and responsible behaviour among students, teachers and University employees with respect for the environment, among others by promoting digital solutions in the field of learning and training as well as building the University's administrative capacity to implement digital management of international cooperation and mobility in particular;
- development and exchange of cooperation proposals in the field of research activities which can result in international scientific projects and joint scientific publications;
- promotion of intercultural communication and improving knowledge and understanding of European and cultural values by learning about the culture and history of partner countries, so that mobility participants will better understand events in Europe and around the world.

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE OF COOPERATION

When choosing a partner institution, the University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw is guided by the needs of students and employees, high quality education, convergence of the educational profile, and experience in implementing international projects. The effective administrative structure of the partner institution is also of great importance, which guarantees efficient and effective cooperation as well as the reliability and durability of the partnership.

The University is open to cooperation with institutions from around the world, prioritizing partnership with universities from European Union countries. The UEM in 2021-2027 also focuses on the dynamic development of cooperation with partners from Eastern European, Western Balkans and Asia, in particular Ukraine, Kosovo, Serbia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, China and Georgia. Due to the growing interest of the University employees and students, in the near future it is also planned to intensify cooperation with universities from Latin America and the region of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

TYPES OF COOPERATION PROJECTS

- international mobility projects with Programme and Partner Countries:
 - students and graduates of first and second cycle studies - studies and internships;
 - staff – teaching and training mobility – teachers and administrative employees;
- multilateral projects that will exchange experience and good practices as well as develop and disseminate innovations in the field of:
 - systems, mechanisms and tools for ensuring and improving the quality of education;
 - international cooperation procedures - recruitment rules and procedures, monitoring the quality of implemented mobility, recognition of learning outcomes achieved at a partner institution, integration of students through the development of a mentoring system, an indicative programme for incoming mobility participants;
 - improving and modernising study programmes and adapting them to the requirements of the modern labour market and new technologies through intense and close cooperation with industry and business;
 - joint study programmes or programs leading to double diplomas;
 - modern teaching instruments;
 - university management tools.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The University's participation in the Erasmus Programme has a great impact and significance for mobility participants - students, teachers and administrative employees - as well as on the University's organisational units and thus on the entire University as an institution.

Thanks to the implementation of mobility, students and staff:

- increase social, linguistic and cultural competences as well as professional skills,
- broaden their interests,
- their confidence and faith in their own abilities / skills will increase,
- improve their knowledge of a foreign language, in particular related to their professional interests,
- broaden knowledge, skills and competences thanks to cooperation in a multicultural environment,
- increase their attractiveness in the workplace and in the labour market.

The participation of the University in the Erasmus Programme is of particular importance for students who will be able to:

- deepen teamwork skills, improve the ability to plan and organise tasks and activities;
- develop the ability of critical thinking and information analysis,
- learn to adopt and better find themselves in new situations,
- make decisions and find solutions in difficult or unusual situations more efficient.

Not without significance is the fact that thanks to the implementation of mobility, students get to know their peers from other countries, way of life and culture, and more importantly, that they will recognise the value of other cultures, increasing competence in cooperation with people from other environments and cultures. As a result, they will become more tolerant of other people and their behaviour. Developing such attitudes cannot be overestimated in a changing and globalising world.

In the group of teachers and administrative staff, participation in the Erasmus Programme will affect in particular:

- better organisation of work and tasks through the implementation of solutions learned at partner universities;
- learning the structures, organisational cultures and ways of operations of other universities;
- establishing or maintaining professional contacts with staff from partner universities;
- improvement of the pedagogical workshop, thanks to which the teachers will be able to introduce new methods, approaches and solutions while working with students,
- learning about the cultures and history of other countries, thanks to which they will better understand the events taking place in those countries.

Participation in the Erasmus Programme in the context of the University's organisational units and the University itself will contribute to:

- developing and implementing the university's internationalisation strategy;
- strengthening international cooperation and extending it in substantive and geographical terms by acquiring new partner universities,
- facilitating the further integration of universities from Partner Countries into the European Higher Education Area;
- improving procedures and support mechanisms for international exchange of students and staff;
- better prevention of formation and effective overcoming of social, legal and environmental barriers in the implementation of mobility and international projects under the Erasmus Programme;
- improving the quality and organisation of education and making the education process more attractive by learning about and implementing good practices;
- increasing the flexibility of educational paths;
- improving structures, organisational cultures and university management methods;
- improvement of procedures related to full automatic recognition of all credits gained for learning outcomes satisfactorily achieved during a period of study / training abroad;
- enriching the University's education offer in English;
- develop cooperation in the field of R&D, which may result in international scientific projects and joint scientific publications;
- raising the prestige of universities participating in the projects on the regional, national European and international education market;

- raising awareness among employees about the ideas and objectives of Erasmus and the possibilities of project implementation;
- intensifying the active participation of the UEM students and staff in social life, promoting civic engagement, developing a sense of European citizenship and identity, and increasing the level of tolerance towards the values and behaviour of others;
- promoting intercultural communication and a better understanding of European values;
- increasing the sustainability of the results of implemented projects and increasing the effectiveness of information dissemination about projects and achieved results.

International cooperation and mobility of students and employees of the University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw under the Erasmus Programme assume the involvement of almost all University units and are coordinated by the University Erasmus Programme Coordinator. The smooth and effective functioning of international exchange is ensured by the Erasmus Programme Coordinators, who are supported by the Marketing and International Cooperation Department.

**Rector
of the University of Ecology and Management in Warsaw**

dr Monika Madej, prof. WSEiZ