



TECHNOLOGICAL  
EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTE OF EPIRUS

## **ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT**

The international strategy of TEI OF EPIRUS aims at providing all students with international competences through their degree programs improving staff members' international qualifications during their employment developing and implementing an international dimension in all degree level curricula supporting and incorporating of best practice, quality and international skills in all curricula providing high quality service for all students generating of leadership and participating in international projects in cooperation with key partners.

In today's age of global knowledge and technology, an interconnected network and global awareness are increasingly viewed as major and sought-after assets. With the current labour market requiring graduates to have international, foreign language and intercultural skills to be able to interact in a global setting, our institution is placing more importance on internationalisation. The number of our students who spend one or two semesters in a European higher institution or a training period through the ERASMUS program has practically doubled from 2010 to 2013 and this trend is likely to continue.

However, student mobility is only the most visible part of a greater topic, namely internationalisation, which is more complex and multifaceted. One aspect, sometimes referred to as internationalisation at home, consists of incorporating intercultural and international dimensions into the curriculum, teaching, research and extracurricular activities. Consequently helping our students to develop international and intercultural skills without leaving our country is another important aspect of our institutional strategy. This will be achieved with the advent of more incoming students and teachers not only from E.U. countries, but also from countries of Eastern Europe as well as around the Mediterranean Sea.

Another fast-growing form of internationalization which is emerging lately, that is participation in networks and joint programs, is highly a more far reaching approach, and our institution has already started preparing for that by establishing new cooperation with European higher institutions.

These include:

- networking opportunities;
- facilitating exchanges between staff, student exchanges, joint graduate programmes;
- exchanging best practice and materials;
- participating in one another's conferences;
- inviting one another to participate in major initiatives;
- establishing a number of courses taught in English, in all departments.

Modernisation of our institution will be achieved by:

- delivering part of our programmes in foreign languages and ensuring the quality of the instruction delivered;
- providing adequate teaching capacity to teach our international students;
- developing language and cross-cultural skills of domestic students directly on-campus;
- consider recruiting foreign academics;
- developing joint programmes in co-operation with foreign institutions and research centres;
- exploring and facilitating online learning opportunities;
- analysing and monitoring to what extent online learning is – or could be – providing new educational opportunities both in terms of access and of engagement of students;
- ensuring the quality of online courses delivered, as well as the reliability of the information given to prospective students;
- enhancing the mobility of domestic academic staff and students. Visiting lecturers are expected to take an active role in developing a high academic standard of internationalisation at home in order to provide students and colleagues with professional inspiration, and overall raise the scientific level in degree programs;
- integrating short-term international exchanges as regular parts of our programmes;
- encouraging and supporting twinning programmes with foreign institutions;
- including international activities and mobility among criteria for promotion and career advancement;
- continuing the already established significant network through bilateral agreements with universities and higher education institutions in Europe. Partners will be chosen on the basis of their excellent academic and research background.