

All the fields of study and degree programmes available at the Jan Kochanowski University of Kielce are dedicated to one common mission that links educational, civil, social and cultural aims. We strive to offer educational programmes that prepare for life in conditions of evolving needs of studying generations, movement of cultures, nations and value systems. Appreciating a diversity and the European cultural heritage, we attempt to forge a strong sense of European identity and develop civic attitudes that serve better understanding of international standards and norms. This is crucial for a mutual communication, cooperation and dialogue. Gender equality and social inclusion of people from disadvantaged backgrounds are amongst fundamental goals of our policy. They result from a belief that everyone should have an access to a high quality education regardless their socio-economic status.

The University will support creating the European Education Area acknowledging the key role of an education mobility in achieving the best education possible and consequently employment opportunities on the European market. The existing participation in the Programme has resulted in a dynamic development of an international cooperation. A number of bilateral agreements between the programme and partner countries increases annually and hence the beneficiaries of the Erasmus+ programme including students, researchers, academic and non-academic staff grow in number.

One of the main University priorities in the years between 2021 and 2027 includes increasing student and staff participation in international programmes. Our desire is to strengthen a development of our research and academic staff throughout more frequent international contacts, multilateral project and thematic network participation. Moreover, it is our purpose to build international relations of the academic environment by a transfer of knowledge and experience. Our international partner selection arises from an education offer, programmes of study as well as common scientific and research area convergence. The University aims at initiating and completing international programmes in favour of innovation and good practices with the programme and partner countries. This is implemented within Key Action 1 Learning mobility of individuals (students and staff), Key Action 2 Cooperation among Organisations and institutions in the field of Partnerships for Cooperation and exchange of practices, Partnerships for Excellence, Partnerships for Innovation and Key Action 3 Support to policy development and cooperation. We intend to intensify our participation in multilateral projects related to modernisation of a didactic offer, implementation of innovating teaching methods and various teaching strategies based on key competences enabling lifelong learning.

The University makes every effort to ensure high quality student and staff exchange. Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator supervises the Programme implementation and completion at the University, cooperating with Faculty and Institute Coordinators competent for particular fields of study who provide substantive support to the mobility participants. International Relations Department manages the Programme at the University level being in charge of the exchange completion and offering administrative service to the participants. On the basis of experience and good practices clear rules of the Programme have been created and incorporated. Founded

on student and staff mobility regulations as well as organisation and financial procedures, they are compatible with the European Commission guidelines. Our actions aimed at ensuring quality are based on commonly accessible and consistently used criteria. The University guarantees efficient functioning of the European transfer and accumulation system (ECTS) as well as acknowledgement of achievements obtained abroad. This facilitates an education mobility which enables gaining experiences essential to an active participation in a society and the employment market.

The University website and social media systematically publish Erasmus+ project-related information. The Programme offer is also presented during official meetings, promoted in association with the University Media Center and via mass media on a local, regional, national and international level.

Language skills are a key element of the European Education Area initiative. Therefore, the University systematically enriches its teaching offer introducing courses and programmes run in English. The catalogue of courses in English accessible to the mobility participants promotes knowledge acquisition in an international dimension and language skills development.

In accordance with the social dimension of higher education concept, the University aims at elimination of inequalities enabling the students to complete their studies irrespective of their social background and financial situation. Guided by the principle of equal opportunities, we offer support to students from disadvantaged environments in overcoming difficulties during the process of studying and obtaining a diploma.

The academic mobility will enable to develop the key competences of the participants regarding entrepreneurship, multilingualism as well as modern information and computer technologies. It will also influence a development of cultural values such as tolerance, acceptance and openness to various cultures. Furthermore, the participation in the Erasmus+ programme will ensure a growth of a scientific and didactic potential of the University, hence, strengthen competences of the higher education sector employees allowing them to obtain an international experience in teaching, scientific and research work. An intensive sharing of experience and best practice will enable broadening the range of teaching methodology, developing various forms and methods of research, as well as expanding professional contacts. This in turn will lead to participation in international projects for innovation and good practice. Moreover, it will provide for taking initiatives in the field of the innovation policy. In addition, Erasmus+ programme participation will enable the University to improve the quality of education, including a development of entrepreneurship and active citizenship. It will also allow us to extend education offer and adapt it to the demands of the changing labour market. Therefore, the tangible benefits achieved thanks to participation in the Erasmus+ programme will contribute to building the potential of the University and its partners.

The University engages in supporting the use of technologies and developing digital competences throughout modernisation of the study programmes and application of modern teaching methods, including distance learning (via e-learning system) or making the library resources accessible online. One of our priorities in the new perspective of the Programme for the years 2021 – 2017 involves supporting Erasmus+ programme digitalisation and committing

to an electronic circulation of mobility-related documents. We also work towards promoting the initiative of the European Student Card as a point of online complex service with the use of the Erasmus+ mobile application.

The legal basis for the implementation of Erasmus+ Programme at the University, the Senate resolutions, the Rector's orders and decisions as well as the Erasmus Policy Statement and Erasmus Charter for Higher Education are available on the University Erasmus+ website.