Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window

Who is behind the initiative?

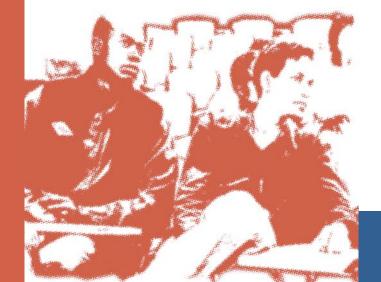
The EuropeAid Cooperation Office of the European Commission which deals with EU External Cooperation Programmes: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid

The Education, Audiovisual and Cultural Executive Agency (EACEA) which manages the action: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu

EU Delegations and EU partner countries which contribute to identifying the specific needs and priorities in terms of higher education requirements for the longer term development of the country.

More about the activities of the European Union in the World: http://ec.europa.eu/world





Contact

Detailed information about the action, the partnerships and how to apply:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop

EACEA-EM-EXTCOOP@ec.europa.eu





What is the Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window?

he European Commission has launched this initiative to foster cooperation between higher education institutions. It aims to boost exchanges of students, researchers and academic staff and to support mobility, in particular from non-EU countries to EU Member States.

Objectives:

- to promote mobility for students and academic staff worldwide
- to enhance international cooperation between Higher Education Institutions
- to pave the way to the international recognition of studies and qualifications
- to enhance the role of the higher education sector by exchanging knowledge, skills and expertise

Who can benefit and how?

- Undergraduate, master, doctorate and postdoctoral students
- Academic staff (for teaching, training and research)

The duration of the exchange can vary from 1 to 34 months and selected candidates can receive assistance with travel and insurance costs and tuition fees. They will also receive a monthly allowance ranging from 1000 to 2500 euros.

Scholarships are not limited to students and academic staff of the universities of the selected partnership. Nationals of eligible non-EU countries can also benefit under certain conditions. Particular attention will be paid to non-EU country students in vulnerable situations.

More on eligibility criteria:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop/call/documents/ ext_coop.pdf

Geographical coverage

For the first academic year 2007-2008, the geographical coverage includes:

24 non-EU countries:

- Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria
- Egypt, Israel, West Bank/Gaza
- Jordan, Syria, Lebanon
- Russia
- Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan
- Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus
- Iran, Iraq, Yemen
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan
- 33 European countries:
- EU Member States
- Croatia, FYROM, Turkey
- Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway

How does it work?

First, the European Commission selects and funds **partnerships between universities** from the EU and from partner countries to implement the exchanges.

Each partnership is composed of a minimum of five European universities from at least three European Union countries and at least one university from each of the partner countries in a given geographical area.

Students, researchers and academic staff can then apply to the selected partnerships.

Facts and figures

At present, over 160 higher education institutions already cooperate to organise the mobility of some 1800 students and academic staff via this exchange programme.

An amount of \in 36.4 million has been dedicated to this mobility scheme.

In the next academic years, the initiative will further expand to new geographic regions, in particular to Asia, African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, as well as Latin America and the Western Balkans.

