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Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

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The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) on its website within one month after the signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

Please describe your institution's international (EU and non-EU) strategy. In your description please explain a) how you choose your partners, b) in which geographical area(s) and c) the most important objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (with regard to staff and students in first, second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles). If applicable, also explain how your institution participates in the development of double/multiple/joint degrees. (max. 5000 characters)

Original language [EN]

TUC is running academic exchange programs for a number of years. Therefore we have several partners and a more than ten years history of successful cooperation. New proposals are coming continuously, mainly through other research cooperations of our Faculty members. Interested Institutions are encouraged to express their interest for a possible cooperation, even if no previous contacts exist.

New partners are selected according to the following criteria and procedures:

- Academic quality and excellence of the prospective partners.
- TUC monitors the exchange activities and asks the opinion of participating members (both ingoing and outgoing ones), within the procedures of ongoing internal evaluation procedures adopted by our Departments.
- Partners must fit the research and teaching directions of our Faculty members and students. For this reason, currently most partner institutions have active groups in Production and Management Engineering, Mineral Resources, Environmental Engineering, Electronics and Computer Engineering and Architecture.

The list is enlarged with proposals of newly-hired staff and personnel members. Interested future partners are invited to visit the home page of the relevant Departments and express their interest for cooperation, provided that common areas of research and teaching exist.

Priority is given to Institutions that are active in geographic areas of interest to our Country and our graduates (Balkan and Mediterranean Countries, Middle East and Europe), without excluding other parts of the world (in fact, South America and Asia are already represented). The priorities arising from the choices of outgoing students are in accordance with the ones mentioned above. TUC will attempt to intensify the links with Institutions in the eastern Mediterranean area.

Most important objectives of our participation are (a) acquisition of new knowledge (mainly for students, staff) (b) cooperation in teaching and research activities, including preparation for proposals to other research and training projects, and (c) establishing new contacts. Students of the first two cycles are usually interested to visit Countries where they plan to continue their studies (mainly Western Europe). Doctoral students are usually interested to visit cooperating research groups or more developed Countries. Faculty members and staff are either interested to support the above-mentioned activities or to establish new contacts.

Areas of intense activity until now are: management and finance, engineering design, environmental sciences, energy production and management as well as basic sciences.

A major restructuring of the graduate studies at TUC will be accomplished within the next years. Double or multiple degrees at this level and graduate courses offered in the English language will be of high priority. A limited experience in this direction has been gained by a joint doctorate studies program in the area of decision support systems, successfully finished with a French University (three joint PhD diplomas) and a second joint degree in the area of highway control engineering, under preparation with an Italian University, both initiated by the Department of Production Engineering and Management.

TUC has also participated in Marie Currie Training Networks where joint PhD will be awarded with other Institutions. The students are expected to spend most of their time at the primary Institution, where the degree will be awarded and the remaining in a secondary Institution, where a significant portion of the research will also be conducted.

Finally, we have limited experience with the European PhD, where students spend time and conduct research for at least six months at another Institution.

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]