

## University „Nicolae Titulescu” of Bucharest

### Erasmus Policy statement (EPS)

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The University „Nicolae Titulescu” of Bucharest **relies on that Erasmus Charter for Higher Education is integral to the realisation of its institutional plans, strategies and aspirations.**

The international strategic vision of the University „Nicolae Titulescu” of Bucharest is: ***Exceptional quality of University activities by adapting to international context of higher education.***

The assumed mission of the University „Nicolae Titulescu” of Bucharest is to train high educated specialists in the field of law and international relations, economics, public administration and other specialized fields, able to respond to high demands of legal and socio-economic practice and to contribute to the promotion and development of Romanian science.

We are committed to **European values.**

University „Nicolae Titulescu” of Bucharest is an institution based on excellence in academic activity and the promotion of European values. A fundamental role assumed by Nicolae Titulescu University is to support, through specific means, the extensive process of asserting Romania as a European country, organically integrated in the structures of the EU.

Due to its specific mission, the University occupies a special position within the institutions of higher education in Romania, being among the first universities in the country, offering accredited training and research in the specific field of **international and European Union law**, at all levels of studies: bachelor, master and doctoral.

Moreover, the Charter of University „Nicolae Titulescu” of Bucharest stipulates, among the basic principles that govern its activity, the principle of freedom of national and international mobility of students, teachers and researchers.

The main **internationalization** policy objectives we intend to pursue are: **A. Promoting international relevance and visibility; B. Enhancing mobility, research and the internationalization of study programmes; C. Promoting sustainability; D. Support diversity and inclusion; E. Digitally enhanced study and research environment**

The Erasmus programme perfectly responds to the **reasons of internationalisation and modernization** our institution. In this regard,

- Our world is today a network of connections and interdependencies with local, national and global implications. To retain our high level of excellence our university needs to be open to diversity. Promoting **diversity, equity and inclusion** supports **institutional growth.**
- Our purpose is to have **proficient graduates**, open to the European and world challenges, with the best skills and knowledge for present and future jobs, and acting as active and thoughtful citizens. For this we have to empower both students and teachers with **intercultural competences and expert thinking skills**, which should help them to integrate naturally and rapidly in companies, European and other international structures. This implies knowledge of **foreign languages and practical digital abilities.**
- Internationalization has to be completed by actions **towards the inside** of our community: it has to be blended in concepts, curricula and campus environment. **Peer-learning and exchanges** with partners institutions is essential in this kind of capacity building.
- Increasing the importance of **research** in long-term institutional development represents a significant policy objective. In this sense, the Erasmus Program is a **primary facilitator through the possibility of maintaining and developing relations** with the international academic environment.
- We promote throughout our activities **common European values.** We are committed to strengthen training in **international and European Union law.** We are determined to foster **regional European**

**activities and dynamic participation** in regional alliances for education and research, **contributing to realization of European Education Area.**

We uphold quality in order to meet the needs of our academic members and fulfil the **societal responsibility of a modern higher education institution**. We are committed to promote **a sustainable European lifestyle** and to endorse the welfare and prosperity of our community

Relying on the opportunities offered in the framework of Erasmus Programme we will take measures that will help us attaining our general institutional objectives.

For the purpose of **(A) PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL RELEVANCE AND VISIBILITY**, our University will sustain the approach of **organizing events with international participation at the highest level.**

The kind of activities we envisaged are similar to the ones that took place in the year 2016, the receiving of the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and by Mr. Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union, in 2017. We also refer to the organising of the University CKS Conference, in 2019, under the high patronage of the Council of the European Union, with the participation of several judges, members of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

The general objective of **(B) ENHANCING MOBILITY, RESEARCH AND THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF STUDY PROGRAMMES** will be attained with the massive implication of Erasmus Programme, through pursuing subsequent specific objectives.

The first one is **(B1) Develop international mobility of students and staff by strengthen participation within the Erasmus+ programme K A1 action.**

The development of international mobility of students and staff is the classical way of understanding and implementing internationalization. It is for our University a main component of international activity . The University „Nicolae Titulescu” of Bucharest is committed to develop mobility actions both for students and for staff . From the institutional point of view, we point positive consequences of mobility: new educational methods, new topics in the taught courses and a more active role within the academic community. The measures foreseen are: **(1) Increasing the number of outgoing mobile students (for study and training) and the quality of the stage** (Constantly update regulations for running the Erasmus+ mobility programmes, Implement Student Card Initiative, Implementing the Erasmus+ mobility scheme for fresh graduates, Higher commitment for equal opportunities and transparency in running the Erasmus+ mobility programme, Increase the participation in mobility programmes of students from disadvantaged groups and of students with special needs, Yearly promotion materials, especially on electronic support, Campaigns of promotions in faculties and students' dormitories, Involvement of former Erasmus students mobile students & dissemination of their experience, **(2) Encourage first study year students students to develop individual internationalisation plans, (3) Strengthening the relationship with existing partners and concluding new partnerships, (4) Increasing the importance given to professional practice and internship programs, (5) Improve the opportunities for outgoing teaching and training stages for teachers and administrative staff** (Uphold transparent procedures for information, application and selection of candidates, to guarantee equal opportunities (yearly updated); Equitable distribution of available funds; Priority to candidates applying for the first time for an outgoing Erasmus+ mobility; Seminars within the departments to disseminate the acquired experience of the Erasmus staff); **(6) Improve the number of incoming students and staff** (Improvement of the academic offer of courses taught in English, French or other foreign languages; Update internal procedure for support services fitting the needs of foreign students and staff; Integrating incoming students and staff in the local community, by inviting them to participate in extracurricular activities; Offering accommodation for all incoming students in our dormitories at the best possible level; Designating an academic coordinator and a buddy student for each incoming student); **(7) Involving law offices and business partners in internationalization at home activities** (Involving partners in special programs increasing incoming training mobility by providing training placement in law offices and business in Bucuresti for incoming students through an integrated system of agreements) **(8) Improving the language skills of teachers and students.**

The second specific objective is **(B2) Internationalizing research and scientific collaboration**. The measures to be taken are: **(1) Promote high- performance scientific research, (2) Joint supervision of PhD students in partnership with foreign PhD advisors, (3) Development of outgoing Erasmus mobility for researchers and**

**PhD students, (4) Improve the link between teaching and research based on international experience** (High involvement of PhD students in academic work, Reports of academic staff with valuable international research results about the integration of these results within the taught topics).

For attaining the third specific objective, **(B3) Internationalization of study programs**, the university will **(1) improve the curriculum content** (to reflect the update of EU institution decisions and recommendation in this area), **(2) Develop the external relations, partnerships and services** (exchange of material and best practices on digital learning and teaching).

**One of our main objective is (C) PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY.** The University will integrate the global issue of sustainable development (sustainability) in the academic environment of the university, adopting measures like:

**(1) Awareness of international and local issues present in environmental issues, (2) Placing in the academic debate a strategy on sustainability at the level of University Nicolae Titulescu of Bucharest. (3) Promoting an environmentally conscious attitude by encouraging recycling and the use of environmentally sound transport. (4) Use of recycled materials in promotional campaigns and (5) Adopt Erasmus Without Papers as soon as possible.**

Willing to achieve a high level of **(D) SUPPORT OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION** we will follow a twofold path:

**(D1) Internationalization at home:** Ensuring access to international experiences for students who cannot benefit from international mobility activities. Some measures will prevail, such as: **(1) Inclusion in the teaching activity of all digitization opportunities, (2) Inclusion of international components in summer schools, (3) Organizing international conferences and workshops with international participation, (4) Promoting and organizing Erasmus blended mobility, (5) Promoting and organizing Erasmus virtual mobility.**

**((D2) Increasing the knowledge of foreign languages,** by **(1) Identify and promote innovative, inclusive and multilingual teaching methods using digital tools and platforms (2) Participating in Erasmus virtual mobilities.**

**The general objective of (E) DIGITALLY ENHANCED STUDY AND RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT is a transversal one.** The potential of technology will be explored to ensure that international learning experiences remain transformative, while also being sustainable. For example, technology-enabled alternatives to physical mobility, such as **virtual learning mobility through Erasmus+** and **internet-facilitated networking opportunities** with peers across borders, will be more actively promoted.

We expect a high impact of Erasmus participation on the direct beneficiaries, student and staff, as well as a significant impact on the institution.

For the student and staff perspective we expect improvement on students and staff soft skills, such as knowledge of other countries, their ability to interact and work with individuals from different cultures, adaptability, foreign language proficiency and communication skills, cultural and ethnic tolerance, high support for European values. We also expect teamwork skills and attributes such as self-confidence and resilience improve significantly after exchanges. The increase of awareness on global issues, such as sustainability. The mobilities will also have an considerable impact on working life and career.

The predicted impact on our institution refers to effects on international cooperation with partners universities, impact on research opportunities, the promotion of new pedagogical methods, motivating other staff to go abroad, the enrichment of course offerings, participation in research projects or joint courses, using digitally enabled tools in teaching and researching.

The main target and indicators, depending on the general objectives pursued, are:

#### **(A) PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL RELEVANCE AND VISIBILITY**

- **Organizing a significant international event on an annual basis.**

#### **(B) ENHANCING MOBILITY, RESEARCH AND THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF STUDY PROGRAMMES**

- Increase the number of outgoing mobile students (for study and training) by 20% until 2023 and by 50% until 2027.
- Increase the mobility of staff by 20% until 2023 and by 50% until 2027.
- Relationship with existing partners and concluding new partnerships - raising the number of common projects by 50% until 2027.
- Involving law offices and business partners in internationalization at home activities – 5 new partners until 2023, and 10 new partners until 2027.
- Development of outgoing Erasmus mobility for researchers and PhD students- by 20% until 2023 and by 50% until 2027.

Other indicators will be constantly scrutinized: Number of created materials, Number of former Erasmus implied in promoting the programme, Number of information campaigns and events, Number of fresh graduates participating in a mobility; Number of Erasmus alumni that are employed in 2 year time after graduation; Number of new partnerships concluded, Number of articles written in partnership with foreign researchers, Number of first time participating staff, Number of administrative staff participating, Number of law firms and companies from the socio-economic environment partners in internship programs; Number of students by study levels participating in internship mobilities, Number of materials created for incoming students/staff, Number of extracurricular events organized for incoming students/staff.

#### **(C) PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY**

- Number of events with a sustainability component – 50% by 2023 and 80% by 2027.
- The percentage in which recycled materials are used in promotional campaigns- 50% by 2023 and 80% by 2027.
- Discussions and meetings to develop a strategy on sustainability.
- Implementing Erasmus without papers sooner than the compulsory timeline.

#### **(D) SUPPORT OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

- Finding new ways of working with disadvantaged learners – Number of peer-learning meetings.
- Number of students from disadvantaged groups and of students with special needs participating in mobilities
- Graduation rate of students from underrepresented/disadvantaged backgrounds
- Number of event or international summer schools with an international component- 50% by 2023 and 80% by 2027 .
- Number of students participating in international virtual or blended activities .
- Number of courses given by visiting professors from other Universities - 50% by 2027.

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