

Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

Edutus College has been operating since 2011 when the College for Modern Business Studies, seated in Tatabánya since its establishment in 1992, and Harsányi János College, founded in Budapest in 2003, merged. The international relations of the College went through a significant development advancing the cooperation agreements of its two predecessors. By now we have got an **effective Erasmus training agreement in almost all member states of the European Union**. Our institution functions within the framework of the higher education standards created by the **Bologna Accords** and provides bachelor's and master's degree qualifications according to the **European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)**.

The international partnerships of Edutus College are primarily defined by the **range of qualifications** (qualification level, majors) we offer. The available trainings are the following: Business Administration and Management (BA), Trade and Marketing (BA), International Business Administration (BA), Tourism and Catering (BA), Technical Management and Mechatronics Engineering (BA) and Marketing (MA). The management board of the College decides on the professional relationship with partner institutions on the basis of the **variety of courses they offer to students in a foreign language**. In case of a new partnership agreement our College prefers that **also the host institution showed readiness** to participate in a bilateral student mobility programme.

The number of foreign **Erasmus students is showing a constantly upward trend**. We provide them not only with English-language courses **in all majors**, but they can also attend language classes in Hungarian as a foreign language as well as in Hungarian cultural studies for the whole academic year **free of charge**. On our Tatabánya campus we provide comfortable accommodation in our student residence hall for our Erasmus students, while in Budapest we offer them help to find lodging. The incoming students receive assistance within the framework of the so-called **buddy-system**.

One of the highlighted objectives of Edutus College is to intensify and rationalize the **existing cooperations with other EU higher education institutions** as well as to exploit the extant relationships more effectively. Our prominent goal is to further improve our international partnerships and professional collaboration with the **periphery countries** as well as their tertiary education institutions in a conscious way (Portugal, Iceland, Turkey, Macedonia, Albania, Greece, Italy, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania). Beside the listed countries, we regard the colleges and universities of **Central European states** that offer similar educational training to ours as our very important strategic partners. This partnership is fulfilled as a professional cooperation among the **Visegrád Four** countries (Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary) as well as additional **cross-border higher education institutions of the region** (Romania and Croatia). Among the issues a remarkable emphasis is placed on the *tourism of the Carpathian Basin, comprehensive rural and regional development, local production and products, short food chains, „terroir” products, gastronomy, events, thematic travel, sustainability, competitiveness, innovation, quality, energy economics, alternative energy and laser technology.*

In the period 2014-2020 we intend to continue taking part in the successful and intensive ERASMUS programmes as well as the *Europe for Citizens* programme that have contributed to the collective participation of our students and instructors in professional events, workshops and festivals.

As a result of our geographical situation, we are planning a further opening toward tertiary education institutions of **non-EU neighbouring countries** (Ukraine, Russia, countries of Central Asia). Moreover, in order to promote the employment of our students in the labour market, we are striving for establishing an extensive partnership with national, cross-board and local **small and medium-sized enterprises offering internship opportunities**. Among the associated EU countries we pay special attention to our **Turkish partner institutions**. One of our distant goals is to take advantage of the scope of cooperational potentials with educational organisations from third countries, such as **China, South-Korea as well as countries of the African and American** continent.

With its BA qualification programme in Tourism and Catering, Edutus College has got an **exclusive role** in Hungary as an associated member of the **World Tourism Organisation** (UNWTO). Within the UNWTO we are a member of the **Knowledge Network** that helps us form relationships with organisations providing numerous domestic and international internships for our students. From these opportunities our Tourism and Catering students are benefited in the first place; however, our students majoring in International Business Administration as well as Marketing can also take the opportunity to get involved in the given internship programmes.

In summary, by improving our ERASMUS relationships during the period 2014-2020, we are urging partnerships that offer chances for a multi-level cooperation: student and instructor exchange programmes, joint tenders, common international projects and curricular development, integrated events, joint research programmes as well as English-language master's degree training programmes involving several partners and locations and facilitating the attainment of joint or double degrees.