



ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

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)

For the 2014-2020 period, the authorities of the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest perceive the international cooperation as an important factor enhancing the quality of its teaching activities and research. A convincing proof of the willingness of the TUCEB to develop its international dimension was the creation in June 1990 of a Department of Engineering in Foreign Languages, that become Faculty of Engineering in Foreign Languages in 2006/2007 providing, English-taught and French-taught programs at Bachelor and having at present an enrolment of more than 550 students. Formalities for the accreditation of a master program in foreign languages are in a final stage which entitles us to believe that starting next academic year the international study offer of UTCEB will cover the second cycle too.

The Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest sets out to improve both, the quality and quantity of its international links. We believe in the value of international relations and the policy of internationalization as a source for: achievement of a good position as a technical civil engineering university, improvement of the quality of our curricular programs, an international recognition of our students degree, encouragement of student and teacher exchanges. Within the current Erasmus programme the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest exchanges around 16 students and 12 teachers per year with approximately 21 partner universities in Europe. With most partner universities, the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest has long lasting partnerships. In this way, we have the utmost confidence in the quality of the exchange programs offered by our partners. With some partners the TUCEB has strategic relationships to develop educational programs, Double Degree (ENPC), Intensive Programs (Université Bretagne-Sud) and Curriculum Development projects (INP Grenoble).

Placements are organized on basis of agreements on placement between the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest and the host institution. The agreements define obligations and rights of the parties. The host institution is obliged to provide placement according to the University's specific requirements as well as tools and equipment allowing trainees to complete their tasks effectively.

To give visibility to Erasmus activities the International Office of the TUCEB undertake different actions:

- ✓ Information meetings about study abroad and grants, developing information on our external and internal websites in order to promote the programme to prospective Erasmus students
- ✓ Special office hours for students who want to go abroad
- ✓ Measures to ensure high quality in academic mobility activities:

Outgoing students:

- advice & Information-during information meetings and daily office hours the International Office informs students about study abroad possibilities and practical arrangements like grants. Exchange coordinators from the Faculties advise students on the content of the exchange programs. The Council of the International Relations Department selects outgoing students based on motivation, professional results and language skills.
- recognition - the student makes a proposal of the courses to be follow during the exchange and the Dean has to approve this proposal to ensure the academic recognition. After approval, a Learning Agreement is signed by the student, the partner university and the Faculty.

Incoming students:

- all information on exchange programs is available on our website; recognition & credit system
- to ensure the credits are recognized by their university all incoming students must have a Learning Agreement before the mobility. After successful completion of the program students receive a Transcript of Records. ECTS is used to easily transfer credits to partner universities.

- ✓ Student services: all exchange students benefit of accommodation in UTCB campus.
- ✓ Language course: a short Romanian language & culture course is offered; Tutoring: to ensure the integration of exchange students a social program is organized by student buddies, ESN and the International Office. During the exchange program incoming students are coached by student buddies and the Erasmus officer coordinator.

Staff mobility is a priority in the strategic plan 2014-2020 and therefore highly stimulated. We strive to ensure the highest quality in academic mobility activities, planning to review our current portfolio of partnerships to concentrate on the most productive links and seek to identify new ones that fit with our priorities.

The EPS will be also published on the English intranet page of the UTCB web site - International Relations. The Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest is committed to comply with non discrimination objectives, combating xenophobia and racism. There will be no discrimination and total transparency, whatsoever, in the selection of students and staff who will participate in mobilities.

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).

A strategic objective of the TUCEB for the next period will be increasing the bilateral agreements number, as well as the diversification of the higher education institutions profiles involved in such agreements. The enhancement of the practical placements for students in the following period will be based on a package of measures ensuring that the placement contributes to the personal and professional development of the student. Becoming more employer-focused, we will stimulate engagement by working in partnership with the placement providers, promoting professional consultancy and knowledge transfer partnership opportunities. We will be connected with internal and external partnerships, employers, professional bodies and with our local communities. A full recognition of the placement through ECTS and the Diploma Supplement will be given by the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest. Student and provider will submit a final report to ensure the mobility period has met all defined objectives, enabling an institutional evaluation of all the placement outcomes and aims. TUCEB will carefully analyze the reports delivered by students and teaching staff members, when returning from Erasmus mobilities, in order to draw conclusions concerning the possible improvements. A closer attention will be paid to promote the teaching staff mobilities, in order to enhance the interest of our teachers for this type of activities. Reports on the results of the Erasmus activities will be made at least two times per year in front of the Senate and of the Councils of the Faculties.

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve. (max. 3000 characters).*

The participation of TUCEB in the new Erasmus programme will definitely have a positive impact on all activities. The exchange of students and teachers will improve the teaching quality which will strengthen the prestige of the university bringing more attractiveness and therefore increasing the number of graduates. We have found that the presence of the international students at TUCEB succeeded to revive admosfera in classrooms. The final projects involving the Erasmus students proved to be more applied, closer to the case studies. This is expected to lead to a better assimilation of knowledge and to gain competencies demanded by the present occupational market.

Of high interest for the TUCEB is to build a University – Enterprise Project, taking advantage of the fact that the construction industry is a dynamic sector of the Romanian economy. This will create the infrastructure encouraging the incoming mobilities for practical training propose, inducing also a development of the outgoing flow, cross-border co-operation respectively. Moving further to creative forms of academic activities, eliminating the "reproductive education", involving students of the final year of the 1-st cycle in research activities in progress at departmental level and attracting the business environment in cooperation with the university, in order to support excellence (<http://hidrotehnica.utcb.ro/thidro.htm>) are the attempts of TUCEB to strengthen the "knowledge triangle".