



“St Kliment Ohridski” University – Bitola

Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS) 2007 – 2013

The strategy of “St Kliment Ohridski” University - Bitola, regarding objectives and priorities for the Erasmus activities, in the context of the Lifelong Learning Programme, is contained in its mission statement. Namely, the University is committed to generating knowledge and science, as well as creating and cherishing cultural social values. The University, in its commitment to provide quality education of young professionals, qualified and strongly skilled, prepares them to be fully competitive on both national and international labor markets. In this area, objectives relate to activities within both undergraduate and graduate (first and second cycle) studies, research and training, competence development, in quality assurance and cooperation with the University external context. As a confirmation, Lifelong Learning Programme will surely strongly contribute to the improvement of the quality and to the increase of the scope of activities. Also, this would continue in the direction of further internationalization of processes within the University, by active participating in international consortia and networking, as well as attendance at respective assemblies and conferences.

The above-mentioned refers to the institutional internationalization, but a proclaimed programme such as Erasmus, with its mobility policy stated in the Charter, is the one to lead to the factual internationalization, having the students as carriers of the major idea.

Within the frames of activities towards approaching the European Higher education Area, the University carries out its specific policy for openness for new partnerships, particularly with EU counterparts, for the purpose of faster implementation of the priorities of the Action Plan of the Strategy for International Cooperation.

In the spirit of internationalization, the key role in the process of giving visibility to the Erasmus programme for our University, is assigned to the International Relations Officers, who will continually give publicity to the programme. The whole activity is planned to be organized by putting the Erasmus Charter and Erasmus Policy Statement on the University Web-site (www.uklo.edu.mk) and offering administrative assistance for the units and departments of the University, regarding academic mobility, multilateral projects and networks. The International Relations Office, following this prime activity, will organize internal workshops and presentations for the purpose of making the mobility processes more transparent for all interested parties. All the activities related to the Erasmus Programme will be published as special articles in the University News.

Non-discrimination objectives represent a long-term strategic determination of our University, stated in the Statute and they also comply with the equality policy and availability policy, by employing an ethical platform for equality between students in terms of nation, gender, race or nationality. This is an immanent feature of our University, situated in a multi-cultural and multi-national environment as is the Republic of Macedonia. Beside this, the very location of the region in which the University is situated, represents a specific of its own: the closeness to both Greek and Albanian borders provides possibilities for numerous cross-border activities.

Academic mobility activities to the Erasmus Programme will be built upon the previous experience on the part of the International Relations Officers, gained through the involvement in the Tempus projects and particularly in the Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window, Basileus project. Namely, the International Relations Office offers its capacities for organizing information meetings with outgoing students and staff, whereas for the incoming, there are printed materials in English, and also, on the web-site, that are used to make known the study programs. European Credit Transfer System is coordinated at all of the composing units (faculties) of the University. Diploma Supplement is planned to be issued for all students starting with this academic year.

During their stay all incoming students, beside the useful information placed on the web-site of the University, are invited to contact the International Relations Office about the issues related to accommodation, public transport or expenses related to food. For issues regarding student life, they can address the Students' Organization. Learning Agreements and other related documents are issued at a faculty level.

In order to eliminate problems regarding mobility of academic staff, a special programme has been established at a faculty level.