

## Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS)

University of Zagreb (1669) is the oldest and strongest higher education institution in Croatia consisting of 29 faculties, 3 art academies and the Centre for Croatian Studies. It offers a wide range of academic degree courses leading to Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees in: Arts, Biomedicine, Biotechnology, Engineering, Humanities, Natural and Social Sciences. It is a strongly research-oriented institution, contributing with over 50 percent to the total research output of Croatia. Further development of the University of Zagreb as a research and teaching institution is a central strategic issue. Its aim is to remain the main national university preserving the academic traditions of the Croatian society, promoting the Croatian culture and at the same time to continue to develop as a leading university in the region. The set goals are stressed in a number of strategic documents accepted by the Senate of the University in the period 2001-2009. They are all in line with the Bologna Process and the Lifelong Learning Programme. The University of Zagreb has a long tradition in international cooperation, in both education and research and internationalization is a key-issue in its development. The University has made a great effort to strengthen its international cooperation within present possibilities. It is done through bilateral agreements with over a hundred partner higher education institutions in Europe (59 agreements with universities in 17 member countries), North and South America, Asia and Australia. The existing collaboration with regard to education and research will be intensified and extended wherever possible. The University also cooperates with partner universities through university and student networks and associations (EUA, UNICA, DRC, Alps Adriatic, SEFI, CEI, AUF, IROICA, ESU). It is especially active in UNICA and DRC networks. It is the aim of the University to further develop its international dimension in accordance with the Bologna Process and use LLP as an instrument to improve academic quality and performance in view of faster integration into the European Higher Education and Research Area. The three-cycle structure (BA, MA, and Doctoral) has been in place since 2005. Further objectives include: internationalization and strengthening European dimension (with regard to education, research, administration); strengthening quality enhancement and quality assurance; development of joint and double degrees with partner institutions, especially at MA and doctoral level (particularly facilitated through the Centre for Advanced Academic Studies established in Dubrovnik); continuous development of existing and new study programmes in order to ensure the quality, but also the employability of its graduates, in closer cooperation with industry; development of continuous education courses; promotion and support of mobility programs for students, academic and administrative staff, researchers, especially in the context of Erasmus cooperation (mobility: studies/placement, ILC, Intensive programmes, multilateral and thematic networks).

The European Policy Statement (EPS) was adopted as University policy by the Senate of the University of Zagreb and will be published together with the Erasmus University Charter at the University web page: <http://www.unizg.hr>. All staff will be acquainted with it.

The University of Zagreb is determined to actively strive to eliminate all types of stereotypes regarding race, national and ethnic origin, religion, age, gender and others, and to ensure that everyone should have equal opportunities for personal development, including lifelong learning, regardless of their social and economic status. The University of Zagreb established the Office for Students with Disabilities whose purpose is to ensure equal access to all programmes, services, and activities for students with disabilities. The office coordinates services to all students with permanent and temporary disabilities.

Academic year 2009

### Quality of academic mobility activities:

Strategy and Action plan for the development and implementation of mobility adopted by the Senate in 2007 stressed activities necessary to ensure high quality in student/staff mobility. Current mobility is taking place through bilateral agreements, CEEPUS network, Tempus projects, EMECW (LOTS 3, 11). Senate approved a special budget to increase and stimulate student and staff exchanges. Incoming students do not pay tuition fees and are guaranteed free access to all academic areas. ECTS credit system was implemented in 2005/06. The pre-signed Learning Agreement stipulates courses and credits. Transcript of Records certifying the results obtained is issued to all incoming students. University and faculty ECTS coordinators are appointed, ensuring implementation of ECTS. They are academic contact persons for exchange students and they designate a mentor to incoming students. University guarantees full recognition of time and results achieved by outgoing students as agreed in LA. Office for recognition of HE qualifications and periods of study of incoming students wishing to continue their studies at the University is established. University publishes and updates lists of study programmes/courses held in Croatian and English. Full English programmes in Medicine, Economy and Business and some postgraduate studies are implemented. Efforts are made to increase the number of English courses and to stimulate professors willing to deliver them. International Relations Office provides information and counselling for all exchange students through web pages, newsletter, notice board, e-mail and personal contacts. It provides students with International Student Guide, practical information on exchanges, organizes orientation, cultural and social programmes, accommodation in dorms, Croatian language courses for free to those who wish to attend. It works in close cooperation with faculty contact persons. IRO facilitates staff exchanges and provides assistance in finding accommodation.

### Quality of student placement activities:

Some study programmes at the University of Zagreb require student work experience and we wish to enable students to achieve it at high quality student placements in Croatia as well as in EU countries. A very small number of placements abroad has been organized so far. They were financially supported by the University or from some other outside resources. The University intends to further develop placement service for students and organize information seminars targeted to potential beneficiaries. A staff member in the International Relations Office has been on the staff exchange at the EU university to learn more about placements and will also participate at the IROICA network meeting in the spring 2009 where placement issues will be discussed. In order to prepare the University for student and staff placement mobility we will develop all the documents needed to define the relationship and role of the University, student and Host Company. Prior to the departure specific programme for the placement period will be endorsed. The monitoring of the work programme and evaluation of the placement will be carried out by the university tutor, appointed at the faculty level. Staff is encouraged to build up cooperation between the University and enterprises. Examples of existing good practice in this respect will be disseminated at meetings across the University. To allow students who will not have the possibility to participate in the mobility programme to benefit from the expertise and knowledge of staff in enterprises, faculties are encouraged to invite staff of enterprises to participate in learning and training activities. At the end of the placement full recognition will be given as agreed in the agreement signed by the student, University and enterprise. In cases where period of work experience is not a part of the curricula, the period student spent on placement will be recorded in his/her Diploma Supplement.