



BA SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Erasmus Policy Statement

Overall Strategy

Erasmus Programme is one of the main internationalization instruments in the higher education establishments enhancing excellence in teaching and learning, research, and outreach activities. International collaborative partnerships are a core element at BA School of Business and Finance (BASBF) and the principal goal of the internationalization strategy is to integrate the international perspective into all aspects of BASBF life.

The BASBF cooperation program identifies, for example, at strategic level, the cooperation partners, the forms of cooperation and the opportunities for their development. BASBF within the framework of the internationalisation program, for example, the exchange of staff experience, the acquisition, introduction or promotion of new and innovative learning methods, the development of academic staff skills for work in the international environment, the strengthening of the international dimension in the implemented study courses, as well as the activities of students in the international environment (study mobility/ placement mobility or remote cooperation in studies) and in other activities.

International projects under Erasmus + have served as an instrument for stimulating innovative methods application in the study process.

It should be noted that BASBF is taking a strategic approach to the internationalisation of higher education.

Guidelines and principles for the internationalization of the BASBF are defined in the Internationalization Policy of the BASBF, developed in accordance with the development strategy of the BASBF set for the period 2018-2023, One of the main strategic aspects is to implement high reputation, internationally recognized study programs in business management and financial specialisations that provide them with competence of added value. Within the framework of internationalization, the higher education provides:

- compliance of study programs with international requirements;
- implementation of an international study program offers;
- attraction and selection of foreign students;
- development of international cooperation;
- provision of international study opportunities;
- providing an international study environment.

Mobility activities

a) Choice of partners

BASBF follows a principle of mutual interest in establishing and maintaining partnerships. The choice of partners ensures the visibility of international bilateral agreements. Partnerships and mobility agreements are based on mutual interest of both higher education institutions; decisions are made at the departmental level or higher management level. The choice of partnerships is based on common interests of partners and to facilitate the internationalization of study programs, in which mobility is one of the crucial elements both for students and staff. Partnership agreements are built on mutual trust and collaboration between academic staff members of institutions having set common interests in specific fields of study program delivery as well as research activities

Organization supports separate partnership cooperation based on academic cooperation only (not including student mobilities), for specific goal achievement within some projects or research. As a result of these partnerships organization seeks to expand the partnership for students and strengthen the partnership in future.

BASBF has in place Quality Management System that describes all processes and procedures. Each process has its process owner identified. BASBF has Quality Policy documents that determines the quality assurance system. In addition, BASBF has developed Process and Measurement System, Survey System, Risk Management System, Data Protection System, System of Intellectual Property Rights. They all together form BASBF Quality Management System. This ensures a unified approach to all process, including international mobility.

b) Geographical areas

BASBF seeks to offer students a wide geographical range of partner universities to provide cultural diversity experience and prepare young specialists for global labor market. Organization has established geographically broad range of partnership countries. BASBF will continue to expand partnerships within European Union and Programme Countries. New partnership with non-European Union countries will be developed in broader sense to increase the internationalization in the organization. Wider expansion is primarily based on creating strong and meaningful collaborations rather than seeking geographical range. Organization will seek to add some new partners in the region within European Union where student mobility demand has been raising through last years.

c) Important objectives and target groups of mobility activities

BASBF has established open access to foreign exchanges for the most of offered study programs in all study levels. Internal regulation developed for mobility covering all the exchange target groups has been developed. All BASBF students are eligible to use Erasmus traineeship within study process of after graduation- new alumni traineeship. A semester long exchange studies is a part of one of the BASBF Bachelor's study program. Organization is fostering other study program participants to use exchange studies, traineeships and facilitate blended mobilities, to increase the competitiveness of BASBF alumni. Staff exchange is a vital part of mobility program, highly supported by BASBF; bringing innovative teaching methods and best practices in the study process. Incoming students are an important part of organizations' internationalization, fostering improvements in education and other study environment. BASBF organizes International Guest Lecturer Weeks inviting international academic staff for teaching and networking serving as networking collaboration platform.

Joint degrees

BASBF offers double degree program - Bachelor of Business Administration with a degree of Professional qualifications in finance and business administration. The program is conducted in collaboration with SBS Swiss Business School. Within this program students acquiring knowledge abroad, in exchange studies. BASBF in a future will be looking to establish other double degree programs or new study programs based on close foreign collaboration; where significant part of the study program is carried out by foreign partner organization.

International cooperation projects in teaching and training

Foreign academic staff is engaged in teaching at Bachelor's and Master's study programs, which are being implemented jointly in cooperation with Swiss Business School (SBS). The students studying at all level Bachelor's, Master's and a Doctoral study programs are provided with the opportunity to attend foreign academic staff lectures within the teaching mobility framework, as well as during the annual guest lecturer week. Foreign academic staff comes from a variety of countries: Austria, Belgium, Greece, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Switzerland, India, Malaysia, Israel, Russia, etc. The staff and faculty mobility is generating thematic networks, joint teaching projects and multilateral research projects. Strategic collaboration with foreign universities and private and public enterprises to promote cutting-edge research, education and dissemination. The Bologna Declaration aims at constructing a European Area of Higher Education that makes the different systems of higher education more comparable and compatible.

Modernization

1. Increasing attainment levels by: equipping students with research skills through closer integration of research and education in mobility and cooperation projects, opening the university to full-time international students with good admission scores.
2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education by: developing new forms of ICT-based teaching and learning in collaboration with national and international partners. Systematically using staff exchanges to ensure the academic quality and relevance of the teaching content.
3. Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation by successful inclusion of international students in the learning environment.
4. Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development by: Strategic cooperation with universities and enterprises, national and regional authorities to promote innovation and knowledge transfer.
5. Improving governance and funding by: Basing partnerships and cooperation projects on institutional strengths and scientific priorities. Systematically using staff exchanges as part of the development of the competencies of individual staff members and the development of BASBF programs of study and collaboration projects.

BASBF commits to provide an environment free from discrimination, promoting equality and diversity through internal and external communications.