

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Izmir Demokrasi University's internalization policy aims at encouraging sustainable strategic partnerships, transnational research activities, projects, and focuses on promoting student and staff mobility, gaining experience by active participation in international research and educational projects. Increasing the number of inter-institutional cooperation, improving students' and staff's international experiences and internationalizing its curriculum are the main priorities of Izmir Demokrasi University. With an education infrastructure and insight developed by considering international criteria in undergraduate and graduate levels, modernization through internationalization is the main goal of the international strategy of IDU. One of the major objectives of IDU is to become an integrated university with the international curriculum and educate students with high-level skills to ensure that our students and academic staff gain international experience in education and research activities, and to contribute to the development of both our university and İzmir by making maximum use of international programs and projects.

As the international student mobility is a key element to enhance the quality of higher education provisions, to develop significant cooperation with overseas partners and to diversify overseas activities, it is at the core of our globalization and internationalization strategies. Therefore, transnational education is an integral part of IDU's internationalization process. Participation in the Erasmus Programme will lead IDU:

- to increase the number of internationally supported projects and researches carried out by researches from different countries,
- to increase the number of international students, academic staff, researcher,
- to increase the number of joint curricula, programs and courses taught in English,
- to develop globally sustainable partnerships with universities,
- to increase the number of inter-institutional agreements, and
- to improve the cooperation scale and quality with other higher education institutions and organizations within EU.

IDU has five departments offering 100% English curricula which is a significant step for a state university that will lead to a growing number of international and mobility students. IDU is a modern and dynamic university trying to keep up with the modern world. It has adequately equipped staff to conduct digital and distance learning and within this scope IDU will work to enhance the hardware and facilities to be integrated in digital mobility management.

Mobility is the modern way that allows improving academic quality and cooperation and fosters cultural understanding. IDU intends to contribute to the modernization of higher education by working with European and international partners, sharing learning outcomes, and strengthening education quality through mobility and transnational cooperation. Teaching mobilities, research activities and knowledge transfer can help IDU to improve academic and research capacity. IDU academic staff has been engaged in several KA2 projects actively. Academic and non-academic staff is encouraged to participate in mobility projects

for teaching, research, learning, gaining international experience and language skills, or building professional networks.

IDU intends to motivate students to gain the necessary skills and key competences to make a good career choice. It is crucial to be able to offer up to date, modern and varied study programs which will be supported and strengthened by well qualified teaching staff. We believe that by participating in the Program, IDU can not only support its teachers' professional development but also help students to access high-quality education, work placement opportunities, professional career guidance and to increase cross-cultural awareness.

IDU is quite sensitive in reducing inequalities and any kind of discrimination and believing in that each student regardless of his/her background or gender should be able to take part in cross border activities during his/her education life, equal access, opportunities and support will be ensured. IDU aims to remove the barriers on the participation of disadvantaged and disabled students in mobility.

IDU ensures that it will endeavour to fulfil the principles of Erasmus programme by always keeping pace with the digital innovations, will help to protect the nature by implementing environmentally friendly practices, and will promote a positive attitude to foster integration among exchange students and staff.