



## Universidad Fernando Pessoa Canarias

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### Erasmus Policy Statement

**1** *Your Erasmus Policy Statement should reflect how you intended to implement Erasmus after the award of the ECHE. Should you wish to add additional activities in the future, you will need to amend your Erasmus Policy Statement and inform your Erasmus National Agency. What would you like to achieve by participating in the Erasmus Program? How does your participation in the Erasmus Program fit into your institutional internationalization and modernization strategy? (Please reflect on the objectives of your participation. Please explain how you expect the participation in Erasmus to contribute towards modernizing your institution, as well as on the goal of building a European Education Area and explain the policy objectives you intend to pursue).*

**To build a knowledge and research-based society from one of the corners of the European Union:**

This is our vision, a vision that requires active engagement by the whole organization in interaction with the international community regarding research, education, competency development and cooperation. By participating in the Erasmus program, we will further develop internationalization through its activities, resources and support in order to achieve our mission:

Universidad Fernando Pessoa Canarias:

- Offers professional degree programs that strength the higher education panorama in Canary Islands.
- Intends to conduct internationally competitive research.
- Combines, with the pursuit to excel at its core, a growing range of disciplines with expertise in teaching and research.
- Is a dedicated player in society that, together with others, promotes health and communication actions in support of the local and global goals for sustainable development.

Universidad Fernando Pessoa Canarias recently started its Erasmus trajectory in 2019 in Key Action 1. During this time we have established very promising



agreements and our students have started to go abroad. This, we believe, will reinforce quality and broader views in our classrooms.

The European Education Area (EEA) addresses issues that are much in line with the mission of Universidad Fernando Pessoa Canarias; these include lifelong learning, digital skills, inclusive education, and the European University. By participating in Erasmus 2021-2027, we will engage in the EEA initiatives to contribute to the strengthening of European education.

**2** *Please reflect on the Erasmus actions you would like to take part in and explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution. Please explain how your institution's participation in these actions will contribute to achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy.*

Universidad Fernando Pessoa Canarias will continue to focus on student mobility and will work with this intensively these next years in order to grow and establish a durable and reliable collaboration network with our partners.

We are also focused on increasing the possibilities for all student groups to participate in these activities, we will implement several initiatives that include: increasing the window-of-mobility in our programs, promoting mobility of underrepresented students groups, and implementing mobility in more programs. This will enable us to achieve our mission to offer high quality education.

We have identified the potential of staff and masters programs mobility so we are designing and planing to achieve those goals during this 21-27 period given by the will of learning and experiencing of new methodologies and points of view.

The European Universities Initiative (EUI) is considered a key element in our work in the Erasmus 2021-2027 program and we see this as a corner stone in our future international engagement. The aim of EUI is to “bring together a new generation of creative Europeans able to cooperate across languages, borders and disciplines to address societal challenges and skills shortages faced in Europe”. This is something that is in line with our own mission. Therefore, we believe we can contribute to the fulfillment of the aim of EUI as well as positively affect our own development by contributing in this type of activities. The work with EUI will be headed by our Office of Mobility and International Relations and the Board of our institution.



**3** *What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Program on your institution? Please reflect on targets, as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators in monitoring this impact (such as mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects (under the KA2 action), sustainability/ long-term impact of projects etc.) You are encouraged to offer an indicative timeline for achieving the targets related to the Erasmus+ actions.*

Although Universidad Fernando Pessoa Canarias started its Erasmus experience since 2019, has participated -effectively- a few semesters due to the obvious struggle with the pandemia and the implementation of the mobility culture among our university community.

However, our Erasmus students lead us to increase educational quality, competitive advantages for our university and our staff; a driving force in the internationalization of Universidad Fernando Pessoa Canarias; the forming of valuable contacts and networks with a large number of European higher education institutions. This is something we expect to develop further in the Erasmus 2021-2027 program. For some key elements, we have set targets that we can follow-up and evaluate:

**Mobility targets:**

- 10% of all our graduates will have participated in some type of mobility by 2027.
- Increase the number of exchange students from socio-economic groups that have historically been underrepresented in mobility
- Start Staff Mobility
- Start Masters Mobility
- Sustainability/long-term impact of projects: Project results and impact will be spread internally through news items, events and workshops and future research.