

## **ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT**

Our institution, CESUGA (Centro de Estudios Superiores Universitarios de Galicia) located in La Coruña, Spain, has been successfully delivering national and international higher degree programmes for over 25 years. From 1995 to 2017 two of our degree programmes were accredited by University College Dublin and simultaneously as of 2014 our four degree programmes have been under the accreditation of Universidad San Jorge in Zaragoza, Spain. Our Centre aspires to gain full university status within the coming years. CESUGA's overall strategy lies in a constant pursuit of academic and human excellence. It is our policy that both educators and staff form part of this on-going mechanism for improvement and change. Therefore, participation in the Erasmus+ programme adds new opportunities of enhancement for creating a more modernized internationally-driven institution.

Our primary goal is to establish systems where students and staff are able to increase their capacity in becoming life-long thinkers and ongoing learners. This enrooted belief is essential for improving both personal and professional development.

In order to achieve these goals, the Erasmus+ programme is an indispensable tool for any institution of Higher Learning. Student and staff mobility to other institutions opens opportunities for improving skills and abilities that otherwise could not be attained by many. Erasmus+ provides all students, with the opportunity to take part in this learning experience in many and diverse regions of the European Union.

Due to the fact that our institution has been part of the Erasmus Charter for only four years, it is our intention to improve and modernize our practice in accordance to the new principles set out in the Erasmus Guidelines for 2021-2027. Therefore, it is our desire to continue with the Erasmus+ Action 1 providing mobility for students and staff.

Our past experience over these four years with other Erasmus+ partners has broadened our scope to the numerous possibilities that are available through the programme. Our incoming and outgoing students and staff have increased their sense of cultural awareness, improved their learning performance and realised that they are better aware of the European project and of the values that it wishes to convey.

Our objectives are to encourage more participants for mobility for both students and staff. This year our institution has undergone a change in the overall management and financing providing the institution with a new and innovative outlook towards the future. It is also with enthusiasm that we revitalize our Erasmus+ endeavour. We are currently establishing an International Department which will not only be in charge of the Erasmus+ programme but other strategic academic alliances with other countries in Asia and Latin America.

Taking our past experience as a reference, we can only envisage a positive and more prosperous outlook for our participation in the Erasmus+ programme. Our main targets are to increase both the number of students and staff on the mobility programme. Increase the importance of the Spanish language for incoming students providing them with reinforcement and the possibility of interaction with other Spanish speaking students from Latin America. Provide our outgoing students/staff with better overall English language and IT skills. Improve competence in self-awareness, self-empowerment and empathy by providing an emotionally intelligent environment. Improve our tutoring system for incoming students and provide them with student advisors to monitor their stay.

Our goal is to increase both qualitative and quantitative in the establishment of Bilateral Agreements to form on-going alliances with partner members, thereby giving students a more expansive academic and cultural offer. We envisage these and other essential improvements in order to fully participate in the European Education Area by 2025.