



Erasmus+









Erasmus Policy Statement

The Erasmus Policy Statement of our Higher Vocational College presents a constituent part of our institutional strategy of international cooperation, lifelong learning and mobility of our staff and students. In order to make a successful strategic breakthrough and improve our quality in the field of educational, developmental and research potentials, we have to connect with international environment. That is why Erasmus mobility is one of our top priorities, leading to cross-border cooperation with other schools, institutions and companies. Furthermore, we see it as an opportunity for attaining higher quality of our programmes, curricula contents, and connecting the fields of education, research and business environment.

Therefore, we strive to encourage our students and staff to participate in Erasmus+ mobility programmes in order to acquire new knowledge, skills and experience in foreign countries. Our institution, Biotechnical Centre Naklo is one of the leading biotechnical schools in the Gorenjska region and in Slovenia in general, however, building strategic partnerships with foreign institutions, companies and schools at tertiary level seems to be of utmost importance for a long-term success and competitiveness in a broader environment.

As we do believe we must raise the quality of our curricula and education, we keep trying to learn and exchange knowledge with Slovenian and foreign partners, so that our modern dynamic centre of excellence activities do not end at the borders of the country. We keep addressing current issues in the field of agriculture, nature conservation, horticulture and food technology and nutrition. In order to enhance the level of our cooperation with Slovenian and foreign partners we organize conferences in our premises, which is actually not just a good way of exchange of knowledge and information, but also a great opportunity to get to know our potential partners from Slovenia and abroad.

It is our intention to continue with activities in the field of staff and student exchange programmes. In the new programming period we would like to keep up with the mobility exchange numbers and possibly increase them. A great emphasis will be also put on cooperation with enterprises from various fields of expertise in the area of our educational topics. Cross-border cooperation and working with partners from research and educational institutions, various industries, farms and economy sector in general may be seen as an opportunity for our staff and students alike. Participation in Erasmus mobility activities does not only enrich our educational programmes, but also opens up new horizons to our participants.

In order to educate highly competitive experts in the international labour markets we want to use great opportunities offered by Erasmus mobility programmes, especially in the context of establishing new contacts, exchanging up-to-date information and experience, skills and knowledge. Last but not least, it is of upmost importance to learn from and use the positive experience of other educational systems from foreign countries, mainly in the sphere of comparable agricultural and rural environment.

As an institution, which puts a great emphasis on importance of nature protection and sustainable development, also in the context of certain negative impacts of pollution, such

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as climate change, for example, we strive for educational contents in which the balance between economic success and preservation of nature is taken into consideration. The fact that these are undoubtedly the issues which should be addressed and dealt with on the level of international community can confirm justification and need for international cooperation and communication, which is also why Erasmus mobility programmes are of upmost interest for our institution.

Therefore, in the context of sustainable development, we will strive to digitize all processes in the next programming period. We will strive to replace all paper-based workflow by a digital one.

Finally, international cooperation has lots of positive impacts, not only for our employees and the institution as such, but also for our students, of course. Staff and student mobility enriches us in many ways. It means more knowledge and new pedagogical practices. It can lead to new partnerships and projects. As it is generally known, schools want to raise the employability rates of their graduates. We firmly believe that participation in mobility programmes makes them more employable.

Strahinj, February 2020

dr. Marijan Pogačnik, director