



ERASMUS+ PROPOSAL (PART B)

Erasmus: Key action 1: Erasmus Charter for Higher Education

EACEA-03-2020 ECHE-LP-2020

Proposal number: SEP-210685647

Proposal acronym: EKA

Deadline Id: EACEA-03-2020-1

COMMITMENT TO THE ERASMUS CHARTER PRINCIPLES

Declaration

I, undersigned, declare that if my institution is awarded with an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education, my institution will undertake to:

- Respect in full the principles of non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion set out in the Programme.
- Ensure equal and equitable access and opportunities to current and prospective participants from all backgrounds, paying particular attention to the inclusion of those with fewer opportunities.
- Ensure full automatic recognition of all credits (based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System – ECTS) gained for learning outcomes satisfactorily achieved during a period of study/training abroad, including during blended mobility.
- Charge no fees, in the case of credit mobility, to incoming mobile students for tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities.
- Ensure the quality of the mobility activities and of the cooperation projects throughout the application and implementation phases.
- Implement the priorities of the Programme:
 - By undertaking the necessary steps to implement digital mobility management in line with the technical standards of the European Student Card Initiative.
 - By promoting environmentally friendly practices in all activities related to the Programme.
 - By encouraging the participation of individuals with fewer opportunities in the Programme.
 - By promoting civic engagement and encouraging students and staff to get involved as active citizens before, during and after their participation in a mobility or project.

WHEN PARTICIPATING IN MOBILITY ACTIVITIES

Before mobility

- Ensure that selection procedures for mobility activities are fair, transparent, coherent and documented.
- Publish and regularly update the course catalogue on the website of the Institution well in advance of the mobility periods, so as to be transparent to all parties and allow mobile students to make well-informed choices about the courses they will follow.
- Publish and regularly update information on the grading system used and grade distribution tables for all study programmes. Ensure that students receive clear and transparent information on recognition and grade conversion procedures.
- Carry out mobility for the purpose of studying and teaching only within the framework of prior agreements between institutions. These agreements establish the respective

roles and responsibilities of the different parties, as well as their commitment to shared quality criteria in the selection, preparation, reception, support and integration of mobile participants.

- Ensure that outgoing mobile participants are well prepared for their activities abroad, including blended mobility, by undertaking activities to achieve the necessary level of linguistic proficiency and develop their intercultural competences.
- Ensure that student and staff mobility is based on a learning agreement for students and a mobility agreement for staff validated in advance between the sending and receiving institutions or enterprises and the mobile participants.
- Provide active support to incoming mobile participants throughout the process of finding accommodation.
- Provide assistance related to obtaining visas, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.
- Provide assistance related to obtaining insurance, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.
- Ensure that students are aware of their rights and obligations as defined in the Erasmus Student Charter.

During mobility

- Ensure equal academic treatment and the quality of services for incoming students.
- Promote measures that ensure the safety of outgoing and incoming mobile participants.
- Integrate incoming mobile participants into the wider student community and in the Institution's everyday life. Encourage them to act as ambassadors of the programme and share their mobility experience.
- Provide appropriate mentoring and support arrangements for mobile participants, including for those pursuing blended mobility.
- Provide appropriate language support to incoming mobile participants.

After mobility

- Provide incoming mobile students and their sending institutions with transcripts of records containing a full, accurate and timely record of their achievements at the end of their mobility period.
- Ensure that all ECTS credits gained for learning outcomes satisfactorily achieved during a period of study/training abroad, including during blended mobility are fully and automatically recognised as agreed in the learning agreement and confirmed by the transcript of records/traineeship certificate. They shall be transferred without delay into the student's records, shall be counted towards the student's degree without any additional work or assessment of the student and shall be traceable in the student's transcript of records and the Diploma Supplement.
- Ensure the inclusion of satisfactorily completed study and/or traineeship mobility activities in the final record of student achievements (the Diploma Supplement).
- Encourage and support mobile participants upon return to act as ambassadors of the

programme, promote the benefits of mobility and actively engage in building alumni communities.

- Ensure that staff is given recognition for their teaching and training activities undertaken during the mobility period, based on a mobility agreement and in line with the institutional strategy.

WHEN PARTICIPATING IN EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

- Ensure that cooperation activities contribute towards the fulfilment of the institutional strategy.
- Promote the opportunities offered by the cooperation projects and provide relevant support to staff and students interested in participating in these activities throughout the application and implementation phase.
- Ensure that cooperation activities lead to sustainable outcomes and that their impact benefits all partners.
- Encourage peer-learning activities and exploit the results of the projects in a way that will maximise their impact on individuals, other participating institutions and the wider academic community.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

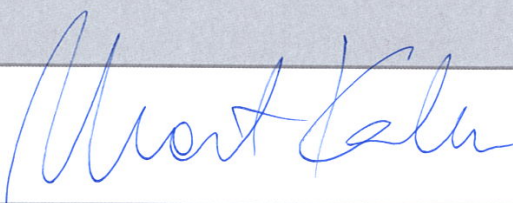
- Ensure that the long-term institutional strategy and its relevance to the objectives and priorities of the Programme are described in the Erasmus Policy Statement.
- Ensure that the principles of the Charter are well communicated and are applied by staff at all levels of the Institution.
- Make use of the "ECHE guidelines" and of the "ECHE self-assessment" to ensure the full implementation of the principles of this Charter.
- Regularly promote activities supported by the Programme, along with their results.
- Display this Charter and the related Erasmus Policy Statement prominently on the Institution's website and on all other relevant channels.

On behalf of the Institution, I acknowledge that the implementation of the Charter will be monitored by the Erasmus National Agencies and that a violation of the above principles and commitments may lead to its withdrawal by the European Commission.

On behalf of the institution, I commit to publishing the Erasmus Policy Statement on the institution website.

Legal representative of the institution

Signature of the legal representative



In the following sections of the application form, you will need to explain how your institution will fulfil the ECHE principles if the Charter is awarded. You are encouraged to consult the [ECHE Guidelines](#) for support in completing this application.

Please note that your Erasmus+ National Agency will monitor your Erasmus Policy Statement and your answers to the questions given in the application. The Erasmus+ National Agency reserves the right to request more information on your activities and propose supplementary measures, for the purposes of monitoring and implementing the Charter principles by your institution.

1. ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

1.1 Erasmus activities included in your EPS

In this section, you need to tick the Erasmus activities covered by your Erasmus Policy Statement. Please select those activities that your HEI intends to implement during the entire duration of the Programme.

Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility:

The mobility of higher education students and staff ☒

Erasmus Key Action 2 (KA2) - Cooperation among organisations and institutions:

Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices ☒

Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities ☒

Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees ☒

Partnerships for Innovation ☒

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3):

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support to policy development and cooperation: ☒

1.2 Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): your strategy

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 Programme? How does your participation in the Erasmus Programme fit into your institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy?

(Please reflect on the objectives of your participation. Please explain how you expect the participation in Erasmus to contribute towards modernising your institution, as well as on the

goal of building a European Education Area¹ and explain the policy objectives you intend to pursue).

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

- ERASMUS programme has been the most important part of Estonian Academy of Arts' (EKA) internationalisation strategy since 1999 when Estonia joined the initiative. Growth in quality and quantity have marked the progress all the way.

- In 2017 (the most recent statistics), 65% of our alumni had participated in ERASMUS+ mobility and it is important to give each member of EKA, an opportunity for staff and teaching exchange. Incoming experts, too, are an important part of EKA's ERASMUS strategy.

- EKA's goal in participating in the programme is to be part of the European and global community in the widest sense of the word. - We will participate in KA1 and KA2 project initiatives and aim to contribute in KA3 between 2021 - 2027.

- We will provide inclusion of all socio-economic groups of our academy's community in the programme.

- We aim to provide an opportunity to experience labour market for recent graduates actively and promote cooperation in the fields of research and development.

- Transparency and equal treatment is granted through acts approved by EKA's Council and active monitoring.

- EKA's goal is to provide international experience to all members of the community and in exchange to our partners, provide excellent experience of internationalisation at EKA. The way to achieve this goal is through active participation in ERASMUS programme and other types of international cooperation. In the next programme period of 2021 – 2027 we aim to achieve that 80% of our students have an international experience abroad and 100% of the community have taken part in some form of internationalisation – in situ or through online platforms. Co-learning and cooperation between students with different cultural backgrounds contributes to the integration process. We consider important the interest in, and tolerance of EKA members coming from foreign countries. We respect and follow GDPR rules and encourage sustainability and climate-friendly approach in achieving these goals.

- For an EU border country and a small state like Estonia is, experiencing European dimension is vital in order to build up professional ties with the European (and global) counterparts and in order to be an active player in the fields of art, design architecture and cultural heritage.

- In 2018, EKA moved into brand new campus in the centre of Estonia's capital, Tallinn.

We offer 21st century education in modern premises and strive for academic excellency through expert tutoring and high-tech technology for learning and conducting research in the disciplines of EKA's scope.

We wish to underline the importance of European dimension through our international and internationally accredited education to everyone involved in EKA's community. EKA is accredited institutionally, the most recent accreditation was signed by the international expert group on September 29, 2017.

EKA has the right to provide instruction in the following curriculum groups:

1. Arts (Bachelor's programme) – indefinite term

The curriculum group includes the following curricula: Fine Arts, Scenography, Photography, Creation of Environments, Product Design, Art History and Visual Culture, Cultural Heritage and Conservation, Jewellery & Blacksmithing, Interior Architecture, Graphic Design, Animation, Ceramics, Glass Art and Design, Textile Art and Design, Leather Art, Accessory Design and Bookbinding, Fashion Design, Media Graphics (instruction in Russian).

2. Arts (Master's programme) – indefinite term

The curriculum group includes the following curricula: Fine Arts, Scenography, Product Design, Art History and Visual Culture, Cultural Heritage and Conservation, Animation (tuition in English), Design and Applied Art, Design and Crafts (instruction in English), Interaction Design (instruction in English), Interior Architecture (instruction in English).

3. Arts (Doctoral programme) – indefinite term

The curriculum group includes the following curricula: Art and Design, Art History and Visual Culture, Cultural Heritage and Conservation.

4. Architecture and Construction (Integrated Bachelor's and Master's programme) – indefinite term

The curriculum group includes the following curriculum: Architecture and Urban Design

5. Architecture and Construction (Master's programme) – indefinite term

¹ For more information on the priorities of the European Education Area, such as recognition, digital skills, common values and inclusive education, please consult the following website:

https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en

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The curriculum group includes the following curriculum: Urban Studies (instruction in English)

6. Architecture and Construction (Doctoral programme) – until 31.12.2021

The curriculum group includes the following curriculum: Architecture and Urban Design

7. Teacher training and educational research (Master's programme)

The curriculum group includes the following curriculum: Art Teacher / joint curriculum with Tallinn University

8. Engineering, manufacturing and technology (Master's programme)

The curriculum group includes the following curriculum: Design and Engineering / joint curriculum with Tallinn University of Technology (instruction in English).

Since January 1, 2012, only institutions of higher education which have passed the evaluation of quality of studies are allowed to provide higher education.

EKA is active in international associations and networks and our academy is constantly initiating new projects and working groups for study, research and development, mobility and other purposes relevant for our goals set in the development plan.

We are active players in the international art-, design- and architecture higher education community at large.

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.

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Estonian Academy of Arts collaborates with more than a 100 carefully selected partner universities in the world in ERASMUS programme. While most partners are located in Europe, we also have active collaboration with partners in Canada, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Thailand, China, Israel, Russia, South African Republic and Ghana. Active ties are being kept professionally by academics and supporting units (International Offices or similar). By promoting active student exchange, we make sure that the partnerships are alive and bring new information and knowledge to the members taking part in these exchanges.

65% of our students study or conduct a traineeship abroad, participating in short- and long term mobility programmes and each year we host roughly 100 incoming ERASMUS exchange students. The value these experiences create go beyond scales of measures, each individual brings information that is vital in their future professional and personal life with them through participation in the programme.

EKA's outgoing student mobility is of the highest ratio among public universities in Estonia. Outgoing and incoming student mobility has been in good balance, and is complemented by EKA's active participation in traineeship programme. We encourage all of our students to use the unique opportunity and provide personal in situ and online counselling to all members of EKA.

Feedback from incoming exchange students shows that the EKA is highly valued for its small study groups and individual approach by highly professional academic tutors. We are improving our online course catalogue in English constantly and our 7 international English speaking MA programmes with more than a 130 international degree students complement the ERASMUS community well.

Between 2014 – 2020 the EKA also hosts the secretariat of Nordic design education collaboration network [CIRRUS](#). The EKA is an active member in [CUMULUS](#), leading a Fashion and Design working group of the association, [ELIA](#), [EAAE](#), [KUNO](#) and other smaller international networks. This provides also a great opportunity to initiate ERASMUS projects and EKA has been active in taking a role here too.

Through active ERASMUS project participation, we will make sure that the community is constantly moving and seeking better solutions in teaching and learning art, design and architecture. It's through international ties that we can meet the greatest challenges of today's world in all sense of the world. Besides academic excellency, we also seek for our support units be in dialogue with their European counterparts, constantly learning and moving for better solutions for the EKA's community, Estonian society and European dimension.

ERASMUS programme, since 1999, has become a state of being for the whole community: to participate in student or staff mobility is considered a valuable norm and we aim to seek for even better results in inclusion during 2021-2027 programme phase.

What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme 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.

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

EKA's strategic objectives are:

1. To operate in a new modern academic building in an interdisciplinary, international and cooperative manner.
2. To contribute to the development of the society academically and creatively, and to be a learner-centered and sustainable teaching and research institution.
3. To be the leading competence institution in Estonia and an internationally recognized center in the main academic areas of responsibility.

Timeline:

2021: Even though the world has been hit hard by the recent pandemic in 2020, EKA will keep offering international education to our students and encourage international ties through online platforms in addition to physical mobility. We will not stop seeking for international partnerships and representation in the leading bodies of our fields, such as ELIA, CUMULUS, CIRRUS, KUNO, Nordic-Baltic Academy of Architecture and keep a key position in them.

ELIA membership grants access to a globally connected European network of more than 250 Higher Arts Education Institutions in 47 countries, representing some 300.000 students in all art disciplines. Through conferences and smaller gatherings, as well as participation in ELIA's governing bodies and working groups, ELIA encourages partnerships, creative thinking, and knowledge exchange in a unique international and multidisciplinary context. Member's participation in online and physical events offers various opportunities for international peer-to-peer exchange and learning, training and networking. In collaboration with member institutions ELIA organises a variety of events. Members are involved in ELIA events within the steering groups, thematic working groups, as event hosts, as presenters, members of platforms and delegates. All ELIA activities serve members by offering them a virtual and physical platform for sharing expertise and knowledge. ELIA cares about innovation in the field and moving the discussion forward regarding topics relevant to higher arts education institutions. EKA's rector prof Mart Kalm is a member of the board in ELIA and also part of the executive group, directly involved in initiating new activities, finding new goals and partnerships and projects through these partnerships and applying for funding for many of the key activities through ERASMUS programme.

Cumulus is the only global association to serve art and design education and research. It is a forum for partnership and transfer of knowledge and best practices. Cumulus consists currently of 299 members from 56 countries. EKA's vice rector for studies, Anne Pikkov is a member of the board in CUMULUS and connects mainly design education with the leading art schools of the world, trying to often find ways for funding of these activities through ERASMUS programme.

Nordplus funded CIRRUS, KUNO and Nordic-Baltic Academy of Architecture are excellent smaller platforms of professionals, where often bigger projects that have been started in ERASMUS grow and the project leaders seek for funding through KA2 mechanisms. EKA is the network coordinator for both – Nordic-Baltic Academy of Architecture and for CIRRUS.

ERASMUS KA1 mobility: EKA has been enjoying excellent feedback to our academic quality and small student groups from incoming exchange students, but we still need to work on improving our course catalogues in English. This is the goal of 2021 set by our top management to all academic leaders. Our aim is to continue with student exchanges (outgoing and incoming) regardless to the pandemic as soon as the situation globally permits. We are keeping a carefully positive approach towards the programme and work hard to grant safety to all students and staff involved in EKA's activities. Our goal will remain to keep positive student mobility flows in KA1 – for both – in- and outgoing mobility and we keep actively communicating these goals to our partners.

KA2: We will keep seeking for new project initiatives (at the time of writing the charter application, we are hoping to receive funding as a partner in European Universities initiative Transform4Europe), but all departments at EKA, though their professional ties are constantly on radar to seek for new and sustainable ways in developing the education at EKA.

2022 - 2026: We will seek for new and innovative partnerships in KA2 program initiatives for improvement and cooperation of the following topics: socially engaged and freely created art, inclusive design, innovation in the living environment, research of culture, research into the cultural heritage and art education.

The Academy's Research, Development and Creative Activity Strategy is closely tied to the innovation chain and contributes to the creation and development of services, products, business processes and models with high added value. Joint cooperation projects at European and global levels must include the fields of: research and development service geared at companies, furthering cooperation between institutions of higher education and companies and knowledge-intensive enterprise, awareness of the business sector, consultation in the field of entrepreneurship and intellectual property, spin-off company systems, the entrepreneurial education and consultation offered to students.

The implementation of the strategy in a transparent and equal way is organized by the ERASMUS Committee at EKA, which consists of the vice rectors, deans of all faculties at EKA and head of International Office. Administrative and support structure leaders and structural units monitor regularly the course of implementation of the strategy and take the necessary management decisions to realize it. At least once a year, a strategy implementation discussion is

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held in the format of roundtable discussion if needed and an ERASMUS development conference or seminar, involving private and public sector representatives in this process in initiated.

KA1: To keep the level and sustainably grow the number of participation of ERASMUS mobility among students and staff, involve even more international incoming experts.

2027:

EKA's graduates participation in KA1 mobility projects is at least 80%. All members of the academy are continuously engaged in mobility (blended, online and physical). We participate in several KA2 projects, desirably one of them being European Universities initiative. We encourage mobility and European dimension and education among all our students and staff.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

2.1 Implementation of the new principles

Please explain the measures taken in your institution to respect the principles of non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion of students and staff. Describe how your institution ensures full and equitable access to participants from all backgrounds, paying particular attention to the inclusion of those with fewer opportunities.

Code of Ethics: From the legal point of view, EKA's Senate has passed Code of Ethics, (https://drive.google.com/file/d/19OQp2rVMYXqt1qpCizEXWl_uyu-sPzL0/view) which states that we treat fellow citizens equally and with respect, regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical and mental abilities and other attributes. This is to be followed by all members of the EKA community and taken into account also when promoting ERASMUS possibilities. Any sort of violation towards the norms set in the Code of Ethics will be taken into close loop by the highest leading bodies of EKA and if needed, monitored and analysed closely with a well-balanced and even outcome.

EKA also constantly and actively measures the satisfaction and well-being of our members - staff and students alike and the Department of Quality Management makes sure that if there are matters that need further investigation and/or development, those will be approached by the top management and the members of the whole community at large.

We follow GDPR rules and our Legal Department monitors the process of this all the time.

Since 2018/19 EKA situates in a brand new, top-notch campus, in an inspiring environment at Kalamaja, Põhja-Tallinn district near Tallinn city centre. By opening the new campus, we finally can grant access to all people with physical disabilities, the building is easily accessible in a wheelchair and elevators are accessible to all parts and floors of the building. We offer psychological and mental health counselling as well as career planning services to our own and international students. The academy offers staff training in situ and through ERASMUS programme to all members regarding matters of mental health. Counselling services are provided for the staff. Regular services linked with ERASMUS programme activities (such as travelling, insurance policies etc), are offered on regular basis daily by the International Office.

EKA offers grant programs to students with lesser opportunities financially and at Estonian state level offers several grant schemes <https://www.hm.ee/en/activities/higher-education/study-allowances-and-state-grants> - that EKA makes sure all our students know and are aware of through relevant mailing lists and channels.

We make sure all information is provided in Estonian and in English, so that the international community will not feel excluded.

Student buddy system has successfully been in force and we continue seeking for even better results in this by starting a buddy grant system for local degree students in helping international students settle in Estonia better.

For incoming students we try to offer a seat in our centrally located student dormitory, which is quite basic, but very reasonably priced in order to compensate the raising living standards of Estonia (food and services). Tallinn offers free public transport to all people who have registered themselves in Tallinn, we offer thorough counselling on these matters to our incoming exchange students.

We advise incoming experts in finding suitable ways of travel, insurance and accommodation.

Please explain what measures your institution will put in place to implement the European Student Card Initiative, and promote the use of the programme's Erasmus+ mobile App to students. Please refer to the timeline indicated on the European Student Card Initiative website².

Estonian Academy of Arts values the effect, which will be received by the Erasmus Without Paper project and therefore the aim is to implement the use of European Student Card and Erasmus+ mobile app in our outgoing students.

Both initiatives will be introduced to our students in a special information class and tutorial material will be sent to their emails afterwards. Also, our university's website will have a separate part dedicated to the EWP project where students can find videos and other helping materials. To support the use of ESC and Erasmus+ app, EKA international office will start sending notifications to the app and students are kindly requested to fill their Online Learning Agreements and grant agreements in the app or notify why it's not possible for them to use the app.

The timeline of rooting the initiatives among EKA students:

2021 – Online Learning Agreements

Spring - Summer – test group will be established from all the students who are going abroad with an Erasmus+ program during autumn semester 2021. With this test group, the International Office hopes to get proper and thorough training

² https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-student-card-initiative_en

by the National Agency on how the EWP platforms function and understand how it helps outgoing students and staff in the process the best.

Autumn – as new outgoing students have been selected for the spring semester 2022 and International Office has had time and opportunity to analyse and improve the usage of the functions online, new information meetings will be held to introduce the Erasmus+ app and European Student Card.

Winter - International Office will gather feedback from the test group and make conclusions to improve supporting our new outgoing students. All outgoing students of the spring semester 2022 will use the card and app to formalize their agreements before mobility.

2022 – Nominations

Spring – information meetings and online tutorials will be provided for all outgoing students. A test group for nominations will be established. EKA's International Office will test the opportunity to nominate students for exchange to partner universities and accept nominations from the partner universities within the Erasmus+ Dashboard. After this period is over, we will gather data for further analysis and conclusions on how to possibly improve tech support and improve user-friendly approach. This data will be forwarded to our National Agency.

Summer – all students who are going abroad during autumn semester will use the app and card to formalize the agreements before the mobility.

Autumn – the whole process for sending students abroad with an Erasmus+ program will be made via Erasmus Without Paper platforms. It includes sending nominations, formalizing agreements, notifying students etc.

Winter - test group will be made out of all the incoming Erasmus+ exchange students for testing out transcript of records via Erasmus+ platform. Data will again be collected, analysis will be made conclusions will be drawn.

2023 – Transcript of records

Every step before and after each student's mobility period will be carried out on EWP platforms. Students are using the European Student Card and Erasmus+ app to get information, receive notifications, formalize and sign agreements, participate in OLS tests and courses and get ECTS recognition through the card. Efficiency for everyone involved in using Erasmus+ dashboard for signing inter-institutional agreements, sending notifications to students, signing agreements and having a great overview of all the outgoing students and incoming students, will have risen.

Please explain how your institutions will implement and promote environmentally friendly practices in the context of the Erasmus+ programme.

Travelling:

If possible, members of the academy or incoming experts are always advised that they should use the environmentally friendly means of transport (trains, buses, boats etc). Unfortunately, due to Estonia's geographical situation, it is usually very time-consuming to travel to the Central and Western Europe without using air traffic, but luckily regional cooperation is also very active at EKA through several Nordic-Baltic networks where we take a leading role – CIRRUS, NBAA, KUNO, EDDA and DAMA.

Student awareness of environmentally friendly practices is high and EKA actively promotes these matters through our study programmes, but also in everyday activities by sorting waste, promoting cycling and providing space for bicycle parking – EKA has been promoted and awarded as "a friend of a bicyclist" by the Kalamaja district of the city of Tallinn - <https://www.facebook.com/Eestikunstiakadeemia/posts/2192735147424192/>. Our student dormitory situates in the centre of the city like EKA itself and is within a walking/biking distance from the academy, also easily reached by tram. Planning meetings with international community are held usually online and by avoiding air travel whenever possible.

Since 2018, all documents are exchanged online in EKA and we are completely paper-free, unless asked different by the law of our international counterparts. Digital signature is accepted and promoting in signing financial agreements and scans are accepted when exchanging documents with our European counterparts.

Please explain how you will promote civic engagement and active citizenship amongst your outgoing and incoming students before, after and during mobility.

EKA's mission states: "The Estonian Academy of Arts is the main educator and developer of the arts, design, architecture, art history, heritage and arts education professionals in Estonia; the promoter and introducer of visual culture and an important driver of the Estonian society. The teaching provided by EAA is modern and interdisciplinary, creative and exploratory." EKA also shares values of the United Nations sustainable development goals for the year 2030: "... is to ensure a healthy life and prosperity for everyone of all ages and an inclusive, quality education on an equal footing and to promote lifelong learning for all. To achieve gender equality and strengthen women's and girls' opportunities. To promote permanent, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. To establish a sturdy infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industry and innovation. To reduce disparities within and between countries. To make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, and adaptable