

## 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 Area<sup>1</sup> 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)

The University of Udine's Internationalization Strategy aims at integrating research, teaching and knowledge transfer into an international dimension in order to improve our University's visibility, attract new financial resources and form our students to face the emerging challenges of the globalized society and the labour market, even beyond national borders. Moreover, the University of Udine aims at strengthening the European identity of its students and at raising their awareness on pressing societal challenges particularly relevant for Southern European countries. To reach such an ambitious aim, we have been constantly establishing and developing regional, national and international networks and partnerships in the last decade. Recently, we participated to the 2020 European University Call (UNES project still under evaluation) and we applied to the KA107 call.

As far as education is concerned, the University of Udine is committed to promote a research-informed and work-based education across disciplines by pioneering a student-centred and challenge-driven teaching model, using modern pedagogical methods and tools (especially digital ones), and by supporting physical and virtual students' mobility, not only within the Erasmus framework, but also investing its own internal resources (i.e. extra-EU mobility, short study programs, thesis abroad). We strongly think that such an integrated teaching model will stimulate creativity of our students and will equip them with important cross-cutting skills, reinforcing their employability and entrepreneurship. On the other hand, long, as well as short, international experiences will strengthen their European identity and raise awareness on pressing societal challenges. The University of Udine will also promote the students' participation to intensive short term programs organized in Udine (incoming students) or at other partner universities across the globe (outgoing students). We will primarily stimulate cross-cutting activities/intensive courses, thus to support the acquisition of multidisciplinary skills.

In order to make a significant number of courses truly accessible for international and exchange students, we are committed to increase the number of Master's courses totally taught in English and to implement at least one semester in English in each of the other programs, taking into account their specificities.

Based on our previous experiences (i.e. Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees), we are also strongly committed to increase the actual number of joint learning programs (double/multiple degrees) and joint PhD courses offered at our University. These programs will include flexible and cross-disciplinary curricula, thus to give students freedom to choose courses according to their personal and professional projects. The courses will be subject to continuous monitoring aiming at enhancement of quality.

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<sup>1</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en)

We are also committed in fostering and promoting multilingualism in our teaching programs, research and administration. We will support our students with dedicated English language courses, allowing them to reach at least a B2 level, or even international certifications, before graduation. Moreover, we will further promote and support courses of other languages, such as Chinese and Arabic.

We will further develop our teaching offer in e-learning mode to enhance virtual mobility in specific courses, as also foreseen by the European University call, and to strengthen the acquisition of multidisciplinary skills among our students through dedicated online courses.

As international internships and traineeships, as well as theses abroad, have given excellent results in terms of enriching students' CVs and job perspectives, we will further favour the diffusion of these experiences at all level of studies, strengthening their quality and assuring the regularity of the students' careers. The development of a shared databases among our Departments on the companies/institutions for internships and traineeships abroad will be functional and a more effective for the use of the available financial resources and will increase this type of mobility among the students.

We strongly think that the mobility of teaching and administrative staff is also strategic not only for creating or consolidating teaching and research relationships, but also for acquiring new administrative and / or management skills as well as good practices to be implemented at our University. Besides the programs financed by the EU, we will further support the mobility of our staff through staff training short term exchanges, short periods of research abroad, visiting professor, etc.

The Erasmus program is the beginning of a transformational journey for our University. A journey towards a truly integrated transnational higher education model having at its core mobility, inclusiveness as well as innovation in education and in research. A journey to become a driving force in transforming our social, economic and professional environments as well as a source of support for building democratic, pluralist and inclusive societies.

In summary, the strategic added value for University of Udine to join the Erasmus program can be described as follows:

- the program will provide a structured and integrated framework allowing UNIUD to learn from best practices and expertise of partner Universities;
- the program will increase the overall mobility of our students and staff allowing the implementation and testing of new procedures (i.e. Erasmus without paper, the European Student Card);
- the program will strengthen synergies with external stakeholders through the sharing of the existing networks of partners.

La strategia di internazionalizzazione dell'Università degli Studi di Udine si propone di integrare ricerca, didattica e trasferimento tecnologico all'interno di una dimensione internazionale al fine di aumentare la visibilità dell'ateneo, attrarre nuove risorse finanziarie e formare studenti in grado di affrontare, al di là dei confini nazionali, le emergenti sfide di una società globalizzata e del mondo del lavoro.

Per raggiungere un obiettivo così ambizioso, l'Università ha costantemente stabilito e sviluppato partnership regionali, nazionali e internazionali.

Recentemente inoltre, ha partecipato alla call "European Universities 2020" (il progetto UNES attualmente è ancora in fase di valutazione) e alle call "Erasmus KA107", vincendone una.

Per quanto riguarda l'educazione, l'Università di Udine è impegnata nella promozione di un'educazione collegata alla ricerca e alla pratica multi-disciplinare attraverso un modello educativo pionieristico sfidante e incentrato sullo studente, attraverso l'utilizzo di metodi e strumenti moderni e pedagogici (specialmente quelli digitali) e supportando la mobilità fisica e virtuale degli studenti, non solo nell'ambito Erasmus ma anche grazie all'investimento di risorse interne (ad esempio, mobilità extra Europea, programmi di studio brevi, tesi all'estero).

Crediamo fermamente che un modello di insegnamento così integrato stimolerà la creatività dei nostri studenti e li doterà di abilità trasversali, rinforzando il loro grado di occupabilità e la loro capacità imprenditoriale. Dall'altro lato, le esperienze internazionali di lunga e corta durata rinforzeranno l'identità Europea degli studenti e aumenteranno la loro consapevolezza relativa alle sfide sociali.

L'Università di Udine promuoverà anche la partecipazione degli studenti a programmi di breve durata organizzati a Udine (studenti in mobilità incoming) o presso altre università estere (studenti in mobilità outgoing). Verranno soprattutto incentivati corsi che prevedano attività trasversali e intensive per facilitare l'acquisizione di competenze multidisciplinari.

Per rendere un numero significativo di corsi veramente accessibile agli studenti internazionali e in exchange, l'ateneo si sta impegnando ad aumentare il numero di corsi di laurea magistrali erogati completamente in lingua inglese e a rendere effettivo almeno un semestre erogato in lingua inglese negli altri corsi di studio.

Sulla base delle precedenti esperienze (Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees), l'ateneo si sta anche impegnando ad aumentare il numero attuale dei corsi di studio congiunti ( doppi titoli o multipli) e dei corsi di dottorato congiunti offerti. Questi corsi di studio includeranno curricula interdisciplinari per poter dare agli studenti la libertà di scegliere i corsi in accordo con i loro progetti personali e professionali. I corsi saranno soggetti a un continuo monitoraggio allo scopo di migliorarne la qualità.

L'Università è anche impegnata nel favorire e nel promuovere il multilinguismo nei programmi didattici, di ricerca e amministrativi. Inoltre, supporterà gli studenti attraverso corsi dedicati in lingua inglese che permettano loro di raggiungere almeno il livello B2 in lingua inglese o le certificazioni internazionali prima della laurea. Inoltre, promuoverà corsi di altre lingue come il cinese e l'arabo.

L'Ateneo svilupperà ulteriormente l'offerta in modalità e-learning per aumentare la mobilità virtuale (prevista anche dalla call "European Universities") e rinforzare l'acquisizione di abilità multidisciplinari per gli studenti attraverso corsi online dedicati.

Dal momento che i tirocini, così come le tesi all'estero, hanno portato a risultati eccellenti dal punto di vista dell'arricchimento dei CV degli studenti e delle prospettive di lavoro, l'Università favorirà ulteriormente la diffusione di queste esperienze a tutti i livelli di studio, rafforzando la loro qualità ed assicurando la stabilità delle carriere degli studenti.

Lo sviluppo di database condivisi tra i dipartimenti sulle aziende/istituzioni che offrono tirocini all'estero sarà funzionale e più efficace per l'utilizzo delle risorse finanziarie disponibili e aumenterà questa tipologia di mobilità tra gli studenti.

L'Ateneo pensa che la mobilità dei docenti e dello staff amministrativo sia strategica, non solo per la creazione e il consolidamento di rapporti di ricerca e insegnamento, ma anche per l'acquisizione di nuove competenze amministrative e/o manageriali, così come di buone pratiche. Oltre ai programmi finanziati dall'UE, l'Università supporterà ulteriormente la mobilità dello staff attraverso scambi di breve periodo, periodi brevi di ricerca all'estero, programmi per visiting professors, ecc.

Il programma Erasmus è un viaggio di trasformazione dell'Università. Un viaggio verso un reale modello integrato di educazione universitaria che ha al suo centro la mobilità, l'inclusività, l'innovazione dell'educazione e della ricerca. Un viaggio che permette all'Università di diventare una forza-guida nella trasformazione delle realtà sociali, economiche e professionali così come di diventare una fonte in grado di costruire società democratiche, pluraliste e inclusive.

Riassumendo, il valore aggiunto e strategico dato dal programma Erasmus all'Università di Udine può essere descritto come segue:

- il programma costituirà un quadro strutturato e integrato che permetterà a UNIUD di imparare dalle best practices delle università partner
- il programma aumenterà la mobilità globale dei nostri studenti e del nostro staff permettendo l'implementazione e il controllo di nuove procedure (Erasmus without papers, European Student Card)
- il programma rinforzerà sinergie con gli stakeholders esterni attraverso la condivisione delle attuali rete di partner.

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.

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

The overall internationalization strategy of the University of Udine is coordinated by the managing body of the University with the Vice-Rector for internationalization, a professor who is appointed directly by the Rector. The programs and the specific actions related to internationalization and student and staff mobility are implemented by the International Office. A Commission for Internationalization made up of representatives of each Department has been established to promote and coordinate all the aspects related to the enhancement of the student and staff mobility and to improve the development of double, multiple and joint degrees.

Each Department adopts specific approaches and actions to reach the objectives set by the university general strategy for internationalization. This gives to the Departments the possibility and opportunity to select the partners best complementing their curricula in terms of quality of teaching, services (libraries, laboratories, contact with local companies, etc.) and opportunities for students and staff.

The implementation of the Erasmus actions will be done in strong collaboration with our regional and institutional partners as well as the Ministry of Higher Education. The existing links with our migrant communities (Fogolâr Furlan) existing in all the continents will be strengthened thus to facilitate and support relationships with foreign institutions, useful for solid academic exchanges. Moreover, if our application to the call for European Universities (UNES project) would be funded, we would foresee an increase in the level of internationalization and in the number of actions aimed at increasing physical and virtual mobilities as well as our research and technology transfer activities.

The participation to the Erasmus actions will represent an important added value in terms of attractiveness for a medium-sized university, such as our institution. It will increase the offer of joined and structured activities with a group of European universities by developing innovative study concepts in our curricula and by taking advantage of the partners' experiences. This will also create a suitable "substrate" to attract those students who leave their country of origin to train completely abroad ("international students"). Finally, an increase of the physical and virtual mobility will represent a great opportunity to form open-minded students and the European citizens of the future and more strengthen international relations with well-established partners may also contribute to the socio-economic and cultural development of our region.

La strategia globale di internazionalizzazione dell'Università di Udine è coordinata dagli organi di governo dell'Università grazie al Delegato all'internazionalizzazione che si relaziona direttamente con il Rettore. I programmi e le azioni specifiche legate all'internazionalizzazione e alla mobilità di studenti e staff sono implementati dall'Ufficio Internazionale. È stata istituita una Commissione per l'Internazionalizzazione costituita da rappresentanti di ogni Dipartimento per promuovere e coordinare tutti gli aspetti relativi al miglioramento della mobilità di studenti e staff e per accrescere lo sviluppo di doppi titoli o titoli multipli e congiunti.

Ogni Dipartimento adotta specifici approcci e azioni per raggiungere gli obiettivi stabiliti dalla strategia generale di internazionalizzazione dell'Università. Ciò dà ai Dipartimenti la possibilità e l'opportunità di selezionare partner che integrano nel miglior modo i loro curricula in termini di qualità dell'insegnamento, servizi (biblioteche, laboratori, contatti con le aziende locali, ecc.) e di opportunità per gli studenti e lo staff.

L'implementazione delle azioni Erasmus sarà effettuata attraverso una forte collaborazione con i partner regionali e istituzionali, così come con il Ministero dell'Educazione, dell'Università e della Ricerca. Gli attuali collegamenti con le nostre comunità di emigrati (*Fogolâr Furlan*), presenti in tutti i continenti, saranno rafforzati per facilitare e supportare i rapporti con le istituzioni straniere al fine di creare scambi accademici solidi. Inoltre, se la nostra application per la call "European Universities (progetto UNES) sarà finanziata, prevediamo un incremento del livello di internazionalizzazione e del numero di azioni volte all'aumento delle mobilità reali e virtuali così come delle attività di ricerca e di trasferimento tecnologico.

La partecipazione all'azione Erasmus rappresenterà un importante valore aggiunto in termini di attrattività per un'università di media grandezza come il nostro ateneo. Aumenterà l'offerta di attività strutturate e congiunte con altre università europee, sviluppando modalità di studio innovativo nei nostri curricula grazie alle esperienze dei partner. Questo creerà anche un "substrato" ideale per attrarre quegli studenti che lasciano il loro Paese di origine per studiare all'estero ("studenti internazionali"). Infine, l'aumento della mobilità fisica e virtuale, rappresenterà una grandiosa opportunità per formare studenti con una mentalità aperta, cittadini Europei del futuro e per rafforzare le già consolidate relazioni internazionali con i partner, contribuendo anche allo sviluppo socio-economico e culturale della nostra regione.

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)

The University of Udine has a total student population of 15.658 students (1st cycle: 12.205; 2nd cycle: 3.206; 3rd cycle: 247). The actual annual mobility rate in the bachelor and master programs (i.e. outgoing students: total student) has increased from 2.43% in 2013/2014 to 3.30% in 2018/2019 (+7.2% year-1).

According to our strategy for internationalization, we estimate that our student mobility rate will continue to increase with an average annual rate of +10% year-1, reaching a final target values of 4.9% by 2025. On the other hand, the actual ratio between outgoing and incoming students is 37%: our target is to increase such a ratio up to 80% in 2025.

In order to achieve such ambitious targets, our strategy for internationalization will support both physical and virtual mobility through the classical long-term mobility, short-term study programs, workshops, dissemination events and open online courses and will take actions in order to remove structural barriers and eliminate administrative hurdles to physical movement of students (section 2.2). We will also pilot short-term programs, which will encourage further mobility and which can be particularly suitable for apprentices/trainees and life-long learners. Moreover, we will support PhD students' and young researchers' mobility.

The number of double/joint study programs (bachelor and master) at University of Udine was 14 in 2019/2020. Through the participation in the Erasmus program and to the call for European Universities, we foresee to have at least 18 double/joint degrees in 2025 (+29%).

The total number of single teaching activities held in English is actually 160 (7.7% of the total). We aim to increase such a number by 30% in 2025.

Staff mobility rate is actually low (1.0%). Thus, we will promote both physical and virtual mobility of staff (researchers, professors and administrative staff) especially within the UNES alliance, taking advantage its strategy and by adopting a set of incentives, such as financial allowances and/or recognition of the mobility in the evaluation processes. Short term intensive programs for teaching and administrative staff will be also implemented. Our final target for 2025 is to reach a staff mobility rate of around 3.0%.

Il numero totale di studenti dell'Università di Udine è di 15.658 (1° ciclo: 12.205; 2° ciclo: 3.206; 3° ciclo: 247). L'attuale tasso annuale di mobilità a livello di corsi di studio triennali e magistrali (studenti in mobilità outgoing/totale degli studenti) è aumentato dal 2,43% dell'anno accademico 2013/14 al 3,30% dell'anno accademico 2018/19 (+ 7,2%).

In base alla nostra strategia di internazionalizzazione, stimiamo che il nostro tasso relativo alla mobilità degli studenti continuerà ad aumentare del 10% all'anno, raggiungendo un obiettivo finale di 4,9% nel 2025. Dall'altro lato, il rapporto attuale tra studenti outgoing e incoming è 37%: il nostro obiettivo è di aumentare tale rapporto fino all'80% nel 2025.

Per raggiungere questo ambizioso obiettivo, la nostra strategia di internazionalizzazione supporterà sia la mobilità fisica che reale attraverso la classica mobilità a lungo termini, programmi intensivi di breve durata, workshops, divulgazione di eventi e corsi online aperti e attuerà delle azioni in grado di rimuovere le barriere strutturali e eliminare gli ostacoli amministrativi: ciò potrà incoraggiare ulteriormente la mobilità e sarà particolarmente adatto

per i tirocinanti e per i life-long learners. Inoltre, supporterà la mobilità dei dottorandi e dei giovani ricercatori.

Il numero dei programmi di doppio titolo e titolo congiunto (triennali e magistrali) all'Università di Udine era di 14 nell'anno accademico 2019/20. Attraverso la partecipazione al programma Erasmus e alla call European Universities, prevediamo che avremo almeno 18 doppi titoli e titoli congiunti nel 2025 (+29%).

Il numero totale degli insegnamenti erogati in lingua inglese sono attualmente 160 (che corrispondono al 7,7% del totale). Ci prefiggiamo di incrementarli fino al 30% entro il 2025. Il tasso di mobilità dello staff è attualmente basso (1%). Perciò promuoveremo sia la mobilità fisica che virtuale dello staff (docenti, ricercatori e personale amministrativo) specialmente all'interno dell'alleanza UNES, approfittando della sua strategia e adottando una serie di incentivi come diarie e il riconoscimento dei periodi di mobilità nei processi di valutazione. Saranno implementati anche programmi intensivi di breve periodo per lo staff docente e amministrativo. Il nostro obiettivo finale è quello di raggiungere un tasso di mobilità dello staff dell'3%.

## 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 nondiscrimination, 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.

Higher education institutions must provide an environment conducive to the inclusion of all students, and therefore are responsible for creating opportunities regardless of student familial and cultural background, economic resources, and/or physical challenges, preventing also discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation and ethnic origin. University of Udine has an Equity and Diversity Advisory Service providing information and advice on disability issues and supporting those with, for example, sensory or mobility impairments, long-term health conditions, specific learning difficulties, autistic spectrum conditions or mental health difficulties. Facebook groups, where advising and supporting one another and discussing disability-related topics in a welcoming and confidential space, have been created and promoted among the students.

To further promote the inclusion of all students and the access to our mobility programs, we have integrated the existing Erasmus scholarships with an additional allowance related to the economic situation of each single student.

Orientation days for incoming students are organised by either our Departments or our International Office, Italian language and culture courses are available for all international and exchange students and we have implemented tutoring and buddy systems for national, international and exchange students as well as a supporting service to help them in finding accommodation when in Udine. Incoming students are also supported by students' associations (e.g. Erasmus Student Network - Udine, Aegee - Udine, LGTB association Iris).

The University of Udine has also put in place specific initiatives, such as seminars, workshop and a one-year Master program on inclusion of diversities, to enhance the sensitivity of the academic and local communities regarding inclusion.

The University also provides administrative support for teaching staff mobility by both the International Office and the Departments.

Finally, the University of Udine takes part in Scholars at Risk (SAR), an association aimed at fostering the promotion of academic freedom and protecting the fundamental rights of scholars across the world. In this context, University of Udine has welcomed refugees, who were eager to study in Udine, giving them some financial support and/or benefits related to admission requirements, tuition fees, accommodation and canteen services.

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 website<sup>2</sup>.

As described in detail below (section 2.2), all the procedure related to the students' mobility (i.e. from Learning Agreement set up/approval to the final recognition of academic results) has been fully implemented online in our management software (Esse3, © CINECA, Italy). This will allow us to join the EU platform supporting the Erasmus without paper and the European Student Card initiative in the foreseen timeline. In fact, CINECA is supporting several Italian universities in their digitalization effort and is discussing the integration of its platform at European level.

Since long time, enrolled or in mobility students at University of Udine are equipped with a smart card, an identity card useful to participate to exams, access to canteens and to other university service such as libraries, psychology services, discounts on public transport.

Moreover, the smart card allows students to obtain benefits to live as well as they can in the city: discounts or free tickets to theatres, museums, cinemas, fairs, etc.

According to the European Student Card initiative, the University of Udine would like to increase the possibilities offered by its student card to speed up and dematerialize its administrative processes and get them be easily available to its students.

To implement the European Student Card, the university has thought about this work plan:

- year 2020, deepen the knowledge of the European Student Card and of the Erasmus+ App to pinpoint their best harmonization with university mobility procedures and increase the possibilities offered by the current smart card, respecting the administrative digitalization. Moreover, the university will study European Student Card graphics and University of Udine Smart Card to obtain a unique card that identifies univocally the Erasmus student
- Year 2021, agreement with European partner HEIs about timetable implementation of the card.

Useful content creations and insertion on the card and on the Erasmus+ app. In particular, all administrative outgoing and incoming mobility information will be inserted. As far as concerns incoming mobility, extra contents about the city, the territory and the university will be inserted to allow students benefit of their mobility without problems.

- Year 2022, outgoing mobility nomination procedures and incoming acceptance procedures simplification.

Management of the information about students thank to the card;

Moreover, we think that the current Online Learning Agreement and the Recognition Outcomes procedure adopted by the University of Udine, will simplify the insertion of this two instruments in the Erasmus Student Card.

Starting from 2021, the university will introduce the European Student Card to students who have won an Erasmus mobility grant and will invite them to use the Erasmus App to let them make use of all digital mobility information.

In the meantime, the university will organize information meetings oriented to all stakeholders: the main card functions and functioning and the Erasmus app will be presented to Erasmus Coordinators Professors, to the Erasmus Department Coordinators and all the administratives involved in the didactics.

The information will be shared also with the Regional Agency for the Study Right (ARDISS) which works together with the University in the smart card management. The University will

work also together with local and international Student Associations (e.g. ESN, Aegee) that will help with the dissemination of Erasmus Student Card information.

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

The University of Udine is strongly committed to environmental sustainability. The Delegate of the Rector for Sustainability coordinates all the activities aimed to reduce the university's impacts on the environment and to promote the reaching of the Sustainable Development Goals, adopted by UN in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda, by spreading sustainability culture and good practices both within e and outside our academic body. The University of Udine is a founding member of the Italian University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS) is the first experience of coordination and sharing between all Italian universities committed to the topic of environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

In 2019, our university entered the GreenMetric World University Ranking, which takes into account universities' green actions and policies, with particular focus on climate change, water and energy waste, recycling, and transport sustainability, and reached position 22 in Italy and 380 in the World. In 2019, the University of Udine hosted the annual meeting of the Italian Rectors' Conference on the topic "Universities for sustainability".

The University of Udine has implemented or will implement several activities related to sustainability, such as:

- reduction in the use of plastic. Water dispensers have been positioned next to cafeterias, canteen, coffee vending machines and study rooms in order to reduce the use of plastic bottles. No plastic plates, cutlery and glasses are used in university canteens;
- reduction of food waste and food footprint. At university canteens, everyone can personally choose the amount of food he/she wants to eat. The canteen service chooses low impact, local, organic and seasonable products and increases constantly vegetarian food options in the daily menu. Common rooms are also available for students and staff for eating their homemade food;
- reduction in the use of paper. The University of Udine has been investing in digital communication and e-learning activities in the past years (UNIUD App, Microsoft Teams, E-Learning, Moodle digital solutions and Social media) thus to reduce printing and paper use by student and staff. Thesis are also uploaded on online platforms as well as all the didactic material for students;
- reuse and recycling. Recycling bins for paper, plastic and bottle taps have been placed at all administrative office, classroom, lecture hall, corridor, common gathering areas. This way, any leftover materials are either reduced, reused or recycled. The University of Udine has been managing a "Reuse Web Portal" that is a system with which our University divests free of charge equipment and functional assets to other public bodies, schools and non-profit organizations.
- reduction of carbon footprint by promoting cycling and public transportation. The city of Udine offers a bicycle sharing system; all university buildings are connected to the railway station through public buses. The University of Udine will promote a sustainable physical mobility of our students by compensating their travel CO2 emissions through a set of selected suitable compensation projects and recognized international standards for CO2 compensation.
- renewable energies. Photo-voltaic modules have been placed on the roofs of most of the university's buildings. We will complete this installation on the remaining buildings;
- sustainable food. The "University Gardens" project provides for the assignment of lots every year, by means of a call, to the teaching and technical administrative staff and students of the University of Udine.



- raising awareness on environmental issues among incoming and outgoing students by promoting specific online interdisciplinary courses.

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

The University of Udine involves its academic members in a number of activities that comply with the principles of solidarity, inclusion, participation and social utility in several fields. Foreign students are involved by their student associations in informal events with local population aimed at strengthen mutual language and cultural skills (Aperi-LINGUE; twice per month). Students are also involved in the annual event “Conoscenza in festa” (Party of knowledge) during which science is brought at the attention of the citizens. Student associations organize sightseeing tour inside and outside the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region to introduce exchange students to the historical, artistic and cultural heritage of our region as well as to the beauty of our territory and landscapes.

Transmission of European culture will be also pursued through online modules on European history, culture and current issues in European integration. These courses, which aim at strengthening European identity and at raising awareness on pressing societal challenges, will focus on topics and case studies particularly relevant for Southern European countries and will involve the use, when possible, of several languages. European Identity values will also promoted thanks to the activities of projects such as the one financed under the Jean Monnet Programme “We, the People of the United Europe: Reflections on the European State of Mind (2019-2021).

## 2.2 When participating in Mobility Activities - After mobility

Please demonstrate your commitment to implement full automatic recognition in your Higher Education Institution.

Please describe the concrete steps you will take to ensure the full automatic recognition of all credits gained for learning outcomes achieved during a mobility period abroad/ a blended mobility, according to the Council Recommendation on Automatic Mutual Recognition<sup>3</sup>.

Enrolments, student curricula details, exams, subscriptions, these are but a few of the procedures available on-line, facilitating user-friendly accessibility, reducing bureaucracy and enhancing transparency.

Our University’s Senate has adopted new guidelines for international student mobility in 2017. All the procedure related to the students’ mobility (i.e. from Learning Agreement set up/approval to the final recognition of academic results) has been fully implemented online in our management software (Esse3, © CINECA, Italy) and each student is tracked by the system during his/her mobility.

Students are supported by teaching staff for the completion of the Learning Agreement and cannot leave without a Learning Agreement that has been officially approved by the Delegate for the Students’ Mobility of the Degree Course. The ECTS system is fully integrated in our online Learning Agreements as a tool for the recognition of the activities abroad. All relevant documents related to the mobility (i.e. signed Learning Agreement, signed Changes to the Learning Agreement, Transcript of Records) are uploaded on the online platform and are visible to the student, to the administrative offices and to the Delegate for the Students’ Mobility of the Degree Course. The recognition of outcomes is also finalized online through a specific module implemented by CINECA. The rules allowing for a full automatic recognition of all outcomes reported in the approved Learning Agreement and achieved by each student during his/her mobility have been established in our guidelines for international student mobility. The person in charge of this recognition is the Delegate for the Students’ Mobility of the Degree Course.

Incoming students benefit from the same transparent recognition system. They are registered in our management software and can access online their academic curricula. We have a 1:1 relation between the Italian credit grading scale and the ECTS grading system. Transcripts of

Records are provided to the student and to the partner institution with all the relevant information for a rapid evaluation of the exams. Tables for the conversion of the grades are available online and are revised every two years.

Please describe your institution's measures to support, promote and recognise staff mobility:

Staff mobility rate is actually low (1.0%). Thus, we will promote both physical and virtual mobility of staff (researchers, professors and administrative staff) especially within the UNES alliance, taking advantage its strategy and by adopting a set of incentives, such as financial allowances and/or recognition of the mobility in the evaluation processes. Short term intensive programs for teaching and administrative staff will be also implemented.

In general, the University of Udine will promote staff mobility organizing specific meetings to explain the possibilities offered by Erasmus programme and the rules and principles of the mobility. Specific mobility call for academic staff applications will be organized under the International Mobility Committee monitoring.

Since many years, a specific administrative service has been implemented to inform academic and administrative staff about Erasmus Staff Mobility and to support them with the administrative rules of the programme. Obviously, this service is going to continue its activity also during the new Erasmus programme.

### 2.3 For the Purposes of Visibility

Please provide the web link where you will host the Erasmus Policy statement in the future. Please reflect on how you plan to regularly promote the activities supported by the Programme.

The Erasmus Policy Statement will be published in Italian and English on the University International Activities web page (<https://www.uniud.it/it/international-area> e [https://www.uniud.it/en/uniud-international?set\\_language=en](https://www.uniud.it/en/uniud-international?set_language=en)), thanks to a specific highlighted banner. This will allow an easily fruition of the contents and principles that liven up University of Udine's International activities and policies.

The activities supported by Erasmus Programme will be regularly advertised through both off and on-line institutional media and direct activities that will involve direct and indirect stakeholders.

In detail, information, procedures, Study and Traineeship Mobility Call for Application will be advertised through a single-programme specific web page and through both e-mail and social media. Moreover, Erasmus Mobility calls for application will be published on the official digital notice board of the University.

The University will use also more attractive communications models: Facebook or Instagram notices about Erasmus Mobility call for application, communication campaigns with video, pictures and text that will promote benefits and makings of Erasmus Programme.

Moreover, the University will organize individual or in-group informative meetings with students and teaching staff to show Erasmus Programme and its possibilities. Particularly, various stakeholder meeting and specific events will be organized: e.g. the "Aperinternational Day", a social event during which students could ask for information about mobility programmes, know Erasmus Student Ambassadors, know International Mobility Student Association Activities such as ESN or AEGEE activities.

The University of Udine organizes also informative meetings with Erasmus Mobility beneficiaries. These meetings aim to publicize specific information on Erasmus rules and procedures and allow beneficiaries to have administrative support.

Please describe how you will ensure that the principles of this Charter will be well communicated and applied by staff at all levels of the institution.

The principles of the Charter will be communicated taking into consideration off and on-line media.

As far as concerns off line communication, some meetings and activities will be organized:

- the government bodies of the university will be advised about the result of this Erasmus Charter Application. This will be a new opportunity to share the principles of the Charter again and to start an up-to-bottom communication process
- a meeting on the Erasmus Charter Principles will be organized also with Department Directors, Erasmus Department Coordinators and Erasmus Agreement Coordinators in order to let them deepen the principles and organize their application also sharing the information with all the department professors
- a meeting will be organized with administrative in charge of Erasmus daily-life didactic procedures to help them with the application of Erasmus Charter principles
- a general meeting will be organized with all the university community to let all be informed and aware about the Internationalization Strategy of the university, the European programme and the Erasmus Charter principles.

Moreover, our internal Guidelines for international mobility will be updated taking into consideration the new internalization strategy and the Charter principles.

As far as concerns on-line communication, the principles of the charter will be reported on the university website.

The Vice-Rector for internationalization and the Commission for International mobility, jointly with the International Office will be in charge of the communication activities and the monitoring of the application of the Erasmus Charter principles at all levels and to take all the needed actions to correct any non-compliant behaviour.