

Erasmus+ program

Information on the history, focus and objectives of Erasmus+



1.

HISTORY



E. Rotterdamský
Autor: Hans Holbein Jr.

- The Erasmus programme was established in 1987 as an exchange programme for university students.
- The name itself is an abbreviation of *European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students* (European Regional Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students) and also the name of the famous Dutch humanist and Renaissance thinker **Erasmus of Rotterdam** (full name Desiderius Erasmus von Rotterdam, 1469 - 1536), who travelled across Europe in his thirst for knowledge and understanding and emphasised the benefits of learning about other cultures.

1.

HISTORY



Sofia Corradi

- The "mother" of the Erasmus programme is considered to be *Sofia Corradi*, professor of educational sciences, who convinced the rectors of European universities to create such a programme and was convinced of its significant benefits from the very beginning.

1.

HISTORY

- In the first year of the programme (1987), 3244 students from 11 countries -- Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the UK - took part in Erasmus mobility.
- *Slovak students* participated in the Erasmus+ programme for the first time in **1998**.
- In the first 30 years of Erasmus, more than 15 million people have taken part in mobility (source: Erasmus Annual Report 2023).

2.

WHAT ERASMUS+ IS (goals and benefits)

- In 2014, several EU programmes were merged into one to form Erasmus+, which supports activities in the fields of education, training, youth and sport in the 2014-2020 programming period to strengthen skills, employability and the modernisation of education, training and youth work
- Program of an existing free movement scheme between EU member countries.
- Erasmus+ is built on enjoying the benefits
- In addition to the opportunity to gain new knowledge, the exchange enriches the participants with the opportunity to acquire skills that can only be acquired through the experience of living abroad.
- Erasmus+ promotes social inclusion, intercultural understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination, **the development of European values and belonging to a European community.**

2.

WHAT ERASMUS+ IS (goals and benefits)

- Erasmus+ also contributes to a **greener, more equal** and **fairer society**, in line with the goals of the 2030 Agenda United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (end of poverty, tackling inequality and combating climate change).
- Erasmus+ funds innovative projects that reduce consumption and promote affordable and clean energy, such as ESSENCE (European Sustainable Solutions for Existing and New Urban Environments).
- Erasmus+ is **open to all** who wish to participate, i.e. regardless of their economic situation, social status, geographical distance or health and/or disability (***participants with disabilities have the possibility to apply for a special grant and increase their monthly grant***).



3.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED in the Erasmus+?

- If you are interested in participating in Erasmus+ mobility, just respond to the published **call** (usually once a year in March) by sending your application to the faculty Erasmus+ coordinator.
- You have the option of **study mobility** (studying at our partner university abroad) or an **internship** (at our partner university or another host organisation).
- Detailed information can be found in the tutorial (= exact instructions on how to proceed) at: <https://erasmus.tuke.sk/eu/zakladne--info/>
- You can take part in mobility at any level of your studies (bachelor, master, PhD).
- You can spend up to 12 months on mobility at each study cycle.

4.

ERASMUS+ STUDY

- You can spend one or two semesters at a **foreign university** as part of an Erasmus+ study mobility.
- You can ***choose a foreign university from the list of TUKE partner universities***, which you can find here: <https://erasmus.tuke.sk/eu/partnerske--institucie/>
- Your faculty coordinator will advise you on choosing a suitable university. A list of faculty coordinators at TUKE can be found here: <https://erasmus.tuke.sk/eu/kontakty/>.

5.

ERASMUS+ TRAINEESHIP

- Erasmus+ is more closely linked to the labour market than previous programmes, contributing to the achievability of economic growth.
- The Erasmus+ programme enables students to **undertake traineeships in companies and organisations abroad**, preparing them for a smoother entry into the labour market.

You can choose your host institution

- from the list of TUKE partner universities
<https://erasmus.tuke.sk/eu/partnerske--institucie/>.
- or from the list of institutions cooperating with the Erasmus+ programme in the field of traineeships, which you can find here:
<https://erasmusintern.org/>
- or you can approach another foreign company/organisation of your choice (excluding EU institutions, EU bodies and EU agencies)
- Your faculty coordinator will advise you on choosing a suitable admissions institution. A list of faculty coordinators at TUKE can be found here: <https://erasmus.tuke.sk/eu/kontakty/>.

5.

ERASMUS+ TRAINEESHIP (also for graduates)

The Erasmus+ programme also allows **future graduates to benefit from Erasmus+ traineeships.**

Future graduates must submit their application in the regular **call published in the last year of their studies** (in March).

5.

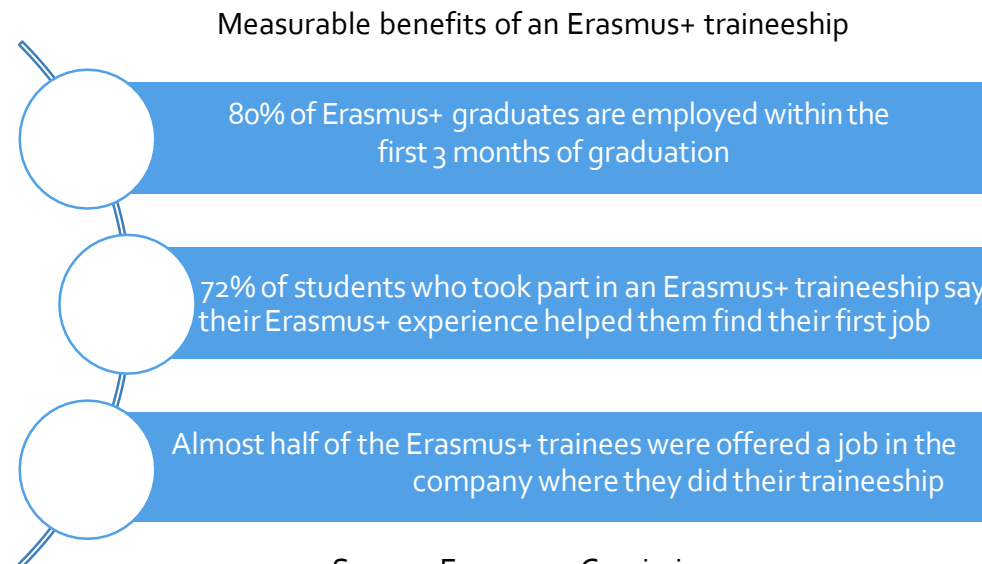
ERASMUS+ TRAINEESHIP (also for graduates)

- During traineeships, students (and graduates) have the opportunity to **try out the atmosphere of a real work** experience and gain a lot of new **practical experience** that will be useful for them in their career.
- They will also **gain contacts**, get to know the way of working in other countries, get to know what they really want to do at work and last but not least, **increase their chances of finding a great job.**

5.

ERASMUS+ TRAINEESHIP (also for graduates)

- According to statistics, students who participated in mobility **are twice as likely to find a job within a year after graduation** compared to students who did not experience mobility during their studies.



Source: European Commission, 2019

6.

ERASMUS+ during COVID-19

- Naturally, the COVID--19 pandemic also affected Erasmus+ mobility.
- Participants in the summer semester 2019/2020 for the first time as a result of the pandemic experienced mixed mobility, i.e. a mix of physical and virtual mobility. Part of the mobility was carried out face-to-face at foreign universities (in the case of the traineeship, face-to-face at companies abroad) and part was carried out online.
- The European Commission responded swiftly and allowed students who were on Erasmus+ mobility abroad during the pandemic outbreak to keep their full grant even if they returned home early from the physical mobility and provided that they have successfully completed the online mobility.
- Students who were repatriated to the Slovak Republic and had to undergo a stay in a state quarantine facility were reimbursed for the related costs.

7.

Are you interested in Erasmus+?

- If you are interested in the Erasmus+ programme and want to apply for mobility, **please read carefully our Erasmus+ tutorial** (you can find it here: <https://erasmus.tuke.sk/eu/zakladne--info/>) and follow it.

