

## ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

The University of Bari Aldo Moro considers internationalization a strategic activity to pursue aims of community, national and regional relevance, common to all its institutional functions, essential for the growth of the European community competitiveness and for the increase in value of human capital. It must be pursued in a firm and far-sighted way and supported by adequate resources and structures.

The statute of the University of Bari (D.R. 2959 of 14<sup>th</sup> June 2012), Article 12 – Internationalization and European frame of research and education – says:

'''

1. The University recognizes its appurtenance to the European frame of research and higher education and picks up its principles and instruments.
2. Particularly, the University:
  - promotes collaboration with Universities and foreign and Italian research Institutes and joins international networks and pools;
  - supports international mobility of all its members and takes part in programs that strengthen the relationships between students and teachers of different countries;
  - prefers the international characterization of its courses of studies and, for this purpose the University: promotes student mobility, ensuring the admission of international formative experiences in observance of the reference rules; promotes courses for the learning of a second language; tries to simplify procedures, together with the institutional and competent authorities, to allow students and scholars from everywhere to attend its educational programs; promotes support to not Italian students; promotes courses of studies in cooperation with foreign Universities for getting joint or multiple degrees, the revision of formative curricula in line with foreign Universities; strengthens the linguistic competence of its staff; takes adequate measures to enhance the international spread of its educational activities.

'''

As regards its partners and the geographic area of reference, the University of Bari intends:

- to increase the number and quality of inter-institutional agreements within the frame of the new European Programme 2014-2020 and of international cooperation agreements, with all the institutions sharing didactic and research strategies and methodologies with it;
- to have an active role in the stabilization process of the Balkan area countries and in the implementation of the so-called "Salonicco Agenda", leading to the whole agreement of this area with the European Union;
- to take part in the Barcelona Process for the realization of a Euro-Mediterranean common area, enhancing the network of the already existing relationships thanks to CIRCEO (Interdepartmental Centre of Research and Cooperation with Eastern and South-Eastern Europe) and to CUM (Community of Mediterranean Universities);
- to promote new formative activities with Countries where there is a high presence of Apulia immigrants (Argentina, South America, North America, Australia), within the frame of already existing or to start relationships.

The University of Bari intends to strengthen and promote initiatives helping the increase in International mobility by

- supporting the acquisition of linguistic competence for outgoing and incoming students and teachers, through specific language courses;
- improving the support (both economic and logistic) for outgoing and incoming students and teachers,
- supporting research internationalization, through financial support of journeys and stays abroad for doctorate students and young researchers;
- identifying good practices to borrow in order to support mobility, through students, researchers and university staff mobility;
- involving all the university structures in the internationalization activities, promoting events to give information about already existing projects and through a web site allowing a constant interactive communication;
- supporting an international learning framework, setting up teaching and/or research contracts with European and non-European scholars and researchers, and with Italian people working abroad also thanks to external financial support;
- starting up short courses for students coming from different countries about frontier subject-matters;
- supporting the presence of students and researchers from different ethnic groups in University residences and study and research groups.

The University of Bari intends to help the development of joint or multiple degrees, of every kind and at every level, with foreign institutions, planning and carrying out them by using all the available financing sources.

Erasmus activities have a fundamental role and a particular attention within the internationalization process of the University of Bari.

University staff mobility is supported because it is considered an incentive for cooperation potentialities and knowledge spread.

Student mobility is constantly increased, improving information and tutorship actions and drawing up new agreements that include intensive programs, new curricula development, cooperation with enterprises and stage.

Centralized information procedures guarantee a clear selection of outgoing students. Students are supported from a didactic, administrative and logistic point of view. They are given a supplement to the scholarship.

The Erasmus website of the University gives incoming students information in Italian and English language and gives the opportunity to fill in an online application. Students are supported in organizing the study period, finding university or private accommodation at fair prices. Extracurricular activities (excursions, journeys, parties) help integration. Students have access to the university canteens and information resources. There is a free language course, in both semesters.

University staff mobility is prepared and checked at a central level and includes the monitoring of students abroad. The University supports staff mobility with complementary financial support.

ECHE and EPS will be published on the web site of the University of Bari, within the information about the University didactic offer.

Mobility and cooperation are the central elements of the internationalization strategy of the University of Bari, which promotes and supports students, researchers and staff mobility, the development of joint courses, at every level, and the increase of cooperation with high education institutes and other strategic partners, such as enterprises, research institutions, regional and national authorities of near Countries, within the European frontiers, involving also non-European countries.

The University of Bari Aldo Moro believes that there is not a single excellence model, because every Institution has its own scheme for its mission and strategic priority.

Taking part in the program will enable:

- to improve the qualification level in order to prepare researchers and graduated people for the need of Europe, through a wider reference and outlet horizon and by conforming the study programs to the present and future needs of labour market;
- to improve the quality and value of higher education, attracting more and more students, including minorities and adults, giving them an adequate support to choose their studies, reducing the giving up of studies, helping work and entrepreneurial spirit, thus allowing the training and the introduction into the work market of graduated students and high level researchers;
- to improve professional, social and intercultural skills, to increase the number of working graduated students and researchers thanks to the increasing number of students studying or working abroad for a period, the mobility of researchers and staff and the increase in exchanges and international cooperation among institutions;
- to strengthen connections among University, research and enterprises, to support excellence and regional development, improving relationships between fundamental and applied research and shifting knowledge towards market in a more effective way, through the partnership and cooperation with enterprises, the strengthening of the structure for the shifting of knowledge and the improvement of the ability to promote the creation of innovative enterprises (academic start up and spin-off);
- to improve governance and funds by finding out private and public complementary financial support, identifying real costs and giving priority in expenses to specific elements with the support of outcomes evaluation systems.