

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

The overall strategy of the Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice adopted for the years 2014-2020 with relation to the Erasmus+ international exchange programme combines the basic assumptions of the current Academy policy in this area with generally outlined strategic priorities on the modernization agenda of higher education in Europe.

The main objectives of the Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice for the years 2014-2020 are:

- Increasing further the mobility of students, teaching and administrative staff;
- Improvement of curricula, teaching methods and work organization, continuously upgrading the skills of teaching and administrative staff;
- Opening up opportunities for international academic cooperation and the development of multicultural programs. Further intensification of cooperation in the implementation of joint projects, artistic events and study programs;
- Participation in international projects and research consortia, including the consortium bringing together public higher education institutions of Silesia region (Silesian Universities Network) and Silesian-Moravian region (Progres3).
- Extending the range of courses at the Academy and its promotion on the international market.

Specific areas of implementation of the above strategic objectives:

STRATEGY WITH RELATION TO MOBILITY:

A. Selection of partner institutions

Our strategy in the selection of partner institutions involves continuation of existing cooperation with the partners whose programs, teaching methods, structure, artistic, design and technology level stimulate an increase in the competences of students or teaching and administrative staff of the Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice, improving the quality of the curriculum and the competitiveness of our educational offer. Groups of partner institutions within the framework of existing and planned cooperation in the LLP-Erasmus programme have been selected, whose programme, quality of education and teaching methods were identified as particularly useful from the point of view of the strategic objectives of the Academy.

These groups are characterised below in the context of geographic location.

B. Countries and geographic regions

Four geographic regions of strategic importance can be distinguished:

- Western-European countries: the United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Italy, the Iberian Peninsula, some Balkan countries, with which the Academy intends to continue and develop its cooperation.
- Scandinavian countries, where universities and institutions with a rich tradition of art and design are located, with which the Academy plans to initiate or increase cooperation.
- Moravian-Silesian region countries that due to their geographical and cultural proximity are considered potential partners in research projects and other kinds of joint activity within the framework of international consortia.

- Eastern European and Asia Minor countries: Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova and Kazakhstan, for which contact with the Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice is a means of academic and artistic development, in which we are willing to provide full support.

C. objectives with relation to target groups

The Academy strategy for specific groups of beneficiaries of the Erasmus program involves:

- for teaching staff:
 - a continued improvement of professional skills and competencies achieved through a balanced exchange of teaching staff with partner institutions
 - continuous improvement and evaluation of teaching methods
 - enhancing international cooperation offer by introducing training trips
 - introducing new and innovative technologies in the practice of teaching
 - expanding artistic and professional horizons; assessment of one's qualifications with a view of the international market
 - establishing long-term inter-institutional and interpersonal relationships with foreign partners
 - international promotion of the Academy
- for students:
 - continuous improvement of competences achieved through the exchange of students in all modes of study with partner institutions
 - enabling two-cycle students to continue studying at a foreign university at MA level
 - expanding the range of courses through the establishment of doctoral studies (third-cycle) in the academic year 2013/2014
 - establishing long-term inter-institutional and interpersonal relationships with foreign partners
 - expanding artistic and professional horizons; assessment of one's qualifications with a view of the international market
 - broadening the offer of student internships abroad, particularly with regard to art student placements
 - enhancing the competitiveness of the Katowice Academy graduates on the labour market
- for administrative staff:
 - continued improvement of skills and competencies achieved through staff exchanges with partner institutions
 - constant development and assessment of organization methods.