

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT 2014-2020



INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY

THE CHOICE OF PARTNERS

Since its creation in 1989, the International School of Transport and Logistics of Lille (formerly the European Institute of Logistics of Lille) has been a member of the European Forum of Logistics Education (EFLE). Such a forum, which was created by French, Finnish and Belgian universities and which gathers around 30 higher education institutions, is aimed at internationalizing study programmes in logistics through the organization of thematic workshops (mobility for students and staff, best practices in blended learning, latest evolutions in technologies used in logistics, etc.), in-company visits and specialized conferences run by professionals and guest professors from the organizing universities. Due to its close proximity to North-Western European countries, the school has started developing paths of cooperation (organization of study trips with in-company visits for students and specialized conferences, staff exchanges on particular areas of expertise), essentially with Belgian and Dutch partner institutions which represent the largest part of the forum (about a third of its members).

The school has selected its partners on the basis of the following criteria :

- the similarities of curricula offered in the areas of multimodal transport and international logistical operations, which can guarantee a better quality of traineeship mobility (as the companies located in the areas of the respective universities concentrate on the same sectors of activity) and study mobility (as programmes are more easily converted into ECTS), thereby raising the attainment levels in the profession.
- their potentiality to link with small and medium-sized companies in the same industries as the ones corresponding to the competitiveness cluster of the “Nord-Pas-de-Calais” region (large-scale distribution, automotive industries, agro-business, mail-order businesses, transport equipments, steel manufacturing) in order to increase the levels of qualification in the industry and facilitate the exchanges of company experts and professors.
- their capacity to use e-learning platforms and education in new ICTs used in multimodal transport and international logistics companies (transport, warehousing and production management systems), thereby attuning curricula to current industry needs.
- their cooperation with labour market institutions (chamber of commerce for the school, local labour institutions and professional cluster for the Benelux-based partner universities), which permits them privileged locations on campuses, favorable to the development of mobility for studies as these regional hubs of excellence offer students’ residences and catering facilities.
- their capacity to offer students from lower income backgrounds and areas with high rates of unemployment mobility opportunities, thereby guaranteeing social cohesion.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

The choice of the geographical areas is determined on the basis of the parametres hereabove mentioned. The organization of mobility for traineeships and mobility for studies is facilitated by the close proximity and enables the student population not used to moving to internationalize their educational and professional backgrounds. The network of partner universities will be progressively extended in line with the regional hub of excellence strategy.

TARGETED POPULATION

Student mobility

Mobility for traineeships

Due to the professionalizing aspect of the two curricula, structured on six main activities, leading to professional competences evaluated through performance criteria and the close relationships with the transport and logistics

companies of the region, the school has essentially developed mobility for traineeships. Until now, 23 in-company placements have been organized (20 in the European Union and 3 outside).

The increasing needs of locally-based companies (in particular small and medium-sized companies) to internationalize their labour force will reinforce such a trend.

Professional mobility will be opened during semestres 4 and 6.

Mobility for studies

The study trips organized by the school in Europe will permit to develop summer schools with Benelux partner universities and then future academic mobility.

Mobility for studies will be opened during semestre 5 where most part of the modules are taught in English.

Staff mobility

On the basis of the previous conferences organized between our school and the partner universities, bilateral agreements will be signed for staff exchanges.

THE ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The close and long-standing partnerships with the schools and universities specializing in international logistics will give the possibility to prepare the ground for the organisation and implementation of pan-European projects, for example in the framework of structural networks. The main objective will be to encourage the company mentors to participate in the design and contents of curricula by bringing their professional and international expertise. The International School of Transport and Logistics of Lille has already initiated thematic conferences and participation of company mentors to the oral presentation of professional dissertations for their trainees. Such a cooperation could be generalized throughout the network of partner universities and companies, giving rise to a system of permanent updating of curricula, thereby increasing the relevance of our higher education. However, until now, no inter-institutional agreement has been signed as the school has been mainly involved in professional mobility and the degree programmes are structured on the basis of a work-linked training system implying in-company work periods and school attendance of a few weeks or days, except during the last years of the curricula.

THE IMPACT OF EITL LILLE PARTICIPATION IN ERASMUS PROGRAMME ON ITS MODERNISATION

PRIORITY 1 : INCREASING ATTAINMENT LEVELS

The participation in the ERASMUS programme will permit to :

. give underprivileged groups of students from an area hard hit by unemployment the possibility to gain access to higher education with an international experience through the development of mobility, thereby increasing their employability.

. ensure fair treatment to vulnerable groups of students by adapting the ERASMUS programme resources to their income levels and social status for the purpose of mobility for traineeships and mobility for studies.

. encourage mobility among female students who represent only a fourth of the student population.

PRIORITY 2 : IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND RELEVANCE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The participation in the ERASMUS programme will enable to :

. encourage further participation of company mentors and company experts in the updating of curricula through their contribution in courses in terms of practical experiences.

. diversify learning approaches through the use of e-learning in particular for languages (English, Dutch and German) and in-company computer softwares.

. continue monitoring former students career evolutions through the use of student management computer system to be able to use skill projections and update the curricula, thereby improving the relevance of the education.

PRIORITY 3 : STRENGTHENING QUALITY THROUGH MOBILITY

The participation in the ERASMUS programme will make it possible to :

. deepen learning mobility with the targeted partner universities and make it compulsory in the curricula which are in essence internationally-oriented (multimodal transport and international logistical operations).

. use ECTS and diploma supplements in a more effective way with the partner universities which offer the same kinds of specializations.

PRIORITY 4 : LINKING HIGHER EDUCATION AND BUSINESS FOR EXCELLENCE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The participation in the ERASMUS programme will :

. encourage deeper partnerships with companies in particular through mobility for traineeships.

. entrench the school more deeply in the local and regional development and identify it more clearly on the two regional hubs of excellence ("Parc Scientifique de la Haute Borne" and "Euralogistic") where it is located, as a prime contributor to innovation in logistics education.

PRIORITY 5 : IMPROVING GOVERNANCE AND FUNDING

As a key local player in the regional development, the International School of Transport and Logistics of Lille is partially funded by partner companies and the regional authorities.