



Ministero dell'istruzione
dell'università e della ricerca

Conservatorio di Musica "Giacomo Puccini"

Alta Formazione Artistica Musicale e Coreutica

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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^[1] 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 Giacomo Puccini Conservatoire of La Spezia has 189 students enrolled in the academic level and 58 professors: in this regard it is important to remember that music teaching needs a lot of individual lessons.

We always had a live international vocation and, besides Erasmus+, we have many other partnerships: we collaborate with China in the frame of Turandot project, and we are also partner of Hubei and Hangzhou universities. We signed an agreement with Truman University of Kirksville, Missouri, for joined project involving students and teachers, with fruitful results. Coming to Europe, we have established a partnership with the private Rubinstein Academy in Dusseldorf, and with Saint Petersburg State Conservatory. Moreover, since La Spezia and Bayreuth are twin cities, we collaborate with the Music School of the City and with the Hochschule für Evangelische Kirchenmusik. As a result of this openness our student population, aside of the obvious majority of Italian students, is a kaleidoscope of different nationalities, from Ukraine to Japan, from China to Turkey, from Korea to Germany.

The above mentioned relations are relevant as a part of our internationalisation strategy, in which they are intended as single and separated lines of cooperation towards different nations and continents. On the other hand, our participation in the Erasmus+ program reflects our strong intention to be an active part of a

sovrational system of multiple and interconnected relations with no borders, since we consider Europe as a great unique cultural area. Music is a formidable key in this perspective, being a common language over national languages: thanks to music we believe it will be easier for students and staff to acquire awareness of European citizenship.

These considerations lead directly to the main priorities of our international strategy, like inclusiveness and non-discrimination principles, as well as quality and modernisation of education. Moved by these purposes, in 2014 we become AEC members, joining the importance of networking institutions in order to strengthen the European dimension of education, share ideas and good practices. In the end, by participating to Erasmus+ program we aim to trigger a virtual circle of consequences: in order to comply with the Erasmus+ principles we need to be increasingly attentive to the quality of our activities, and to the modernisation of our education; on the other side, by means of our implementation of these principles we aim to give our contribution to the overall improvement of the European educational system.

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.

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During the 2014-2020 program we worked on the development of our partnerships and mobilities: in this period we passed from 3 to 18 partners and from 2 to 6 mobilities per year, reaching numbers we believe to be more adequate to the dimension of our institution.

In the 2021-2027 program we plan to keep on walking on this path, focusing on student and staff mobility as main actions, and promoting in that frame less usual activities (we experienced joined Masterclasses with teachers from two institutions, as well as streaming concerts with students from many EU conservatoires). We also plan to encourage the kind of mobilities we perceive as less popular in our institution, like traineeship and staff training.

In addition to this, and proceeding with wise steps in relation with the capabilities of our institution, we wish to explore new ways of cooperation like strategic partnerships. Last but not least, we aim to explore virtual and blended mobilities, which we consider as a precious resource, aside from this pandemic period, in the direction to enlarge opportunities for disadvantaged people.

We are also working in order to become more attractive for foreign students: in the frame of a state call we are participating to, for the purpose of restoring our structure, we gave priority to the realisation of a residence for external students and staff, as well as more rooms for studying and rehearsing. We really hope to be granted for this

project so that we could realize it within 2027.

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.

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In the next seven years we aim to realize about 50 outbound mobilities (equally splitted among students and staff), and to host about 30 inbound. At the same time we plan to keep on increasing the number of partners: this was our main problem in the past, now we are glad to see that it is not an urgent matter anymore, thanks to the growth we obtained in the 2014-2020 period.

We strongly believe in the great value of mobility. For students it means to lead the curriculum to european dimension, it's a way to confront with a new environment and new language, acquiring new skills but also increasing self-esteem. For teachers and staff it is a way to exchange and enlarge competences and openness to modernisation of education, and to increase the willingness to international projects. This can be encouraged by the participation of our staff at AEC meetings, which participation we aim to increase either in number (from 1 to 3-4 per year) and in field of interest.

As a result of the internationalisation process we expect an improvement of the quality of our educational system, from procedures to didactical matters, with positive impact on all students and staff, even if not directly involved in mobilities. Nevertheless we intend to promote measures to encourage all the people of Puccini Conservatoire to benefit from an international experience as part of their school career.

[1] 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

Il Direttore

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