

Compass - orientating you towards your best international mobility choice

(Social Transfer)

Project leads

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Abstract

More specifically, the project aims at increasing the competences of the actors involved in (preparing) the mobility in the following realms:

1. Getting a deeper and more precise knowledge on the mobility's trigger mechanisms and the international students' expectations, but also on the structures and practices alongside.
2. Promoting and valuing best practice in the field.
3. Equipping and training the accompanying structures with their mission to orientate.
4. Supporting the partnerships between higher education institutions and (international) student organisations.
5. Accompanying the students in mobility via buddy programmes and a community of ambassadors.
6. Overcoming institutional and social obstacles in the preparing phase of a mobility. Target groups: 1- Students on mobility 2- Higher education institutions and actors involved in preparing the mobilities 3- Political institutions that impact on higher education

Keywords

student mobility, student's decision making, mentoring, needs analysis, orientation phase

Aims of the Third Mission activity

The main goal of the project is to improve the international students' experiences abroad by providing every relevant information to them in the preparation phase of their mobility.

Cooperation partners outside the university sector

International Exchange Erasmus Student Network (IxESN) - France (Koordinator), European University Foundation - Campus Europae (EUF-CE), Erasmus Student Network (ESN) - Erasmus Student Network Italia

Cooperation partners from the scientific/research field

University of Hertfordshire

Faculty Zentrum für Lehrer*innenbildung

Timeframe 01.09.2020 - 30.06.2023

Funding Erasmus+

Research basis The University of Vienna will conduct a research that will identify every factor influencing the student's decision making when preparing a mobility, every source they use and what's lacking to complete and facilitate their thinking. This research will question the peers role and the importance of the peer's support in the decision making, as well as the role of the sending structures. It aims at determining if the students have rational expectations, based on academic and practical criteria or more "fanciful", based on social, cultural and personal criteria as well as determining their decisive sources. Targeted countries: Quantitative study - France, Italy, Luxembourg, Belgium, United-Kingdom, Austria and maybe more thanks to the network of each partner. Qualitative study - France, Italy, United Kingdom and Austria.

Social/economic relevance The project aims at improving the international students' experiences abroad and the relationship between international students and the local community. Moreover, it addresses a broader target group in the phase of preparation and, thus, tries to be more inclusive when orientating future students on mobility.

Integration into academic teaching/the curriculum No

Impact Within the project current student mobility practices are improved. The focus is on the phase of preparation, which ensures sustainable and positive experiences abroad and is apt to reduce the rate of dropouts.

Transfer aspect of the activity The project encourages the social exchange of experiences between different student communities. It enhances intercultural communication and develops social and cultural competences among students. It fosters the social integration of students in mobility.

Future orientation & sustainability The orientation and preparation phase which is essential for mobility success is often neglected in current programmes. By putting the focus on this important period future benefits and mobility success are more likely.

Achievement of objectives

The Erasmus+ project will be evaluated and checked by the European Commission.

Measures to sustain this activity over the long term/expand it

None

Links/Publications

<https://lehrerinnenbildung.univie.ac.at/en/fields-of-work/language-teaching-and-learning-research/research/ongoing-research-projects/compass/>
