

# ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME 2021–2027

## ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

Institution: Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution

Country: Lithuania

### **1. Institutional Strategy and Objectives**

Participation in the Erasmus+ Programme 2021–2027 represents a key element of the internationalization strategy of Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution. Through Erasmus+, the institution aims to strengthen the quality and relevance of higher education, promote international cooperation, and provide students and staff with opportunities for academic, professional, and personal development in an international environment. Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution recognizes that international cooperation contributes to the development of the European Higher Education Area and enhances the competitiveness and attractiveness of higher education. Participation in Erasmus+ supports the modernization of study programmes, encourages innovative teaching methods, and promotes the exchange of knowledge and best practices.

The main objectives of participation in the Erasmus+ Programme include:

- Expanding opportunities for student and staff mobility for studies, traineeships, teaching, and training.
- Developing and strengthening international partnerships with higher education institutions, research organizations, and industry partners.
- Improving the quality of education through international collaboration and exchange of academic experience. Promoting intercultural understanding, multilingualism, and European values.
- Increasing the employability and global competence of graduates.

### **2. Participation in Erasmus+ Programme Actions**

Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution intends to actively participate in the main actions of the Erasmus+ Programme.

#### **Key Action 1 – Learning Mobility of Individuals**

Šiaulių valstybinė kolegija will promote and support mobility for:

- Students, enabling them to undertake study periods or traineeships abroad that contribute to their academic progress and professional development.
- Teaching staff, providing opportunities to teach at partner institutions and exchange pedagogical experience.
- Administrative staff, allowing participation in training activities that improve professional competencies and institutional capacity.

- Student mobility will be integrated into study programmes to ensure that mobility periods contribute to learning outcomes and are fully recognized upon completion.

## Key Action 2 – Cooperation among Organizations and Institutions

Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution will participate in international cooperation projects that promote:

- Development of innovative teaching and learning methods.
- Creation of joint educational initiatives and collaborative research activities.
- Exchange of best practices in higher education management and quality assurance.
- Stronger collaboration between higher education institutions, industry, and society.

Through these projects, Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution aims to contribute to the modernization and internationalization of higher education.

### **3. Inclusion, Diversity, and Equal Opportunities**

Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution is committed to ensuring equal access to Erasmus+ opportunities for all participants. Participation in the programme will be based on principles of transparency, fairness, and non-discrimination.

Special attention will be given to:

- Students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Participants with disabilities or special needs.
- Individuals facing social, cultural, or geographical barriers.

Support measures will include clear information, academic advising, financial support where possible, and accessible infrastructure to ensure that all participants can benefit from international mobility.

Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution also promotes gender equality, respect for cultural diversity, and an inclusive academic environment.

### **4. Quality Assurance and Recognition of Mobility**

Ensuring the quality of mobility activities is a central priority. Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution will implement procedures to guarantee effective preparation, monitoring, and evaluation of Erasmus+ activities.

Key measures include:

- Use of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) for transparent recognition of learning outcomes.
- Preparation of Learning Agreements before the mobility period to define study programmes and responsibilities.
- Academic guidance and mentoring for outgoing and incoming participants.

- Full recognition of credits and learning outcomes achieved abroad.
- Continuous monitoring and evaluation of mobility activities through feedback from participants and partner institutions.

The institution will also provide support services to incoming students, including assistance with accommodation, orientation, and integration into academic and social life.

## **5. Digitalization and Innovation**

Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution supports the digital transformation of higher education and mobility management.

In line with European initiatives, the institution will implement:

- Digital Learning Agreements.
- Participation in the European Student Card Initiative.
- Use of digital platforms for mobility administration and communication.
- Online information systems to support mobility participants.

These tools will improve transparency, efficiency, and accessibility of Erasmus+ activities.

## **6. Environmental Sustainability**

Panevėžio kolegija/State Higher Education Institution recognizes the importance of environmental sustainability and responsible international mobility.

Efforts will be made to encourage:

- Environmentally responsible travel options.
- Sustainable practices in international cooperation and project management.
- Awareness of environmental challenges within the academic community.

Participation in Erasmus+ will support the development of responsible global citizens who understand the importance of sustainability.

## **7. Monitoring and Continuous Improvement**

The implementation of Erasmus+ activities will be continuously monitored to ensure their effectiveness and quality.

Evaluation methods include:

- Regular analysis of mobility statistics and participation levels.
- Feedback from students, staff, and partner institutions.
- Internal reporting and review processes.

Through these mechanisms, the institution will ensure that Erasmus+ activities contribute to long-term institutional development and international engagement.