

REASONS TO STEP UP EU INVESTMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION

#ERASMUSFUTURE

1 A SMART INVESTMENT FOR EUROPE

Erasmus+ is one of the EU programmes that generates the highest added value. Increasing its budget is a smart and safe investment in the future of the Union and its citizens.



A BUDGET MATCHING AMBITIONS

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As Europe puts education at the top of its agenda, it needs a budget to match. With proposals for European University Networks and a European Education Area, new goals have been added that require more European mobility and collaboration. This is welcome but requires additional investment in the already over-subscribed Erasmus+.

3 MAXIMISE EUROPE'S HIGHER EDUCATION POTENTIAL

Cooperation activities under Erasmus+ are just as important as mobility. They strengthen higher education institutions and their links with society and the economy. Cooperation activities also develop and promote the innovative approaches that tomorrow's higher education will need. As cooperation actions are currently underfunded, they deserve extra EU investment under Erasmus+.

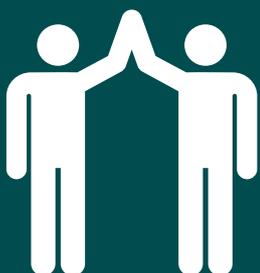


COLLABORATION BETWEEN ALL EDUCATIONAL LEVELS AND SECTORS

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In view of the EU's ambition to establish a European Education Area, the future Erasmus+ programme should provide funding for the exchange and development of innovative practices across borders, as well as between universities, schools, employers and other organisations.

This is crucial for enhancing the quality and social relevance of education and boosting its international standing.



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INTERNATIONAL OPENNESS 5

The quality and reputation of higher education depends on international exchange, openness and cooperation. These have become a hallmark of European universities thanks to the Erasmus+ programme, which is crucial in fostering European integration, as well as ties with other parts of the world. International openness deserves more investment.

6 A TRULY INCLUSIVE PROGRAMME

Stepping up funding would make Erasmus+ more inclusive, allowing for the participation of more disadvantaged students. It would also allow qualified students and academics with a refugee status to participate, leading to better integration and career prospects. Importantly, this would enhance urgently needed European cooperation on the issue.



SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR SUSTAINABLE IMPACT 7

The EU's post-2020 budget should focus on sustainability, both in policies and in funding. As the EU has made a commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, it should invest in ways to achieve them. Research, innovation and education are key facilitators, and must be a top priority.

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