



universitatea națională
de artă teatrală
și cinematografică
„I.L. Caragiale”
București

national university
of theatre and film
„I.L. Caragiale”
Bucharest

Erasmus Policy Statement



Erasmus Policy Statement (ESP)

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?

Erasmus+ programme is the key element of our university's strategy in terms of internationalization - study exchange and academic objectives, access to European cooperation, awareness and conservation of diversity, including language and concern for culture, promoting access of the vulnerable individuals. The continuous exchange of information during the study mobility program helps increase the quality standards of education and artistic creation, which are closely related to the teaching process.

UNATC "I.L. Caragiale" has included all modernization priorities among its major objectives so as to develop a strong national and international academic position. All the infrastructure, financial and academic available means are used to improve the participation rate of the vulnerable individuals in the learning process, for students and teachers as well, aiming to reach a wider social dimension of higher education. Our university promotes non-discrimination through all its actions. Thus, there is no gender discrimination, as there is a balanced proportion in the number of students of both sexes in our faculties. The admission and learning process do not discriminate on basis of nationality, religion, sex and political alliances or persons originating from social excluded regions.

Education development aimed at addressing current and future labour markets is another direction in the strategic internationalisation plan of UNATC "I.L. Caragiale". We are developing a best practice system for our students by concluding partnerships with organizations in related fields in order to facilitate the entrance of our graduates into the labour market. Within each semester students have awarded credits for specialized practical training during both first and second term of study, and the placement mobility represents the most important opportunity. This strategy is part of developing initiatives or tools for assessing and promoting employment of graduates. Identifying and analysing the main obstacles to mobility is a constant concern of all those involved in the Erasmus+ programme, as well as of the entire academic community. The permanent mission of the Erasmus+ Office is to supervise the proper development of mobilities, to advise and analyse feedback from its beneficiaries. All Erasmus+ activities will be widely promoted through our website, as well as through various online media, student events, brochures, video and print media.

UNATC "I. L. Caragiale" aims to access the best funding opportunities for higher education as part of developing its strategies aimed at increasing university autonomy. We try and adjust in order to integrate in the best European higher education alliances as part of the general internationalization strategy of UNATC "I.L. Caragiale". Our university is a member of many international theatre and film associations (CILECT, SEECS, ELIA, ISTA, ISPA, IDEA, etc.); participation in joint international projects brings enormous benefit to the entire academic community; the Erasmus+ Office can identify future potential partners.

Erasmus+ Programme is a fundamental engine of continuous modernization, directing our university towards curriculum reform in terms of international openness and academic mobility beyond the borders of our country. Being at the same time internationalization source and resource, we consider the Erasmus+ programme to be a vital means of modernization, in the centre of an academic community in constant motion aspiring to reform and expansion. The concern for professionalism and artistic excellence must be doubled by placing the educational content under the sign of cultivating individual initiative and options in identifying every student own's artistic path.

Overcoming national borders and pursuing common goals in the field of education and training for European countries ensure not only the international integration of beneficiaries and the university as well, but also promote specific elements. Thus, the Erasmus+ programme represents the most essential element considering the concept of inter-institutional cooperation, as one can benefit, as partner, from renowned universities which support the artistic and theoretical direction. According to criteria concerning our own artistic and pedagogical concept, our university has hosted teaching visits of renowned artists and theorists as part of the Erasmus+ programme.



The Erasmus+ office in our university promotes cooperation with other European universities providing similar or complementary training and creative development activities; student and teacher exchange are encouraged under circumstances of mutual recognition of competencies through Erasmus+ programmes. The quality of teaching-learning-assessment process for significant results of educational processes is one of UNATC's priorities by reaching a high rate in the implementation of educational processes at the level of achieving the proposed objectives of competencies, and a high rate of graduates' insertion on labour market.

The issue of artistic pedagogy has become a priority, in the conditions of the chasm separating generations, but also because of inherent changes in the context of exercising artistic professions. There are two major directions: pedagogy for performative artists, specific to our university in each field of specialization, and pedagogy for general artistic education, concerning children, teenagers and adults, which represents a significant labour market and a social need in education. UNATC is a university that has managed over time to develop its own pedagogical concepts, which are valid in the international context; the theatre and film festivals we participate at can confirm this assessment. The Festival of European Theatre Schools or "CineMalubit" International Student Film Festival, which has been UNATC's brand for more than 20 years, are worth mentioning among them.

Developing activities concerning artistic pedagogy serves multiple purposes; it is necessary for the permanent improvement of the quality of specialized education at UNATC and it is a research activity specific to the artistic fields which our university is accredited for (theatre, film, media).

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.

Founded in 1954, the National University of Theatre and Film "I.L. Caragiale" Bucharest is the only state higher education institution with legal personality which has two fundamental fields of education: Theatre and Performing Arts and Film and Media studies.

Through its mission, UNATC also undertakes training in the field of artistic pedagogy; however, its main mission is that "of national cultural centre contributing to the formation, development, transmission and dissemination of cultural values, and represents a benchmark for the art and culture of our country, a generator of artistic and cultural events". The emergence of new interdisciplinary programs (Animation Film, Light Design, and Photography) as well as of English study programs (New Media Design, Documentary Film, Interactive Technologies for Media Design, Art of Game Design) represents opportunities for the development of new interdisciplinary research with strong impact for theatre and film as fields of knowledge through art. UNATC's Department of Theatre Pedagogy also provides UNATC graduates insertion on the labour market as well as the specialization of pre-university education teachers, as this department teaches theatre pedagogy and acting for the "Theatre in schools"; this subject will be included in the curriculum starting with the new academic year.

Thus, the Erasmus+ programme represents for the National University of Theatre and Film "I.L. Caragiale" a platform supporting some of the most significant internationalization objectives and modernizing higher education at the same time. By overcoming national borders and pursuing common objectives in the field of education and training for European countries, it ensures not only the international integration of beneficiaries and the university, but also promotes specific elements. Thus, the Erasmus+ programme represents a fundamental element through the framework of inter-institutional cooperation having renowned universities which support the artistic and theoretical direction as partners. The management of our university consider that the varied portfolio of inter-institutional partnerships provides the possibility to develop the beneficiaries' competencies in an extended framework. We consider that the student-centred learning methods, the reorientation of artistic and pedagogical principles and artistic methods have stimulated students in the direction of training their responsibility and motivations to achieve individual creative and knowledge performance. The institutional level of excellence is supported by creation, innovation, involvement and research. In order to reach these goals, which are both predetermined and continuously developing, one must aim and achieve excellence in several areas.



Starting from the equation of institutional, conceptual and practical approach, as well as from the principle of student-centred learning, we try to create a proper framework for a university open to new opportunities and currently willing to change the essence and form determined by its specific mission, values and objectives.

The Erasmus+ programme is extremely important for the National University of Theatre and Film "I.L. Caragiale" Bucharest, and every effort is made to ensure its smooth running, both for its students, teachers and staff who benefit from mobility at partner universities, as well as for those incoming to our university. The specific formula by which UNATC can maintain its development trajectory is that of an entrepreneurial-social university, with an educational function oriented towards society. This type represents a creative university, characterized as diverse, integrative, omnipresent, laboratory - university and providing continuing education, open source of resources, especially for the area of education and interdisciplinary collaboration.

What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on your institution?

We paid special attention to a greater international visibility; we created new information materials, in which we presented our educational offer to our partners, as well as the equipment of CINETic - The International Centre for Research and Education in Innovative Creative Technologies. Excellence at institutional level is supported by creation, innovation, involvement and research. In order to achieve these goals, which are both predetermined and continuously developing, it is necessary to propose and achieve excellence in several areas.

We focus all our attention and efforts so that our students can easily join students from the European space. UNATC "I.L. Caragiale" graduates can contribute to an increased productivity through the benefits of the Erasmus+ programme, thus laying the foundations of a knowledge-based economy. The university encourages openness as much as possible for the variety of mobilities and for the countries and institutions where they take place. Any mobility is approved provided it observes the directions of UNATC's internationalization policies. UNATC concludes bilateral agreements with partner institutions in the EU and beyond through the Erasmus+ Office.

Therefore, if the students identify an opportunity for mobility, they are welcome to inform the Erasmus+ Office. The Erasmus+ Office permanently monitors the beneficiaries' activities in collaboration with the vice-deans of each faculty during the mobility. The following steps are followed: our selection is a transparent process organized and coordinated by the Erasmus+ Office; during the selection, the committee members objectively analyse the students' files and identify each applicant's needs, while also considering each applicant's motivation. Following the selection results, the Erasmus+ Office sends each student's application documents to the universities concerned, supplementing, if required, with the beneficiary's activities, achievements and updated portfolio. The Learning Agreement is drafted in the presence of students or in close contact with them and the Directors of the concerned department, in order to identify the best study program and select subjects from the courses of the future host organization. During the mobility period, the Erasmus+ Offices in continuous communication and collaboration with the participants. We urge them to keep us updated regarding any irregularities and we explain that almost every situation can be solved, provided we are informed as soon as possible. We send them reminder emails before the end of the mobility period and we urge them to keep in close contact with the Erasmus+ Office of the host university. At the end of the mobility period, the participants return to the Erasmus+ Office with the documents signed and stamped by the host university. Sometimes there have been long delays in the transmission of the Transcript of Records; we have always tried together with UNATC management to identify the viable solution for our students, so as to eliminate consequences for our students.

We believe that theatre, film and media, which are the fields of activity at our university, require the acquirement of competencies based on learning by doing. It is a common principle for all arts, a type of experience in which one becomes an artist only by practicing in an environment providing formative experiences. In recent years, we have managed to have 7 new English study programs accredited and we are trying to attract a larger number of inbound students for these study programs.



I mention that the UNATC "I.L. Caragiale" management focuses towards continuing the ascending trend regarding the quality of the educational process for all the study programs and all levels of education. We believe that the academic community made up of both students and teachers needs common values, an understanding of our university's mission, as well as coexistence in an academic environment as friendly as possible. If one of the requirements above is not fulfilled, an imbalance occurs, which can generate conflicts; therefore, we believe that respect, loyalty, transparency and dedication are needed in order to maintain a proper environment for an art university. All inbound students are involved in the projects of their department and they are given increased attention in order to ensure a high degree of understanding and study. We undertake to make all the necessary efforts for a significant increase in the percentage of inbound students and we will try to make it as easy as possible for them to adjust to our university.