

Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS)

The International University of Logistics and Transport in Wrocław is a university with Polish and international accreditations and achieving excellent results in national educational rankings.

The IULT's offer includes undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate studies in Polish and English. The IULT sees internationalization as an integral part of its activity and the aspect of the "transnational" approach to education aims to ensure high quality teaching by combining international scientific research with practice in the logistics, transport and forwarding sector. Internationalization, and especially activities related to the Erasmus program, are and will always be an important element of the IULT's development strategy, therefore internal procedures, regulations and ordinances have been developed to ensure the highest quality of project implementation.

The International University of Logistics and Transport in Wrocław (the IULT) has had the Erasmus Chartered for Higher Education 2014-2020, within which it has been able to realize a total of 255 mobilities. The IULT achieved great success regarding conducting the mobilities thanks to its internal management structure and developing transparent and clear procedures.

Thanks to the continuation of activities under the Erasmus program, the University will have the opportunity to further develop in accordance with the strategy of internationalization and modernization for 2021-2025 adopted by the University Senate. It will have the opportunity, among others, to apply for further projects implemented in cooperation with foreign partners, increase the number of student and staff mobility, and increase the number of foreign students studying at the IULT. The University intends to constantly improve the quality of education and the level of modernization in its structures through participation in mobilities, implementation of joint projects, development of cooperation within strategic partnerships and joint bachelor's, master's and post-graduate studies.

According to the strategy, the University's mission is to manage, develop and implement teaching programs that support innovative teaching methods based on the latest knowledge, and develop students' critical thinking skills, and thus increase their employability at the best employers, as well as conduct research in the Transport - Forwarding - Logistics industry. It is very important for the IULT to enable graduates to

operate freely in integrated Europe by providing contacts with representatives of the European world of business and science.

The international activity of the International University of Logistics and Transport in Wrocław is based on Internationalization Strategies adopted by the University Council (for 2014-2020 and 2021-2025, hereinafter referred to as 'the Strategies'). The Strategies focus on international activities in three key areas: education, research and cooperation with the socio-economic environment.

In the area of education, the University strives to achieve its key goals. Among them is the constant increase in the number of foreign students pursuing the full cycle of education under first and second cycle studies conducted in English (up to 15% compared to the previous academic year) and the development of the didactic offer in English allowing for a steady increase in the number of domestic students and foreign ones pursuing the full cycle of education within the first and second degree studies conducted with English as the language of instruction. It is extremely important for the University to obtain further international accreditations for the University itself or for the individual curricula, confirming the high quality of education and increase in the quality of education by rising the number of foreign specialists visiting the University. The implementation of the assumptions of the Strategies, as well as nineteen years of intensive work on internationalization has led to the fact that in May 2018, the Polish Accreditation Commission, while auditing the University, assessed the criterion regarding the internationalization of education and awarded the University with a distinction. At the moment, the IULT has such accreditations and certificates as: CILT accreditation, University of Leaders, Trustworthy School, Good University Good Job, Studies with the Future, High Reputation Premium Brand University and many others. Students graduating from studies in English receive two diplomas - one awarded by the IULT, and the other by the University of Lorraine - a long-time French partner. This diploma gives them the opportunity to continue their education at doctoral level in France or another EU country. The IULT also cares for the intensification of student mobility - increasing the number of both incoming and outgoing students for studies or traineeships abroad as part of the ERASMUS + Program, and bilateral agreements (The University has signed such agreements with the Kazakh Academy of Transport and Communications named after M. Tynyshpaev, Ningbo University of Technology and Wayne State University, and in the future plans to develop a list of partners in this field) - in this area it is assumed to increase annually compared to the results from the previous year. The University also builds tolerance, teaches understanding of cultural differences and ensures awareness among students. Moreover, the IULT implements postgraduate studies in cooperation with an American partner - Wayne State University. Classes are also conducted by WSU specialists to ensure the highest quality of education. The next step will be expanding the educational offer of the IULT with doctoral studies, the program of which will be developed in cooperation with foreign partners. The IULT also cooperates closely with a partner from China - Ningbo University of Technology (NBUT). As part of this cooperation, regular staff exchanges take place in order to improve the quality of education at both universities. The IULT and NBUT

also implement projects co-financed by the EU, as well as a one-semester student exchange. The IULT also has an agreement signed with Cranfield University - graduates can apply for master's studies implemented at a British university and as part of a partnership between universities, they are exempt from taking entrance examinations. This is to provide students with access to the highest quality education.

The IULT, thanks to activities under the Erasmus + program, is also developing cooperation with Breda University of Applied Sciences (BUAS) regarding the Wrocław - Moerdijk rail link. As part of this cooperation, IULT students will be able to participate in the exchange program to implement internships at a partner company. It also gives them the opportunity to write their diploma theses on innovative solutions and practices related to the Wrocław-Moerdijk rail link, which in turn allows them to increase their competences and increases their value as future specialists on the labour market. The University is planning to continue cooperation with BUAS both under the Erasmus + program and in other fields.

The activities listed above are just examples of specific activities undertaken by the University as part of its internationalization strategy.

The University, having the scientific category B, supports the scientific development of employees and students in the area of research and development (participation in international scientific projects, conferences, workshops, publishing in foreign publishers, publishing in foreign languages). To achieve that, the University intensifies the mobility of academic tutors - the increase in the number of trips to foreign universities (including those happening as part of the ERASMUS + program) and trips to conferences abroad contributes to scientific development. In this regard, it is also extremely important to constantly expand the scope and forms of cooperation with the existing foreign partners in the field of joint research projects. Together with National Aviation University (NAU), a partner university from Ukraine, the IULT cooperates not only under the Erasmus + program, but also on the basis of the agreement signed by the universities, within which joint research is conducted. NAU also co-creates the curriculum for the innovative specialization introduced at the IULT - Logistics in Aviation. University of Zilina (UZ), a Slovak university partner, co-creates the specialization of Transport Safety. This university specializes in this area, which is why, thanks to the cooperation, the courses prepared as part of the study program ensure the highest quality and diligence of education and help in understanding and confronting the best practices used in Poland, Slovakia and the entire EU. Specialists from UZ are also preparing 10 specialist textbooks necessary for courses conducted within this particular specialty. The IULT will develop cooperation with foreign centres from the countries of Europe, North America, Asia, Africa and South America. Cooperation with universities and foreign institutions is multidimensional, it applies to both educational activities in the field of supporting mobility and offering joint education programs, as well as the research sphere (joint research projects, international scientific conferences and publications, meetings and industry workshops). The University implements, among others, an innovative project on e-learning and creating a complete program of as many as 22 courses at the master's level. The project is implemented in cooperation with foreign partners, with whom cooperation has been developed thanks to the Erasmus + program. In the future, the

IULT is going to further develop cooperation in this field. To support scientific development, since the academic year 2005/2006 the University has published the scientific journal "Logistics and Transport", which includes publications of research and teaching staff from Poland and abroad. Their quality is supervised by the International Scientific Committee, which consists of members from 16 partner countries. To ensure the highest quality of education, the IULT also offers students taking classes in 4 laboratories – of IT systems, of logistics engineering, construction laboratory and of basic technical problems, within which there are three laboratories: chemical, physical and electrotechnical.

In the field of cooperation with the market environment, it is extremely important for universities to develop cooperation with business, and strengthen the cooperation with domestic and foreign entrepreneurs and institutions operating in industries related to the University's profile. Partner companies have taken patronage over the selected majors offered by the IULT. The effect of the patronage is the practical dimension of the tuition process. As part of the cooperation, students have the opportunity to meet directly with representatives of companies during open lectures, exercise blocks (case study) organized at the university and study visits. Practical meetings with employers are also held. The IULT remains in close cooperation with the prestigious institution bringing together world specialists in logistics, The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT). Moreover, as it has been mentioned before, the University cooperates with Wayne State University, an American university located, like The IULT, in the automotive basin. Thanks to this it stays in touch with the best industry professionals. The IULT initiates educational, scientific and cultural projects among the local community; they allow the acquisition and exchange of experience in an international and intercultural dimension, thanks to which the academic achievements of the University are popularized. Supporting the integration of foreign students undertaking education at the University with the local community is also one of the goals of the University.

The opportunity to gain international and intercultural experience is an integral part of the education process, which aims to continually strive to adapt to the requirements of a dynamically changing local, national, international and global labour market. In addition, the participation of business practitioners in shaping the study program allows acquiring knowledge in line with the latest trends and requirements of the economy.

The university undertakes to comply with all the principles contained in the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) and to ensure the highest quality of academic mobility.

Mobility of students (including internships in enterprises), teaching staff and other employees is an important part of the University's internationalization. It aims at involving the largest number of students and staff in international exchanges and at enabling them to have educational, scientific, cultural and linguistic benefits of experience gained while studying or teaching in other countries, as well as at enriching the process of educational internationalization. The goal of the IULT is to improve the quality, competitiveness and European dimension of the educational offer in order to develop lifelong learning strategies.

Students mobility within KA103 and KA107:

The IULT will carry out outgoing student exchanges, specifically mobilities to take up studies and internships, as well as incoming students exchange. Incoming and outgoing studying mobilities are aimed at developing the language and cultural competences of the participants. They also have the opportunity to compare the methods used to teach specialists at partner universities. Student internships under the Erasmus + program offer students the possibility to gain professional experience, knowledge of the foreign labour market and to learn about the structures and mechanisms of international companies and institutions, as well as to focus on creating favourable conditions for the professional activation of students on the European labour market. The internship program is individually prepared by the University and the employer according to designated formal procedures on the basis of a student's profile and his/her study program, as well as the type of activity of the host company.

Staff mobility within KA103 and KA107:

As part of staff mobility, the University invites the best logistics specialists, aiming to improve the quality of education by organizing lectures for students of the IULT. Administrative employees of partner universities are also invited, thanks to which the University is constantly expanding its network of international contacts. As a result, it is also possible to discuss the conduct of joint programs and projects, identify research topics and plans for joint research and scientific publications. The IULT staff participating in the program have the opportunity to share knowledge and experience, as well as confront practices employed in the logistics industry in various countries. Administrative staff can compare partners' procedures and exchange good practices.

Erasmus Mundus joint Master's studies:

The IULT also plans to implement joint Erasmus Mundus master's programs to ensure the increase in the quality of education. Studies carried out with foreign partners will be in line with the requirements of the European education area. The study programs will be tailored to the needs of the European labour market. Graduates will receive diplomas from all universities participating in the project together with the IULT. Participation in this action will contribute to the increase in the number of foreign students at the university and to the level of internationalization through the involvement of foreign specialists.

Strategic partnerships and capacity building:

The IULT intends to implement strategic partnership projects to modernize its educational offer and adapt it to the needs of the European labour market. The implemented actions aimed at implementing innovative solutions in teaching will contribute to a significant increase in the quality of education of future specialists. The process of modernizing and increasing the internationalization of universities will also be supported by participation in a capacity building project in the higher education sector, under which the IULT will cooperate with partner universities from around the world.

Participation in the above-mentioned actions is entwined with the University's internationalization strategy. Thanks to them, the University will have the opportunity to further develop international cooperation, which in turn will contribute to improving the quality of education. Developing cooperation under the Erasmus + program is fully in line with the University's strategic objectives regarding the increase in the number of foreigners at the IULT and will also contribute to the implementation of Poland's commitments to the European Union in the area of academic staff mobility.

Participation in the Erasmus program will also have an impact on other factors relevant to the University's strategy, such as organization of international events and conducting joint study programs with foreign partners.

The target of further participation in the Erasmus + program is to increase the quantitative mobility indicator to the number of 420 people over 6 years (increase compared to the 2014-2020 edition by 55%). The University is going to increase the quality of staff mobility by increasing the number of visits of practitioners lecturers by 20%, and increasing the quality of student mobility by increasing the number of mobilities to conduct internships by 15%.

In terms of support provided to program participants, the University is going to increase the number of participants using online language courses by 30% compared to previous editions. In addition, the purpose of further participation in the Erasmus + program is to increase the number of international projects and programs offering a double diploma in master's and undergraduate studies by 20%.

The impact of each mobility on the IULT can be seen at different levels. Mobilities for training purposes help employees become acquainted with the specificity of work of specific departments at foreign partner universities. They also allow to compare methods and solutions used at work with students in order to introduce improvements in their daily work. Trips to conduct classes allow the participants to update and confront teaching methods in the context of changes in the logistics industry. Mobility contributes to the scientific development of staff and closer cooperation between universities in the field of joint study programs, double diplomas, scientific publications, and organization of conferences. All mobilities also ensure that participants improve their language skills and become familiar with the culture of the host country. It is also possible to observe the impact of guest arrivals from partner universities on the IULT: they will be able to share their experience with IULT students who will gain knowledge on international solutions used in the industry.

Mobility under the Erasmus + program has enabled the development of cooperation in the scientific area, and continuation of the program will allow the University to expand the existing partnerships in other areas. New joint curricula and plans for joint research projects, organization of conferences, etc. have been developed. Among other things, the University is implementing, together with a Chinese partner, Ningbo University of Technology, a project concerning public transport. Thanks to the mobility implemented under the Erasmus + program, the IULT had the opportunity to interest and recruit many foreign students in recent

years. Visits to African countries and giving specialized lectures on the occasion of the implementation of the Erasmus + program, have allowed to interest in the educational offer students from such countries as Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Morocco, Namibia and Zimbabwe. Mobilities to Asian countries strengthened the position of the University among its partners and students, resulting in the recruitment of candidates from countries such as Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

Expected impact of mobility on university students:

- studying in a foreign language allows the students to increase language competences and learning skills; studying abroad also allows them to learn more about a different culture, teaching standards, requirements for students in another country and another continent, as well as expands their knowledge and experience in the area related to the specificity of the field of education in a country that is culturally and organizationally different. Participation in the Erasmus + program creates favourable conditions for establishing intercultural and international contacts that are an investment in the future development of both students and universities. Attitudes are shaped through joint work and learning. The result of the functioning of such a model also include: the acquisition and improvement of cultural competence and sensitivity, openness and readiness to harmonious and effective building of intercultural reality.

Expected overall impact of mobility on employees:

- raising the level of knowledge in the area of TFL, defining common research fields, potential areas of scientific research, future publications,
- gaining teaching experience that can be used in current scientific and research cooperation. The exchange is formally recognized as part of the achievements in the given academic year. Experience gained from mobility is also an impulse to implement other development ideas and concepts.
- the opportunity to present the results of one's scientific research.
- the opportunity to learn about solutions used in international logistics.