

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT EPS

(available on <https://www.wsb.pl/english/torun/erasmus>)

I - INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ERASMUS PROGRAM. ERASMUS PROMOTION STRATEGY, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY.

The main tasks of the University of Banking in Torun, in accordance with the organizational Statutes, are: educating students to prepare them for professional work, conducting scientific research, providing research services, educating and promoting academic staff, as well as supporting the education of people with disabilities. To ensure the effectiveness and versatility of education, the emphasis is on theoretical as well as practical teaching and cooperation with other universities and research units in the country and abroad. The goals and priorities of the University of Banking in Torun in the area of international cooperation for 2021-2027 include:

- continuation of bilateral exchanges of students and didactics as part of Erasmus program
- recruitment of foreign students, e.g. from Ukraine or Africa
- learning opportunities in a foreign language: entire courses conducted in English only
- students and graduates international workforce preparation, e.g. foreign internships program, SMP mobilities
- teaching and administrative staff training, e.g. through their active participation in exchange programs and international projects
- knowledge and cooperation promotional activities, e.g. by organizing conferences, seminars, scientific workshops bringing together academic communities and entrepreneurs (mainly promoting R&D)
- acquiring new partnerships
- teaching of foreign languages and expanding the range of languages available to students, teaching and administrative staff, including the promotion of the Polish language
- scientific publications, also in foreign languages
- integration and cooperation of EU Member States, candidate and non-European countries to support understanding and knowledge of European policies
- equalizing educational opportunities for people from different environments, e.g. for people with disabilities.

The university has been implementing the internationalization strategy for several years, the main goal of which is to increase the number of students from abroad, among others by organizing a forum of foreign partners and launching new English-language courses. The "Recruitment from abroad" project is one of the main projects included in the Strategy of the University of Banking in Torun for 2017-2020 and will be implemented also in the following years.

In 2021-2027, University of Banking in Torun intends to maintain current good practices and introduce new solutions. It is planned to expand the activities aimed at improvement and full service electronisation of the student exchange program. The school is currently at the stage of implementing the Erasmus Without Paper Dashboard tool, in the coming years we plan to promote the Erasmus+ App among students. The above solutions are also aimed at reducing the amount of

paper documentation and greater care for the natural environment.

To disseminate good international practices, University will e.g. publish EUC and EPS documents and information on ongoing projects (in Polish and English) on the website. We will continue to promote current activities and initiatives through the Extranet - internal IT network. To ensure that all students and employees have access to online content, free Wi-Fi is available at the school.

Important announcements will also appear on designated wall display stands / newspapers. In the coming years, we plan to contact the so-called Erasmus ambassadors, to provide candidates for mobilities with additional support from experienced colleagues.

University of Banking in Torun is a school supporting the policy of equal opportunities and integration of disabled people. There is a Chancellor's Proxy for the Disabled persons, whose tasks include the minimalisation of technical or logistical issues, administrative assistance. School is constantly investing in improving its infrastructure and making it easier for people with disabilities to move around it. The building has large elevators, including the newest one at the main entrance. We plan to introduce facilities for the blind and visually impaired people. Our computer labs are equipped with specialized hardware and software to facilitate access for everybody.

II - STANDARDS IN THE CONTEXT OF ACADEMIC MOBILITY. RECOGNITION OF ASSESSMENTS FROM FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES, INFORMATION ABOUT EDUCATIONAL OFFER, CONSULTATIONS FOR OUTGOING STUDENTS, INTEGRATION OF INCOMING STUDENTS, SERVICES FOR STUDENTS, LANGUAGE COURSES, STAFF MOBILITIES SUPPORT.

Thanks to international experience, University of Banking in Torun is prepared to provide high-quality organization of student, graduate and staff mobility. For the purposes of coordinating activities related to the Erasmus+ program, the Rector's Proxy for the Erasmus + program was appointed, whose tasks include: substantive care of outgoing and incoming students as well as teaching and administration staff, organization of integration meetings, assistance in resolving current issues. On-call time is organized for students at both faculties: in Torun and Bydgoszcz, the Proxy can also be contacted by phone and e-mail.

Anyone interested in the student exchange will obtain all information directly from the Proxy, who has knowledge, materials about partner universities and keeps in touch with them on an ongoing basis. New bilateral agreements have been concluded in recent years, University of Banking in Torun cooperates with 27 foreign universities. All necessary information regarding, among others student exchange applications are forwarded during information meetings and via the Extranet internal IT network.

Each student who, in accordance with the contract, completed part of her/his studies at a foreign university, is guaranteed to have the results recognized at home university on the basis of the Dean's decision. The ECTS system has been operating at the university since the 2005/2006 academic year. There is also the ECTS Information Package, where everyone can find information about the rules for awarding points. For the implementation of student exchanges, School operates documents including LA, OLA, TR. Incoming students receive an ID card, examination card and certificate of study, as well as an information package about the city and school. They have the option of registering for a free Polish language course. Welcome and integration meetings are also organized. Due to the openness of the teaching staff, foreign students can pass some subjects individually. Outgoing students receive their scholarships and are additionally exempt from compulsory study fees; when needed language preparation is also organized. The university's offer includes an English-

language path, which allows you to obtain the required 30 ECTS in each semester. Several fields of study are entirely available in English.

In addition to implementing projects in the field of academic staff mobility, the University of Banking in Torun has been implementing or has implemented several projects in recent years as part of strategic partnerships in both the Higher Education and Adult Education sectors. The university acts as a leader and partner of foreign institutions.

III - STANDARDS FOR STUDENT PRACTICE. MEASURES TO ENSURE THE QUALITY OF PRACTICAL EDUCATION, PRACTICE PROGRAM, WORK-PLACEMENT CONTRACTS, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PRACTICE.

University of Banking in Torun has experience in implementing student and graduate internships and work placements.

A Career Office operates within the university, which establishes contacts with companies and coordinates internships. As part of internship projects, students have the opportunity to travel abroad, among others to the USA. Internship programs and locations are adapted to the specialties, preferences, learning outcomes and language skills of the beneficiaries. The Career Office maintains ongoing contact with students, brokers and tutors at the internship site.

University encourages its students to perform active and independent students practice research. As part of SMP mobility students establish contacts with companies using, among others from ads e.g on www.erasmusintern.org . The internship is subject to supervision from the Erasmus coordinator. According to the study program, each student must take at least 8 weeks of practice. Students participating in international internships or student work placement, based on a LA or certificate issued by a foreign entrepreneur, are credited towards compulsory student practice. The university also provides appropriate documentation of internships for foreign students.

Due to the above, University of Banking in Torun applies for an extended Erasmus University Charter for 2021-2027.