



DUMLUPINAR UNIVERSITY
ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT



Being one of the most leading universities of the region, Dumlupınar University (DPU) plays an active role in both for the future of education and Kütahya. Consisting of 2 campuses, 10 faculties, 4 graduate Schools, 5 School and 19 vocational schools, Dumlupınar University offers a wide range of courses in Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees. Located in the intersection point of big cities of Turkey, DPU is an attraction center for higher education students from Turkey more than just being a regional destination. Turkey's strategic location as a bridge between Europe and Asia makes Turkey a popular destination for international students and academicians and being aware of this fact DPU has aimed to give education in international level and also to contribute to the education and science in universal dimension.

DPU's main policy in international relationship is sharing knowledge, gaining new scientific perspectives and revealing the potentials and strengths through collaborations and agreements with universities, research centers and other providers from EU countries and non – EU countries. Within this context, Dumlupınar University entered into the process of Bologna in order to improve the quality of education and to reach standardization at the same level with the higher education institutions in countries where Erasmus Program is applicable. To put into practice the process of Bologna many regulations have been made and credit system has been turned into ECTS to make easier the adaptation of students both incoming and outgoing and as a conclusion of this revolution. Dumlupınar University was awarded with DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT LABEL (DS Label) in 2013 by European Commission. In addition to this label, Dumlupınar University has also become entitled to receive ERASMUS CHARTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION 2014-2020 and ERASMUS EXTENDED UNIVERSITY CHARTER 2007-2013. Having these labels and charter indicates that Dumlupınar University has been carrying on studies in a determined way to reach perfection and sharing of knowledge in international level.

Believing in the importance of internationalization, Dumlupınar University is in a close relationship with the school of foreign languages and in this context International Relations Office as the directorate of Erasmus Program and other exchange programs, continuously gives suggestions to Rectorate for the compulsory foreign language classes to students with the idea of that the barrier of foreign language in education and science will be tackled only in this way. The staff can also take support from this school to keep their potential of foreign language skills alive to reach the level of preparedness to any mobility. Incoming students are also taught Turkish in the school of foreign language schools so that they will be able to speak survival Turkish and will have chance to gain some cultural background about our culture which will also minimize the cultural shock and adaptation period.

One of the priorities of International Office of Dumlupinar University is to increase the number of mobilities not only outgoing but also the incoming ones. While doing this, University gives importance to the quality of mobilities and to which degree the mobility will contribute sending and receiving institution. To increase awareness among the staff and students about the importance of international exchange programs which is also one of the crucial aims of International Office, organizes conferences and international promotional activities to encourage staff and students to take advantage of these programs. To increase the mobility numbers, Dumlupinar University has also aimed to get full accreditation in international background by international accrediting bodies. To get full accreditation, the curriculum of lectures given has been reorganized for the integration of courses given in European level.

Another mission of Dumlupinar University is to start up new agreements with higher education institutions from EU and non-EU countries for staff and student mobilities. With new agreement and mobility opportunities, the staff and student will be able to widen their horizons and in addition to this, cultural barriers and expectative prejudgments will be abolished which will also contribute to the development of international relations of countries. While starting up new agreements, increasing the mobility rates of inactive agreements is also aimed. To activate these agreements, the staff of International Relations Office organizes some informative activities and conferences for the students and staff of these departments to encourage taking advantage of these mobility programs and priorities are given in the process of mobility election. Also, the staffs of inactive departments are directed by International Office to get in contact with the same department staff of partner universities to invite them and lecture in our university within the context of mobility programs.

Being aware of the fear of foreign language as deterrent factor, students are given intensive language courses periodically during the year. Knowing the importance of foreign language in internationalization and sharing language, in three departments of DPU (Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Science Teaching and Computer Engineering) 30 % of courses are given in English language and within 5 years, all departments are aimed to give 80 % of courses in English which will contribute in increasing the incoming and outgoing mobility numbers.

In terms of Internationalization, Dumlupinar University gives high importance to the admission of Foreign Students into University in Bachelor, Master's and Doctoral degrees. Every year, an examination for admission of foreign students is held in different parts of the world. Most of these students are coming from non-EU countries and during their education in our University they are well equipped with education and scientific knowledge within the borders of ECTS and Bologna Process. The foreign students of the university, having the same rights with Turkish students, can benefit from exchange programs and they are encouraged to do this which will contribute not only to their scientific knowledge and but also to their cultural background.

In internationalization process of Dumlupinar University, strategic partnerships play an important role. Especially being in a geography of industry and being aware of the significance of triangle cooperation, our university acts as a joint point for industry, business and higher education institutions. To act in this direction, DPU has started to write International projects under the leadership of International Relations Office in which awareness of strategic partnerships is at utmost level. In this manner, while our advanced technology center starts up cooperation in national and international level with industry and business, academic units of the university starts up agreements with educational units. As an intellectual output of this corporation, Erasmus Projects are written by which ideas will realize and this will contribute to the world of education and science and will make the university an intersection area for industry, business and science. In addition to these, students will easily find job both in national and international industries and companies.

Dumlupinar University has been active in joining some networks such as The European University Association (EUA) and European Association of Erasmus Coordinators (EAEC). DPU has also been accredited to European Voluntary Service (EVS). EVS is an international volunteer programme funded by the European Commission. Dumlupinar University has its place as sending and coordinating institution among accredited institutions within EVS. Being as a contact point of Eurodesk, which is a European network for mobility opportunities to young people, DPU organizes conferences and meetings in order to increase the awareness about these mobility opportunities.

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