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Erasmus Policy Statement

Malmö University was founded in 1998. The process of internationalisation started immediately. The university board approved a Strategic Plan for Internationalisation in 1999. This plan is revised annually. The strategic goals are:

- The most important goal of internationalisation at MU is to create knowledge and understanding of other countries, cultures, religions and values in order to prepare the student communicating and collaborating in a changing world
- The most effective form of internationalization is mobility of staff and students
- The internationalisation process shall embrace all staff and all students
- In order to stimulate mobility the process must start with Internationalisation at home
- The key group for promoting student mobility is the university teachers
- The key issue for communication is language competence

MU's Vision "Where Diversity makes the Difference" holds internationalisation for all as one of four basic concepts. MU has a research and teaching culture that values knowledge for its contribution to human welfare and that takes account of the global dimensions of every question. We strive tirelessly to develop internationalisation on our home ground, and work for greater international mobility and international relations to give staff and students a competence that has both local and global base. The aim is for all concerned to have a multi-cultural capacity and be global citizens and for all our programmes to be internationally marketable.

The European dimension is given priority with a special focus on increasing mobility of students and staff. All bilateral Erasmus agreements and partners are sought out from strategic reasons to match subjects and areas fitting our profile in order to have active agreements. MU has partners in most Erasmus countries as we encourage mobility to all parts of Europe.

MU strongly promotes Erasmus activities, such as mobility of teachers, administrative staff and students, administering Erasmus Intensive Language Courses, encouraging multilateral European projects and the development of joint programmes.

The implementation and visibility of the EPS, the LLP programme and other international issues is done together with the Faculties, through a university wide committee, Minternet. The committee consists of representatives from faculties, schools, student unions, student service, information department, the library and the international office. We use a "bottom-up principle" and all programmes are well anchored by students and staff. The EPS and ECHE will be communicated internally and externally through websites, both the English and the Swedish.

MU's aim is also to co-operate with universities outside Europe in developed and developing countries. The university strives to ensure favourable conditions for teachers and researchers to obtain, as well as foster, international co-operation with universities worldwide. The students will be offered good possibilities to spend part of their studies at a foreign university. To ensure also the non-mobile students an international education, MU will provide courses and study programmes with contents that will provide a European and global dimension.

Erasmus Bilateral agreements have been signed with approximately 150 different universities, mainly in the fields of student and teacher mobility, and Inter-University co-operation programmes. MU has coordinated and takes part in TEMPUS projects and is planning further collaboration with east and central European partners.

Through the NORDPLUS-programme, the university collaborates with many Nordic universities. MU is also active within the Linnaeus-Palme programme; a Swedish exchange programme that aims to stimulate cooperation between universities in Sweden and developing countries.

In addition to the EU-programmes MU has, and is still developing, further collaborative activities with universities in the Americas, Australia, Asia and Africa. MU has coordinated two EU/Australia projects and two EU/US projects. We have taken part in four Erasmus Mundus Action 2 projects: COOPEN, Mundus ACP & ACP 2 and Eminence and we encourage staff and students to participate. We are part of four further applications for projects.

MU is a member of three university wide networks, the European Santander Group and the Dorich House Group as well as the International Network of Universities (INU). In addition, the different Faculties collaborate within subject specific networks.

Finally, MU is in the process of building strong relations with a few strategic international partners worldwide.