



SÜLEYMAN DEMİREL UNIVERSITY ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Süleyman Demirel University encourages close cooperation with the EU for realization of a European Higher Education Area. The University has participated in the European University Association Institutional Evaluation Programme and International Association of Universities to go through an independent external evaluation and to strengthen institutionalization and internationalization. The main objectives of the University regarding Erasmus Programme is to provide a qualified educational environment to students and staff that will improve their qualifications required by the globalization process, to increase its attractiveness through internationalization, to promote cooperation between the university and enterprises leading to enhances capabilities and employability of the graduates, to increase research activities and projects and the encourage cross-cultural dialogue by creating a multicultural campus life.

The first priority of the University is to increase mobility by maximizing the number of exchange students and staff. Intensive programmes and international projects focusing on multidisciplinary subjects and on double/joint degree opportunities will also be encouraged. Multilateral Projects that will enhance cooperation with enterprises and improve the existing continuing education center of the university will be attached special importance. Thematic networks focusing on knowledge triangle and reinforcing the contribution of higher education and advanced vocational training to process of innovation will be supported. Extensive participation and transparency are the main principles regarding the implementation of internationalization policy of the university. It will be announced on the university web page and published to be resented in all units of the university, together with the Erasmus University Charter. Erasmus Student Charter is given to each outgoing student to give information on rights and responsibilities within the exchange programme. Procedures related to academic mobility are regulated with a directive to provide accuracy, objectivity and transparency throughout the university. Students and staff selection criterias are set in accordance with academic success and language skills to impede any possible discrimination based on gender, race, social status, language, age, disability and such. A list of candidates and substitutes is announced on the web page and at all departments.

Süleyman Demirel University has a 5 year strategic plan. Between 2011- 2015 it is planned to increase the participation to the international university organizations and international education fairs with 50%. It is also mentioned to encourage the academic staff to participate in international projects and increase the academic promotions. For EU cooperations, it is also addressed to develop partnerships with EU Universities by supporting the Institutional Erasmus Office in organizing “International days” events and international education fairs, orientation programmes for outgoing students, incoming students, teaching and administrative staff who are interested in EU projects. Facilitating the living conditions of incoming students and instructors is also another important issue discussed in the plan. Süleyman Demirel University staff is also encouraged to go to international education conferences and organize university visits for future cooperations. It is also important to

increase the mobility numbers with 50% compared to the previous year. The main issue is also to be in the first 500 university list in internet based “international universities” ranking.

SDU aims to promote all mobility programmes to its students and staff in order to increase the quality of education and multi-cultural interaction. By the mobility programmes, the participants can take advantage to learn about different educational skills and perspectives and multi linguistic education areas. Mobility process effects in circle that the mobility of staff encourages the student mobility. SDU Erasmus Office gives attention to each mobilities and their quality for the success of institution. SDU aims to give qualified education to its students who are the assurance of the future. They are expected to be able to speak at least 2 languages and have talented in many different fields by work experiences. Partnership with the most suitable institutions will be the main target to optimize vocational competences of the students. By being awareness of new methods and technologies used in global arena will have a developing step for the region and country. As being an institution in a candidate country, we are trying to improve cooperation with EU countries whether there are visa problems. SDU Erasmus office has good performance of dealing with the participants of mobility in every issue concerning visa, partner search and finance.

SDU aims to develop awareness raising campaign that is a possibility to develop strong links with associated partners from international organisations, aid agencies and civil society actors. We believe the importance of international projects can be maintained by the existence of university representatives and civil society members. SDU and Erasmus Office give attention to raise consciousness about international cooperation and international mobility. SDU has cooperation with non-EU countries under Mevlana programme covered by Turkish Higher Education Institution for all over the world universities. The programme also encourages the students and academicians to participate in global education area that is strongly supported by SDU.

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