

**Erasmus Policy Statement
of the University of Occupational Safety Management in Katowice
for the years 2021 -2027**

The University of Occupational Safety Management in Katowice (WSZOP) was founded in 2002 as a university specialising in occupational health and safety. It actively participates in Erasmus programme since 2010. Internationalisation is one of the crucial issues for development of WSZOP. The internationalisation strategy constitutes an important part of the development strategy of the university. Main goals of WSZOP internationalisation are: developing full-time studies in foreign languages, carrying out joint studies programme and research projects with foreign partners, broadening courses offer for Erasmus+ students and creating a possibility for WSZOP students and staff to obtain foreign language certificates. Erasmus+ Programme is a key part of that strategy. The university's EPS has been prepared with respect to all the Erasmus+ rules and policies especially those related to lack of discrimination due to age, race, disability, gender, ethnicity, race, language or religion. WSZOP declares that it will participate in the Erasmus+ programme with environment-friendly attitude.

WSZOP's EPS focuses on the following 6 main aspects:

1. Incoming staff mobility (KA1)

WSZOP as a university with practical profile puts great emphasis on teaching based on experiencing. Academic teachers and staff visits give great opportunity to broaden view on certain issues as well as learning from their different day-to-day environment. It is an opportunity for WSZOP students to get know different approach to conducting classes and to standards applied in different European countries. WSZOP intends to continue cooperation with representatives of HEI from partner countries. Thanks to that cooperation the university will continue to promote European values among academic staff from such countries as for example Ukraine.

WSZOP intends to start cooperation with foreign enterprises in order to organise their employees' visits to WSZOP. Representatives of the business would fit in the practical profile of studies at WSZOP. Their visits would allow students to learn the methods of applying the knowledge they gain the workplace and therefore easier start at the European job market.

2. Outgoing staff mobility (KA1)

Mobilities of teaching and academic staff are a great opportunity to upkeep international contacts and cooperation with the universities from various European countries. For academic teachers it is a chance to test their language competencies in practice and to have a contact with foreign students and experience their approach on the taught subject. Academic staff gains an opportunity to exchange experience with their colleagues from foreign universities which then results in implementing better solutions at WSZOP.

3. Incoming students mobility (KA1)

Foreign students coming to WSZOP contribute to deepen the international cooperation of students. This cooperation does not only happen in the field of research and participation in the scientific clubs but maybe in the first place it is based on spending time together and getting to know each other. Students coming to WSZOP contribute to creating its diversity, thus developing WSZOP students' conscience about being part of the European community.

4. Outgoing students mobility (KA1)

WSZOP students going abroad to study part of their curriculum at the partner university benefit from it by getting different approach on the subjects and being able to develop their language competencies. The experience of living abroad is priceless as well as ability to communicate and cooperate with people from different cultural backgrounds. After their mobility, students contribute

to building an open and tolerant university by sharing their experience of living and studying abroad with their teachers and fellow students.

5. Internships (outgoing) (KA1)

WSZOP intends to upkeep participation of its students in Erasmus+ internships. The internships programme suits the university curriculum very well and it makes studies much more attractive for students. Being able to experience work environment in the foreign country gives a chance to students to develop their language skills as well as social skills including their tolerance and acceptance for diversity. Internship programme also enables to create positive image of Poland as a country of highly educated specialists with high work morale. WSZOP has also experience in sending its foreign students abroad which contributes to building more diverse Europe.

6. Cooperation projects (KA2)

WSZOP intends to participate in the cooperation projects in this edition of the Erasmus+ programme. The university has already identified the fields on which it shall put emphasis on and could build consortia with foreign partners. Through that WSZOP could benefit in learning new approach to project management and build long-term lasting relations with foreign HEIs. The university could contribute to the programme by sharing its practical approach to studies and their organisation as well as being able to teach in the fields that are universally needed in the European job market.

For years 2021-2027 WSZOP aims at the gradual growth of the amount of incoming and outgoing students, academic teachers and staff which will positively influence the modernisation and internationalisation of the university. The amount of incoming and outgoing students, academic teachers and staff is declared annually when applying for funds from the Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE), based on the average from last three months. It is verified by submitting the partial reports and the final report.

WSZOP aims at growing the number of bilateral agreements especially for the newly created majors. It is worth underlying that by taking decision of starting or continuing bilateral cooperation, based on the internationalisation strategy of WSZOP, the greater emphasis is put on quality of such a cooperation. Bilateral agreements will be signed online as a part of Erasmus without paper strategy.

To achieve these goals, WSZOP plans to undertake the following:

- organise meetings of candidates for the mobilities with Erasmus+ coordinator and students and staff who already participated in the programme
- provide an up-to-date documentation of English taught subjects (course catalogue)
- provide descriptions, marks, instructions in English at the university
- participate in the international educational fairs
- upkeep contact with the students returning from mobilities
- promote mobilities by former participants – the role of Erasmus+ ambassador (advice, news feedback, photos etc.)
- share promotional materials about Erasmus+ programme using Internet tools

Implementing and monitoring of the actions taken to realise the goals are an everyday task of the university governing bodies and Erasmus+ coordinator.

REKTOR

prof. dr hab. inż. Bohdan Mochnacki

KANCLERZ

Małgorzata Sikorska (2)