

ERASMUS+: a turning point in the lives of 5 million students IMPACT STUDIES - RESULTS

The **Erasmus+ Higher Education Impact Study** measures and analyses the impact the Erasmus+ programme has on students who undertake a learning or training period abroad through the programme, in particular the impact on individual skills enhancement, employability and a sense of shared European identity. Furthermore, the study analyses the impact teaching and training mobility has on academic staff, in particular on their skills, attitudes and use of innovative methods as well as the institutional impact on the Higher Education Institutions themselves.

The study explored four main target groups and several subgroups: Erasmus+ students prior to their stay abroad and after their return, graduates with Erasmus+ experience, academic and non-academic staff with Erasmus+ experience, as well as Higher Education Institutions involved in Erasmus+ projects.

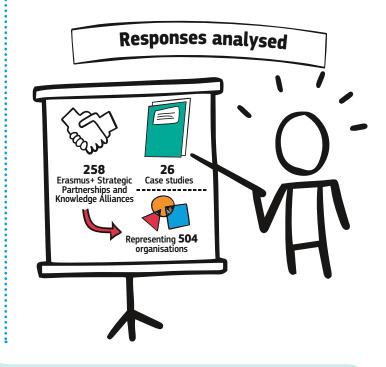
Almost 77 000 Survey responses analysed

47 000 12 000 10 000 7 000

Staff members with

Erasmus+ experience

The Study on the impact of Erasmus+ Higher Education Strategic Partnerships and Knowledge Alliances at local, national and European levels on key Higher Education policy priorities provides an analysis of two types of Erasmus+ transnational cooperation projects, Higher Education Strategic Partnerships and Knowledge Alliances, and their coverage of the policy priorities and objectives. The analysis assesses what impact these projects have at systemic/policy, organisational and individual levels and how this affects the modernisation of higher education systems in Europe.



Consulted between 2017 and 2019

Graduates with

Erasmus+ experience

Erasmus+ students

5 million higher education students since 1987

Other

400 000 higher education students, trainees and staff go abroad each year

Erasmus+ Higher Education Impact Study

1 Erasmus+ students discover what they want to do in life while abroad. They are exposed to new teaching and learning methods and aim to progress to higher levels of education more than non-mobile students.



- Over **70%** say they have a better understanding of what they want to do in their **future career** when they return from their mobility period abroad, enabling them to re-orient their studies to better match their career ambitions.
- Erasmus+ also has an impact on students' personal lives, as **one in five** of them say they **met their partner** during their Erasmus+ mobility.

2 Erasmus+ students improve competences for employment and social cohesion.

- Nine in ten students report gains in adaptability, ability to collaborate with people from different cultures, communication skills and problem-solving skills. More than half improved their digital skills.
- Nine in ten Erasmus+ graduates also report that they use their acquired skills and experiences in their current work.
- Erasmus+ was found to produce a higher impact than other mobility programmes on personal development, social engagement and openness to others cultures.

Former Erasmus+ participants find a job more quickly than non-mobile students. One in four Erasmus+ students go abroad for a traineship that leads to job opportunities.

- Three out of four Erasmus+ graduates consider their experience abroad as beneficial for finding their first job. 80% find their first job after graduation within three months, slightly more than their non-mobile counterparts do.
- 40% who did an Erasmus+ traineeship abroad were hired or offered a job position by their host company (an increase of 20% as compared to 2014).
- · One in ten started their own company.

Erasmus+ mobility of academics improves teaching and learning practices, staff skills and competencies.

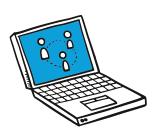
• 43% of academic staff who went to teach or train abroad with Erasmus+ started to use at least one new innovative teaching method (such as work-based learning) during their stay abroad.



- They connect more with the labour market, with 60% involving staff from enterprises in their courses, compared to 40% of non-mobile academics.
 - The impact of Erasmus+ on innovative curriculum development and modern teaching practices spreads beyond participants. More than 80% of academics report that Erasmus+ has led to improvements in these areas in their faculty.

Study on the impact of Erasmus+ Higher Education Strategic Partnerships and Knowledge Alliances at local, national and European levels on key Higher Education policy priorities

Erasmus+ cooperation projects boost digitalisation and innovative pedagogies.



- Over 85% of Erasmus+ cooperation projects led to wider integration of information and communication technologies and blended learning in higher education curricula as well as to innovation in pedagogical practices.
- More than 80% of universities stated they are better prepared for digital transformation, for addressing labour market needs, and delivering increasingly innovative, interdisciplinary and inclusive teaching and learning.
- One in two universities have introduced new digital tools in teaching and learning activities as
 a direct result of their project.

Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships facilitate social inclusion and reinforce democratic values

 Three in five projects are considered to have contributed to enhancing social inclusion and non-discrimination in higher education, with 56% of participating organisations stating that these Strategic Partnerships reinforce democratic values and the civic role of universities in their countries.

Erasmus+ cooperation projects strengthen innovation and entrepreneurship.



 Cooperation projects contribute to entrepreneurial education and entrepreneurship, and one in three leads to or contributes to the creation of spin-offs and start-ups, directly contributing to emerging entrepreneurs