



UNIVERSITY OF KRAGUJEVAC

Erasmus Code: RS KRAGUJE01

PIC: 998850323

POLICY STATEMENT

The University of Kragujevac (UniKG) is a modern educational and research institution consisting of 14 member institutions (12 faculties, Institute for Information Technologies, University Library) offering around 160 accredited study programs pursued by around 19000 students. Its principal goal is to retain the position of the main teaching and research institution of the Central Serbia Region serving as a major driver of its economic and industrial development, and preserving academic tradition and Serbian culture.

UniKG's international cooperation plans and objectives are outlined in a number of strategic documents, out of which the most important ones are the [Internationalization and Mobility Strategies](#) with following ActionPlans, adopted by the UniKG Senate on February 24th, 2022.

The present UniKG's Internationalization Strategy (2022-2027) main objectives reflect on the participation in Erasmus+ program that contributes to the modernization of our institution, as well as to building of the European Education Area. Continuous participation of UniKG in the Program is a precondition for further development and modernisation, therefore the below listed objectives of the current Strategy:

1. Modernization of curricula

- further improvement of academic offer for national and international students ([study programs](#) and [catalogue of courses in foreign languages](#)) will impact not only students' professional knowledge and skills, but also vital competences for employability and competitiveness at globalized labour market, personal fulfilment, sustainable lifestyle and active citizenship, and cultural and environmental awareness.

2. Mobility number increase

- active participation in the Erasmus+ mobility projects enables the increase of inbound and outbound student and staff mobilities for the benefit of the individual participants, as well as the institution as a whole (learning and sharing common values, language learning, supporting inclusive education and European dimension of teaching/learning, supporting the European policy cooperation of exchanging best practices, etc.).

3. Partner number increase

- enhancing cooperation with EU and non-EU universities, research institutions, companies and civil sector through national projects, Erasmus+ and other international projects that will affect the quality of education/training/research activities of all stake-holders.

4. Internationalization commitment

- increasing institution's capacities (financial, infrastructural and human resources) and quality assurance for stronger participation in national, Erasmus+ and other international programs through activities of Board for Internationalisation.

Without active participation in the Erasmus+ program it is impossible to be visible on the academic map of Europe and to be valuable member of the European education area. UniKG will use all its potentials to take full advantage of the Program's actions and respond to the challenges of new educational/research concepts. Future policies will be directed towards lifelong learning and innovation-driven approach to education and training, with due devotion to internationalization and modernisation of the whole Institution.

UniKG has signed over 100 bilateral agreements with partner institutions worldwide and over 100 IIAs reflecting mutual interests and benefits of the partners based on equality and reciprocity.





The partners have been chosen on the basis of compatibility of study programs and research profiles, previously established successful cooperation that was further expanded within the Erasmus+ program, as well as on new affiliations that may bring diversity and novelty in educational and research activities, as it has been/and will be outlined in the UniKG's internationalization strategy.

Erasmus mobility actions remain the main focus of the UniKG's internationalization policy. In the previous period UniKG has revised and adapted its administrative-legal framework to reflect the changed status of the Republic of Serbia as an Erasmus Program Country.

To ensure adequate participation in the Program and other mobility projects, to enhance student and staff mobility, as well as to increase the quality of teaching/learning and research so to better integrate into European Higher Education and Research Area, UniKG's Senate has adopted a set of important documents such as:

1. [Rulebook on the procedures of the University of Kragujevac's participation in Erasmus+ mobility programs](#), adopted in October 2022.
2. [Rulebook on the realization and procedures for recognition of student mobility and ECTS](#), adopted in 2018, and the [Decision on amendments and supplements of the mentioned Rulebook](#), adopted in November 2019.
3. [Rules and conditions for evaluation and selection of University of Kragujevac's students and staff for an Erasmus+ mobility](#), adopted November 2019.

UniKG's previous successful participation in Erasmus Mundus and Erasmus+ ICM projects has enabled us to strengthen earlier contacts and establish new partnerships, gain relevant experience and build capacities, in all levels, for the full participation in the Erasmus+ program. Besides cherishing and supporting these contacts and collaborations, UniKG will strive to create new mobility options for its students and staff, so as to support home internationalization policies and the European policy cooperation of exchanging best practices.

In the context, UniKG will continue to embrace Erasmus initiative by implementing digitalization, inclusive and accessible educational programs, greater Alumni engagement, and promotion of environmentally friendly practices. Having three technical faculties, located in 3 cities, with vast experience in distance learning, we are confident that the concept of blended mobility shall be successfully implemented at our Institution. This mobility type will not only respond to the announced Program's requirements, but will additionally benefit the educational process for all home students as well, as it will enable them to acquire transversal skills, no matter where their home faculty is. Further possibility is to provide new and more flexible mobility formats and innovative ways of learning and teaching with interdisciplinary and more flexible curricula, for both, home and international students. Mobility implementation in practice is described in detail in the questions below.

UniKG has rich experience in the implementation of international educational and research projects, so its participation in other Erasmus+ actions which underline this kind of cooperation (KA2 cooperation projects) remains indisputable. This aspect of international cooperation is acknowledged in the UniKG's Internationalization Strategy, while its organizational aspects are closely defined in the [Rulebook on the procedure of implementation of University's international projects](#), adopted in 2017.

Given the above said, it is not surprising that participation in international projects will remain one of the key strategic goals of the University's internationalization strategy in future. UniKG's commitment to supporting this goal is reflected in a large network of organizational units established to support the implementation of international projects, starting from the Central Department of International Relations (IRO) with the [Office for International Projects](#) through the network of [Erasmus+ academic coordinators](#), providing a smooth connection and cooperation between the University and its member institutions.

Having built its own capacities through the participation in this kind of projects UniKG will continue to facilitate capacity building processes at its partner universities through exchange of knowledge, experiences and best practices. However, it will explore the possibilities for its own enhancement seeking alliances through strategic partnership actions, partnerships for cooperation and innovation, and excellence developing networks with close links to policies and priorities at European and national level.

