

Erasmus Policy Statement 2014-2021

Knowledge for a Better World

NTNU's European Charter is based on two key documents, the Overall Strategy Plan 2011-2021 and the International Action Plan. NTNU will strongly use the institution's profile in science and technology, in addition to its academic breadth and interdisciplinary expertise, to tackle key challenges faced by Norway and the world.

The objective is to be internationally outstanding. NTNU aims to have selected areas that rank among the best in the world. NTNU's graduates will be in demand in the labour market because they have a relevant, high quality education. NTNU's participation in the new Erasmus Programme will help Trondheim's reputation as Norway's best city for education, and make NTNU more attractive for international cooperation. NTNU's international strategy is based upon two principles:

- Building international partnerships
- Linking education, research and innovation within these partnerships

Two issues are prioritized:

1. Participation in the global knowledge society

The link between education, research and innovation within the European Programmes is NTNU's main priority. Actions to reach this objective:

- Strong involvement in Key Action 2 of the Erasmus for All Programme. NTNU has national cooperation with industry, and a special focus on entrepreneurship. Based on this, NTNU wants to develop international knowledge alliances with industry.
- NTNU's participation in international education networks and research provides a platform to identify strategic partners for cooperation (Key Action 2). In addition to this approach, NTNU has five priority groups that focus on Horizon 2020 and EfA. This is supported centrally by extra funding and staff.
- The development of joint study programmes (Key Action 1), like Erasmus Mundus, is important. NTNU aims to participate in at least five joint Erasmus programmes as a partner or coordinator. To achieve this, NTNU supports academics with extra funding and expertise during the application process and running of the programmes. This activity is a major contributor to further development of the EHEA.
- NTNU's participation in the Horizon 2020 Programme should increase, and a specific plan for the research programme has been developed. Funding and staff support have been allocated, and NTNU will prepare research groups for the EIT application round in 2014 to further develop the ERA.
- Cooperation with Nordic countries is important. NTNU will increase focus on programmes like Nordplus and develop more joint degree programmes within the Nordic Five Tech network.

- Bilateral cooperation outside Europe:
 - Main priority is given to NTNU's education and research cooperation with China. NTNU will develop four Joint Research Centres with Chinese universities. In addition, several double degree programmes will be established.
 - NTNU wants to improve cooperation with India, South Korea, Russia, Brazil, USA and Japan.
 - NTNU will continue cooperation with developing countries. NTNU is a strong player within capacity building programmes like NORHED and EnPe (Energy and Petroleum). The experience from these programmes will be transferred to Key action 2.3 and 2.4 to help to build strong networks.

2. International mobility of students and researchers

- Mobility for students and researchers is a part of the same context and should help link international education- and research cooperation.
- Key Action 1 is significant to achieve this objective. Currently, 30% of all graduates at NTNU had a study abroad stay.
- The goal is to increase this number to 40% before 2014. Tool: All new masters' programmes have to indicate times suitable to study abroad, a list with recommended universities (min 5 from EU) and approved course packages. In addition to European funding, NTNU will allocate money to create new inter-institutional agreements.
- NTNU will continue cooperation with European countries (focus on institutions identified by priority groups, to ensure links with research) and follow up bilateral programmes like the Norwegian Grants under the EEA scheme.
- Outside Europe, NTNU will establish new exchange possibilities with the BRIC countries through Erasmus for All and national funding.
- Special efforts will be made where Erasmus placement numbers are low. Closer cooperation with IAESTE and international industry partners will help offer attractive placements.
- Researcher and non-academic staff mobility:
 - NTNU has to increase the number of researchers and PhDs who go abroad. To achieve this, local resources (additional funding for TS) and EU programme activities will be offered. International experience will be considered when academics apply for sabbaticals.
 - Internationalisation will be part of the recruitment plans for academics (and their international network). Cooperation within various fields will help attract international academics to NTNU.
 - Mobility of administrative staff will be supported stronger than before.