

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Brno University of Technology (BUT), the oldest university in South Moravia region and one of the leading technical universities in Czech Republic, hereby acknowledges its responsibility to provide quality education in technology and engineering and uphold its academic values and traditions to contribute to the progress and well-being of society.

Challenges of a globalised world require higher education institutions to put great emphasis on internationalisation and partnership seeking and BUT is naturally determined not to be left behind. The overall BUT internationalisation strategy for cooperation with EU and non-EU partners has several key areas, each with specific objectives and methods to achieve them.

These include, among others:

- to establish and foster long-term partnerships with prestigious universities for purpose of academic mobility of students and staff within high-profile mobility schemes and research opportunities within EU and beyond.
- to continue promoting broad range of mobility programmes (Erasmus+ and others) and its participants' outcomes in order to steadily increase the numbers of applicants, including practical traineeships, as these constitute natural continuation of study abroad experience with the added value of applying theory to practice in a new, challenging environment.
- to maintain transparent administrative procedures and measures of quality assurance in regards to both incoming and outgoing mobility as well as a strictly non-discriminatory approach.
- to uphold the criteria of recently successfully renewed ECTS and DS Labels to demonstrate commitment to consistent and transparent academic recognition procedures and study affairs management.
- to support and expand offer of professional English-taught study programmes in order to attract more foreign exchange and degree students, including fee-paying ones, for balanced reciprocity of incoming and outgoing students.
- to continue and expand successful participation in development of joint/double degree programmes.
- to make teaching and administrative staff mobility an integral part of career plan to increase qualification (including foreign language proficiency), flexibility and initiative of employees in order to fully utilize their potential.

- to continue providing excellent conditions to support top-quality research and sufficient funding and scholarship opportunities
- encourage students and staff to present the results of their projects on seminars, conferences, fairs and other international events.

By pursuing these objectives, Brno University of Technology aims to do its part in modernisation and innovation of European higher education and in no smaller extent to self-reflect upon its own current performance and find new ways for sustainable improvements and to learn from examples of good practice.

The five key objectives of the Modernisation Agenda, in particular, correspond to:

- continuing efforts of the BUT to make higher education available to as much talented applicants as possible and to present itself as an attractive university with broad educational possibilities and specialized study programmes, which respond to the recently increased demand of both Czech and European labour market for qualified graduates from technical disciplines.
- efforts of the BUT to identify and react to changing trends in higher education by applying realistic, attainable and measurable policies to improve its study programmes and adopting progressive teaching and training methods.
- efforts of the BUT to increase the numbers of mobile students and staff for excellence in education and training.
- efforts of the BUT to maintain its good reputation and increase its visibility to leading domestic and international research institutions and enterprises. This cooperation offers much needed practical experience and future job opportunities to students and researchers, while the partners in turn benefit from the availability of excellent, hard-working and innovative young professionals and strategic partnership with established higher education institution.
- belief that the staff members' experience of international mobility and further involvement in subsequent cross-border activities is of great importance to their career progress and competitiveness of any university, with beneficial impacts on the quality of university's governance and administration in order to ensure responsible, informed decision-making to effectively react to up-to-date political, social and economic circumstances within the Czech Republic, the EU and in the world.

Last but not least, partnerships in joint research and project work should also promote BUT abroad to help attract sponsors and investors for university development and modernization, as well as serve as a basis for successful fundraising from grant agencies, thus allow for sustainable increase in international activities and overall growth of the university.

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