

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

SCUOLA SUPERIORE PER MEDIATORI LINGUISTICI

FONDAZIONE UNIVERSITARIA SAN PELLEGRINO

STRATEGY

For International exchanges, our strategy is to promote knowledge and culture by the means of exchanges. We want our students to immerse themselves in other European and international education systems, enhancing our own curriculum, creating a multicultural and tolerating environment, thus promoting the study of languages. We do this by promoting international exchange programmes of students and teachers through the Erasmus programme and the other similar programmes.

For 2014, our goal is to increase the flow of students and teachers making mobility compulsory for our future translators and interpreters.

We will try to improve our insufficient use of ECTS to reach the average European standard.

1) Choosing partners: we have only a handful of consolidated partners with whom we have been collaborating well for years and we want to consolidate these connections even further. By making mobility – whether it be on Erasmus programmes or other – compulsory, we have to find other partners which are similar in size and structure to our faculty and we are already working in this direction.

2) Geographic contacts: The most common languages offered at our faculty are English, French, German, Spanish, Russian and Portuguese. At present we only have one or two partners in each of these language except English (English partners are hard to find and we intend to create courses in English to encourage British students to come to SSML San Pellegrino) and Russian which was recently introduced into our curriculum – we are looking for an alternative program to establish this contact as Russia does not fall within the Erasmus programme.

For other complementary languages (Arabic, Chinese and Japanese) we hope to make use of the Erasmus Mundus.

Other objectives are to increase the mobility of our staff within the Erasmus programme but also to create mobility of staff with teachers in other alternative projects (for Russia, china, Japan and the Arabic countries) with the aim of benefiting from the comparison with the methods applied in the different countries and strengthening the preparation of our staff.

IMPACT ON MODERNIZATION

1) Increase the levels of qualification to educate graduates

Having renowned partners helps us increase the level of qualification and makes us improve ourselves, not to mention that our students or teachers coming back from abroad facilitate the process of improvement in regard to their qualification. The deep knowledge of the language and culture they studied gives them an

easier way into labour market. And let us not forget the work placement abroad (thanks to the Placement programme), a winning ticket for our student in their search for an employment.

2) Improve the quality and the relevance of the secondary teaching.

In order to improve the quality and relevance of our teaching, we aim at increasing the study hours of foreign languages (English, in particular) through the diversity of the teachers who benefit from the mobility and are able to pass on their experience.

3) Increase the quality thanks to mobility and transnational cooperation.

Considering the specificity of SSML San Pellegrino and the future career of our students, sending them to study abroad is essential, but we also wish to improve the quality of our school's teaching by taking advantage of the experience of the students coming back from Erasmus, as well as our teacher's experience.

4) Connect knowledge and labour world

Almost all of the students coming back from Erasmus wish to repeat the experience abroad through the Placement programme or by continuing their studies abroad. We support these choices by encouraging them and helping them in their search of foreign schools or companies where they can do the Placement.

5) Improve organization and financing

Our school does not receive financing from the State and it is difficult for us to integrate the UE scholarship, but external bodies such as the Region offer a supplementary help for the students in need. The general organization of the school requires a considerable financial effort as well, that is not always covered by the university tax paid by the students.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, despite our limited means, we keep trying to improve SSML San Pellegrino, the quality of the services we offer and the competence given and obtained. We wish to be a dynamic school searching for excellence, to develop excellence, well-integrated in the Region but especially in Europe and in the world, to educate a future generation that can keep up with the times.