

Erasmus Policy Statement

IZMIR TINAZTEPE UNIVERSITY for the years 2021-2027

IZMIR TINAZTEPE UNIVERSITY (hereinafter referred to as IZTU) is a medical and health sciences based modern, technical, foundation university cooperating with domestic, European as well as global universities and research institutions. IZTU is one of a very few health based only university in Turkey supported by prestigious health group of hospitals and medical centre with a history of 20 years leading to the university committed to care , preventive medicine ,research , development and innovation.

In accordance with the guidelines issued by the Authority of Higher Education, IZTU's priority for the forthcoming years is to strengthen the image of an open university where science and new technology can be initiated to meet the highest global standards. Therefore, our crucial challenge is to increase the level of internationalization, which will lead to strengthening IZTU's international position. IZTU is a committed university which prioritizes non discrimination , transparency ,equal opportunities ,environment and human rights.

The Beneficiaries of the new edition of the Programme will include students (1st, 2nd, and cycle), teachers as well as administrative staff. IZTU plans to continue cooperation under the project with partners from the EU, Eastern Europe, Asia and both Americas. The areas of special focus include cooperation with partners from neighboring countries, Eastern Balkan countries, CIS countries , Middle Eastern and African countries... Under the next Programme (2021- 2027) IZTU plans to continue implementation of international projects aiming at the development and dissemination of innovative solutions within Key Action 2: *Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices.*

The participation of our University in the Erasmus Programme is in line with the major objectives defined in the IZTU Development Strategy including, in particular: promotion of the European dimension of education, further development of multilateral cooperation between IZTU and universities, enterprises as well as local government organisations, an increase of the number of student, teacher and administrative staff mobilities as well as taking actions promoting full, mutual recognition of qualifications acquired by Participants as well as implementing and promoting innovative solutions.

The most important objectives behind the participation of IZTU in the next Programme (2021- 2027) include:

- 1) improvement of IZTU internationalization indicator in terms of number of mobilities;

- 2) development of cooperation with partner universities and enterprises along with establishing new contacts;
- 3) IZTU becoming more attractive internationally (stronger position in international rankings, increased number of scientific publications);
- 4) support non-EU partner universities;
- 5) improved quality of teaching, including expanded range of foreign language courses offered by IZTU and partner universities;
- 6) increased awareness of the programme and the benefits of participation among members of the IZTU community, partner universities as well as local communities;
- 7) improvement of language competencies and qualifications relating to the professional profiles of programme participants;
- 8) boosting employability and career prospects for IZTU graduates aiming at the European and global labour market;
- 9) deeper understanding of social, linguistic and cultural diversity among the programme participants.

IZTU's involvement in the Erasmus Programme will contribute to implementation of the EU Council conclusions on moving towards a vision of an European Education Area through:

- adjustment of IZTU's education systems and infrastructure to the requirements of the digital era (training courses, seminars, student and staff consultations delivered through e-learning platform: COIL
- simplification of rules and procedures resulting in reduced administrative workload at all levels (e.g introduction of new tools: Online Learning Agreement, Erasmus Dashboard).

Cooperation carry out through participations in international educational and scientific projects is an important element contributing to empower IZTU leading position among domestic and international research centers.

Within the new edition of the Programme IZTU declares the will to participate in the following actions:

- 1) educational mobilities for students, post graduate students and employees – Key Action 1,
- 2) cooperation for innovations and good practices in the field of capacity building in higher education including, in particular, the area of research activities conducted by IZTU and its cooperation with business enterprises – Key Action 2.

The mentioned above actions will be implemented at IZTU by:

- 1) submitting applications for funding under particular projects or co-participation in consortia,
- 2) signing interinstitutional agreements with foreign partners,
- 3) announcing programme recruitment at IZTU and partner institutions,

4) implementation and development of student and staff exchange programmes for educational, training and research purposes with partners institutions,

5) mobility-supporting activities, including:

- development of course curricula in cooperation with foreign partners,
- establishment of compulsory research mobilities at foreign institutions,
- supporting staff and post graduate candidates encouraging them to conduct innovative research and publishing scientific papers in international journals,
- promotion of joint actions towards post graduate students' graduation,
- promotion of employment of visiting professors from foreign institutions,

6) financial reporting of the projects.

IZTU's participation in the Erasmus Programme will contribute to the University achievement in the following objectives as specified in the IZTU Development Strategy:

1) gaining higher internationalization indicator by increased number of student and staff mobility,

2) stronger position held by IZTU in international rankings with a higher number of international publications,

3) improvement of quality of education and increased number of courses offered,

4) increased level of knowledge, skills and qualifications achieved by students and staff of IZTU and partner universities,

5) higher number of bilateral agreements,

6) implementation of Electronic Document Management Systems (University digitization),

7) IZTU graduates more attractive in the labour market,

8) IZTU more attractive among prospective students and employees also from abroad.

IZTU's participation in the Erasmus+ programme has a significant impact on the process of University modernisation, aiming to:

1) improve the quality of education and the range of educational and training courses offered- in perspective;

2) boost knowledge, skills and qualifications of the IZTU students and staff;

3) increase the number of student and staff mobilities;

4) enhance the efficiency of the University management and financing system.

The above mentioned process will be carried out in line with EU priorities designated for higher education in regards to qualitative and quantitative indicators in the following areas:

1) improvement of the quality of education through:

- ongoing amendments of the Internal system for educational quality assurance;
- development of cooperation with domestic and international partners in order to ensure high quality of education and enhancing employability of the University graduates;
- launching new majors conducted in Turkish and English, leading to the acquisition of unique skills;
- broadening the offer of a double degree programmes offer;
- expanding the range of educational and training courses offered with a contribution from representatives of the business environment.

2) an increase of transnational mobilities and cooperation through:

- the development of networks of international contacts enabling transfer of knowledge, higher number of partners as well as implementation of joint educational and research programmes;
- promotion of internship opportunities within foreign enterprises;
- amendment of systems and infrastructure to meet the requirements of the digital era;
- simplification of rules and procedures resulting in reduced administrative workload at all levels introduction of new tools, including: Online Learning Agreement, Erasmus Dashboard.

3) increasing the number of graduates through:

- strengthening individual and group student counselling;
- launching new innovative degree programmes.

4) boosting up the 'Knowledge Triangle' encompassing „Education – Research – Innovation” by:

- development of new learning and teaching methods involving representatives from business sector;
- delivering further support in acquiring placements for students' internships and employment;
- educational, training and research projects carried out in cooperation with business enterprises.

5) creating management and financing systems through:

- modernisation of the educational and training infrastructure to meet the requirements of the digital era;
- implementation of new procedures assessing the quality of the curricula;
- development of result-based financing and rewarding systems.

IZTU's participation in Erasmus+ programme will enable to carry out such a wide spectrum of actions by developing relations and creating networks between institutions and their employees, facilitating cooperation in the field of education, training and research. The University will support actions undertaken by students and staff members aiming to increase international activity and mobility by:

- promoting participation's opportunities in international projects;
- managing the flow of information between IZTU and its foreign partners;
- hosting information events and training courses preparing for participations in international projects;
- expanding the network of contacts with foreign partners;
- organizing information meetings and events in order to increase the number of foreign students, teaching staff