

## **ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT**

International cooperation strategy of Law College aims to promote a wide range of knowledge and skills, based on formation of an intelligent society, to promote higher social cohesion; in the framework of cooperation to acquire high-quality knowledge and practical skills corresponding to the world and European quality standards. Strategy of Law College within the framework of international cooperation is to ensure sustainable international collaboration, development of the study programs, providing high quality studies in conditions of increasing competition in the field of higher education. Participation in the lifelong learning programs is an essential aspect of ensuring quality, expanding the horizons of students and lecturers, and providing new theoretical and practical skills. Only active international cooperation and experience can provide high educational standards. The strategy envisages involvement of the lecturers and students in the lifelong learning exchange programs, which promote the development of the college in international and uniform European higher education environment. In the framework of the strategy, it is important to provide opportunities for the lecturers to share experiences with colleagues from other countries, and for the students to spend part of their study time at one of the European Union higher education institutions. International cooperation will foster not only learning and understanding of the host country, but also promote a sense of community between students from different countries. Information about the lifelong learning exchange programs and international cooperation strategies is placed in the college website and on the informative message boards in the premises of the College.

The College has a study program aimed at training highly qualified specialists for their entry into the local labor market as well as, if the occasion arises, into the labor market of other EU member states. It is very important what College of Law do now and will do in the future to strengthen the close cooperation with employers, to signature new cooperation agreements on student practice field, organizing workshops and brain games. Partnerships based on the co-definition of qualification frameworks, quality assurance and professional involvement in courses at all study programmes are the elements that guarantee that we can deliver sustained employability for our students. The program is based on the experience of similar institutions in other EU member states as regards the content and the process of courses. The past experience in the field of international collaboration has taken various forms. Visitors (lecturers and practitioners) from the USA, Canada, Germany, Turkey and European Commission have given guest lectures. Every two years College has organized and held international conferences. The College intends via the

Erasmus Programme to broaden the extent of student and staff exchange, to disseminate information concerning experience it has accumulated as well as gaining insight foreign expertise. The College becoming associated with the Erasmus program would raise the quality of its studies program in particular edge in the field of higher education. Position: widely publicize and explain the learning opportunities and requirements for both academic and administrative staff and students by organizing seminars and conferences, the publication of information on the Internet and issuing in pamphlet form, applicants hold an exchange workshops with colleges and universities Latvian pursuing lifelong learning programs to promote the experiences of teachers and students who have already taken advantage of the Lifelong Learning opportunities to practice or study abroad, reflecting their website, college newspaper and seminars on a regular basis once every year to collect and analyze the results of the Lifelong Learning Program and to discuss them in JK Council meeting. JK is also a member of several international organizations: EURASHE, PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education), the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics. We have a good cooperation with universities and internships in Turkey and in the future they want this cooperation to strengthen and develop. Exchange of experiences good cooperation has developed in the U.S., in the future we plan to expand.

International cooperation projects in studies and practice to relate to the Erasmus program opportunities in order to gain international experience in studies and practice in the following key areas:

- 1) Study process improvement and development, introducing of new programs;
- 2) Study process improvement both in the context of the contents and methodology;
- 3) Bringing together study process and the labor market and practice;
- 4) In students and academic staff' research work;
- 5) Improving professional staff' skills;
- 6) Developing and implementing the joint study programs, involving new cooperation partners.

The principal means whereby the delivery of education may be perfected during the period of time up to 2020 are: to provide annually an in-depth assessment of the study programme, engaging outside experts, including, as needed, foreign experts, as well as representatives of professional non-governmental bodies; as regards organizational issues, to accelerate, by means of working visits, adoption of experience of other Institutions of Higher Education as regards organizing studies and by inviting outside specialists to visit the College of Law; to extend and to deepen work carried out with students so that they might from the outset of their studies learn modern learning techniques, how more effectively to combine attendance at lectures with independent study at home, at libraries and at palaces of their training; to build upon experience

gained on how practical skills are related to theoretical knowledge, by holding regular mock trials, simulating the work of EU institutions, state structures and private organizations, offering legal and business consultations upon demand. To mobilize resources of the College in the above mentioned ways to use the experience of the ERASMUS geographical area higher educational establishments and colleges, comparing with the respective experience of the U.S., Canada and Australia, obtained participating in the World Federation of Colleges and polytechnics, UN education program PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education), as well as cooperating with the American association of colleges. For this purpose use the information gained from the experience exchange field trips, international conferences and seminars, electronic databases and the Internet, connecting it to the information and experience gained in the framework of the Erasmus programme.

The strategy is focused on five ambitious goals in the areas of employment, innovation, education, poverty reduction and climate/energy.

The principal goals for development of the study programme over the coming period of time to 2020 are: to focus primary attention on ensuring that development of the programme continues to offer high quality education under conditions of fierce competition; further to raise the quality of studies following a dedicated plan, to make certain that the length of study is of sufficiently short duration but optimal in its impact; to ensure that theoretical knowledge imparted during the course of studies is maximally relevant to practical situations (relevant to the demands of the job market), taking advantage of a variety of teaching methods; to raise the mobility of lecturers and students, in particular through increased cooperation with foreign Institutions; to formulate the study programme as part of the process of life-long learning, taking account of the educational background and practical experience of incoming students, as well as forecasts of future job market needs.

Attracting academic staff and raising their professional qualifications: to broaden cooperation with doctoral study programmes at institutions of higher learning to attract new staff with doctoral degrees; to encourage those College of Law lecturers who are thus inclined to pursue doctoral studies, paying their tuition fees, and providing other stimuli for raising their qualifications; to expand the engagement of guest lecturers, either from Latvia or abroad, recognised specialists in their field, either for individual lectures, or for a full lecture cycle; to engage all lecturers, in line with the needs of the study programme, to raise their qualifications and to ensure that each lecturer become involved in the research projects of the College and publish no less than once every three years his finding.

Attracting new students and organizing advertising campaigns: to contact and work together with teachers and students at secondary schools, to explain the work and perspectives for study at

the College, including future career prospects, to expand the Young Lawyers School and Language school programmes; to study the multiple forms of advertising, understand the nature of offers made by professional advertising firms, to carry out a market survey, to develop an advertising strategy appropriate for College needs; to reward students who show outstanding results, either in tangible form or otherwise.

Strengthening the methodological aspects of the study process: to encourage College lecturers to compile and publish new methodological materials, to prepare audio and video recordings of lectures to support students in acquiring knowledge and skills; to publish regularly collected papers written by College of Law staff and students. To continue with holding international conferences concerning topics related to the study programme; to increase the present collection of 22 000 printed items at the library of the College of Law to 25 000 items, acquiring new textbooks and methodological publications; to expand library collections at regional centers of the College. To increase the variety of published foreign literature and databases accessible at the College.

Through internationalization the College wants to achieve the highest international standard in research and teaching, that enables the College students to become competitive labor force in today's global labor market. The College recognizes its responsibility for promoting tolerance and understanding between Latvians and other nations and cultures and for combating xenophobia and racism in the society. The College observes the principle of equal opportunities regarding female and male students and staff, as well as disabled students and staff, equal opportunities to participate in Lifelong Learning programme Erasmus activities are granted to all the candidates.

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