

**International cooperation strategy**  
**(Erasmus Policy Statement)**  
**Powiślańska Szkoła Wyższa (Powiślański University)**  
**for the years 2021-2027**

The strategy for the development of international cooperation of the Powiślański University is an important element in the implementation of its mission. **The university emphasizes the activity of participating in building the contemporary labor market by integrating experience and the needs of employers with the learning process.** The university wants to achieve this task by maintaining relations with domestic and foreign, social, health/care system and business institutions and by participating in the creation of European higher education. Operating within Poland and abroad, the University wants to:

- create conditions for students and employees for comprehensive development of their talents,
- create, develop and implement innovative teaching methods,
- in response to the changing challenges of the market and global economy, it wants to provide specialist knowledge and develop practical, creative skills and social competences in an atmosphere of tolerance and freedom, lasting relationship with society and responsibility for the action;

One of the University's strategic goals is **participation in the global education market through international cooperation and extensive use of the opportunities arising from participation in the Erasmus program.** The university intends to participate in all activities under the Erasmus program in 2021-2027, in which the main priorities and goals are:

**1. Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility: The mobility of higher education students and staff.** The main goal will be to involve as many students and employees of the University as possible in international exchange enabling them to benefit from education, culture, linguistic development and from learning or teaching experiences in other program and partner countries. This will allow to expand the university's internationalization process, acquire new partners and promote the program.

**2. Erasmus Key Action 2 (KA2) - Cooperation among organizations and institutions: Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices:**

a) entering into strategic partnerships that will aim to implement and disseminate innovative solutions in University. The effect will be the modernization of the University's didactic offer, its better adaptation to the needs of society, health/care system and the economy, and the improvement of the quality of education at the University,

b) concluding knowledge alliances in cooperation with enterprises, that aim will be to promote innovation, entrepreneurship, creativity, increase student employability, exchange knowledge and support multidisciplinary teaching and learning;

**The Powiślański University, implementing the student and staff exchange program in accordance with the principles of the Erasmus program, will ensure the highest quality of its activities in the field of academic mobility, in particular through:**

- full compliance with the principles of non-discrimination;
- complete credit for all positively assessed subjects that the student attended during the period of study abroad;
- not collecting any tuition fees, registration fees, examination fees, use of laboratories or libraries from incoming students;
- ensuring full and equal access for all participants, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds;
- having a procedure for awarding ECTS credits;
- implementing the provisions of the European Student Card Initiative;
- promoting the Erasmus + mobile application among students;
- implementing and promoting environmentally friendly practices under the Erasmus + program;
- promoting civic attitudes among program participants;
- publishing on the website and regularly and timely updating course catalogs to ensure transparency of information for all concerned and enable students - candidates for mobility - to make the right choices regarding the foreign curriculum;
- implementing mobility based on previously concluded inter institutional agreements; defining the role and obligations of each party and obliging them to comply with agreed quality criteria applied in the selection of candidates;
- preparation of mobility participants, their reception in a foreign institution and integration with the local community;
- providing mobility participants with good preparation for the trip, including language preparation enabling them to reach an appropriate level of proficiency;

- implementing educational mobility of students and employees on the basis of agreements prepared and approved before departure (on the study program / internship in the case of students and on the teaching / training for employees), agreed by the sending, receiving institution and the mobility participant;
- ensuring outgoing and incoming mobility of assisted participants with obtaining a visa, if required;
- ensuring outgoing and incoming mobility of assisted participants with insurance, if required;
- providing arriving mobility participants with support in finding accommodation;
- ensuring equal treatment of students and local employees as well as incoming mobility participants in academic terms and in relation to other services rendered;
- integrating incoming mobility participants into the daily life of the host institution and integrating them into the local academic community;
- offering incoming mobility participants appropriate advice and support;
- providing incoming mobility participants with adequate language support;
- recognition of all student activities listed in the study / apprenticeship agreements - provided they are successfully completed - as part of the education program leading to a home university diploma;
- forwarding to incoming mobility participants and their home institutions certificates containing a full and accurate record of their achievements;
- supporting the reintegration of returning mobility participants and enabling them to use the experience gained for the benefit of the institution and other students / staff;
- recognition of the teaching and training activities undertaken by employees during the mobility period in accordance with the previously concluded agreement.

**With the participation in cooperation projects of the Powiślański University:**

- will ensure that the cooperation undertaken leads to lasting results that benefit all partners;
- provide appropriate support to employees and students participating in projects;
- will use the results of projects in such a way as to ensure the greatest possible impact on individual participants and institutions, as well as to promote mutual exchange of knowledge and experience within the wider academic community;

**In order to promote information, the Powiślański University:**

- place the ECHE Card with the Erasmus university policy statement on its website;

- will consistently promote the activities undertaken in the program and their results on its website and social media.

**The Powiślański University observes the principles of gender equality, integration of disabled students and employees, the principles of social and economic cohesion as well as the fight against xenophobia and racism.**

The participation of specific actions under the Erasmus + program will allow the achievement of the main strategic goals of international cooperation:

1. Creating an international, dynamic environment conducive to the transfer of knowledge.
2. Developing students' professional, social and intercultural competences and strengthening their position on the domestic and international labor market.
3. Acquiring an increasing number of partners among international institutions operating in areas consistent with the fields of study at the university.
4. Improving the potential of teaching and administrative staff through participation in mobility under the Erasmus + program.
5. Constant development and improvement of the University's educational offer aiming at increasing the number of domestic and foreign students.
6. Take action to ensure the use and promotion of digital mobility management tools
7. Wider use of mixed mobility. Promoting environmentally friendly practices in all program activities.
8. Using former participants, students and employees to promote participation in the program as local ambassadors of program;

The entire academic community is involved in the internationalization process of the Powiślański University. By supporting the mobility of students and academic staff, creating modern curricula adapted to the requirements of the modern labor market, the University contributes to the promotion of the European dimension of higher education. Mobility under the Erasmus + program serves the achievement of objectives related to the internationalization and modernization of the University and has a significant impact on the process of reforming education areas. The Erasmus + program at the University acts as a platform for other activities based on mobility, such as cooperation with higher education institutions, companies, authorities, creating strategic partnerships, knowledge alliances and projects related to capacity building. The implementation of projects under the Erasmus + program is a key factor in

achieving the objectives that are to serve its modernization in all priority areas. The program will promote mobility and openness of the University to international cooperation with various institutions. The international environment for the exchange of experience and knowledge, as well as a cooperation plan with institutions outside the education sector, in particular with business health/care system, will support the University's efforts to improve the quality and usability of teaching and equip graduates with the knowledge and competences necessary to succeed in the labor market. The Erasmus + program will provide students with the opportunity to gain additional skills through the implementation of international mobility. Improved study programs that may arise as a result of the implementation of mobility activities will largely meet the expectations and needs of students. Through an attractive educational offer, the University will be able to attract a larger number of Polish and foreign students, which will contribute to the increase in the number of university graduates. Participation in the program will strengthen efforts to create an effective management system and financing mechanisms within the institution. New projects will launch new opportunities, new challenges and results. Through its active participation, the University will be able to strengthen the procedures of effective financial management in order to maximize the project results within the available financial means and by seeking and using additional external funds. By participating in the program, the University will gain new opportunities to verify its strengths and will be able to focus on using them to ensure positive results.

### **Implementation of projects.**

The university plans to successively increase the mobility of students and employees, engage in new projects with current and future partners while striving to achieve education at a high international level. International projects and participation in them the University will conduct based on an analysis of the institution's needs and taking steps to satisfy them. This will allow selection of appropriate projects and partners that guarantee a positive result of the undertaking. Projects based on bilateral cooperation will lead to further deepening its international commitment, bringing positive and sustainable results. The objectives of cooperation, the role of the University in the project and the expected results will be defined in advance. Organizational structure, action plan, selection of people responsible for their implementation and monitoring methods will be established in advance to ensure project implementation in a controlled and effective way. Each time, the university will appoint a team responsible for preparing standards and procedures, ensuring financial resources and managing them

effectively as part of the project implementation. Participation in each project will be an important part of the professional development of individual participants as well as a key element of internationalization and modernization of the institution. The university will ensure the project's promotional activities, dissemination and use of its results to maximize its impact on individuals, the entire academic community and participating institutions.

## **Partners**

The university establishes cooperation with partners from European Union countries and from outside it focusing its interest on the countries of Eastern Europe, Central and Eastern Asia, North America, Africa and Australia. The geographical scope has been determined by the increasing number of students, especially from Eastern Europe, and established contacts with universities, which have resulted in active cooperation to date. Currently, the University has over 120 signed partnership agreements.