

In the following sections of the application form, you will need to explain how your institution will fulfil the ECHE principles if the Charter is awarded. You are encouraged to consult the [ECHE Guidelines](#) for support in completing this application.

Please note that your Erasmus+ National Agency will monitor your Erasmus Policy Statement and your answers to the questions given in the application. The Erasmus+ National Agency reserves the right to request more information on your activities and propose supplementary measures, for the purposes of monitoring and implementing the Charter principles by your institution.

1. ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

1.1 Erasmus activities included in your EPS

In this section, you need to tick the Erasmus activities covered by your Erasmus Policy Statement. Please select those activities that your HEI intends to implement during the entire duration of the Programme.

Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility:

The mobility of higher education students and staff

Erasmus Key Action 2 (KA2) - Cooperation among organisations and institutions:

Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices

Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities

Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

Partnerships for Innovation

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3):

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support to policy development and cooperation:

1.2 Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): your strategy

Your Erasmus Policy Statement should reflect how you intended to implement Erasmus after the award of the ECHE. Should you wish to add additional activities in the future, you will need to amend your Erasmus Policy Statement and inform your Erasmus National Agency.

What would you like to achieve by participating in the Erasmus Programme? How does your participation in the Erasmus Programme fit into your institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy?

(Please reflect on the objectives of your participation. Please explain how you expect the

participation in Erasmus to contribute towards modernising your institution, as well as on the goal of building a European Education Area¹ and explain the policy objectives you intend to pursue).

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

Internationalizarea este unul dintre obiectivele strategice ale Universitatii din Craiova (UCv) si joaca un rol esential in promovarea valorilor academice ale institutiei noastre. Intrucat schimbul in orice domeniu si de orice natura este cel care asigura progresul si garanteaza dezvoltarea perpetua, conducerea UCv pleaca de la premisa ca modernizarea prin intermediul activitatilor internationale reprezinta cheia unei strategii de internationalizare.

Politica de internationalizare a UCv a fost actualizata in luna martie 2020, ca urmare a incheierii concursului pentru ocuparea functiei de rector, din luna februarie. Noua politica de internationalizare, la fel ca intreaga strategie universitara, este valabila in perioada 2020-2024, in concordanta cu durata mandatului rectorului, potrivit prevederilor Art. 3 din *Metodologia de alegere a rectorului Universitatii din Craiova*, adoptata in sedinta Senatului din 05.01.2012. Cel mai recent Plan Strategic al UCv a fost aprobat prin Hotararea nr. 5 a sedintei Senatului din 30.04.2020. Viziunea internationala actuala este asumata si o continua, in linii mari, pe cea anterioara si plaseaza Programul Erasmus+ in centrul activitatilor de internationalizare la nivel institutional, acesta fiind principalul instrument pe care UCv il are la dispozitie pentru a atinge obiectivele stabilite in strategia de internationalizare.

Raspunzand politicii strategice de internationalizare a UCv, Programul Erasmus+ va asigura, prin intermediul Actiunii Cheie 1, cresterea numarului de schimburi academice si de activitati internationale desfasurate in parteneriat cu universitatile din Tarile Programului sau Tarile Partenere si va conduce, totodata, la dezvoltarea institutionala prin stabilirea de noi parteneriate in cadrul Actiunilor Cheie 2 si 3, conectand Universitatea din Craiova la politicile europene, prin implicarea institutiei in proiectele care vizeaza infiintarea unor consortii universitare pentru dezvoltare institutionala (ex: Universitati Europene).

Prin continuarea participarii la Programul Erasmus+ pentru perioada 2021-2027, UCv isi propune sa isi indeplineasca indatoririle fata de toate partile implicate, asigurandu-se ca va duce la bun sfarsit obiectivele ce vizeaza stabilirea, dezvoltarea si mentinerea colaborarii cu institutiile partenere, dar si asigurarea accesului egal, complet si neconditionat la oportunitatile de educatie si formare profesionala oferite de Program studentilor si personalului academic si administrativ deopotriva.

Din punctul de vedere al mobilitatii internationale, Programul Erasmus+ este cel mai important instrument pe care universitatea noastra il are la indemana pentru a asigura formarea profesionala si personala a studentilor, profesorilor si personalului administrativ. Programul Erasmus+ ofera, astfel, posibilitatile de formare corespunzatoare, pentru a asigura cresterea nivelului de performanta a personalului format in institutiile partenere, care va putea, la randul sau, sa contribuie la conturarea unui cadru adecvat pentru modernizarea, diversificarea si internationalizarea activitatilor academice prin schimburi de experienta si bune practici, care pot fi apoi implementate in institutia noastra. Activitatile internationale vor contribui, de asemenea, la imbunatatirea si dezvoltarea programelor de studii, in ceea ce priveste arile curriculare, respectiv structura si continutul cursurilor existente, intrucat Universitatea din Craiova incearca in permanenta sa-si adapteze programele de studii la cerintele angajatorilor din tara si din strainatate pentru a facilita insertia profesionala a absolventilor si a cercetatorilor universitatii. Dezvoltarea profesionala a membrilor personalului academic didactic sau nedidactic va reprezenta un beneficiu pentru intreaga comunitate academica. In plus, calitatea activitatilor academice ale personalului implicat in proiecte sau mobilitati internationale va oferi institutiei noastre oportunitatea de a-si confirma excelenta din domeniile didactice si de cercetare in randul partenerilor, ceea ce ar trebui, de asemenea, sa conduca la o crestere a mobilitatilor internationale viitoare, dar si la stabilirea si dezvoltarea unor parteneriate academice valoroase.

Internationalisation emerges as one of the strategic objectives of the University of Craiova (UCv) and plays an essential role in promoting the academic values of our institution. On the grounds that exchange in any domain and of any nature ensures progress and guarantees continuous development, the leadership of the University of Craiova considers that modernisation through international activities is the key factor of an internationalisation strategy.

The internationalisation policy of UCv has been updated in March 2020 following the completion of the rector's election process in February. The new policy, aligned with the entire academic strategy, is valid for the term 2020-2024, being correlated with the duration of the rector's mandate, which is established in accordance with the provisions of Art. 3 of the *Methodology for election of the Rector of the University of Craiova* adopted in the Senate's meeting on 5 January 2012. The most recent Strategic Plan of UCv was approved through Decision no. 5 of the Senate's meeting on 30 April 2020. The current international vision has already been enacted and it follows broadly the previous one, placing the Erasmus+ Programme at the centre of institutional activities of internationalisation, as UCv's main tool to achieve its strategic goals.

In response to UCv's strategic policy of internationalisation, the Erasmus+ Programme will ensure, through Key

¹ For more information on the priorities of the European Education Area, such as recognition, digital skills, common values and inclusive education, please consult the following website:

https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en

Action 1, the increase in the number of academic exchanges and international activities undertaken in partnership with universities from Programme Countries or Partner Countries. Furthermore, the Programme will support institutional development by establishing new partnerships within Key Actions 2 and 3, ensuring the connection between the University of Craiova and European policies, by becoming involved in projects that aim at creating academic consortia for institutional development (e.g. European Universities).

By continuing participation in the Erasmus+ Programme for the 2021-2027 period, UCv aims at fulfilling its duties towards all stakeholders involved, making sure to achieve the goals of establishing, developing and maintaining collaboration with partner institutions, but also to ensure equal, complete and unconditional access to education opportunities and vocational training to students, academic and administrative staff.

From the perspective of international mobility, the Erasmus+ Programme is the most important tool that our university has to ensure professional and personal training of our students, teaching and administrative staff. The Erasmus+ Programme offers appropriate learning opportunities in order to facilitate the increase of competitiveness for the staff involved in training programmes with partner institutions, who, in turn, will contribute to outline an adequate framework for modernisation, diversification and internationalisation of academic activities through exchanges of experience and good practices which can be implemented in our institution. The international activities will also contribute to the improvement and development of study programmes, in terms of curriculum, structure and content of existing courses, in accordance with our university's commitment to permanently adapt its study programmes to the demands of employers in Romania and abroad in order to facilitate a better professional insertion of graduates and researchers of the University of Craiova. The professional development of the teaching and administrative staff members is beneficial for the entire academic community. Additionally, the quality of academic activities carried out by staff members involved in international projects or mobilities will confirm our level of excellence in teaching and research among our partners and will lead to an increasing number of international mobilities and new valuable academic partnerships.

Please reflect on the Erasmus actions you would like to take part in and explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution. Please explain how your institution's participation in these actions will contribute to achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy.

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

Toate actiunile de internationalizare intreprinse de UCv sunt conforme cu planul managerial al rectorului universitatii, dar tin, totodata, cont si de noile strategii si directii de actiune stabilite la nivel european si mondial.

Departamentul de Relatii Internationale (DRI) este principala structura administrativa de la nivelul UCv care are misiunea de a implementa obiectivele strategice de internationalizare ale universitatii si de a promova pe plan extern valorile si imaginea UCv. In acelasi timp, DRI faciliteaza accesul si participarea UCv la programe finantate de Comisia Europeana in domeniul educatiei si formarii profesionale. Biroul Erasmus+ din cadrul UCv a fost infiintat prin decizia Senatului Universitatii din Craiova nr. 8 din data de 29 septembrie 2015, este parte integranta a Departamentului de Relatii Internationale, este format din patru asistenti de programe comunitare si un administrator financiar si se afla in subordinea directa a Prorectorului de Relatii Internationale si Imagine Academica, care este totodata si Coordonatorul Institutional Erasmus+. Dat fiind faptul ca unul dintre obiectivele politicii de internationalizare actuale a UCv il reprezinta interesul de a participa in proiecte de mobilitate si de cooperare (cu parteneri strategici din zona UE si non-UE) dezvoltate cu sprijinul Programului Erasmus+, prezenta unei echipe responsabile cu gestionarea actiunilor desfasurate la nivel institutional in cadrul Programului Erasmus+ este esentiala. Participarea universitatii noastre in aceste proiecte se va realiza intr-o maniera proactiva, bazata pe o analiza prealabila a nevoilor la nivel institutional, cu scopul dezvoltarii de parteneriate strategice in domenii de interes de importanta majora, in vederea sporirii vizibilitatii internationale a Universitatii din Craiova: oferta de cursuri si programe de studii, in mod particular specializari cu predare intr-o limba straina, infrastructura de cercetare etc.

Intrucat noul Program Erasmus+ pentru perioada 2021-2027 propune actiuni ale caror rezultate pot avea un impact considerabil asupra calitatii procesului educational, pot creste in mod semnificativ numarul oportunitatilor puse la dispozitia studentilor si personalului nostru, si, totodata, pot influenta in mod pozitiv relatiile de cooperare stabilite cu universitatile partenere, interesul institutiei noastre este acela de a valorifica si de a exploata la maximum toate oportunitatile propuse de noul Program, fapt ce se traduce prin interesul de a participa si de a desfasura actiuni in cadrul fiecareia dintre cele trei Actiuni Cheie propuse pentru perioada 2021-2027 (Actiunile Cheie 1, 2, si 3). Toate aplicatiile de proiecte depuse in cadrul noului Program Erasmus+ se vor face prin respectarea unei proceduri actualizate, intocmite la nivelul Universitatii din Craiova si vor fi gestionate si monitorizate indeaproape de catre Biroul Erasmus+.

Actiunea Cheie 1 – *Mobilitatea studentilor si personalului din invatamantul superior* – este principalul instrument pe care UCv il are la dispozitie pentru a sprijini mobilitatea internationala a studentilor si personalului sau si pentru a asigura accesul acestora la oportunitatile de studiu, cercetare si formare in cadrul institutiilor partenere. In acest sens, la nivelul institutiei noastre vor exista, ca si pana acum, mai multi actori implicati in procesul de implementare a proiectului de mobilitate Erasmus+. Coordonatorul Institutional si Biroul Erasmus+ vor fi actorii principali ai acestui traseu ierarhic, iar directiile trasate de acestia vor fi sprijinite, la nivelul fiecarei facultati, de catre Prodecanii de Relatii Internationale si Coordonatorii departamentale, acolo unde este cazul, in vederea desfasurarii in bune conditii a proiectului de mobilitate si respectarii procedurilor si regulamentelor stabilite la nivelul UCv (prevederile *Procedurii privind participarea Universitatii din Craiova in proiecte Erasmus+, Regulamentului de organizare a mobilitatilor internationale la Universitatea din Craiova, Regulamentului privind recunoasterea rezultatelor perioadei de studii in strainatate in cadrul Programului Erasmus+ si Regulamentului privind aplicarea sistemului de credite transferabile la*

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Universitatea din Craiova). Modul de organizare și derulare a mobilităților internaționale în cadrul Programului Erasmus+ se va desfășura tot pe baza unor proceduri interne, aprobate la nivel instituțional, în funcție de prevederile noului Program, și atent monitorizat de către Biroul Erasmus+.

Un alt aspect important prevăzut de noul Program Erasmus+ în cadrul Acțiunii Cheie 1 îl reprezintă consolidarea și extinderea cooperărilor existente cu instituții partenere și identificarea, respectiv inițierea unor noi oportunități de colaborare pentru accentuarea vizibilității internaționale a UCv, acțiuni care se va realiza în conformitate cu obiectivele politicii de internaționalizare ale universității, coroborate cu strategiile de dezvoltare ale facultăților/departamentelor. Această activitate va fi realizată la nivel central de către Biroul Erasmus+ și va avea ca obiectiv principal crearea unui spațiu de dialog și cooperare la nivel internațional care să permită deschiderea constantă către valorile educaționale, științifice, culturale și morale europene și mondiale. Totodată, având în vedere parteneriatele deja încheiate între UCv și alte instituții din țări terțe UE în afara Programului Erasmus+, interesul universității noastre este acela de a extinde și de a fructifica aceste colaborări în cadrul Programului Erasmus+, în special cu partenerii noștri din ariile geografice prioritare definite la nivel instituțional (parteneri din zona balcanică a Europei, America de Nord și Asia).

Universitatea din Craiova va oferi tot sprijinul sau personalului care se va implica în proiecte de cooperare internațională, plecând de la premisa că participarea în aceste proiecte contribuie în mod considerabil la modernizarea actului educațional, dezvoltarea instituțională și îmbunătățirea calității activităților educaționale și de cercetare, obiective conexe pe care universitatea noastră le are în vedere, care se află în concordanță cu strategia de internaționalizare a universității și care pot fi atinse prin intermediul acțiunilor propuse de următoarea etapă a Programului.

Participarea UCv la noul Program Erasmus+ s-ar traduce, asadar, printr-o îmbunătățire a calității actului educațional și o intensificare a acțiunilor de internaționalizare în domeniul cercetării și învățării, obiectiv pe care instituția noastră și l-a asumat încă din primul an în care Programul a fost implementat la nivelul UCv și pe care a continuat să îl adapteze treptat, în funcție de planurile de acțiune locală, națională, europeană și mondială.

All internationalisation actions undertaken by UCv are in accordance with the Rector's management plan while also taking into account the new strategies and directions enacted at European and global level.

The Department of International Relations (DRI) is the main administrative structure of UCv with the mission to implement the institution's strategic objectives of internationalisation and to promote its values and prestige worldwide. At the same time, DRI facilitates the University's access and participation in programmes financed by the European Commission in the fields of education and professional training. The Erasmus+ Office of UCv, which was founded upon Decision no. 8 of the Senate of the University of Craiova from 29 September 2015, is an integral part of the Department of International Relations, includes four community programmes assistants and a financial administrator, and is directly subordinated to the Vice-Rector for International Relations and Academic Image, who is also the Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator. As one of the objectives included in the current internationalisation policy is the participation in mobility and cooperation projects (with strategic partners from the EU and Non-EU areas) developed with the support of the Erasmus+ Programme, the presence of a team that is in charge with managing the institutional activities within the Erasmus+ Programme is essential. The participation of our university in these projects shall be carried out in a pro-active way, based on prior analysis of specific institutional needs, with a view to developing strategic partnerships in top priority domains, to increase the international visibility of the University: courses and study programmes, especially those delivered in a foreign language, research infrastructure etc.

As the new Erasmus+ Programme for 2021-2027 proposes actions whose results may have a considerable impact on the quality of the educational process, this can also lead to an increase of the number of opportunities for our students and staff and, thus, it can positively influence our cooperation relations with partner universities, as our institution's aim is to value and wisely use all opportunities included in the new Programme, namely to participate in each of the three Key Actions in place for 2021-2027 (Key Actions 1, 2, and 3). All applications for projects submitted within the new Erasmus+ Programme will observe an updated procedure elaborated by the University of Craiova and will be managed and closely monitored by the Erasmus+ Office.

Key Action 1 – Learning Mobility: The mobility of higher education students and staff – is UCv's main tool to support international mobility of students and staff and to ensure equal access to study, research and training opportunities within partner institutions. In this respect, there will be more active members involved in the process of implementing the Erasmus+ mobility project in our institution. The Institutional Coordinator and the Erasmus+ Office will be the main actors of this hierarchic course of action, and the directions decided by them will be supported, at the level of each faculty, by the Vice-Deans for International Relations and Departmental Coordinators (as the case may be), for a successful completion of the mobility project in accordance with the procedures and regulations in effect at UCv (the provisions of the *Procedure regarding the participation of the University of Craiova in the Erasmus+ Programme, Regulation for international mobilities at the University of Craiova, Regulation for recognition of the study period abroad within the Erasmus+ Programme and Regulation for the application of transferable credits at the University of Craiova*). The way in which international mobilities at UCv within the Erasmus+ Programme will be organised and conducted shall be based on internal procedures adopted at institutional level, in accordance with the new Programme and under close monitoring of the Erasmus+ Office.

Another important aspect laid down by the new Erasmus+ Programme within Key Action 1 is the consolidation and expansion of existing cooperation with partner institutions, as well as identification and initiation of new collaboration opportunities for the purpose of increasing the international visibility of UCv, in accordance with the objectives included in the internationalisation policy of the university, correlated with the development strategies of the faculties/departments. This activity will be carried out at central level by the Erasmus+ Office, and will mainly aim at creating a space for international dialogue and cooperation which will allow constant access to European and global educational, scientific, cultural and moral values. In addition, taking into account the already existent partnerships between UCv and other institutions from Third Countries outside the Erasmus+ Programme, the interest of our university is to extend and benefit from these collaborations within the Erasmus+ Programme, especially with our partners from key geographical areas (partners in the Balkan area of Europe, North America and Asia).

The University of Craiova will offer its full support to staff members who will become involved in international cooperation projects, being confident that participation in these kinds of projects contributes significantly to the

modernisation of the educational activity, the development of the overall institution and an increase in the quality of education and research, which are all objectives that are consistent with the current internationalisation strategy of our university, achievable through the actions proposed in the next stage of the Programme.

The participation of the University of Craiova in the Erasmus+ Programme might, thus, translate into an increase in the quality of education and internationalisation actions in the fields of teaching and research, which resonates with the objective that our university has been committed to since the first year of participation in the Programme and which we continually adapted in accordance with local, national, European and global action plans.

What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on your institution?

Please reflect on targets, as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators in monitoring this impact (such as mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects (under the KA2 action), sustainability/long-term impact of projects etc.) You are encouraged to offer an indicative timeline for achieving the targets related to the Erasmus+ actions.

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

Programul Erasmus+ este o componenta esentiala a strategiei de internationalizare a Universitatii din Craiova si unul dintre principalele programe pe care universitatea noastra le acceseaza pentru a dezvolta si finanta mobilitati si proiecte de cooperare ale caror rezultate au un impact major asupra vietii academice si profesionale a participantilor, respectiv studentii si personalul didactic si administrativ. Astfel de proiecte pot avea rezultate notabile si pe termen lung asupra procesului de dezvoltare a cooperarii internationale la nivelul institutiei noastre si pot facilita accesul catre noi oportunitati de studiu, de cercetare si de formare atat pentru studentii, cat si pentru personalul universitatii. In plus, mobilitatea academica a studentilor si profesorilor, dincolo de beneficiile individuale pe care le aduce fiecarui participant, pune bazele interactiunii eficiente dintre institutiile partenere si le permite sa desfasoare proiecte de cooperare in viitor.

In contextul strategiei actuale, au fost identificate trei obiective majore pe care UCv isi propune sa le indeplineasca prin continuarea participarii la Program. Pe de o parte, se doreste cresterea in proportie de 50% a numarului de proiecte in care institutia sa fie coordonator sau partener in cadrul Actiunilor Cheie 2 si 3. De asemenea, se urmareste includerea UCv in proiecte care vizeaza infiintarea sau participarea institutiei noastre la cel putin doua consortii universitare in vederea modernizarii si dezvoltarii institutionale, obiectiv ce poate fi atins prin intermediul Actiunii Cheie 2 – Universitati Europene. Impactul major pe care participarea UCv la aceasta actiune a Programului il va avea consta in faptul ca va determina factorii cu rol decizional sa adapteze actul educational si stiintific la standardele de excelenta impuse de ceilalti parteneri din cadrul retelelor universitare: crearea a cel putin doua noi programe de studii in colaborare cu partenerii straini (*joint degree* si/ sau *double degree*), cresterea numarului de programe cu predare in limbi straine (minimum un program de studii la fiecare facultate din structura UCv), initierea unui program de studii cu un grad ridicat de atractivitate pentru studentii apartinand unor medii si culturi variate, care sa corespunda totodata nevoilor si cerintelor pietei muncii nationale si europene, cresterea numarului de doctorate in cotutela prin incheierea a cel putin cinci acorduri de cotutela de teza de doctorat. Totodata, avand in vedere pozitionarea geografica a UCv in Sud-Estul Europei si tinand cont de obiectivul strategic propus pentru urmatoarea perioada privind dezvoltarea colaborarilor academice si extinderea parteneriatelor cu tarile din spatiul Balcanic, prin intermediul Programului Erasmus+, UCv ar putea pune bazele unei autentice retele universitare balcanice care sa contribuie la dezvoltarea fiecărei universitati implicate. Partenerii din tarile din vecinatatea Romaniei, cu background similar din punct de vedere istoric si socio-cultural, se incadreaza in profilul stabilit conform prioritatiilor de dezvoltare academica. UCv este interesata sa dezvolte aceasta retea, in care sa includa parteneri provenind din trei domenii de activitate diferite, respectiv educatie, cercetare si mediul de afaceri, pentru a asigura dezvoltarea excelentei la nivel regional si pentru a imbunatati insertia profesionala a absolventilor.

O alta directie a politicii de internationalizare o reprezinta cresterea numarului de mobilitati, cu precadere al celor outgoing. O crestere cu un procent realist de aproximativ 10% a numarului de mobilitati ar fi avantajoasa pentru universitatea noastra in cadrul noului apel Erasmus+, mai ales ca in contextul actual incert, marcat de criza mondiala sanitara produsa de virusul SARS-CoV-2, inceputul noii etape a Programului va fi puternic afectat. Accentul va fi pus pe mobilitatile outgoing ale studentilor inscrisi in programe de Master sau Doctorat si pe mobilitatile de formare ale personalului academic si administrativ.

Nu in ultimul rand, pentru cresterea gradului de internationalizare, Universitatea din Craiova are ca obiectiv strategic in perioada urmatoare consolidarea acordurilor bilaterale viabile precum si initierea unor noi cooperari. Desi impactul acestei actiuni de internationalizare nu poate fi cuantificat cu precizie, noile acordurile bilaterale cu parteneri din Tarile Programului si din Tarile Partenere vor contribui la cresterea numarului de mobilitati internationale prin facilitarea accesului la noi oportunitati de studiu si de formare, fapt ce va asigura, in acelasi timp, sporirea vizibilitatii institutionale pe plan international. Schimburile academice (mobilitati, proiecte, activitati internationale in parteneriat) dintre UCv si Tarile Programului sau Tarile Partenere vor presupune, in mod automat, o reconfigurare si o imbunatatare a ofertei educationale a fiecărei universitati, o crestere a numarului de mobilitati internationale desfasurate in cadrul Programului, precum si o intensificare a proiectelor desfasurate intre institutia noastra si aceste institutii (Actiunile Cheie 2 si 3). Astfel de proiecte si actiuni vor incuraja, totodata, transferul de cunostinte si bune practici si vor stimula colaborarea dintre universitati in domenii comune de interes.

Nivelul impactului noului Program Erasmus+ va determina dezvoltarea personala a participantilor la mobilitati, intrucat noile componente ale Programului ce vizeaza implicarea civica, cetatenia activa si responsabilitatea fata de

mediului inconjurator vor fi intens promovate la nivelul tuturor institutiilor beneficiare, inducand un comportament individual responsabil, in acord cu noile valori. Totodata, actiunile de modernizare a sistemului educational propuse de Programul Erasmus+ prin digitalizarea treptata a sistemului de gestionare a mobilitatilor si incurajarea participantilor de a folosi toate instrumentele digitale puse la dispozitie sporesc dobandirea unor competente conexe in contextul procesului complex de digitalizare a societatii moderne si parcurgerea unei etape esentiale in formarea individuala pe termen mediu si lung.

The Erasmus+ Programme is an essential component of the internationalisation strategy of the University of Craiova and one of the main programmes that our university accesses in order to develop and to finance mobilities and cooperation projects whose results have a great impact on the academic and professional life of participants, namely students, teaching and administrative staff. Such projects can have long-term notable results on the process of developing international cooperation at our university and are able to facilitate access to new study, research and training opportunities both for students and staff. Furthermore, the academic mobility of students and staff, beyond the individual benefits gained, lays the foundation of effective interaction between partner institutions, allowing them to develop further projects.

In the context of the current strategy, we have been able to identify three major objectives that UCv aims to achieve through its continuous participation in the Programme. On the one hand, our university aims at increasing by 50% the number of projects developed within Key Actions 2 and 3 in which UCv is involved either as a coordinator or as a partner. Another objective is to include UCv in projects that aim at creating and taking part in academic consortia for institutional modernisation and development, achievable within Key Action 2 – Partnerships for Excellence: European Universities. The major impact following UCv's participation in this action of the Programme will reside in determining the deciding factors to adapt teaching and scientific activities to standards of excellence imposed by the other partners in the academic networks: the establishment of at least two new programmes in collaboration with foreign partners (joint degree and/ or double degree), the increase in the number of programmes taught in foreign languages (at least one study programme per faculty), the initiation of a study programme with a high degree of attractiveness for students coming from various environments and cultures, which corresponds to the demands of the national and European labour market, the increase in the number of joint PhD programmes by establishing at least five joint doctorate agreements. In addition, considering the geographic position of UCv (in the South-East of Europe) and the strategic objective for the next period regarding academic collaborations and extension of partnerships with countries in the Balkan area through the Erasmus+ Programme, UCv may build the base for an authentic Balkan academic network that can contribute to the development of each university involved. The partners from neighbouring countries to Romania, with a similar historical and socio-cultural background, fit into the set profile in accordance with the academic development priorities. UCv is interested in establishing this network in which to include partners from three fields of work – education, research and business environment – with a view to developing and promoting excellence at regional level and improving the professional insertion of graduates.

Another internationalisation direction is the increase in the number of mobilities, especially outgoing mobilities. A realistic increase by 10% would be beneficial for UCv within the new Erasmus+ Call, especially considering the current context of uncertainty, defined by the worldwide unprecedented health crisis produced by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, as the beginning of the new stage of the Programme will be heavily affected. The focus will be put on outgoing mobilities undertaken by participants enrolled in Master's or PhD Degrees, as well as training mobilities for teaching and administrative staff.

Last but not least, in order to increase the level of internationalisation, the University of Craiova outlined as a strategic objective for the next period the consolidation of viable bilateral agreements as well as the establishment of new cooperation relations. Although the impact of this internationalisation action may not be measured with high precision, the new bilateral agreements concluded with partners in Third Countries and Partner Countries will contribute to the increase in the number of international mobilities by facilitating access to new study and training opportunities, which will also increase the visibility of our university at international level. The academic exchanges (mobilities, projects, international partnership activities) between UCv and Programme Countries or Partner Countries will bring about an improvement of the educational offer of each university, an increase in the number of international mobilities within the Programme, as well as a growth in the number of projects implemented between UCv and these institutions (Key Actions 2 and 3). Such projects and actions will foster the transfer of knowledge and good practices and will also stimulate collaboration between universities in fields of mutual interest.

The impact level of the new Erasmus+ Programme will determine the personal growth of participants in mobilities, as the new aspects related to civic involvement, active citizenship and environmental responsibility will be intensely promoted by beneficiary institutions, inducing a responsible behaviour of individuals that is consistent with the new values of the Programme. Furthermore, the steps taken towards the modernization of the educational system proposed by the Erasmus+ Programme through gradual digitalization of the mobility management systems and encouraging participants to use all digital instruments on hand raise the chances for participants to acquire new competences in the context of the complex process of digitalization of modern society, as well as completing a critical step in their own medium and long-term personal growth.