

Erasmus Policy Statement

Founded in 2016 in Izmir, Izmir Demokrasi University (IDU) is one of the youngest and most dynamic universities of Turkey. It is composed of 10 faculties, 3 graduate schools and a collage. Our internationalization policy aims at encouraging sustainable strategic partnerships, transnational research activities, projects, and focuses on promoting student and staff mobility, gaining experience by active participation in international research and educational projects. Increasing the number of inter-institutional cooperation, improving students' and staff's international experiences and internationalizing its curriculum are the main priorities of the university.

Bologna Coordination Commission has been set up to be internationally accredited and to reach the same standardization level with Erasmus Program partners by regulating our educational programs and procedures. ECTS has been enacted in all degree programs by operating a minimum 60 credit per year system for the outgoing students. All the course taught in short, first, second and third cycle programs can be reached in the course catalogue on the web site.

Our main object is to raise students who have vision and humanitarian values, innovative and keeping up with the technology. The international collaborations will be established by signing inter-institutional agreements to gain different dimensions and values. Partnership proposals will be approved and monitored by the academic coordinators regarding the conformability of curriculum. A copy for each agreement will be kept in the International Relations Office (IRO) and all valid agreements will be published on the web site. Outgoing students will be supervised by the academic coordinator regarding the courses and curriculum at the host university and a learning agreement for study/traineeship agreement approved by the board decision will be signed for each student before the study or traineeship mobility. Changes during the mobility and course recognition after the mobility will be duly signed and approved by both the departmental/faculty coordinators and the board. After completion of study or traineeship, the recognition will be prepared by the departmental coordinator in accordance with the transcript of the records given by the host institution/the report issued by the enterprise for the traineeship. The achieved credits will be directly added to the number of achieved credits for graduation.

Being able to receive incoming students from as much as partner institutions is one of the objects of IDU. Being located in İzmir, the third largest city of Turkey, also makes IDU a popular and attractive destination for the incoming students. IDU ensures all the incoming students receive guidance relating to application, course selection, health insurance, visa application and residence permits procedures and will provide all the required official papers for the students. Additionally, IDU will assign a personal student mentor for incoming students to assist them adjust daily life and university life more easily.

IRO is the main unit that helps IDU to achieve its aim to be an international university. It provides full support to the academic units with the necessary information about the application procedures etc. One of its most significant missions is to raise awareness among students and staff concerning the importance of international exchange programs. IRO will organize meetings, presentations and promotion activities to encourage the students and staff for the mobility programs. It will also arrange orientation programs for selected outgoing students and social activities/programs/city tours for incoming students. One of the basic priorities of IRO is to ensure all the students receive the sufficient guidance and help on time.

IDU supports disabled and full-time international students' participation to all mobilities and guarantees a transparent selection process based on equal opportunities and standards.

Staff mobility and office visits to partner universities are encouraged as it enhances relations, understanding and collaboration with the partner institutions, as well as it allows staff to improve their language competency and leads to new collaborations, development of joint/double degree/diploma programs and establish connection with other prestigious institutions. Visiting staff from partners are always welcomed and supported by IDU.

We believe that we can grow stronger and improve better by working with both EU and non-EU partners. As a part of the programme IDU will endeavor to take part in and develop Strategic Partnerships, Knowledge Alliances, Capacity Building, Cooperation

and Jean Monnet Projects. Through new agreements and exchange opportunities both our students and staff will be able to improve themselves, gain different viewpoints, widen their horizons and establish a brand-new vision of world.