



EUROPEAN UNION

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds

2021-2027

**Erasmus+ Programme
Inter-institutional agreement
Key Action 1
Mobility of higher education students and staff**

**between EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme
and third countries not associated to the Programme**

UNIVERSITETI "ISMAIL QEMALI"
VEPR
ZYRA E PROTOKULL - ARKIVËS
NR. 2147/1 PROT.
DATA 21. 11. 2023

The institutions¹ named below agree to cooperate for the exchange of students and/or staff in the context of the Erasmus+ programme. This agreement is valid for the Erasmus+ call years 20[21]-20[27] in:

- KA131 Higher education mobility supported by internal policy funds
- KA171 Higher education mobility supported by external policy funds

The institutions commit to sound and transparent management of funds allocated to them through Erasmus+ and to respect the quality requirements of the Programme, outlined in the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education² and in this agreement.

The institutions agree on exchanging their mobility-related data according to the principles of GDPR³ and in line with the technical standards of the European Student Card Initiative⁴, when this becomes available for international mobility involving third countries not associated to the Programme.

Sending institutions located in EU/EEA countries have to ensure compliance with the provisions of art. 46 GDPR for all participants' personal data exchanged in the context of their mobility with institutions from non-EU/EEA countries without an adequacy decision, on the condition that enforceable data subject rights and effective legal remedies for data subjects are available in the respective third country. The participants should be informed in a transparent manner about the level of protection of their personal data, if this is different from the one where the sending institution is located.

¹ Inter-institutional agreements can be bilateral or multilateral in the case of mobility consortia:

- Bilateral agreements are for cooperation between one higher education institution located in an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme and another institution located in a third country not associated to the Programme
- Multilateral agreements are for cooperation between a mobility consortium of higher education institutions located in one single EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme and another institution located in a third country not associated to the Programme.

² https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/applicants/higher-education-charter_en

³ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/reform/rules-business-and-organisations/principles-gdpr_en

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-student-card-initiative_en

1. Information about the higher education institutions

Name of the institution (and department where relevant)	Erasmus code or city ⁵	Contact details ⁶ (email, phone)	Websites
<p>Universidade dos Açores University of the Azores Rua da mãe de Deus, s/n; 9500-321 Ponta Delgada - Portugal</p> <p>FCSH School of Social Sciences and Humanities</p>	P ACORES01	<p>External Relations office Email: ero@uac.pt Incoming students: Phone: +351 296650169</p>	<p>General: www.uac.pt Faculty/faculties: https://fcsch.uac.pt/ Course catalogue: https://uac.pt/ensino/index.php?l=EN Information for students: https://international.uac.pt/</p>
<p>University of Vlora "Ismail Qemali" Universiteti "Ismail Qemali", Vlorë L. Pavarësia, Rr. Kosova 9400 Vlora, Albania</p> <p>Faculty of Humanities,</p>	AL VLORE01	<p>Academic coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Armela Panajoti Dean of the Faculty of Humanities armela.panajoti@univlora.edu.al; armelap@assenglish.org</p> <p>Administrative Contact</p>	<p>General: www.univlora.edu.al Faculty: https://univlora.edu.al/fakulteti-i-shkencave-humane/ Course catalogue: https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/student-guide-2019-2020.pdf https://univlora.edu.al/courses-erasmus/</p>

⁵ Higher education institutions (HEIs) from EU Member States or third countries associated to the Programme should indicate their Erasmus code; HEIs from third countries not associated to the Programme should mention the city where they are located.

⁶ Contact details to reach the senior officer in charge of this agreement and of its possible updates.

Department of Foreign Languages		Ms. Rezarta Sinanaliaj Projects and International Relations Sector international@univlora.edu.al	
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2. Mobility numbers per academic year

The partners agree to update the mobility data, whenever possible, by no later than the end of January in the preceding academic year formally via an amendment of the inter-institutional agreement. *In case of later updates in the mobility data, the partners can also agree to accept informal communication means (e.g. exchanges of emails as written proof).*

Number of student and staff mobility periods

The table serves as a template - the partners are free to adjust it, e.g. to add or delete columns or separate student and staff mobilities.

FROM [Erasmus code or city of the sending institution]	TO [Erasmus code or city of the receiving institution]	Field of education [ISCED] ⁷ (optional)	Field of education - clarification (optional)	Level of education [EQF] (optional)	Number of mobility periods			
					Student Mobility [Total number of students]	Student Mobility [Total number of months]	Staff Mobility [Total number of staff]	Staff Mobility [Total number of days]
P ACORES01	AL VLORE01	0230	Languages not further defined		2	2 x 6 months = 12 months	2	2 x 5 days = 10 days
AL VLORE01	P ACORES01	0230	Languages not further defined		3	3 x 6 months = 18 months	3	3 x 5 days = 15 days

⁷ <https://circabc.europa.eu/sd/a/286ebac6-aa7c-4ada-a42b-ff2cf3a442bf/ISCED-F%202013%20-%20Detailed%20field%20descriptions.pdf>

Optional additional information

e.g. blended mobility, etc.

3. Recommended language skills

The sending institution, following agreement with the receiving institution, is responsible for providing support to its nominated candidates so that they can have the recommended language skills⁸ at the start of the mobility period (see also section 5 "Preparation and Support").

The table serves as a template - the partners are free to adjust it, e.g. to separate requirements for students and staff.

Receiving institution [Erasmus code or city]	Field of education (Optional)	Language of instruction 1	Language of instruction 2	Recommended level	
				Student Mobility [Minimum recommended level in at least one of the languages: B1]	Staff Mobility [Minimum recommended level in at least one of the languages for teaching: B2]
P ACORES01		Portuguese*	English	Portuguese B1 or English B1(tutorial)	B2 English
AL VLORE01		English	Albanian/Italian	B1 for all languages herein mentioned	B2 for all languages herein mentioned

*The courses are given in Portuguese, but in some subjects they will be supported by a tutorial in English. Students must obtain linguistic knowledge in Portuguese at level B1 or English B1. It is mandatory to provide proof of knowledge of Portuguese or English when applying.

For more details on the language of instruction recommendations, see the course catalogue of each institution. The links to the course catalogue are provided in the first section.

⁸ For an easier and consistent understanding of language requirements, it is recommended to use the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr>

4. Partnership arrangements: fees and organisational support funds

In accordance with the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education, partners commit to charge no additional fees to students:

- In connection with the organisation or administration of their Erasmus+ credit mobility period at their institution. Any violation to this rule by the partners shall be brought to the attention of the National Agency and may lead to the termination of the participation in the project linked to this inter-institutional agreement, if no corrective measures are taken.
- For tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities. Nevertheless, they may be charged small fees on the same basis as local students for costs such as insurance, student unions and the use of miscellaneous material.

This section below is mandatory/applicable only for KA171. Repartition of the granted organisational support (OS) between the partners is strongly recommended, but not mandatory:

Partners agree on the following use and repartition of organisational support funds including a list of objectives that both partners consider a priority:

OS Use and Repartition	Priority Objectives
<p>The OS budget will be fully managed by UAc, to cover the costs of outgoing and incoming mobility.</p> <p>Erasmus scholarships will be paid by the University of the Azores to students and staff, upon arrival at the University of the Azores.</p>	Portuguese as a foreign language course.
	Scholarship Processing

5. Outreach and Selection of participants: calendar, application procedure and requirements

- Partners commit to doing outreach to participants with fewer opportunities to encourage their participation in the Programme and, where needed, agree on a common strategy to meet indicative inclusion targets.
- Partners commit to running selection procedures for mobility activities that are fair, transparent and documented, ensuring equal opportunities to participants eligible for mobility. The calls for applications must be public and an appeal procedure must be in place. Under no circumstances, shall applicants and selected participants incur any costs during application and selection procedures.
- In the case of student mobility, partners will ensure that other elements beyond academic merit are taken into account to ensure participation of students with fewer opportunities. Selection criteria and procedures must be clearly communicated in the call for applications.

Applications/information on nominated students must reach the receiving institution by:

Receiving institution [Erasmus code or city]	Term duration	Deadline ⁹
P ACORES01	Autumn Term: from September to February Spring Term: from February to July	Nominations Autumn Term: until 31 May Spring Term: until 31 October Applications Autumn Term: until 30 June Spring Term: until 30 November
AL VLORE01	Autumn Term: October 2nd to February 23th (teaching and exams) Spring Term: March 1st to July 5th (teaching and exams)	Nominations Autumn Term: 15 July Spring Term: 20 December Applications Autumn Term: 5th September Spring Term: 15th January

The receiving institution will send its decision within [5] weeks and no later than 5 weeks.

⁹ Please specify the deadline for each term and, if necessary, adapt to a trimester system.

The partners commit to have a fair, transparent, coherent and documented application and selection procedure outlined in their respective websites and regularly updated, together with the contact details of the relevant department:

Application procedure		
Receiving Institution [Erasmus code or city]	Contact details (email)	Website for information
P ACORES01	Email: ero@uac.pt	https://international.uac.pt/
AL VLORE01	armelap@assenglish.org ; armela.panajoti@univlora.edu.al international@univlora.edu.al	https://univlora.edu.al/ https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Regulation-ICM-_-english.pdf

Academic and additional requirements		
Requirement	Details	Website for information (optional)
Academic requirements	Number of ECTS credits (or equivalent) already completed / current level of completion of studies Subject area (ISCED code) EQF level	
CV	Required for staff (AL VLORE01)	
Motivation letter	Required for students (AL VLORE01)	
<i>For KA171: Inclusion measures</i> ¹⁰	Each university must select its students and inform and declare to the host university which students have financial difficulties.	

¹⁰ You may find the implementation guidelines of the **Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps Inclusion and Diversity Strategy** here: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/implementation-guidelines-erasmus-and-european-solidarity-corps-inclusion-and-diversity_en

<p>Other (AL VLORE01)</p>	<p>Application form (students/staff)</p> <p>Academic requirements for students:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Academic achievement (GPA). 2. Written and spoken command of English. <p>Academic requirements for staff:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Academic merit (ranked according to the academic title/degree) for teaching staff. 2. Work experience/performance (for administrative staff). 3. Written and spoken command of English in compliance with the proficiency level laid down in the inter-institutional agreement. <p>Teachers can also be appointed/invited by the management of the respective departments/faculties based on strategic considerations (continuous professional development, international recruitment, future project preparation, lectures integrated into the regular study programme of the receiving institution, preparation of new study material etc.)</p>	<p>https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Regulation-ICM--english.pdf</p>
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6. Preparation and support

The higher education institution(s) in an EU Member State or associated third country commit(s) to:

- Ensure that students are aware of their rights and obligations as defined in the *Erasmus+ Student Charter*¹¹.

¹¹ The Erasmus+ Student Charter is available here: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/applicants/student-charter_en

- Arrange travels or provide a pre-financing of the grant to **reduce the costs that participants need to cover upfront**, to the extent possible.

All involved higher education institutions commit to the following preparation and support measures. Information and assistance can be provided by the contact points and information sources in the table below:

- The receiving institution will guide incoming mobile participants in finding **accommodation**, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education. It is considered best practice to use the individual grant to pay for the deposit of dormitories.
- Ensure that outgoing mobile participants are well prepared for their activities abroad, including blended mobility, by undertaking activities to achieve the necessary level of **linguistic proficiency** and develop their **intercultural competences**.
- Provide assistance related to obtaining **visas**, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and, if needed, use project funds in the most inclusive way to cover related costs partially or in full.
- Provide assistance related to obtaining **insurance**, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and use project funds in the most inclusive way to cover related costs partially or in full. The receiving institution will inform mobile participants of cases in which insurance cover is not automatically provided.
- The receiving institution will inform about the existence of relevant infrastructure and provide support to incoming **participants with fewer opportunities**.
- Provide **appropriate mentoring and support arrangements** for mobile participants, including for those pursuing blended mobility, as well as **integrate incoming mobile participants** into the wider student community and in the Institution's everyday life.
- Provide participants with their **grant as soon as possible upon arrival**, including if necessary a first payment using

cash, check or similar to avoid delays linked to opening a bank account.

- The institutions commit to encourage participants to act as **ambassadors of the Erasmus+ Programme** and share their mobility experience, e.g. by providing information about the existence of Erasmus+ alumni networks, inviting former participants in promotion activities, etc.

The table serves as a template - the partners are free to adjust it, e.g. to add more measures, to replicate per partner HEI etc.

Preparatory & support measures	Institution [Erasmus code or city]	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information & arrangements
Accommodation	P ACORES01		https://international.uac.pt/
	AL VLORE01	international@univlora.edu.al trajtimi.studentit.vlore@gmail.com	https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/nderkombtarizimi_2023.pdf https://univlora.edu.al/ ; https://www.facebook.com/people/Qtyeza-Studenti-Vlore/100046352926013/
Language Support	P ACORES01	Portuguese B1 and English B2	
	AL VLORE01	armelap@assenglish.org; armela.panajoti@univlora.edu.al international@univlora.edu.al	https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/nderkombtarizimi_2023.pdf
Visa	P ACORES01		https://international.uac.pt/
	AL VLORE01	international@univlora.edu.al	https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/nderkombtarizimi_2023.pdf
Insurance	P ACORES01		https://international.uac.pt/
	AL VLORE01	international@univlora.edu.al	https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/nderkombtarizimi_2023.pdf

Inclusion of participants with fewer opportunities			https://international.uac.pt/
	AL VLORE01	international@univlora.edu.al	https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Regulation-ICM-_-english.pdf
Mentoring	AL VLORE01	armelap@assenglish.org; armela.panajoti@univlora.edu.al international@univlora.edu.al	https://univlora.edu.al/
Grant payments	P ACORES01		
Alumni information			https://international.uac.pt/

Recognition

Institutions commit to:

- Ensure recognition for activities satisfactorily completed. *[Please specify the recognition tools that will be used, e.g. the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System.]*

P ACORES01: <https://international.uac.pt/erasmus/>

AL VLORE01: The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System applies for the recognition of the study periods abroad. Subjects are chosen in agreement with the coordinators from both universities, with the aim of achieving the highest possible compatibility or complementarity, thus enabling automatic recognition in the case of compatible subjects, or recognition in the Diploma Supplement for compatible subjects.

- Ensure that student and staff mobility for education or training purposes is based on a learning agreement for students and a mobility agreement for staff validated in advance between the sending and receiving institutions or non-academic organisations and the mobile participants.
- Accept all activities indicated in the learning agreement, or according to the learning outcomes of the modules completed abroad, as automatically counting towards the degree, provided these have been satisfactorily completed by the mobile student.
- Partners commit to taking measures to ensure recognition of student and staff mobility upon their return, including:

- o Providing incoming mobile students and their sending institutions with free-of-charge transcripts. The documents must be in English or in the language of the sending institution and containing a full, accurate and timely record of the achievements at the end of the mobility period.
- o A Transcript of Records will be issued by the receiving institution no later than **[5]** weeks after the assessment period has finished at the receiving HEI.
- o Providing students on traineeships and staff with a certificate for the activities completed. It is recommended to issue a certificate towards the end of the mobility period.

7. Grading systems of the institutions

It is recommended that receiving institutions provide the statistical distribution of grades or make the information available through EGRACONS according to the descriptions in the ECTS users' guide¹². The table will facilitate the interpretation of each grade awarded to students and will facilitate the credit transfer by the sending institution.

Institution [Erasmus code or city]	EGRACONS [If applicable]	Website for information
P ACORES01		https://international.uac.pt/erasmus/
AL VLORE01		https://univlora.edu.al/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/nderkombtarizimi_2023.pdf

8. Any other information regarding the terms of the agreement (optional)


9. Termination of the agreement

[It is up to the involved institutions to agree on the procedure for modifying or terminating the inter-institutional agreement. However, in the event of unilateral termination, a notice of at least one academic year should be given. This means that a

¹² The ECTS user's guide is available here: https://ec.europa.eu/education/resources-and-tools/document-library/ects-users-guide_en

unilateral decision to discontinue the exchanges notified to the other party by 1 September 20XX will only take effect as of 1 September 20XX+1. The termination clauses must include the following disclaimer: "Neither the European Commission nor the National Agencies can be held responsible in case of a conflict."]

SIGNATURES OF THE INSTITUTIONS (legal representatives)

Institution [Erasmus code or name and city]	Name, function	Date	Signature¹³
P ACORES01	Professor Maria Amélia Fonseca		
AL VLORE01	Prof. Dr. Roland ZISI, Rector	21.11.2023	

¹³ Scanned copies of signatures or digital signatures may be accepted depending on the national legislation