

## European Commission provides new scholarships for students from Iran, Iraq and Yemen to study in Europe

Nearly 90 students from Yemen, Iraq and Iran will now be able to study in Europe thanks to a European Commission scheme.

The European Commission today announced that it will provide €2.5 million to finance the next edition of the successful mobility scheme "Erasmus Mundus" with Iran, Iraq and Yemen.

The Erasmus Mundus programme will enable undergraduate, master, doctorate and post-doctoral students from Iran, Iraq and Yemen to study in Europe. Exchanges of academic staff are also made possible under the programme.

This contribution to the Erasmus Mundus programme is funded through the Development Cooperation Instrument of the Commission.

To prepare the 2011/2012 academic year, a Call for Proposals will be launched at the end of 2010 with the aim of establishing consortia of universities from the EU and universities from Iran, Iraq and Yemen. These consortia will manage specific exchange programmes through which eligible students and staff can apply.

With this initiative, the European Union confirms its commitment to the importance of higher education for economic and social development. Higher education plays a crucial role in producing a high quality workforce, in disseminating scientific discovery and advanced knowledge.

In the context of today's global economy and an increasingly knowledge-based society, promoting international co-operation and mobility between higher education institutions in the EU and other countries is a win-win situation: it contributes to the mutual enrichment of nations and to a better understanding among peoples.

Erasmus Mundus promotes Europe as a centre of excellence in higher education and provides scholarships to help students and scholars from developing countries to obtain a degree in Europe. It is now in its fifth year.

The programme also supports co-operation between European and non-European universities and encourages the mobility of European students and scholars towards universities in developing countries.

Erasmus Mundus website:

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus\\_mundus/index\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/index_en.php)

More information on Erasmus Mundus and other programmes:

[http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html)

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