

# Erasmus+: international higher education and Bulgaria

## What is Erasmus+ ?

Erasmus+ is the European Union (EU) programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus+ funds academic mobility and cooperation projects that involve partners from "Programme Countries" and "Partner Countries" throughout the world. In 2019, the 34 Programme Countries comprise the 28 EU Member States plus six other European countries\*. Erasmus+ supports activities that are closely matched with the EU's priorities for cooperation policy with partner countries and regions. These factsheets look at the extent of an individual country's involvement in this international dimension of Erasmus+ since the programme started in 2014.

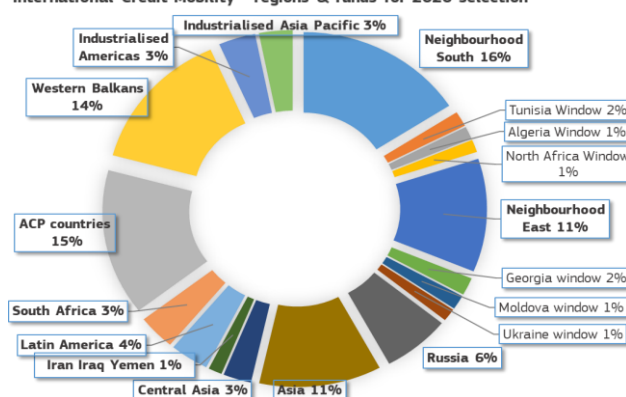
### International credit mobility (ICM)

For over 30 years, students and staff have moved between European universities in the Erasmus programme. Since 2015, Erasmus+ has also allowed short-term mobility to Europe from other parts of the world for students, researchers, and staff. This two-way mobility allows students to study in a foreign university for 3-12 months and obtain credits which are then recognised at the sending institution as part of their degree. Starting in 2018, traineeships are also possible. There are also grants for staff mobility of 5-60 days.

There are distinct budgets for different regions of the world that are divided between all the European countries. Programme-Country institutions may apply to their National Agency to seek Erasmus+ funding for their bilateral partnerships with universities from Partner Countries throughout the world.

|                                       | TOTAL        | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Proposals received involving Bulgaria | <b>174</b>   | 30   | 29   | 31   | 44   | 40   |
| Projects selected involving Bulgaria  | <b>98</b>    | 22   | 19   | 16   | 25   | 16   |
| Students and staff coming to Bulgaria | <b>1.996</b> | 469  | 472  | 366  | 399  | 290  |
| Students and staff leaving Bulgaria   | <b>1.315</b> | 331  | 314  | 231  | 276  | 163  |
| % funding awarded to Bulgaria         | <b>1,4</b>   | 1,26 | 1,46 | 1,37 | 1,62 | 1,3  |

International Credit Mobility - regions & funds for 2020 selection

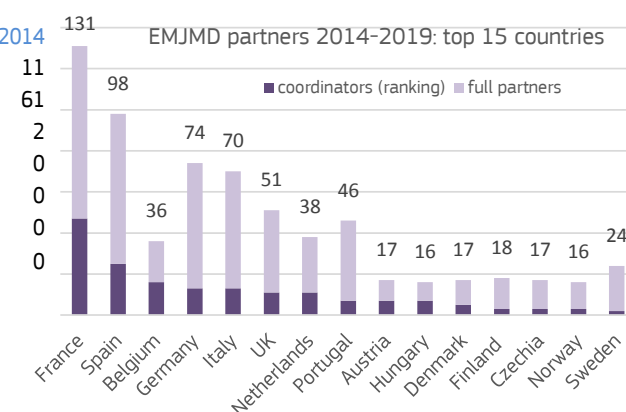


### Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMDs) award EU-funded scholarships to Master students from around the world that cover covering tuition, travel, and a living allowance. The programmes last from one to two years during which students study in at least two different European countries, and obtain a joint, double degree, or multiple degree. Institutions from partner countries can also be part of the consortia that deliver these programmes (though this is not obligatory) as Full Partners, which means they officially award degrees, or as Associated Partners, where they participate in the programme in some kind of capacity, but do not award the actual joint degree.

### Bulgaria in EMJMD projects

|   | TOTAL      | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|---|------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total EMJMDs selected                   | <b>204</b> | 51   | 44   | 39   | 27   | 32   |
| Total proposals received                | <b>613</b> | 107  | 112  | 122  | 92   | 119  |
| Proposals received involving Bulgaria   | <b>15</b>  | 4    | 4    | 3    | 1    | 1    |
| EMJMDs selected involving Bulgaria      | <b>5</b>   | 2    | 2    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| EMJMDs selected coordinated by Bulgaria | <b>0</b>   | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Full partners from Bulgaria in EMJMDs   | <b>2</b>   | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Associates from Bulgaria in EMJMDs      | <b>3</b>   | 1    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    |



Each EMJMD receives EU funding to award a certain number of scholarships to students worldwide. Additional scholarships are also available for students from regions comprising emerging or developing economies. Students apply directly to the programme coordinator and can find the programmes on the EMJMD catalogue (see links).

### EM Masters scholarships, Bulgaria

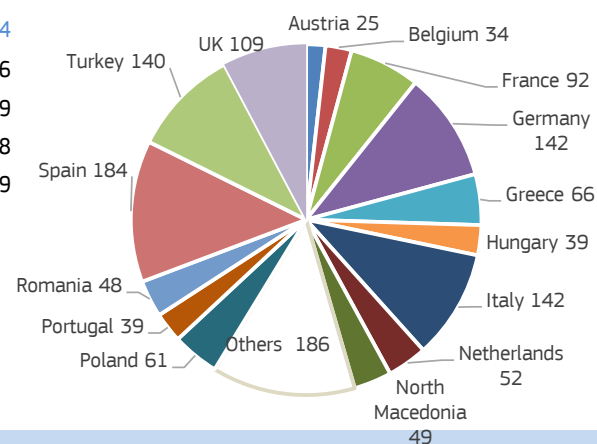
Scholarships worldwide

Scholarships to Programme Countries

EM programmes offering scholarships

| TOTAL       | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>16</b>   | 2    | 3    | 3    | 1    | 1    | 6    |
| <b>9389</b> | 2130 | 1669 | 1556 | 1347 | 1308 | 1379 |
| <b>1473</b> | 331  | 272  | 186  | 141  | 125  | 418  |
|             | 115  | 86   | 100  | 87   | 120  | 149  |

1408 EM scholarships  
Top 15 Programme Countries 2014-2019



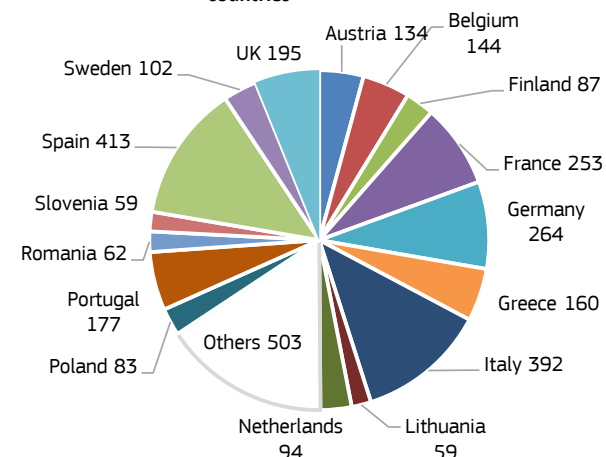
### Capacity-building for Higher Education

Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education action (CBHE) projects, which lasts from two to three years, are aimed at modernising and reforming higher education institutions, developing new curricula, improving governance, and building relationships between higher education institutions and enterprises. They can also tackle policy topics and issues, preparing the ground for higher education reform, in cooperation with national authorities.

| TOTAL   | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |     |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Proposals received in call overall                            | 3811 | 840  | 887  | 833  | 736  | 515 |
| Projects selected in call overall                             | 744  | 163  | 147  | 149  | 147  | 138 |
| Proposals received involving Bulgaria                         | 286  | 52   | 66   | 78   | 54   | 36  |
| Projects selected involving Bulgaria                          | 52   | 8    | 14   | 12   | 9    | 9   |
| Projects coordinated by Bulgaria                              | 12   | 1    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 2   |
| Instances of participation from Bulgaria in selected projects | 57   | 8    | 14   | 15   | 11   | 9   |

Capacity building projects can be addressed to a group of countries or a single country. They can also be cross-regional, including institutions from different partner regions.

Participation in CBHE, 2015-2019 - Top 15 Programme countries



### Jean Monnet Activities

Jean Monnet (JM) activities aim to develop EU studies worldwide. For over 25 years they have been supporting Modules, Chairs, and Centres of Excellence to promote excellence in teaching and research on the European integration process at higher education level. The programme also supports policy debate with the academic world through networks and a number of associations in the domain of EU studies.

### Bulgaria in Jean Monnet

| TOTAL                                     | 2019        | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |     |
|---|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Proposals received in call overall        | <b>6153</b> | 1315 | 1255 | 1177 | 1034 | 879  | 493 |
| Projects selected in call                 | <b>1500</b> | 285  | 235  | 238  | 270  | 260  | 212 |
| Applications from Bulgaria                | <b>41</b>   | 8    | 10   | 10   | 4    | 5    | 4   |
| Selected projects from Bulgaria           | <b>9</b>    | 2    | 0    | 1    | 1    | 2    | 3   |
| Networks involving partners from Bulgaria | <b>3</b>    | 0    | 0    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 1   |

### More information:

**Erasmus+ website:** [http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node_en)

**Erasmus+ projects & results:** <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/>

**Erasmus+ funding opportunities:** [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding\\_en](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding_en)

**Erasmus Mundus programme catalogue:** [https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/library/scholarships-catalogue\\_en](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/library/scholarships-catalogue_en)

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\* In 2019 these six countries are Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey.