EU-Latin America cooperation through Erasmus+: Opportunities for Latin America

International Credit Mobility
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Erasmus+ student and staff mobility between Europe and Latin American countries:
1765 projects, 11602 people moving

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Erasmus+ supports activities that are closely matched with the EU’s priorities for cooperation policy with partner countries and regions. This factsheet looks at how popular these initiatives are with Latin American countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

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Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees
Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMDs) award full-degree scholarships to Master students from around the world 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. Upon graduation, they are awarded a joint or double degree, or multiple degrees.

Students can apply to these programmes even if the university where they studied is not involved in any of them. They have to look for the available programmes in the EMJMD Catalogue and apply directly to the programme coordinator: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/library/emjmd-catalogue_en

Latin America is one of the regions for which the EU funds additional scholarships.

Latin American institutions can also be part of the consortia that deliver these programmes, as full partners, which means they officially award degrees, or as associated partners, where they participate in the programme in some kind of capacity – providing lecturers, hosting fieldwork, promoting the course – but do not award the actual joint degree.

Latin American partners
From 2014 to 2020, there were 25 cases of universities from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico being involved as full hosting partners in nine EMJMDs selected between 2014 and 2020. 272 Latin American organisations have taken part in Erasmus Mundus programmes in this period as associate partners, representing a wider range of 17 countries.

Erasmus Mundus scholarships awarded, 2014-2020

EMTM: European Master in Tourism Management
This two-year joint master programme provides future professionals with an integrated knowledge of the dynamics of tourism development, sustainable management, the role of cultural diversity, and innovation and governance in contemporary tourism.

In the fourth semester of study, students have the option of researching and writing their master thesis at an Associated Partner institution, among them the Universidade de São Paulo in Brazil and Queñantaro S.A in Nicaragua.

IMIM: International Master in Innovative Medicine
IMIM empowers its students to become the next generation of leaders in translational biomedical research and industry. It brings together three European institutions – the University of Groningen (the Netherlands, coordinator), Heidelberg University (Germany), and Uppsala University (Sweden) and four Latin American Institutions: Universidade de São Paulo (Brazil), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Chile), Universidad de Antioquia (Colombia), and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Mexico). All partners have a particular strength in biomedical sciences and are listed among the top in regional and international rankings. IMIM focuses on translational medical sciences by fostering academic-private sector connections and including extensive Entrepreneurship & Innovation training.

Brazil is the top country worldwide for Erasmus Mundus scholarships, with Mexico often in the top three each year. These numbers have been boosted by additional scholarships funded by the EU’s regional programme for Latin America, with 150 for Brazil and 119 for Mexico. Overall, 682 of these additional scholarships have been awarded to students under ‘windows’ for Latin America.
Enhancing and implementing the regional quality framework (HICA)

This structural project is contributing to the harmonisation of Central American higher education systems by developing and implementing a regional qualifications framework, defining learning outcomes for pre-bachelor programmes as well as the credits required for the different higher education cycles. The pilot outcomes and the framework itself will be widely promoted to regional and national bodies, employers and accreditation agencies.

Capacity Building in Higher Education

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

Capacity building projects involve a partnership of organisations from European and Latin American countries. Before 2014, the EU supported the ALFA programmes with similar aims for Latin America.

So far, institutions from Latin America and take part on 781 occasions in 89 projects for the region.

Jean Monnet Activities

Jean Monnet (JM) activities aim to develop EU studies worldwide. For over 30 years they have supported 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 and a number of associations in the domain of EU studies.

Latin America

Out of a total of 1,860 successful applications to Jean Monnet between 2014 and 2020, 34 are Latin American projects managed by institutions from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, and Mexico. There have been 9 JM Chairs, 3 Centres of Excellence, 13 JM Modules, 3 JM Projects, 5 JM Networks, and 1 JM Institution.

BRAZIL-CAENI-EU

This Jean Monnet project provides support to Universidade de São Paulo to integrate EU issues into research, support and training programmes for Brazilian diplomats and international negotiations. This 3-year project promotes research on Brazil-EU relations and includes, for example, a teaching course of 150 hours on MERCOSUR-EU Dialogue, a young researchers seminar, publications and dissemination activities with civil society.

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<th>Latin America - participation in CBHE 2015-2020</th>
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89 projects from Latin American countries.
Capacity Building in the Field of Youth

Capacity Building projects in the Field of Youth cover a range of activities that encourage cooperation between organisations active in youth empowerment, education of youth, youth training, and other relevant socioeconomic sectors in Programme and Partner Countries from different regions of the world. The projects aim to recognize and improve youth work, non-formal learning, and volunteering, and consequently link this to education systems and the labour market.

During the selection periods between 2014 and 2020, 197 cooperation projects have been approved with Latin American partners. Projects are varied in subject-matter, ranging from topics like climate change and human rights, gender equality to urban art, entrepreneurship, media and technology.

**More information:**

Regional and country Erasmus+ factsheets: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/about/factsheets_en#worldwide

Erasmus+ website: 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

ALFA: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/latin-america/regional-cooperation/alfa/index_en.htm_en

Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association: www.em-a.eu

Study in Europe: http://ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe/

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