



EU-Eastern Partnership cooperation through Erasmus+

What is Erasmus+ ?

Erasmus+ is the European Union (EU) programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus+ funds academic and youth mobility and cooperation projects that involve partners from "Programme Countries" and "Partner Countries" throughout the world. In 2019, there were 34 Programme Countries, comprising the 28 EU Member States plus six* other European countries. Partner Countries are located all over the world and include the six Eastern Partnership countries, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

Erasmus+ supports activities that are closely matched with the EU's priorities for cooperation policy with Partner Countries and regions. Three years into the programme, we can see how popular these initiatives are with countries from the region.

International credit mobility

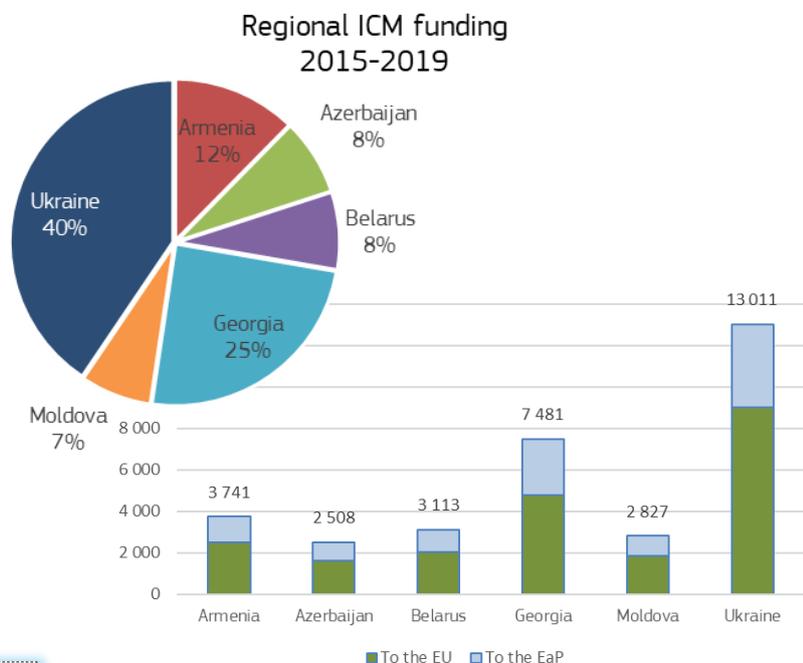
Since 1987, students and staff have moved between European universities in the Erasmus programme. Since 2015, Erasmus+ also allows short-term mobility between Europe and other parts of the world for students, researchers, and staff (known as International Credit Mobility or ICM). This two-way mobility allows students to study in a foreign university for 3-12 months (2-12 months in case of traineeships) and obtain credits which are then recognised at the sending institution as part of their degree. A grant for staff mobility is also possible for 5-60 days.

There are distinct budgets for different regions of the world that are divided between all 34 Programme Countries. Programme-Country institutions make up bilateral partnerships with universities from Eastern Partnership countries and apply on behalf of their partners.

The budget for Eastern Partnership makes up **over 15% of the entire international mobility budget** and so far has enabled the establishment of establishing 2 404 projects for bilateral partnerships that plan to organise **mobility for over 32 000 students, researchers, and staff**.

Erasmus+ student and staff mobility between Europe and Eastern Partnership countries: 2 404 projects, 32 681 people moving

Eastern Partnership– mobility per country (2015-19):



John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (Poland) manages annual mobility projects with the National University "Ostroh Academy" in Ukraine. Projects selected in 2015, 2016 and 2017 planned for 22 Ukrainian researchers and staff to visit Poland, while 17 students and staff travel to study, teach or train in Ukraine. The agreements cover several academic disciplines: Literature and linguistics, Political sciences and civics, Psychology, Biology, and Journalism.

Azerbaijan Architecture and Construction University in Baku is partner in a number of projects in which it sends 26 and receives 5 students and staff under its 2015 and 2016 agreements with HEIs in Italy (Milan and Pavia), Portugal (Lisbon), Turkey (Ankara), Lithuania (Vilnius) and Poland (Bydgoszcz).

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.

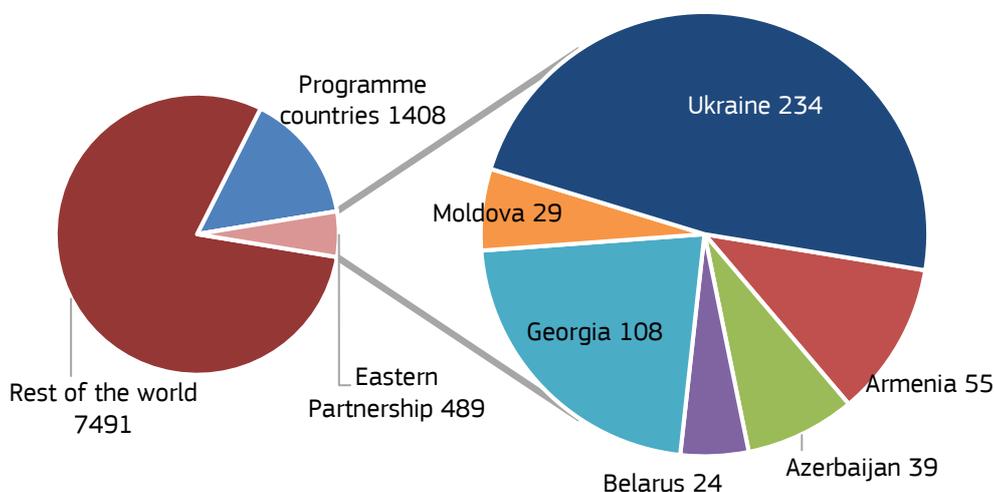
Students can apply to these programmes even if the university where they studied is not involved in any of them. They have to look for the available programmes in the EMJMD Catalogue and apply directly to the programme coordinator: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/library/emjmd-catalogue_en

Institutions from Eastern Partnership countries 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, but do not award the actual joint degree.

EaP partners

From 2014 to 2019, two Eastern Partnership universities have taken part in the same EMJMD. Ilia State University from Georgia and the National University of Kyiv – Mohyla Academy (Ukraine) were full partners in Central and Eastern European, Russian and Eurasian Studies. The 204 Erasmus Mundus programmes selected in this period included an associate role for Eastern Partnership organisations on 38 occasions: from all but Moldova.

Erasmus Mundus scholarships awarded to Master students, 2014-2019



CEERES

CEERES (Central & East European, Russian & Eurasian Studies) is a masters course that provides students with a multi-dimensional understanding of the history of communism and why it collapsed, as well as the subsequent processes of economic and political transformation in former communist states.

Study takes place in three different partner universities from Europe, Russia and Eurasia.

The consortium comprises HEI from Partner Countries (Almaty/Kazakhstan, Nizhny-Novgorod/Russia, Kyiv/Ukraine, and Tbilisi/Georgia) and Programme Countries (Glasgow/UK, Krakow/Poland, Tartu/Estonia and Budapest/Hungary).

Erasmus Mundus and Eastern Partnership, 2014-2019



489 scholarships for Master students



40 instances of participation from Eastern Partnership

Did you know... ?

Eastern Partnership Platform 4 and Panel on Education, Culture and Youth

The Eastern Partnership Platform 4 on "Mobility and People-to-People Contacts" covers policy dialogues on education, youth, culture, research and innovation, migration, mobility and border management. The Panel on Education, Culture and Youth was endorsed by the Eastern Partnership Summit in 2017 as part of the renewed Eastern Partnership architecture. It focuses on education, employability, culture and youth areas, by working on relevant Deliverables for 2020, boosting cooperation and sharing good practice.

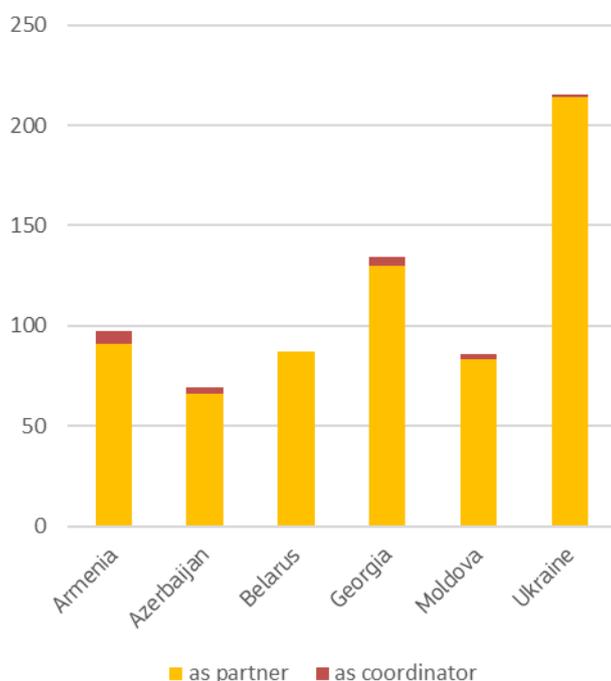
http://ec.europa.eu/education/policy/international-cooperation/eastern-partnership_en

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 can be addressed to a group of Eastern Partnership countries or a single country and they can also be cross-regional and include partners both from different regions. So far, institutions from the Eastern Partnership take part on 546 occasions in 81 projects for the region.

Eastern Partnership: participation in CBHE 2015-2019



HERITAG

HERITAG brings together HEIs and other organisations from Armenia and Georgia with HEIs from Spain, Italy, Sweden and Greece to link up three areas of policy and academic capacities: geo-information technologies, cultural heritage management and tourism. This wide-ranging joint project designs speciality master-level teaching modules in these areas, and develops vocational training and technology centres. It also links up academia, the professional sector and decision-makers in these three closely linked domains.

Introducing problem-based learning in Moldova

This national **project** introduces innovative teaching methods to study programmes in Moldova. Problem Based Learning, Enquiry Based Learning and Simulations aim to enhance students' competitiveness and employability. The new methods are blended into courses on Business Administration, Information Technology, Human Rights, European Policy and Public Administration, Entrepreneurship and Business Administration and Medicine, mainly at Masters level. The project oversees their introduction through a work plan including training materials, roadmaps for change, curricula and evaluation.

Capacity-building projects for higher education 2015-2019



101 projects



688 instances of participation

from Eastern Partnership countries

Fostering Competencies Development in Belarusian Higher Education

This structural **project** involves a range of Belarus partners - eight universities, the Ministry of Education and the National Institute for Higher Education. Supported by universities from Spain, Finland, Lithuania and Poland they are introducing a competence-based approach to learning and teaching. Curriculum development will focus on graduates' knowledge, skills and attitudes as well as on meeting social and economic needs.

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 and a number of associations in the domain of EU studies.

Eastern Partnership

Out of a total of 1,500 successful applications to Jean Monnet between 2014 and 2019, **120 are from Eastern Partnership countries**, including projects managed by institutions from all six countries. These include 14 JM Chairs, 73 JM Modules, 14 JM Projects, 16 Associations and 3 Centres of Excellence.

Promoting Interdisciplinary Europeanisation Studies in Ukraine

The 2014 EU-Ukraine Association Agreement implies comprehensive alignment of Ukrainian political, economic and legal systems with the EU in a short time-frame, but very little academic research has been conducted in this area in Ukraine.

This project deals with the lack of truly interdisciplinary EU studies at doctoral level – or peer-reviewed academic journals in EU studies in Ukraine. The project builds on achievements of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Jean Monnet Chair and the Graduate School at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. This module is relevant for students and academics who in general do not come into contact with EU studies, but who are interested in applying EU interdisciplinary and methodology and knowledge in their research. The module will help them incorporate EU studies into their work. It complements the existing EU studies at the NaUKMA which hosts the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in EU studies and the Jean Monnet Chair in EU Law.
<http://jmce.ukma.edu.ua/jm-module>

Opportunities in the field of Youth

Mobility Projects for Young People and Youth Workers

Organisations from Eastern Partnership countries can participate as partners in mobility projects for young people and youth workers. Three types of activities can be supported under this Action:

Youth Exchanges

Between 2014 and 2019, 25 933 young people from the Eastern Partnership participated in youth projects in Europe while 19 896 participants were hosted in Eastern Partnership countries.

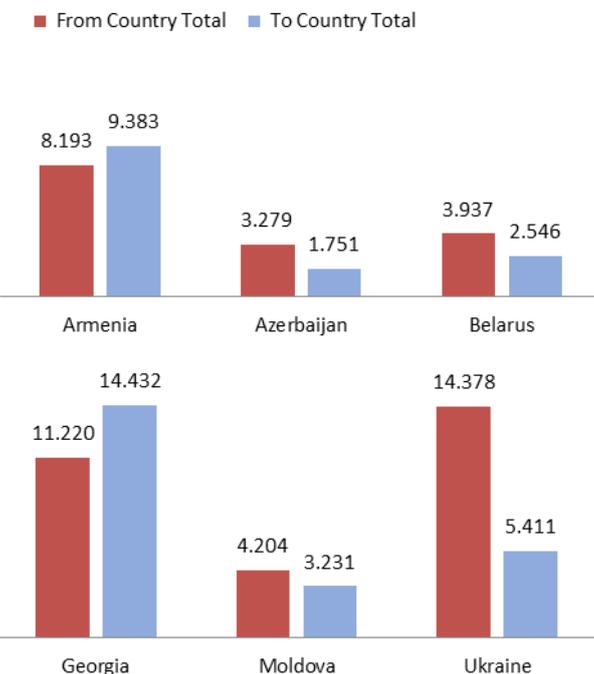
Youth Workers Mobility

Between 2014 and 2019, over 16 424 youth workers from the Eastern Partnership went to take part in youth projects in Europe, (including training, job shadowing) while a further 15 194 youth workers were hosted in Eastern Partnership countries.

Volunteering Projects (individual or groups)

Between 2014 and 2019, almost 2 854 volunteers from Eastern Partnership countries carried out European Volunteering Service in Europe while some 1664 volunteers were hosted in the Eastern Partnership.

Erasmus+ Youth Strand participants - 2014-19



Erasmus+ for Youth is moving...
...**45 211** people to Programme Countries in Europe

...**36 754** people to Eastern Partnership countries

b) Youth dialogue with policy makers

Erasmus+ also provides funding for initiatives that promote the active participation of young people in democratic life and foster debate around the major issues affecting youth.

Projects can take the form of meetings, conferences, public consultations and thematic events. Between 2014 and 2019, 846 young people from the Eastern Partnership participated in such projects.

Capacity Building in the Field of Youth

Part of the EU4Youth initiative for Eastern Partnership region, Capacity Building in the Field of Youth projects are based on multilateral partnerships. They cover a range of activities that strengthen the capacity and internationalisation of youth organisations in Erasmus+ Programme and Partner Countries, enhance competences of young leaders and youth workers (Civil Society Fellowships for youth) and promote new forms of training and new approaches to youth entrepreneurship (Partnerships for Entrepreneurship). In 2017-2019 calls, 101 projects were selected with 451 participating organisations. A total of 72 212 individuals will be directly and indirectly involved in these projects.

EXAMPLE: Social Entrepreneurship for Disadvantaged Youth Social Integration

The [project](#) links up social entrepreneurship with the development of core work skills development through informal education. It does this by encouraging youth workers to cooperate with social enterprises, whose remit is to help integrate disadvantaged youth into society through work. It is setting up a virtual cooperation platform which enables these work integration social enterprises (WISE) and their supporting organisations to share educational resources and good practices. A Social Entrepreneurship School will be organised with entrepreneurs providing the training. The project is coordinated by the Georgian Children and Youth Development Fund and involves partners from Armenia, Ukraine, Georgia, Belgium and Denmark.

Did you know... ?

eTwinning

Beyond higher education and non-formal education, the European Commission is working on expanding cooperation with the Eastern Partnership in the school education field. The eTwinningPlus Action is open to all EaP countries except Belarus. It provides a safe web-based platform for teachers and schools to engage with partner schools in Europe and in some neighbouring countries, work on projects and communicate with like-minded educational professionals.

<https://plus.etwinning.net/en/pub/index.htm>

More information:

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

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

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

Erasmus+ Youth Information Centres: <https://www.salto-youth.net/rc/eeca/infocentres/>

* Programme Countries in 2019 were the 28 EU Member States plus six other countries that have signed up to Erasmus+ (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey).