

## Erasmus Statement Policy

Since its foundation in 1968, Széchenyi Istvan University has been the most significant higher education institution in the region. The college, initially launched with technical subjects, has over time, due to its involvement in the automotive industry as well as the transport and telecommunications sectors, via its programmes and training, grown into one of the most important economic, social operators, shapers and intellectual centres of the region. The institution, based essentially on continuing engineering courses, later partly integrated the existing courses of its technical faculties and partly launched new degree programmes in the fields of economics, law, health and agricultural sciences, social sciences and the arts. Now, with an up-to-date methodology and infrastructural background - thanks to the support of the business sector - the institute's faculties regularly carry out future-oriented higher educational and research activities. In line with continuous innovation and the needs of the region, the University now plays a key role not only in technology, but also in the social sciences, arts and other fields.

One of the central elements of university development is the increase in domestic and international competitiveness, a crucial part of which is internationalization, which at the same time is the key to the successful cooperation of scientific research, education and the labour market.

The University defines itself as an entrepreneurial university. In addition to education and research, it also pays special attention to its third mission activity (relations with non-governmental organizations, companies, media outlets). The third mission can often be identified with the economic activity of the University, on which the Institution also places great emphasis. Its most important industrial partner is AUDI Hungaria Zrt, located in Győr since 1993, but it also maintains relations with thousands of other companies, which participate not only as customers, but also as locations for professional internships. In addition to student subsidies from the central budget, 41 projects - including 29 Hungarian and 12 international - support the budget as an external source of funding.

In recent years, in addition to infrastructural development and corporate relations, the University's international programmes have demonstrated a dynamic development. In the interests of providing quality higher education, a number of our programmes are conducted in a foreign language (primarily English).

International relations remain one of the University's priorities. This is supported by the significant increase in the number of programmes taught in a foreign language compared to the previous application cycle, as well as the significantly increasing interest in teacher, student and employee mobility as a result of positive experiences. In order to ensure the international comparability of its performance, the University considers it important to participate in evaluation by international rankings lists. In comparison to the 2014-2020 application cycle, we would highlight that the University currently has 9 faculties, more than 13,000 students, 4 doctoral schools, 33 English-taught programmes, 1,000 employees, including 600 lecturers and 63 professors. The contact network of more than 200 international partner institutions also indicates a commitment to an international outlook.

The increased international relations of the University, the active contribution of the lecturers, as well as the increased foreign interest in both the Hungarian-taught and the English-taught Bachelors, Masters and doctoral degrees also necessitated the launch of new programmes. Contributing to this is the presence of the AUDI Faculty of Automotive Engineering, which, with its automotive industry

background, also justifies the maintenance of international academic programmes and the encouragement and support of student mobility. As a result of this industrial-educational collaboration, the majority of students graduating from this Faculty, having acquired marketable knowledge, find employment at the multinational company. Periods of study at universities abroad, not only with the aim of developing professional language skills, but also to acquire and apply up-to-date professional knowledge are an essential element. Globalization and the creation of a multicultural work environment necessitate a flexible employee attitude that is at home in an international environment. A prelude to this is a multicultural university that comprises both foreign and Hungarian students. Employee participation in international projects and conferences, experience abroad for academics, researchers and teachers, student mobility and participation in foreign internships in international organizations all continue to be supported. To achieve this, the University possesses the appropriate infrastructure, expertise, network of contacts and decades of experience.

The aim of the University's international strategy is competence development, knowledge transfer, and the evaluation of its current international performance. In addition to the University's nine faculties, there are in operation seven competence centres: The Research Centre of the Automotive Industry , The Digital Development Centre, The Management Campus Competence Centre, The Agricultural & Food Industry Research Centre, The Globalization Competence Centre, The Design Competence Centre, The Health Innovation Competence Centre.

These are interdisciplinary research units tasked with attracting external resources in the field of key competences, providing innovation and R&D services for both market and public actors.

In order to ensure effective internationalization, our University uses the ECTS system, automatically ensuring mutual recognition of credits. The University wishes to submit applications at both KA1 and KA2 levels, as proposed by the Commission, in the academic, institutional, strategic development and cooperation areas.

The strategic goal of Szechenyi Istvan University is to continuously improve and strengthen its visibility in the global and European higher education space, the means of which is the internationalization of the University. The key elements of internationalization are:

- Teaching activities in English, the recruitment of foreign students (incoming student mobility for both full-time and part-time education), the integration into academic programmes of native speaker and/or internationally recognized experts.

The achievement of this goal can be effectively supported by Erasmus KA1 mobility schemes, as well as by Erasmus Mundus support for the development of joint educational programmes

- Competing in international rankings (enhancing international research, publication and citation activities). In 2018, Szechenyi Istvan University had its performance evaluated in the QS Stars Rating System, as a result of which the University was awarded an overall three-star rating (from the maximum five-stars). The University performed particularly well in the categories "Teaching" and "Infrastructure", where it achieved four-star awards. In the QS EECA University Rankings 2020 list, our University was placed 201-210. On the Times Higher Education (THE) 2020 list, which ranks higher education institutions according to their economic /social impact and responsibility, in the category

entitled "decent work and economic growth" Szechenyi Istvan University was placed among the top 101-200 performers in the world.

- Participation in a European Universities network, encouragement of European student mobility (outward, part-time mobility in support of the objectives set out in the Leuven Declaration), research, publication, innovation and project activities. In 2020, with the participation of SZE, eight European universities - Polytechnic of Leiria (Portugal), Cavado and Ave Polytechnika (IPCA) (Portugal), Limerick Institute of Technology (Ireland), Athlone Institute of Technology (Ireland), Széchenyi István University (SZE) (Hungary), Häme University of Applied Sciences, HAMK (Finland), NHL Stenden UAS (Netherlands) and FH Vorarlberg (Austria) - submitted a joint application on behalf of the RUN-EU consortium (The Regional University Network of Europe), created in response to the call of the Erasmus+ European University (EUN) to establish an ideal European university.
- Brand building - Corporate relations, especially AUDI Hungaria Zrt and the alumni network.
- International accreditation (institutional and professional).

Elements of the Erasmus KA2 call, such as the Association of European Universities, collaboration activities and exchanges of good practice, and actions in support of innovation, can be essential tools for achieving these strategic goals.