



## **Erasmus Policy Statement 2021-2027**

Egas Moniz - Cooperativa de Ensino Superior, CRL places internationalisation at the core of its institutional mission, recognising it as a fundamental driver for academic excellence, innovation, employability and social impact. As a higher education institution with a strong focus on Health Sciences and practice-based learning, Egas Moniz is committed to providing its students, academic staff, researchers and non-academic staff with a solid international profile that supports both their professional development and personal growth.

This commitment is rooted in the applied nature of the degrees and training programmes offered by the institution, as well as in the increasingly global and interconnected labour market in which its graduates will operate. Internationalisation therefore constitutes one of the strategic pillars of Egas Moniz, fully embedded in its long-term institutional strategy. Through its active participation in the Erasmus+ Programme, Egas Moniz seeks to equip students and graduates with the skills, competences and international experience required to succeed in a dynamic and competitive European and global context, thereby contributing to improved employability outcomes.

In parallel, Egas Moniz invests in fostering meaningful connections between students, alumni and potential employers, including international stakeholders, reinforcing the link between academic training and the professional world. Mobility experiences are regarded as an essential element in this process, promoting not only technical knowledge but also transversal competences such as intercultural communication, adaptability and critical thinking.

Egas Moniz intends to further expand and consolidate its network of international collaborations, broadening the scope and impact of the mobility actions in which it is involved, particularly within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme. While individual mobility remains a central priority, the institution also recognises the strategic importance of cooperation projects, strategic partnerships and knowledge alliances as key instruments to enhance institutional competitiveness, innovation capacity and the quality of education and training in a European context.

The institution is fully committed to providing comprehensive support to all candidates and participants in mobility activities, from the application stage through to recognition and reintegration. In addition, Egas Moniz ensures wide dissemination and visibility of Erasmus+ projects and their outcomes, considering communication and outreach as

essential tools to strengthen its international profile and to consolidate its internationalisation strategy. In this context, the institution actively promotes the use of Erasmus+ digital tools, such as the Erasmus+ Mobile App, and is implementing the necessary measures to support the European Student Card Initiative and the Erasmus Without Paper network, in line with the transition towards a more digital and efficient European Higher Education Area.

Egas Moniz is strongly committed to offering high-quality conditions to incoming students. This includes ensuring academic excellence in teaching and training, adequate material and infrastructural conditions, and appropriate linguistic and cultural support. Incoming mobility participants may also benefit from accommodation at the Egas Moniz University Residence, located on campus and available at affordable prices. This measure aims to facilitate integration into both the academic environment and the local community, contributing to a positive and inclusive mobility experience.

Reflecting its growing engagement with Erasmus+ activities, Egas Moniz has recently reinforced its International Relations and Mobility Office through the recruitment of an additional staff member. This investment aims to strengthen the institution's capacity to respond effectively to the increasing demand for mobility opportunities and to enhance the quality of support provided to participants. It also aligns with the objectives of the European Education Area, which promotes mobility as a standard and accessible component of learning and professional development.

European and international cooperation projects are expected to continue playing a key role in improving the quality, relevance and innovation of education and training at Egas Moniz. These initiatives contribute to the continuous development of study programmes, foster closer collaboration between higher education institutions, research centres and external stakeholders, and support excellence in teaching and research. Ultimately, they enhance staff performance and contribute to higher employability and professional integration of graduates.

Current institutional data indicate that mobility participation at Egas Moniz is more prevalent among first-cycle students, who tend to select host institutions primarily from Erasmus Programme countries. In this context, the institution seeks to diversify the geographical distribution of mobility flows and to increase participation among second- and third-cycle students. At the same time, Egas Moniz aims to further expand staff mobility, encompassing both academic and non-academic personnel, recognising its importance for professional development, institutional learning and the exchange of best practices.

In line with the future priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme, Institutional and Mobility Coordinators are committed to promoting staff mobility by creating favourable conditions for participation. These include measures related to workload organisation, schedule flexibility, financial support and the development of tailored blended-learning

and training opportunities. Information and dissemination actions will continue to be implemented to ensure that all members of the Egas Moniz community are fully informed about available opportunities and encouraged to participate.

As part of its broader internationalisation and modernisation strategy, Egas Moniz has invested in the development of digital tools to streamline mobility management processes. The implementation of an online platform to centralise applications and administrative procedures for both incoming and outgoing mobility is aligned with the principles of Erasmus Without Paper, contributing to increased efficiency, transparency and sustainability.

Egas Moniz is committed to consistently expanding its network of international partners through the establishment of collaboration agreements with higher education institutions, research organisations and companies. Potential partnerships may arise either through proactive identification of institutions with recognised academic credibility, compatible curricula and relevant expertise, or through expressions of interest received from external partners. When appropriate, preparatory visits and meetings may be organised to assess mutual interests and feasibility. The institution undertakes a thorough analysis of each potential collaboration, ensuring alignment with its strategic objectives and the quality standards of the Erasmus+ Programme.

While the majority of partner institutions are currently located in Erasmus Programme countries, Egas Moniz is also committed to strengthening cooperation with third-country partners, particularly those with strong cultural or linguistic ties, such as Portuguese-speaking countries including Angola and Brazil, and other countries like Peru. In parallel, the institution participates in international consortia and innovation-oriented networks involving higher education institutions and industry partners, particularly in areas related to research, technology transfer, health innovation and social responsibility, such as the Innovation District and Madan Science Park. These interactions contribute directly to the enrichment of teaching and research activities within the institution.

Looking to the future, Egas Moniz aims to further intensify and diversify its internationalisation channels, reinforcing cooperation within the framework of Erasmus+ while also exploring opportunities in other regions of the world that may offer complementary perspectives and learning contexts. Alongside hosting an increasing number of international students, the institution will continue to invest in the internationalisation of its academic staff by inviting visiting professors and international lecturers to contribute to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

These actions are intended to foster a genuinely international and multicultural academic community, supporting benchmarking, the sharing of best practices and the dissemination of high-quality teaching and training methodologies. Through this sustained commitment, Egas Moniz seeks to strengthen its international standing, contribute to the promotion of common European values, social inclusion and

intercultural understanding, and reaffirm Erasmus+ as a central and effective instrument for achieving these goals.