

## Erasmus+ Policy Statement (EPS) for Linköping University 2021-2027

Linköping University's (LiU) internationalisation strategy is based on the University's overall strategy and vision and aims to strengthen the university's development and quality in terms of research, education, collaboration and administrative support. The role of the Erasmus+ programme, representing the by far the largest scope of opportunities and actions in comparison to other available programmes and actions, is crucial for the university's ability to reach the objectives in the strategy.

LiU's internationalisation strategy goes hand in hand with the expectation from the Swedish government that Swedish higher education and research actively participate in European initiatives as well as in other international collaboration activities with the aim to strengthen both Europe and Sweden as attractive knowledge regions and to ensure Europe's and Sweden's role in the global knowledge development. This implies that universities must constantly evolve in line with the changes in society and that education must match the demand from an increasingly global labor market. Proactive internationalisation work within strong partnerships coincides with the work to make the collaborating universities' education and research more successful and to ensure good quality. The objectives stated and work described above could not be achieved without a very strong involvement in the Erasmus programme.

The global challenges cannot be solved within national borders and thus place great demands on international cooperation in general and on European cooperation in particular. Higher education and research have a particularly important role in promoting the implementation of Agenda 2030 in an international context and utilizing knowledge in collaboration with other parties. The importance and possibilities of collaboration within the Erasmus+ programme should be especially highlighted in this regard. In addition, internationalisation of the university's activities has an important task in promoting the dissemination of fact-based knowledge in an environment where this is increasingly being challenged. Internationalisation, with a strong base in collaboration within the European Union, thus plays an important role in promoting the development towards a sustainable democratic knowledge society.

LiU's internationalisation strategy states that all students, including doctoral students, who graduate from LiU shall have developed their international and intercultural understanding through their studies at LiU. The strategy continues by stating that LiU's employees shall have a good ability to work in international and intercultural contexts. This is to be achieved by including international and intercultural perspectives in LiU's education and all other activities. The most important "tool" of the "toolbox" that the University aims at relying on in order to reach this inclusion of international and intercultural perspectives in

education and other activities of the university is what can be found within Erasmus Key Action 1 – Learning mobility.

Additionally, Key Action 2 and in particular the European University Initiative has taken and is foreseen to be taking an increasingly important role in the inclusion of international and intercultural perspectives in education and other activities of the university. Linköping University is part of a EUI project, the “ECIU University”, that was granted funding in the pilot call within the initiative. The initiative, with its ambitious, though realizable targets of student mobility, is expected to have an increasingly large impact on the University’s activities. The impact, primarily within education, but as well with regard to research not only targets the important goal of increasing mobility within the European Union, but also emphasizes the implementation of the Agenda 2030 by focusing on challenge-based education. Through the project’s work in developing challenged based education, an important societal inclusion is achieved. The ECIU University project thus responds to a large number of aspects of LiU’s internationalisation strategy: active support to the implementation of the Agenda 2030, inclusion of international and intercultural perspectives in education, “comprehensive internationalisation”, i.e. the inclusion of internationalisation in all of the University’s activities, i.e. education, research and collaboration, to mention a few.

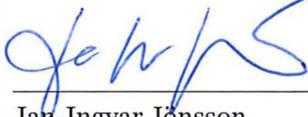
Linköping University aims at building on its good experiences from actions within both Key Action 1, 2 and 3 as well as at continuing its strong participation in Key Action 1 and in the European University Initiative where an equally strong participation is planned for after the completion of the present project phase. In parallel, LiU aims at increasing its participation in other actions of the Erasmus programme.

LiU’s internationalisation strategy has defined five strategic areas: 1. LiU’s international attractiveness, 2. Internationalisation at Home (IaH), 3. International cooperation, 4. Support for internationalisation and 5. Prioritized geographical regions. A number of indicators in order to monitor the development within each strategic area have been identified. These indicators are in the strategy expressed as “indicators of development in the right direction”, i.e. when the situation described in each indicator is reached, the University will have an indication that the work is going in the desired direction. Those of the indicators identified within LiU’s internationalisation strategy that most strongly relate to the expected impact of LiU’s involvement in the Erasmus+ actions are:

- All of LiU’s subject areas offer courses / programmes in English, designed in line with LiU’s goal of providing education that makes man able to meet contemporary challenges.
- LiU’s programmes in English attracts both Swedish, European and non-European students.
- After completing their education, LiU’s students have the ability to put education’s knowledge areas in a global context and are well equipped for a global labor market.
- There is an international and cultural diversity among LiU’s students and employees.
- The knowledge of the outside world that LiU’s employees and students with an international background have is taken into account and contributes to increasing the international and intercultural understanding of employees and students.
- All of LiU’s educational programmes are designed to enable international mobility.

- LiU has a high participation in European education and research programmes.
- LiU participates in and / or runs educational and research collaborations within the framework of strategic networks.
- International experience is a merit, and international and intercultural skills development for employees is offered.
- The conditions for LiU's employees and students to participate in international mobility are good and international mobility is encouraged.
- The conditions for LiU's teachers / researchers and doctoral students to participate in international research collaborations and in international networks are good.

As can be seen from the above, the Erasmus+ programme is expected to have a major impact on the University's development during the coming years.



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Jan-Ingvar Jönsson  
Vice Chancellor

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