**Erasmus+ Programme**

**Inter-institutional agreement**

**Key Action 1
Learning mobility for higher education students and staff**

**between EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme**

The institutions[[1]](#footnote-1) named below agree to cooperate for the exchange of students and/or staff in the context of the Erasmus+ programme. This agreement is valid for the Erasmus+ call years **2022-2027** in:

* KA131

The institutions commit to sound and transparent management of funds allocated to them through Erasmus+ and to respect the quality requirements of the Programme, outlined in the [Erasmus Charter for Higher Education](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/applicants/higher-education-charter_en)[[2]](#footnote-2) and in this agreement.

The institutions agree on exchanging their mobility-related data according to the [principles of GDPR](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/reform/rules-business-and-organisations/principles-gdpr_en)[[3]](#footnote-3) and in line with the technical standards of the [European Student Card Initiative](https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-student-card-initiative_en)[[4]](#footnote-4), when this becomes available for international mobility involving third countries not associated to the Programme.

Sending institutions located in EU/EEA countries have to ensure compliance with the provisions of art. 46 GDPR for all participants’ personal data exchanged in the context of their mobility with institutions from non-EU/EEA countries without an adequacy decision, on the condition that enforceable data subject rights and effective legal remedies for data subjects are available in the respective third country. The participants should be informed in a transparent manner about the level of protection of their personal data, if this is different from the one where the sending institution is located.

**PARTNER INSTITUTIONS IN THIS AGREEMENT:**

MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, ANKARA, TURKEY

XXX UNIVERSITY, CITY, COUNTRY

1. **Information about the higher education institutions**

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| **Name of the institution (and department where relevant)** | **Erasmus code or city[[5]](#footnote-5)** | **Contact details [[6]](#footnote-6) (email, phone)** | **Websites** |
| **Middle East Technical University** | TR ANKARA04 | **Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator:** Prof. Dr. Gaye Teksoz, Advisor to the President (Dean of Students)Tel : +90 312 210 4112Fax: +90 312 210 1105E-mail: gtuncer@metu.edu.tr**Academic Contact Person:****Administrative Contact Person:** Dr. Gulizar Karahan Balya, International Cooperations OfficeTel: +90 312 210 7179Fax: +90 312 210 7176E-mail: kgulizar@metu.edu.tr | General:<http://www.metu.edu.tr/> International Cooperations Office: <http://www.ico.metu.edu.tr> Faculty/faculties: <https://www.metu.edu.tr/faculties-institutes-schools>Offered courses: <https://oibs3.metu.edu.tr/View_Program_Course_Details_64/> Academic Catalog: <http://www.metu.edu.tr/academic-catalog> |
|  |  |  | General:Faculty/faculties:Course catalogue: |

1. **Mobility numbers per academic year**

The partners agree to update the mobility data, whenever possible, by no later than the end of January in the preceding academic year formally via an amendment of the inter-institutional agreement. In case of later updates in the mobility data, the partners can also agree to accept informal communication means (e.g. exchanges of emails as written proof).

**Number of student and staff mobility periods**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FROM****[Erasmus code or city of the sending institution]** | **TO****[Erasmus code or city of the receiving institution]** | ***Subject area*** **ISCED CODE[[7]](#footnote-7)*****(optional)*** | ***Subject area*** **NAME*****(optional)*** | ***Study cycle*****[short cycle, 1st , 2nd or 3rd]****(optional)** | Number of mobility periods |
| ***Student Mobility for Studies*** *[total number of students]* | ***Student Mobility for Studies****[total number of months]* | ***Staff Mobility*** ***for Teaching*** *[Specify here total number of staff]* | ***Staff Mobility*** ***for Teaching***  *[Specify here total number of days]* |
| TR ANKARA04 |  |  |  | 1st, 2nd, 3rd  | 3 students | 15 months | 1 staff | Min. 2 days |
|  | TR ANKARA04 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **Optional additional information** |
|
| * Blended mobility
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1. **Recommended language skills**

The sending institution, following agreement with the receiving institution, is responsible for providing support to its nominated candidates so that they can have the recommended language skills[[8]](#footnote-8) at the start of the mobility period (see also section 5 “Preparation and Support”).

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| **Receiving institution[Erasmus code or city]** | ***Subject area*** ***(Optional)*** | **Languageof instruction 1** | **Languageof instruction 2** | **Recommended level** |
| Student Mobility [*Minimum recommended level in at least one of the languages: B1*] | Staff Mobility [*Minimum recommended level in at least one of the languages for teaching: B2*] |
| TR ANKARA04 | All subjects | English | - | B1 | B2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

For more details on the language of instruction recommendations, see the course catalogue of each institution. The links to the course catalogue are provided in the first section*.*

1. **Partnership arrangements: fees and organisational support funds**

In accordance with the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education, partners commit to charge no additional fees to students:

* In connection with the organisation or administration of their Erasmus+ mobility period. Any violation to this rule by the partners shall be brought to the attention of the National Agency and may lead to the termination of the participation in the project linked to this inter-institutional agreement, if no corrective measures are taken.
* For tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities. Nevertheless, they may be charged small fees on the same basis as local students for costs such as insurance, student unions and the use of miscellaneous material.
1. **Outreach and Selection of participants: calendar, application procedure and requirements**
* Partners commit to doing outreach to participants with fewer opportunities to encourage their participation in the Programme and, where needed, agree on a common strategy to meet indicative inclusion targets.
* Partners commit to running selection procedures for mobility activities that are fair, transparent and documented, ensuring equal opportunities to participants eligible for mobility. The calls for applications must be public and an appeal procedure must be in place. Under no circumstances, shall applicants and selected participants incur any costs during application and selection procedures.
* In the case of student mobility, partners will ensure that other elements beyond academic merit are taken into account to ensure participation of students with fewer opportunities. Selection criteria and procedures must be clearly communicated in the call for applications.

Applications/information on nominated students must reach the receiving institution by:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Receiving institution****[Erasmus code or city]** | **Term duration** | **Deadline[[9]](#footnote-9)** |
| TR ANKARA04 | Winter Term: mid-September – mid-January Spring Term: mid-February – mid-June | Winter Term: 31st MaySpring Term: 15th November  |
|  | Winter Term: from.. to..Spring Term: from.. to.. |  |

The receiving institution will send its decision within 5 weeks and no later than 5 weeks.

The partners commit to have a fair, transparent, coherent and documented application and selection procedure outlined in their respective websites and regularly updated, together with the contact details of the relevant department:

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| **Application procedure (optional)** |
| **Receiving Institution [Erasmus code or city]** | **Contact details****(email, phone)** | **Website for information**  |
| TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | <http://ico.metu.edu.tr/application> |
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| **Selection criteria**  |
| **Requirement** | **Details** | **Website for information (optional)** |
| Academic requirements | Student Mobility:* A minimum Grade Point Average of 75/100 or its equivalent in the student´s home university grading scale.
* Min. B1 level of English proficiency

Staff Mobility:Selection at home university will be based on objective and transparent criteria such as tenure and previous participation. Selection at host university will be based on a case-by-case evaluation by the receiving unit. | Grade conversion system at METU: <http://oidb.metu.edu.tr/en/course-credit-system> |
| Inclusion measures[[10]](#footnote-10)  | Inclusion and diversity will be taken as priorities in the assessment process on each side. As part of this common policy, students and staff with disabilities as well as students who are in need of institutional protection, care and accommodation will be prioritized for funding. Partners agree to disseminate this information among potential participants before application process. The receiving institution will inform it partner and beneficiaries about the availability of relevant infrastructure and provide support to incoming participants with fewer opportunities. |  |
| CV, Motivation letter and others | - |  |

1. **Preparation and support**

The Higher Education Institution(s) in an EU Member State or associated third country commit(s) to:

* Ensure that students are aware of their rights and obligations as defined in the[*Erasmus+ Student Charter*](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/applicants/student-charter_en)*[[11]](#footnote-11).*
* Arrange travels or provide a pre-financing of the grant to **reduce the costs that participants need to cover upfront**, to the extent possible.

All involved Higher Education Institutions commit to the following preparation and support measures. Information and assistance can be provided by the contact points and information sources in the table below:

* The receiving institution will guide incoming mobile participants in finding **accommodation**, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education. It is considered best practice to use the individual grant to pay for the deposit of dormitories.
* Ensure that outgoing mobile participants are well prepared for their activities abroad, including blended mobility, by undertaking activities to achieve the necessary level of **linguistic proficiency** and develop their **intercultural** **competences**.
* Provide assistance related to obtaining **visas**, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and, if needed, use project funds in the most inclusive way to cover related costs partially or in full.
* Provide assistance related to obtaining **insurance**, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and use project funds in the most inclusive way to cover related costs partially or in full. The receiving institution will inform mobile participants of cases in which insurance cover is not automatically provided.
* The receiving institution will inform about the existence of relevant infrastructure and provide support to incoming **participants with fewer opportunities**.
* Provide **appropriate mentoring and support arrangements** for mobile participants, including for those pursuing blended mobility, as well as **integrate incoming mobile participants** into the wider student community and in the Institution’s everyday life.
* Provide participants with their **grant as soon as possible upon arrival**, including if necessary a first payment using cash, check or similar to avoid delays linked to opening a bank account.
* The institutions commit to encourage participants to act as **ambassadors of the Erasmus+ Programme** and share their mobility experience, e.g. by providing information about the existence of Erasmus+ alumni networks, inviting former participants in promotion activities, etc.

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| **Preparatory & Support Measures** | **Institution [Erasmus code or city]** | **Contact details****(email, phone)** | **Website for information & arrangements** |
| **Accommodation** | TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | <https://ico.metu.edu.tr/accommodation>  |
| xxx |  |  |
| **Language Support** | TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | METU regularly offers English language courses designed for those students who need academic support for studying in English language:<http://mld.metu.edu.tr/en/elective-english-courses>Elective language courses other than English are also available every semester:<http://mld.metu.edu.tr/en/elective-language-courses> |
| xxx |  |  |
| **Visa** | TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | <https://ico.metu.edu.tr/visa-and-residence-permit> |
| xxx |  |  |
| **Insurance** | TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | <https://ico.metu.edu.tr/health-and-safety> |
| xxx |  |  |
| **Inclusion of participants with fewer opportunities** | TR ANKARA04 | engelsiz@metu.edu.tr | <https://engelsiz.metu.edu.tr/en/>Please see below for details\* |
| xxx |  |  |
| **Mentoring** | TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | International Cooperations Office (ICO) coordinates the Orientation Program for Exchange and Visiting students each semester. The Program usually starts one week prior to the beginning of semester. All incoming participants are assigned a mentor at ICO. In addition to mentoring available at ICO, incoming students are also matched with a local METU student, who will help in their adaptation to campus life. Host students get in touch with incomings prior to their arrival. Lastly, ICO works in close cooperation with METU ESN, which is an active student organization facilitating adaptation process of incoming Erasmus students. |
| xxx |  |  |
| **Grant payments** | TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | ICO will provide outgoing participants with their grant as soon as possible upon completion of required mobility processes on both sides. |
| xxx |  |  |
| **Alumni information** | TR ANKARA04 | europeanmobility@metu.edu.tr | ICO will cooperate with METU ESN (local student club) to build a dedicated network for alumni. |
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\* METU (TR ANKARA04) has a Disability Support Office (DSO; <http://engelsiz.metu.edu.tr/en>) and “METU without Barriers” student club. DSO offers academic support (academic accommodations, note-taker support, etc.) and orientation programs designed according to the specific needs of disabled students. Support services are provided in cases of Visual impairment, Auditory disabilities, Motor disabilities, Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, Learning disabilities, Speech and language disorders, Autism spectrum disorder, Psychiatric disorders and Chronic health conditions. DSO also provides transportation support on campus in cases of motor disabilities and visual disabilities (wheelchair accessible vehicle and free taxi service for in-campus transportation). Also, some buildings on campus are accessible for individuals with serious mobility impairments and in others disabled-friendly facilities are being constructed.

Students/staff with disabilities must submit their disability report to METU before the start of their mobility so that necessary arrangements could be done by ICO in cooperation with DSO. The disability report must be in English language and issued by a certified expert (such as a medical doctor, psychiatrist, etc.) in the disabled individual’s country. Documents which are older than 1 year (except those without any due date) and those in languages other than English cannot be processed by DSO, thus disability support cannot be provided in such cases.

1. **Recognition**

Institutions commit to:

* Ensure recognition for activities satisfactorily completed.

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| Recognition Tools for Student Mobility:* European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
* Transcript of Records
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* Ensure that student and staff mobility for education or training purposes is based on a learning agreement for students and a mobility agreement for staff validated in advance between the sending and receiving institutions and the mobile participants.
* Accept all activities indicated in the learning agreement, or according to the learning outcomes of the modules completed abroad, as automatically counting towards the degree, provided these have been satisfactorily completed by the mobile student.
* Partners commit to taking measures to ensure recognition of student and staff mobility upon their return, including:
	+ Providing incoming mobile students and their sending institutions with free-of-charge transcripts. The documents must be in English or in the language of the sending institution and containing a full, accurate and timely record of the achievements at the end of the mobility period.
	+ A Transcript of Records will be issued by the receiving institution no later than 5 weeks after the assessment period has finished at the receiving HEI.
	+ Providing students on traineeships and staff with a certificate for the activities completed. It is recommended to issue a certificate towards the end of the mobility period.
1. **Grading systems of the institutions**

It is recommended that receiving institutions provide the statistical distribution of grades or make the information available through [EGRACONS](http://egracons.eu/) according to the descriptions in the [ECTS users’ guide](https://ec.europa.eu/education/resources-and-tools/document-library/ects-users-guide_en)[[12]](#footnote-12). The table will facilitate the interpretation of each grade awarded to students and will facilitate the credit transfer by the sending institution.

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| **Institution [Erasmus code or city]** | **EGRACONS [If applicable]** | **Website for information** |
| TR ANKARA04 | - | Explanation of letter grading system can be found here: <https://ico.metu.edu.tr/courses> |
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1. **Any other information regarding the terms of the agreement (optional)**

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1. **Termination of the agreement**

In the event of unilateral termination, a notice of at least one academic year should be given. This means that a unilateral decision to discontinue the exchanges notified to the other party by 1 September 20XX will only take effect as of 1 September 20XX+1. The termination clauses must include the following disclaimer: “Neither the European Commission nor the National Agencies can be held responsible in case of a conflict.”**SIGNATURES OF THE INSTITUTIONS (legal representatives)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Institution** **[Erasmus code or name and city]** | **Name, function** | **Date** | **Signature[[13]](#footnote-13)** |
| TR ANKARA04 | Prof. Dr. Gaye Teksoz, Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator |  |  |
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1. Inter-institutional agreements can be bilateral or multilateral in the case of mobility consortia:

Bilateral agreements are for cooperation between one higher education institution located in an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme and another institution located in a third country not associated to the Programme

Multilateral agreements are for cooperation between a mobility consortium of higher education institutions located in one single EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme and another institution located in a third country not associated to the Programme. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/applicants/higher-education-charter_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/reform/rules-business-and-organisations/principles-gdpr_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-student-card-initiative_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Higher education institutions (HEIs) from EU Member States or third countries associated to the Programme should indicate their Erasmus code; HEIs from third countries not associated to the Programme should mention the city where they are located. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Contact details to reach the senior officer in charge of this agreement and of its possible updates. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <https://circabc.europa.eu/sd/a/286ebac6-aa7c-4ada-a42b-ff2cf3a442bf/ISCED-F%202013%20-%20Detailed%20field%20descriptions.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. For an easier and consistent understanding of language requirements, it is recommended to use the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Please specify the deadline for each semester and, if necessary, adapt to a trimester system. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. You may find the implementation guidelines of the **Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps Inclusion and Diversity Strategy** here: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/implementation-guidelines-erasmus-and-european-solidarity-corps-inclusion-and-diversity_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. The Erasmus+ Student Charter is available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/applicants/student-charter_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. The ECTS user’s guide is available here: https://ec.europa.eu/education/resources-and-tools/document-library/ects-users-guide\_en [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Scanned copies of signatures or digital signatures may be accepted depending on the national legislation [↑](#footnote-ref-13)