



Erasmus Policy Statement 2021-2027

Politechnika Gdańska (Gdańsk University of Technology) has always valued international cooperation and did engage in multiple forms of collaboration with partners from all over the world. As soon as Poland joined Erasmus Programme, so did Gdańsk Tech. From then on, the University is one of the leaders of student and staff exchange in the country.

Therefore, participation in the Erasmus+ Programme within newly established financial perspective is a key aim for Gdańsk Tech. Educational cooperation became an essential element of teaching at the University, which is visible in the strategy of internationalisation created by Gdańsk Tech.

The document indicates several aims related directly to the possibilities offered by the Erasmus+ Programme:

- increase of the number of international students and their national diversity
- increase of the number of students and staff participating in mobility
- broadening the offer of English-taught programmes
- increase of number of courses given by international visiting professors.

The above mentioned goals are not only consistent with Erasmus+ Programme's actions but also with objectives of the EU, striving to enhance a European Education Area.

Gdańsk Tech aims at educating students with strong identity as Europeans, giving them international experience by providing possibility of international mobility and by creating international environment at home.

The University is putting a lot of effort to ensure equal and inclusive education, regardless student background, implementing the principles of non-discrimination and transparency.

As a research university, Gdańsk Tech perceives international cooperation and mobility as necessary elements of high quality education and science.

In coming years, it is planned to develop broader frame of cooperation by strengthening links with universities from regions beyond Europe. This process has already been started and is supposed to play more important role in the University's future undertakings.

Gdańsk Tech is also going to participate in a higher number of projects concerning cooperation with international partners, such as the European Universities initiative.

It is planned to further develop multiple and joint degree programmes within the Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees action.

The University has already been using online tools for student recruitment, but is expecting to introduce new modern solutions thanks to new online instruments provided by the EU.

Gdańsk Tech is also planning to strengthen distance learning programmes due to development of blended mobility.

Gdańsk Tech is planning to continue the projects, that have already been undertaken in previous years, giving special attention to mobility schemes.

The most important activity shall be student exchange, for both, studies and traineeships. Gdańsk Tech provides its students with possibilities of pursuing their mobility periods at partner universities within over 500 interinstitutional agreements with foreign HEIs.

The University also aims at creating international environment at the university campus by inviting growing number of international students, valuing highly internationalisation at home, which gives a chance to gain international experience to whole the student community.

At technical universities practical knowledge and experience are essential, for this reason Gdańsk Tech encourages its students and graduates to participate in international traineeships within international exchange programmes.

With the aim of creating international campus, Gdańsk Tech is supporting its staff to develop their skills in teaching and student services. The University sees, that one of the most efficient methods to achieve this goal is to participate in staff mobility schemes.

Therefore, teachers are being encouraged to undertake teaching activities at partner universities, while administrative staff has possibility to participate in training programmes and job shadowing at partner institutions.

Gdańsk Tech has already been involved in numerous projects of cooperation with partner institutions and is planning to continue and strengthen this path of internationalisation development. The university is planning to join projects within Key Actions 2.

Special attention is given to the European Universities initiative. Gdańsk Tech constitutes a part of a consortium, which has already applied for the EU support.

The University is also planning to continue its involvement in Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, as it perceives joint and multiple degrees as a very attractive opportunity for students and a great support in process of uplifting the quality of teaching.

All the above mentioned activities are closely connected to the strategy of internationalisation created by Gdańsk Tech.

Student mobility will directly influence increase of the number of international students. It will also help to raise their national diversity.

Erasmus projects will also enhance Gdańsk Tech student and staff mobility.

Inbound mobility of international staff, especially of academic teachers, will support the process of increasing number of visiting professors.

The previously described activities, including Erasmus Mundus Programme, will reinforce Gdańsk Tech's efforts to broaden the English-based teaching at the University, specifically by raising the number of study programmes conducted fully in English.

The main target, that Gdańsk Tech plans to achieve by participating in Erasmus+ Programme, is to increase level of internationalisation of the University.

Increased level of internationalisation should influence the quality of teaching and research, which is the key aim of the University's strategy.

At the moment the level of internationalisation is approx. 6%. Gdańsk Tech is planning to raise this number up to 10%, planning to overcome the present OECD average (approx. 9%) by the end of the new financial perspective.

By participating in the Erasmus+ mobility projects, Gdańsk Tech plans to raise the number of international students, which would lead to achieve the above mentioned targets.

It will also support national diversity of international students, which is an important factor, mentioned in the university's strategy.

Mobility projects will also have an important influence on local students, who will decide to participate in exchange for both, studies and traineeships. Exchange will not only enhance their professional knowledge, but also enable them to acquire soft skills necessary in the modern labour market.

Another very important aim stated in the University's international strategy is an increased number of visiting professors. One of the ways to achieve it, is to develop academic teachers exchange. This activity was always strongly supported at the University and this trend is supposed to be strengthened.

To build international environment at the campus, it is important to enable staff to develop their international skills, therefore great importance is also being put into staff training. Gdańsk Tech is not only giving possibility to its employees to participate in training mobility, but is also involved in organization of staff training events at the University, to broaden cooperation with international partners.

Gdańsk Tech is planning to increase its participation in KA2 actions. The University has already joined a European University consortium and is planning to strengthen its role in projects connected to cooperation with other institutions. These activities should support Gdańsk Tech's involvement in enhancing the quality of teaching and research.

It is planned, that in the following years, there are going to be new multiple and joint degree programmes created. This process should be greatly supported by the Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees action. Its effects should include not only broadening the offer for international students, but most of all, a higher number of students with different backgrounds.

These activities are supposed to further reinforce high quality of teaching and research, as well as increase social engagement of the University.