

Erasmus+

...and the benefits of the mobility programmes for the employability of students and staff.



Erasmus+



- **The Erasmus Impact Study (EIS)**

Effects of mobility on the skills and the employability of students and the internationalisation of higher education institutions,

European Union 2014

http://ec.europa.eu/education/library/study/2014/erasmus-impact_en.pdf



Erasmus+

Impact of Erasmus on:

1. Individual skills and the employability of students and on institutional development.
2. The internationalisation of universities.

Quantitative and qualitative study:

56,733 students

18,618 graduates (alumni)

964 universities

652 enterprises

78,891 evaluated individual answers (!!)



Increased employability

- **Soft Skills**

Erasmus contributes **significantly to the improvement of soft skills** (e.g. knowledge about other countries, interaction ability, foreign language skills) and **boosts the self-confidence** of the students.

- **Quality of teaching / new methods**

The most important effect of staff mobility **was to gain knowledge of good practice and skills for their work at their home institutions.**



- **Internationalisation of HEIs**

Erasmus is seen as the **most significant strategic asset** of each study programme.

83% of HEIs Erasmus student **mobility is seen as the most important factor** in the internationalisation

Erasmus often **initiates the development** of an internationalisation strategy.

- **Internationalisation@home**

Erasmus contributes to the **internationalisation of curricula**. Personal mobility supports the **foreign language skills** of teaching staff.



Erasmus+



- **Research Networks/ Cooperations**

Erasmus staff mobility **increases international networking in research and education** and leads to further projects.

- **Support measures**

Academic Recognition and Information are valued as key success factors. Erasmus **leads to improved services** (use of ECTS tools).



Erasmus+



- **What we do at PH Wien to raise employability of students**
 - **Student mobility (~ 90 partner universities)**
 - 5 – max. 6 months abroad
 - language competences/skills
 - intercultural competences/skills
 - **work in a different academic environment**
 - personal development
 - self-confidence, self-esteem
 - **come back as adults** who studied and taught in another country



Erasmus+



- **Returning to PH Wien:**
 - know how to orientate in another education system
 - use their knowledge and experiences to motivate others
 - full recognition of studies abroad - generously
 - transcript and confirmation letter are handed over



Erasmus+



- **New offers**

Traineeships for students

- especially former Erasmus+ students use this opportunity
- **vocational traineeships** funded abroad
- use Erasmus+ months **to get teaching practice abroad, before starting to work in AT**
- Additional practice in another EU country as **a positive asset before applying for a job in AT**

- **Traineeships for Graduates Mobility**

- **Since 2014:** a good opportunity to use time before starting to work in Austria
- proactive and decision-making
- strategic and organisational skills
- start their career with a job abroad
- shows adaptability to a different employment market
- monitoring and evaluation plan gives feedback



Effects at PH Wien:

- OLS service plus language courses improve their employability
- significant improvement of TEFL- teachers when return to Vienna
- Vienna Board of Education always looks for students/teachers with international experience (Vienna bilingual schools, Dual language programme, English in primary schools, CLIL-programmes)
- Outgoings come back with a different view on the education system
- Empathy with migrant students and their language needs (70 % under 5 years old in Vienna)



Erasmus+



Research questions concerning European crisis

- A third of questions concerning European identity and European crisis
- **Focus: Does the economic crisis lead students to search for opportunities in another country?**
 - Does mobility become **a mean of investment** into labour opportunities abroad?
 - What can be said about the group of teacher training students regarding European identity and identification as European citizen?



Erasmus+



Sample

- **129 participants** from **10 universities/university colleges of teacher education in Austria** (PH Wien, KPH Wien/Krems, PH Burgenland, PH Steiermark, KPH Graz, PH Tirol, PH Salzburg, PH Oberösterreich, PPH Linz, PH Kärnten)
- Incoming Erasmus or international students in winter term 2013/14
- **79.7% female** and **20.3% male**
- **21 different nations**
- **ES: 26, TR: 17, CZ: 14, HU: 14, PL:9, GR: 6**
- Main group: **aged 21-25**
- Main group: **Bachelor, year 3 & 4**



Summary & Conclusions

- **More than half of the students describe the crisis effecting their decision whether to go for an Erasmus semester.** More than three quarters of the sample felt encouraged to seek a job in another country because of their Erasmus semester.
- **Financial burden and uncertainty at home leads them to compare the labour markets and search out future career prospects away from home and possibly build up their life elsewhere.** This relates to the result that **more than 60 percent of the students rate their employability at home very badly.** Countries which are affected strongly by the European crisis, such as Spain, Hungary and Greece described the worst job opportunities at home.
- **The more students feel the effects of the European crisis in their private life and concerning their studies and the more they are afraid of the crisis, the more they are encouraged to compare their employability in another country.** Both, the impact of the crisis on private life and studies as well as the fear of the crisis, influence students' decision whether or not to do an Erasmus semester.

- **Findings from the Erasmus Impact Study (EIS) and the effects on employability**
 - 85% take part in order to improve their employability
 - 64% of employers expect international experience
 - 99% improve confidence and adaptability
 - 50% reduced probability of later unemployment
 - 44% increased probability to get a management position later



Erasmus+



Thank you for your attention /
Danke für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!
Meet you at the International Office...

