



COOPERATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING: EU – AUSTRALIA, CANADA, JAPAN, NEW ZEALAND SOUTH KOREA and the USA



WHY DO WE COOPERATE?

International dialogue, comparison and competition are strong drivers in enhancing the quality of education and training systems and promoting cultural understanding. Collaborating with the world's most developed countries and testing educational approaches and standards against each other can help to achieve this goal.

Since 1995 the European Union has set up **joint study programmes** and **policy-oriented dialogue** and **projects** with other industrialised countries, particularly in North America and the Asia-Pacific region. These provide financial support for joint curriculum development and student mobility.

HOW DO WE COOPERATE?

There are three kinds of joint actions:

Joint/double degree projects, set up and run by consortia of higher education institutions to create integrated joint study programmes. Students from the two sides spend a substantial period of study in the partner country and obtain either a joint or a double degree.

Joint mobility projects, set up and run by a group of higher education and/or vocational education and training institutions. Activities focus on joint curriculum development, short-term mobility of students (typically one semester), with recognition of study periods abroad, and exchanges of trainees, teaching staff or administrators.

Policy-oriented dialogue and projects, to address strategic issues related to education and training systems and policies of the EU and its partner countries. This action includes studies, seminars, working groups and benchmarking exercises that address comparative higher education and vocational training issues, including recognition of qualifications and issues of accreditation.

Each programme has one or more European partners and one or more partners in one of the participating countries.

WHO CAN TAKE PART?

Groups of **higher education and training institutions from the EU and a given partner country**. **Students and faculty** belonging to these institutions.

For **policy-oriented projects** (USA only), **other organisations** such as accreditation agencies, education agencies or organisations, private companies, industry and business groups, non-governmental organisations, research institutes and professional bodies can also participate.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Consortia of institutions can apply for funding through **annual calls for proposals**. More information can be found here:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/bilateral_cooperation/index_en.php
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/bilateral_cooperation/eu_us/index_en.php
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/bilateral_cooperation/eu_canada/index_en.php
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/bilateral_cooperation/eu_ici_ecp/index_en.php

Read more about some **good practices**:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/external-relation-programmes/doc1631_en.htm



SOME PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

<p>HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE AS A STUDENT?</p>	<p>Bilateral programmes only provide financial support to a group of higher education institutions from the EU and one given partner country that form a consortium with the goal of achieving specific objectives, such as student exchanges. On account of this, only students belonging to these institutions can apply to their institution to do a period of study in either a partner country or in one of the EU Member States.</p> <p>Details about selected projects can be found here: http://ec.europa.eu/education/external-relation-programmes/doc1917_en.htm</p>
<p>WHAT SUPPORT WILL I RECEIVE?</p>	<p>Students studying abroad will pay tuition and fees at their home institution and should pay no additional fees to the host institution. Programmes should therefore provide a description of the pre-departure orientation activities at the home institution and arrival orientation activities at the receiving institution. Each partner institution should have an international office or equivalent to assist students with housing, coaching, language courses and activities for social integration, visas, health insurance and special</p>
<p>WHAT ABOUT CREDIT RECOGNITION?</p>	<p>Bilateral programmes provide support to projects setting up a framework for student mobility with full recognition - by the home university - of credits obtained during the study period abroad. This period abroad should not increase the overall length of a student's programme of study.</p>
<p>WHAT LANGUAGES ARE USED?</p>	<p>English is the main language of instruction. Participants and students should receive proper language training, in order to communicate in the language of their host country. Whatever the language of instruction, it is important to make sure you have the right level of linguistic ability. One of the great assets of the programme is the chance to enrol in tailor-made language courses, acquire multicultural skills and thus improve individual employability.</p>

IMPORTANT LINKS

<p>OCEANS - STUDENTS AND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION</p> 	<p>The Organisation for Cooperation, Exchange And Networking among Students is an online network of those who participate in bilateral exchange programmes or have already successfully completed them.</p> <p>Students and alumni of joint programmes involving industrialised countries run their own association, where they keep in touch, organise events, issue a magazine and promote the advantages of the joint programmes. http://www.oceans-network.eu</p>
<p>STUDY IN EUROPE</p> 	<p>The Study in Europe website provides up-to-date information on 32 European countries, their universities and what it takes to live and study there. http://ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe</p>
<p>PLOTEUS</p>	<p>The Portal on Learning Opportunities Throughout the European Space aims to help students, job seekers, workers, parents, guidance counsellors and teachers to find information about learning and training opportunities in Europe, plus practical information on living and studying in another country. http://ec.europa.eu/ploteus</p>