



Erasmus Policy Statement

Danubius University (VŠD - Vysoká škola Danubius) is a private university established in 2005, offering bachelor, masters and doctoral programs in the social sciences, law and public policy. VŠD was established through a law adopted by the Slovak Parliament, the Decree of Government of the Slovak Republic No. 430 from May 31st, 2005.

VŠD's mission is to actively promote the values of an educated society through high-level research, research-based teaching, and civic engagement and it aims at excellence in the mastery of established knowledge, in the creation of new knowledge, and in the practical applications of both, in particular through their policy implications through providing a wide spectrum of education oriented at global application in super-regional, regional and cross-border areas of the EU countries based on the principles of science, research and innovation, as a part of the national and Europe-wide forum for education and research.

VŠD is a private University existing within the network of European higher education institutions providing, organizing and ensuring higher education in accredited study fields. Considering the knowledge that education is a life-long process, the mission of the VŠD is mainly to provide study programs of high quality to all meeting the conditions of admission to studies at a higher education institution. The University provides higher education through various educational procedures and forms.

In its first fifteen years of existence VŠD endeavoured and indeed succeeded in making a contribution to promoting progressive higher education, innovative academic research, and the development of democracy, primarily in the former socialist countries of the region while enthusiastically supports the European modernization and internationalization agenda in higher education.

The aim of the University is to educate on a level relevant for contemporary and future praxis, mainly by:

- a) Ensuring the highest possible standard of quality and development of knowledge-based society;
- b) Creating an institution working on the principles of self-financing while effectively using the available resources and which is based on healthy business principles for the benefit of the whole society;



- c) Building, developing diverse relationships with the public and providing all programs in European education and research forum;
- d) Creating a suitable environment for the employees and students stimulating the development of their skills, personality growth and competitiveness;
- e) Providing education in accredited study programs;

Participating in the Erasmus Programme has been an integral part of VŠD's institutional strategy. Erasmus has helped to enhance the mobility of staff and students at VŠD, as well as the participation in European and international cooperation projects, with excellent results. Bilateral academic cooperation holds an important role in the life of the VŠD.

One of VŠD's main areas of interest is public policy and international relations. We promote policy debates and exchanges between the academic world and policy makers, with EU policy priorities as a major focus, as well as educational and research activities that provide students, researchers, and practitioners with analytical tools needed to understand the special nature of the multi-level policy making and implementation in the EU.

In order to enhance the diversity of its students and its faculties and as a means to promote high academic standards, VŠD cooperates with other universities and higher education organizations. VŠD focuses on the building of the International Strategy for cooperation with universities in Central Europe (V4 countries) in which has the most common and comparative themes for addressing social aspects of social life, based on the main profile of the VŠD (legal environment, social and public policy, raising the level of knowledge society through improving the quality of education model). In a broader context, the school has a strategy to cooperate internationally with leading university and academic institutions in the world with regard to long-term scientific relations of its workers to different institutions (Russia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Portugal, Bulgaria, Romania, and Serbia). Universal focus of education - Law, Social Work, Public Policy and Public Administration allows the University to establish in the frame of international projects broad international representation by solving of global issues, to compare models and propose solutions in regional and wider area.

Through the organization of scientific events involves to the solutions domestic as well as foreign professional circles with links to third level education students. Each project is completed with the output published in printed and electronic form and incorporated into the learning process within a particular field of study. In the framework of international conferences organizes university also the student roundtable section with the involvement of students in the project.

The main objectives of the strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme are:



- Develop high quality strategic international research linkages through the International Partnership Program
- Enhance study exchange through international programmes, and develop new opportunities for high quality study options as well as international volunteering and internships
- Continue to internationalise the curriculum by developing new inclusive teaching methods, and by establishing key graduate attributes that reflect the global skills of students will need in the future
- Contribute to development projects in the VŠD's key strength areas in partnership with local institutions to fulfil the VŠD's global civic responsibility.

In order to enhance the diversity of its students and faculty and as a means to promote high academic standards, VŠD cooperates with other universities and higher education organizations. Receiving visiting lecturers (including under Erasmus) adds to the international character of our education. Opportunities provided to our own academics to visit universities around Europe directly lead to enhanced cooperation in joint teaching programs and multi-lateral research activities. VŠD's administrative staff also benefits from international cooperation activities.

VŠD has a dedicated International Relations Office, which is responsible for coordinating international co-operation and providing administrative support for VŠD research activities and projects. IRO assists VŠD staff and students to seek and secure partnerships and support for their academic mobility, cooperation and research. The Erasmus Coordinator is a head of IRO and activities related to the Erasmus and other collaborative efforts are also managed centrally by this office.

The VŠD Institutional Assessment and Quality Assurance Policy under the ISO 9001 helps achieve excellence in research, education and outreach activities. VŠD is committed to enhance the link between theory and practice in teaching and learning and to promote creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship by offering relevant learning opportunities.

VŠD is a small private university which relies largely on funding from private sources. Contributions for research and educational schemes from competitive external funding and fundraising are very important. The University is working to increase the size of such funding and its financial autonomy so that it can develop as a dynamic and intellectually agile institution, ready to take risks, launch new programs and support emerging disciplines.

The Erasmus Charter for Higher Education can in the new programme period continue create very effectively space in conjunction with other international activities in fulfilling the university strategy in the field of increasing its competitiveness and cooperation in the wider European area by enhancing the quality of its possibilities for students and teachers. The results of the professional



dialogue are applicable into practice, to increase the level of knowledge that is critical for the economic growth and potential EU strategic domain.

The main priorities of VŠD in the frame of the foreign activities would in future be to strengthen international cooperation with foreign universities and international organisations, in particular through bilateral and multilateral agreements as well as through international educational and scientific projects. The aim of cooperation agreements with partner institutions is particularly to build common scientific and research activities, exchange of students and researchers, but also and especially the common organization of scientific events and presentation of results of joint work and joint implementation and the exchange of publications, which should be future widespread implementation of joint scientific research programs culminating organizing joint scientific and technical conferences, symposia, seminars and other professional events.

In Sládkovičovo, 07.06.2021

Assoc. Prof. Ing. Džalal Gasymov, PhD., v.r.
President of Administrative Board

Prof. Ing. Peter Plavčan, PhD., v.r.
Rector