



Erasmus Charter for Higher Education 2014-2020

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

The Grażyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Lodz aims at improving and developing its international cooperation within the frames of the Programme as well as outside them.

An integral part of our general institutional strategy states that our contacts with foreign institutions and centres bring very satisfying results and therefore we will improve them systematically. This sort of co-operation includes also mobility, job offers for graduates as well as defining development directions and profiling institutional activities in relation to world trends. Thanks to a stronger position in the national academic ranking of universities and our offer of unique fields of study, the recruitment of foreign students via our partner institutions will become realistic. The educational offer of our institution is also planned to be enriched by specifically profiled study programmes dedicated exclusively for the students from abroad.

As a member of AEC (Association of European Conservatoires in Brussels), we regularly participate in the congresses of the authorities and the meetings of international relations coordinators of higher education institutions of music. Since any partnership proposal or suggestion can be consulted and verified at these meetings on the basis of feedback from different parties, the final decision of our institutional authorities would be positive only upon an interesting educational, artistic or research offer presented by a potential partner as well as good recommendations from other institutions. Partner institutions are often suggested by our professors and/or students (frequently on the background of their former personal experience) who are free to bring forward the idea of co-operation: first to be accepted by their institutional units (faculty board, dean, or chair) and finally by the central authorities of our Academy.

Our chief area of interest are renowned centres of artistic and educational development, as well as other institutions showing a strong will and potential to start an interesting mutual project.

As far as mobility is concerned, the students and staff of our Academy mainly prefer to choose European institutions. Apart from the crucial criteria (i.e. artistic and teaching quality levels), the cost and distance of travel must also be taken into account.

However, we do not automatically narrow the geographical areas of interest while searching the partners. Our institution keeps co-operating with China (possibly in the future with South Korea and other Asian countries) and is open to collaborate more intensively with Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan. The promising co-operation with the USA and Canada still seems to be waiting for its good starting point.

Since the most important objective is the mobility of students and teaching staff, our Academy of Music intends to focus our efforts on this range of activity. One of our target groups are students in their first, second and third cycle of studies, who will be equally offered a chance of participation in an international exchange. Our priority is to increase the number of incoming students, while continuing to intensify the mobility of outgoing ones.

The staff (regardless of seniority) will also be equally informed and encouraged to take part in the exchange programme in order to gain more professional experience (artistic, didactic etc.)

All incoming and outgoing mobilities are individually counselled by our international relations office to ensure the best possible support in arranging their period of exchange. These activities start from full information on the mobility programme, through details of stay, and documents necessary for the exchange, and finally help with recognition and reintegration.

Any mobility always takes place under supervision of a didactic or research unit of our institution which guarantees the proper quality and content of the exchange. All results of the mobility are fully recognised in the course of studies and career.

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The Grazyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Lodz constantly tries to intensify its activities geared towards international cooperation, particularly with foreign music academies, enabling its students and staff to have a first-hand experience of models and strategies of education utilised in other institutions.

Our international strategy refers to, among others:

- acquiring and sustaining international partnerships with music institutions;
- development of our cooperation with other foreign institutions of higher education, centres of culture etc.;
- focusing on internationalization by introduction of the offer of studies in English;
- encouragement of students and teachers to participate in Erasmus activities;
- intensification of promotional and informational activities on mobility and exchange.

The Academy participates in international (EU and non-EU) agreements and cooperates within the frames of various projects aiming at sustainable and balanced outcomes for all parties involved.

Our international cooperation projects for students include workshops, courses, competitions, joint concerts etc., which encourage contacts with the wider academic circle and help to develop mutual relations for the future.

Mobility projects for the teaching staff include participation in workshops, concerts, lectures and conducting research.

The Academy is the organizer or co-organizer of a number of international competitions and summer academies which are very popular among foreign participants.

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The Grazyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Lodz affirms a strong positive impact of our participation in the Programme in 2014-2020.

Within the financial and legal capacities of our institution, we will try to achieve the five priorities indicated in the agenda for modernisation of Europe's higher education systems.

1 - Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs.

Our institution will spread the offer of our study programmes for candidates in Poland and abroad, so that we will be able to educate the required number of students. Our aim is to increase the access to the three cycles of music studies among any interested groups.

2 - Improving the quality and relevance of higher education.

Our internal and external quality procedures will help creating the model qualifications for our graduates and researchers so that they could acquire skills and competences necessary for the national and European job markets.

3 - Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation.

We will try to offer our students more opportunities to study or train abroad, strengthen the existent inter-institutional cooperation as well as develop new partnerships.

4 - Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development.

Our support for excellence and regional development will be proven by the leading role of our Academy in the cultural life of our city and region. A frequent participation in artistic events organized by our local and regional authorities, institutions, business representatives etc. gives us a privileged position in the area of partnership between artistic higher education institution and its environment.

5 - Improving governance and funding.

While using public funds mainly, our Academy of Music declares to access alternative sources of funding as well, so that we may be in possession of resources for the best quality of education and research. Through constant monitoring of the effectiveness of governance, we aim at achieving the required quality level of managing the institution.

Our Academy of Music declares to put its maximum effort to the above mentioned areas for reform as identified in the new agenda.

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Prof. Cezary SANECKI - Rector
Legal representative
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