

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

Participation in Erasmus+

The University of Warwick is one of the UK's leading universities, regularly ranked in the top 10 universities in the UK and the top 100 worldwide. It has around 29,000 students, of whom c9,000 are postgraduates, and c7,000 staff. The UK's 2021 Research Excellence Framework classified 92% of Warwick's research as 'world' leading or 'internationally excellent' and 9 of Warwick's departments were ranked in the top 10 of the UK. In 2023, Warwick was awarded gold status in all categories of the Teaching Excellence Framework. In 2025, Warwick was named Institution of the Year by the UK Council of International Student Affairs for its relentless focus on the international student experience.

Our strategy 'Warwick 2030 – Reshape, Refresh, Renew' reaffirms our commitment to making a positive, lasting impact. We have committed to foster a culture of innovation, facilitate a more inclusive environment for staff and students, deliver shared regional leadership, grow our global networks, and focus on sustainability in research, education and our campus operations. In these respects, we are closely aligned with the core goals of Erasmus+ to foster mobility, promote inclusion, drive innovation, and strengthen European identity, while contributing to sustainable growth, employability, and active citizenship.

We have continued to invest in exchange programmes outside the Erasmus programme. We are excited by the opportunities offered through re-association and full participation in all actions, enabling us to fully re-engage with European partners in all activities and to participate in new initiatives that align with our own goals and strategic objectives. We will facilitate the undergraduate and postgraduate students and staff of Warwick and our international institutional partners taking part - both physically and digitally - in all levels of our educational offering, from summer schools to collaborative programmes, in order to further develop the global environment in which our learning takes place.

Participation in Erasmus+ will be facilitated by the University's central administrative departments: Student Opportunity (KA1 for students) and International Strategy and Relations (KA1 for staff, KA2, KA3, Jean Monnet Actions). Student Opportunity has a dedicated Student Mobility team, with extensive experience of supporting student exchange, through the previous Erasmus+ programme, ongoing exchange programmes and the UK Government's Turing Scheme over the last 6 years. Student Mobility will lead on the re-introduction of the processing of KA1 mobility activities for students and will work alongside other professional services on the integration of EWP, OLS and other changes introduced since our previous programme participation. Student Mobility will work closely with academic areas and International Strategy & Relations (ISR) on the introduction of Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs).

ISR have expertise in working with members of academic staff to design and develop collaborative projects with international partners. Further support and expertise will be drawn from Education Policy & Quality (EPQ), Education and Student Experience Strategy, and Research & Impact Services. Strategic leadership for engagement with Erasmus+ will come from Warwick's Erasmus+ Strategy & Governance Group. We are committed to promoting staff mobility for both academic and non-academic staff, as it contributes to professional development through best practice exchange, sharing teaching methodologies and expertise which is for the benefit of both partner institutions. Erasmus+ opportunities will be promoted through established staff and student communications channels, including departmental Directors of Student Experience and Progression, our staff Study Abroad champions and Deputy Faculty Chairs for External

Engagement. Warwick's sustained engagement with the Erasmus+ Programme will support the development of intercultural and interdisciplinary engagement offering staff and students transformative experiences and opening cross-border collaboration in multiple fields. We shall participate in projects funded by KA2 and Jean Monnet Actions; and strengthen our existing links to institutions including those in our existing EUTOPIA European University Alliance.

Strategy, objectives and impact

Warwick's International Strategy, a key pillar of our institutional strategy, sets out the University's strategic international objectives up to 2030. Several objectives connected to increasing modernisation and internationalisation are directly relevant to, and will be supported through, participation in the Erasmus+ Programme. They include developing an education offer that is transformative, enriching and international in outlook, allowing Warwick's graduates to thrive in our global society and be highly employable in the global workforce (delivered through participation in KA1, KA2) and creating a Warwick community that is inclusive and internationally diverse (KA1). We will continue to build high-value, equitable and sustainable international partnerships (KA1, KA2, KA3, Jean Monnet Actions). Significantly, Warwick's Global Education and Opportunity (GEO) 100 Programme aims to enable every Warwick student who seeks an international experience to benefit from one by 2030. Such experiences might be immersive, through international travel, hybrid or digital through COIL and similar opportunities. Warwick's participation in the Erasmus+ Programme is expected to be a major contributor to our GEO100 programme.

For the remainder of the 2021-2027 Programme, Warwick's strategic aim for our participation in Erasmus+ is to re-establish ourselves as a leading European partner through high-quality mobility, innovative teaching collaborations, and strategic alliances. Achieving this aim will further our own International Strategy while contributing to the further development of the European project. To engage holistically with the Programme, Warwick's key objectives in the initial phase are to: reinforce European mobility through Erasmus+; launch Warwick-led BIPs; provide staff mobility opportunities for academic and professional services staff; participate in projects funded by KA2 and Jean Monnet Actions; and to strengthen our existing links to institutions in our existing EUTOPIA European University Alliance.

We will continue to develop our Warwick Global Network, comprising in addition to our strategic EUTOPIA and Guild European alliances: strategic partners with whom we have significant, deep cross-faculty partnerships with multiple levels of engagement across our education, research and professional services communities; priority partners - where the research/education relationships span faculties and levels of engagement, and which as a result are managed centrally within the University; primary partners - where the research/education relationship exists with, and is managed by, a particular faculty or department. We will continue our development of region-specific partnership strategies for each area of the globe, supplementing our current North America, Europe, Africa, East and South East Asia strategies with ones for the Americas, South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East. We will establish, in collaboration with our strategic international partners, joint research and education funds, physical and digital communities of research and education practice, regular showcases of activity and impact reports, as well as alumni groups to facilitate collaboration and champion the impact of our global network.

Our new Education and Student Experience Strategy set out a clear institutional commitment to delivering an excellent educational experience, whilst enhancing our existing strengths in teaching and learning. The strategy provides a coherent framework for innovation, partnership

and global engagement, ensuring that our educational offer remains ambitious, future-focussed and internationally connected. Two strategic objectives that are particularly aligned with the aims of the Erasmus programme are: 'Leading Educational Excellence' -exploring new ideas, encouraging experimentation and dedicating resources for innovation and research and 'Communities and Connection' - highlighting our priority in building strong connections and networks for impactful collaboration. Together these priorities demonstrate Warwick's commitment to internationalisation and provide a strong foundation for our engagement within Erasmus+.

Indicators

All objectives and indicators relate to projects emerging from the final set of calls in the 2021 2027 Erasmus+ Programme.

Objective 1: Relaunch Warwick's European mobility through Erasmus+ Indicator:

Warwick's student mobility into Europe currently numbers c450 (average for the period 2022-2025). Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were achieving c550 mobilities and are aiming to return to this level. Further emphasis will be placed upon promoting inbound European mobility which has dropped from 350 pre-pandemic to c300 (average for 2022-2025), to achieve a reciprocity of numbers to maintain sustainable IIAs through the delivery of a superlative inbound student experience.

The EUTOPIA Alliance is an excellent space for us to establish new and innovative approaches to student mobility and to encourage increased student participation, since we already work closely with alliance colleagues to promote opportunities across the network. All students undertaking mobility will be supported through their journey by the Student Mobility team and their departmental Study Abroad Coordinator, to ensure that they receive the same support off campus as they receive at Warwick. Regular and varied channels are open for feedback to learn lessons from student experience, remove barriers to participation identified and diversify the beneficiaries of a transformative international experience.

Objective 2: Launch Warwick-Led Blended Intensive Programmes

Indicator: At least three Warwick-Led BIPs launched. Warwick's Student mobility and International Strategy and Relations (ISR) teams will work closely with academic colleagues to create BIPs. While we have not been involved in the leading these specific programmes, we have participated using alternative sources of financing. Moving forwards, we will work closely with EUTOPIA alliance colleagues and current partner Universities to develop new and innovative courses, offering students the flexibility of a short mobility period combined with a virtual element. Warwick has experience in offering courses in a similar format, especially at our Warwick Venice Centre (WVC) but will work closely with colleagues with greater experience of BIP development to create an offering appropriate to the participating partners and academic subject areas.

Objective 3: Provide Staff Mobility Opportunities for Academic Staff & Professional Services Staff

Indicator: Staff Mobility into Europe is currently decentralised and ad hoc through academic departments. During our previous participation in the Erasmus+ programme we actively facilitated both academic and administrative staff to undertake placements (teaching or training) and appreciate the potential that this funding offers. As an initial target we aim to fund 20-25 staff on placements. Although, there hasn't been external funding available for Warwick staff through the Erasmus Programme in recent years, as an institution Warwick did trial a staff programme during 2024/2025 and was able to support 4 members of staff to undertake placements for the

following purposes: 1. To engage in work shadowing; 2. To develop teaching practice; 3. To set up a new mobility agreement; 4. To explore approaches to pastoral care. Feedback from these placements indicated that the experiences facilitated were invaluable. We therefore warmly welcome the opportunity to participate fully in this funding stream.

Objective 4: Participate in Projects Funded by KA2, KA3, and the Jean Monnet Actions

Indicator: Participate in at least three projects from across KA2 /KA3/Jean Monnet Actions. These may include setting up partnerships for excellence in the form of joint master's degrees, Alliances for Innovation, for example with Warwick's automotive and manufacturing partners, and funding for modules, chairs and centres of excellence in the field of European Union studies.

Objective 5: Strengthen Links to the EUTOPIA European University Alliance through collaboration with EUTOPIA partners in Erasmus+ projects

Indicator: EUTOPIA partners are actively involved in the delivery of our wider Erasmus+ objectives. Now we will be able to participate in BIPs and other activities more fully as well as building on foundational activities trialled through EUTOPIA to become more developed and embedded. Where we are involved in Connected Communities with EUTOPIA, team members will now be able to more easily meet in person.