



## EPS – Erasmus policy statement

Izobraževalni center Memory, Višja strokovna šola – the higher vocational school is a small vocational college and have 2 short cycle degree programmes: economist and logistics engineer. We have been involved in Erasmus projects since 2008. We see collaboration with Erasmus+ programmes as an added value because it is a perfect challenge to gain new knowledge and broader working experience. All our students or staff, who participated in Erasmus projects until now, has had good experiences.

Institutional school management supports international mobility. In this way Erasmus+ project became known among our students.

In our school, we have Student Mobility Commission, consisting of Erasmus Coordinator, Vocational College Officer and Lecturer in Practical Education at the Vocational College. Members of this commission are responsible for ensuring that each mobility runs according to the rules, that all documentation is in order and that the mobility participants are well informed about their duties and benefits. The commission also aims to motivate students and staff to engage in mobility. Members of its commission, especially Erasmus coordinator encourages them to gain great experience of working abroad or participating in courses for staff with interesting topics that often affect the improvement of work. The commission organizes information workshops and individual consultations with potential candidates several times a year.

An important task of the commission is also to help the participant (if he is unable to do by himself) to get a suitable and quality host company that is also compatible with the study field (economy or logistics). We also try to stay in contact with previous partners and thus we maintain the possibilities of further cooperation. They know us and our needs and can also recommend us to other partners. Our cooperation is based on target organizations abroad, faculties and lecturers. So far, we have worked with partners from different countries: the Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain, Italy, Malta, Turkey, United Kingdom.

Obtaining Erasmus charter for higher education for our institution means permission and recognition to carry out mobility projects. Above all, the visibility of the institution and the competitive advantage in the local environment for the implementation of mobility.

For students and staff involvement in mobility means: improving knowledge, a broader view, new experiences, working in teams and foreign companies, improving the foreign language, gaining new friends and acquaintances, learning about new cultures and customs. Gaining mentioned competencies means improving employment opportunities, raising the level of education, raising self-confidence, public appearance in groups etc.

As an ECHE charter holder organization, we strive to meet the project's goals, each year to include as many candidates as we have applied for in the project. Successful completion and dissemination of results are important to us.

The results are reflected in reporting and presentation of the staff who were on the exchange. While as for students, who were on mobility, the results are reflected in the acquired competencies and the improvement of employment opportunities for graduates. The results are directly reflected in their satisfaction with attending mobility practice and conveying enthusiasm to other students.

In accordance with the guidelines of the European Commission, in the new programme period we will try to implement the European education area. The vision contained within this is that, across the EU:

- spending time abroad to study and learn should become the norm,
- school and higher education qualifications should be recognised across the EU,
- knowing two languages in addition to one's mother tongue should be standard everyone should be able to access high-quality education, irrespective of their socio- economic background,
- participants should have a strong sense of their identity as a European, of Europe's cultural heritage and its diversity.