



## **ULUDAĞ UNIVERSITY ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT**



Bordering eight different countries from Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, Turkey has a unique and strategic geographical location forming a bridge between the continents. This strategic location allows Turkey in a position to reach 2.5 billion people within a 5 hour flight. Bursa, the city Uludağ University located, is one of the major cities of Turkey with a divine history, culture, natural beauties, coupled with a leading position in industry and technology. And finally Uludağ University, established in 1975, is the first and the biggest teaching and research university in Bursa, with over 50000 students and approximately 2000 academic staff, and has a vision to become a continuously developing university that create knowledge at international level and contribute to the society at universal dimension.

Within this context, Uludağ University's main policy in international relationships is collaboration and sharing of the particular strengths and potentials with higher education providers from Europe, Asia and Middle East. Towards this collaborative framework, Uludağ University has established bilateral agreements with many universities in various countries, most of which are from Europe. Majority of these bilateral agreements are rooted from the (a) efforts and networks of individual academic staff, (b) efforts and networks of program leaders and (c) demand coming from our counterparts in these countries. Therefore, the most important target groups of our mobility activities span from European countries to Middle East and Asia. The students from Turkish origin who are living in these countries also constitute another major target group of Uludağ University.

## **Internationalization at European Level**

Having considered Bologna process as an integral part of its Internationalization strategy within Europe,

- Uludağ University has implemented a ECTS-compatible credit system, reformed its curricula in all three cycle programmes, prepared an information package and dual degrees and options have been made available between programs. Towards this end, Uludağ University aims at applying for ECTS Label in 2013.

Additionally,

- Uludağ University has also completed the preparations necessary for providing Diploma Supplement for all students and has been awarded with “Diploma Supplement Label” in 2012.

Each year the number of incoming and outgoing students has increased and so far (2011-2012) a total of 1650 students have availed themselves of the opportunity of Erasmus exchange program which was started with 17 exchange students in the spring semester of 2003-2004 academic year. 171 foreign students have received education in different departments of our university in the context of student mobility in the last 10 years. In the scope of Teaching Staff Mobility, 142 academic members of our university have given lectures in various European Universities up to now, and 109 foreign academicians have come to our university to give lectures.

Uludağ University, which has been taking steady steps towards being an internationally recognized university, has been conducting common academic studies and bilateral agreements aiming at performing exchange programs and dual degree programs with the universities remarkable for their globalization studies. In the event that they have completed the program successfully, the students taking part in the dual degree programs are entitled to receive diploma

degrees of both Uludag University and the foreign university they have attended.

### **Internationalization at non-European Level**

Due to its well established and acknowledged education, and convenient geographical location Uludağ University has been one of the major alternatives for international students from, Middle East countries, Balkans, Asia and Africa. In the last five years, 972 Bachelors's degree students and 183 Master's and 61 PhD degree students have enrolled to various programs in Uludağ University.

### **Internationalization in Uludağ University Strategic Plan**

In 2014-2018 strategic plan, Uludağ University aimed at

1. Building awareness among staff and students with regard to international exchange programs,
2. Increasing the number of education programs accredited by national and international accrediting bodies,
3. Improving student mobility by
  - a. Activating of existing inactive bilateral agreements
  - b. Setting up new bilateral agreements
  - c. Informing students on bilateral agreements through International Relations Office
  - d. Introducing English prep classes for some the programs in Uludağ University
  - e. Increasing the number of courses instructed in foreign languages

f. Organizing Turkish language courses for International students

4. Improve staff mobility through

a. Organizing foreign language courses within Uludağ University to overcome language barrier

b. Allocating additional funding from Uludağ University's own resources, to overcome insufficient funding

c. Setting new academic promotion criteria that encourage staff mobility

5. Increase the number of International students from Non-European Countries.

In terms of modernisation and internalisation, Uludağ University gives utmost importance to the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) co-operation projects. Emphasizing the crucial points of 2014-2018 strategic plan, Uludağ University ensures several strategic goals which include the following:

- Increasing the number of joint research projects Uludağ University carries out with Turkish and international universities prioritizing the multidisciplinary studies,
- Uludağ University carries out and seeks to increase R&D projects with the multinational corporations, which are in abundance in Bursa, in accordance with its aim to strengthen the cooperation between society and industry.
- Providing the master's and PhD students, participating in R&D projects, with the opportunity to study abroad through international funds.
- Joint execution of the master's and PhD thesis studies together with our national and international external stakeholders.

- Increasing the number of patents, industrial designs, prototypes, and useful models as outcomes of the research activity carried out at Uludağ University.
- Improving our relationship with the industry through Uludağ University technology development centre (ULUTEK).

Project Management Centre gives support for the implementation of the accepted projects. The centre also announces the accepted projects to the all university members and students on the university's web page. The support is given in terms of budget organization/management and project management procedures. The centre organizes meetings with the project team and follows the progress of the projects. The centre also helps with the official requirements in the course of the projects. The centre organizes international or industrial contacts when needed.