

Erasmus Policy Statement

The Estoril Higher Institute for Tourism and Hotel Studies is an acknowledged higher education institution offering diversified courses in tourism studies which provides international pathways to higher study and exciting careers throughout the world. This is the reason why we encourage the whole academic community to participate and invest on mobility/international projects so that this becomes a rewarding collaborative task.

Acknowledging the existence of numerous successful study mobility programs, Intercontinental and European, ESHTe intends to invest on a set of measures thus allowing the ERASMUS program to be expanded as a way of achieving new areas and realities within the scope of our area of studies. By networking with the tourism industry and other educational institutions, ESHTe opens interesting career prospects for its graduates.

For the Estoril Higher Institute for Tourism and Hotel Studies, internationalization is seen as a priority and as a strategic goal for several reasons. The first one has largely to do with the multicultural context, which expects our students once they graduate. In the context of the LLP (2014/2020), and when considering its Erasmus activities, the institution's objectives and priorities are to promote and publicize the already existing successful mobility agreements. Signing new Bilateral Agreements is another purpose, as it will allow students to experience new cultures. Giving our students the possibility of practicing an Erasmus activity (either a traditional mobility or a placement) represents a rich means for their future careers, as it will offer them the skills to respect and deal with the most different cultural contexts. Thus, the new members of the European Union seem attractive future partners.

Because we believe that students should be involved in this process, they are invited to let us know about institutions and tourism and hotel units, they consider appealing for purposes of mobility. The Erasmus Coordinator will then assess the feasibility of the suggested partnerships.

The opportunity of organizing and participating in Intensive Programmes is also being considered by the International Affairs department, along with other teachers of the institution.

A so called "Internationalization Welcome Meeting" is organized every year allowing international students to get to know each other and the staff they will be dealing with on a more regular basis.

The EUC is published in a public area of the institution while information about Erasmus activities is regularly updated and conveyed to students and staff on our website and on the International Affairs notice board. This has always been a rule followed from moment one.

The institutional Erasmus Coordinator is available at different hours to meet all students who have Erasmus-related queries. Alongside the Coordinator there is an International Affairs team that is available from 9am to 5pm every day and who deals with students on a regular basis.

The institution's premises allow the integration of disabled students and staff. There is an office which informs the International Affairs Department about students who might have economic difficulties. Combating xenophobia, racism and every kind of gender discrimination are major concerns of the Estoril Higher Institute for Tourism and Hotel Studies.

There has always been an ongoing effort to recognize all ECTS in a fair and suitable system within the principles defended by the Bologna Declaration. All students are adequately monitored to ensure that their mobility program is a successful and fully recognized one.

Every year ESHTe welcomes with pleasure the visit of staff (both academic and non-academic) from other institutions acknowledging their importance in the development of the whole internationalization process as well as in the development of our teaching and learning methods.

Therefore, ESHTe ensures the highest quality when organizing student and staff mobility programs, guaranteeing that all principles under the New Program 2014/2020 are followed. ESHTe pays close attention to all the social and economic changes that the European Union is undergoing as to make sure that the mobility programs are a successful tool and an asset for all stakeholders involved in the process.