

International programmes are among priorities in the scientific and educational activity of the University of Lodz (UL). This has been indicated by the participation in the 6th and 7th Framework Programme, and in the Erasmus Programme (as part of the Lifelong Learning Programme), as well as the former Socrates and Tempus programmes. All the UL Faculties have been recently involved in actions targeted at internationalization, and the idea has been expressed in the documents pertaining to the University's mission and strategy.

Academic partners of the University of Lodz are mostly HEI's from European countries (both EU members and non-EU). The contacts are based on framework bilateral agreements as well as the Erasmus programme agreements. The UL holds also partnership with HEI's from other parts of the world, ie. Asia, North and South America, through the means of framework agreements on teaching and research cooperation. Among non-EU European countries, priority is given to Ukraine, while Kazakhstan is the priority non-European country. A number of cooperation agreements with HEI's of these two countries have been recently signed, which will enable exchange of teaching staff and students, as well as joint educational and research projects.

The assumptions of the UL international cooperation policy include the fulfillment of several primary goals related to the increase of internationalization of the actions conducted at the University.

The goals are below:

1. To increase the mobility of students of all levels and fields of study – this is reflected by the increase in the number of bilateral agreements signed by the University of Lodz, and by the variety of academic disciplines available for mobility.
2. To promote the development of study programmes instructed in foreign languages. The present offer comprises interdisciplinary modules and course modules for foreign students on a 1- or 2- semester mobility, as well as full-time I and II cycle programmes aimed at those who intend to pursue a UL degree (the English-instructed programmes developed to date include: management, modern philology, economics, informatics and econometrics, ecohydrology, computer science, administration, international marketing, gender studies). In near future, programmes held in Spanish and Russian, as well as III cycle studies in certain fields, are planned for start.
3. To make the UL academic offer appeal to non-European students seeking admission for I, II, and III cycle programmes.
4. To develop the student placement system, whether for fields of study with obligatory placement, or the remaining fields of study.

5. To increase the teaching staff mobility through maintaining the existing educational cooperation, and develop new contacts, which includes cooperation in the scope of organization of joint courses for international participants, and, if possible, joint/double degrees.
6. To include teacher mobility as a factor in the staff periodic evaluation system: the mobility will be weighted high as an assessment factor.
7. To increase the existing non-teaching staff mobility as a way to improve functioning of the University's administration.
8. To learn from the experience gained by the participation in the Erasmus programme to date, as well as other educational programmes, and to maintain the existing good practice in implementing guidelines for international cooperation. The range of tasks related to international programmes includes: the constant improvement of rules and procedures of recruitment, monitoring the quality of instruction the student receives abroad, recognition of study outcomes achieved at partner universities, integration of incoming students through the system of mentors and the orientation programme, integration of incoming teachers into the UL study curricula, maintaining international contacts in the scope of mobility, and managing the programmes at the University.
9. To make use of international cooperation in the Erasmus programme to date as a basis for joint educational programmes, as well as for joint science and research projects