

COLLEGE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

Zagreb

INTERNATIONALIZATION STRATEGY

2020 - 2025

Zagreb, 31 March 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

VSITE's Internationalization Strategy sets out the strategic goals of the VSITE internationalization and how they will be implemented in the period from 2020 to 2025.

During this period, the activities of VSITE will be aimed at achieving the visibility in the European academic community and the European IT market, as well as achieving educational, scientific, and innovative professional development, and socially sustainable achievements that are prerequisite for the inclusion of VSITE into various forms of international cooperation in the field of higher education, scientific research and international exchange and mobility of students, teaching and non-teaching staff.

The fundamental starting points of the internationalization strategy are the vision, mission and core values of VSITE and the objectives of the Erasmus + program.

VSITE, in line with this strategy, creates organizational and other prerequisites for enhancing student and teacher mobility and international cooperation within the Erasmus + program. Therefore, VSITE's Internationalization Strategy aims at achieving the international openness of VSITE to international students and teachers and ensuring the preconditions for the outgoing mobility of VSITE students, teachers and non-teaching staff in accordance with the VSITE's Erasmus + Policy Statement.

2. AREAS AND MAIN DIRECTIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

2.1 Academic mobility

VSITE encourages the outgoing and incoming mobility of VSITE students, teachers, associates and non-teaching staff to prepare them for the global work environment and encourages involvement in international networks and associations, international projects and other forms of international cooperation.

VSITE will continuously promote academic mobility and expand the international exchange of teachers and students, and implement the good practice of foreign higher education institutions and, on this basis, improve the quality of study programs and actively monitor trends in the development and application of information technologies.

2.2 Courses in English

Teaching online classes and publishing textbooks and other teaching materials in English is a direction of internationalization that enhances the academic mobility and international recognition of VSITE. The dynamics of introducing classes in English for professional subjects in the fields of programming, databases, computer systems and networks, and later other subjects will be determined based on the expressed interest of international students to study at VSITE and plans for improving the quality of VSITE study programs.

Foreign teachers will be involved in the implementation of courses and study programs in the English language in accordance with agreements with foreign higher education institutions and permits of the Ministry of Science and Education.

Particular attention will be given to the lifelong education of information technology engineers in the English language.

2.3 Partnerships with foreign HEIs

Developing cooperation with HEIs in the EU and the region is the basis for strengthening the educational, scientific, and professional potential of VSITE, which qualifies VSITE for becoming their equal partner based on results achieved in joint scientific research and professional projects, the development of innovation in IT, and also on involving VSITE's teachers and researchers in specialist, doctoral and post-doctoral studies at partner HEIs.

VSITE is going to develop cooperation with foreign higher education institutions on exchanging experiences and developing e-administration and integrating higher education quality management systems.

2.4 An active role in international associations

VSITE will be actively involved in international associations, through which it will strengthen its international links with foreign higher education institutions and IT companies, and international development projects.

VSITE will encourage the admission of students, teachers and non-teaching staff into international associations whose activities enable reinforcing VSITE's international recognition and visibility.

2.5 The transfer of knowledge within and outside of the EU

VSITE will encourage its teachers to participate in regional conferences and professional gatherings so that the dissemination of the results of various studies and research papers do not remain solely within the borders of the Republic of Croatia.

2.6 International projects

Through the Innovation and Development Center and the International Relations and Mobility Office, VSITE will strive to participate in EU funded projects which are not within the Erasmus+ program in order to reinforce partnerships with regional HEIs and other organizations outside the Republic of Croatia.

2.7 Other strategic directions

In order to fulfil the fundamental strategic aims, it is necessary to reach additional strategic goals which are:

- a) Strengthening the capacities of staff within VSITE's Innovation and Development Center (IRC) and its International Relations and Mobility Office (UMMS).

- b) Effective collaboration between the IRC and the UMMS.
- c) A budget that complies with the expansion of international activities.

3. THE STRATEGIC GOALS OF VSITE'S INTERNATIONALIZATION

3.1 ACADEMIC MOBILITY

Goal 1: To increase the number of outgoing student and teaching staff mobility.

Goal 2: To increase the number of incoming students and teaching staff mobilities from the program and partner countries within the Erasmus+ program.

Goal 3: To invite at least one guest lecturer from renowned IT organizations/companies each academic year.

3.2 COURSES IN ENGLISH

Goal 4 To introduce new courses in English that might be interesting to international students

Goal 5: To organize classes of an entire area of specialization in English at undergraduate and graduate levels.

3.3 PARTNERSHIPS WITH FOREIGN HEIs

Goal 6: To increase the number of signed Erasmus inter-institutional agreements with HEIs from program and partner countries.

Goal 7: To increase the number of signed bilateral agreements with HEIs around the world.

Goal 8: To implement cooperation defined through bilateral and inter-institutional agreements.

3.4 AN ACTIVE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Goal 9: To be involved in projects initiated through membership in organizations such as EURASHE, SEFI and MIPRO.

3.5 THE TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE EU

Goal 10: To increase participation and the number of papers at regional conferences and professional gatherings.

3.6 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Goal 11: To participate in EU projects outside the Erasmus+ program either as a partner or an applicant.

4. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

The tasks in realizing the strategies and goals of VSITE's internationalization are defined in the Plan of activities and measures for promoting international cooperation and mobility (OB-45) for the period of two academic years. The execution of the tasks set out in the plan is monitored continuously, and at the end of each academic year, the execution is evaluated and measures are taken for its realization.

D E A N

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