



Nationalagentur Erasmus+ Bildung

OeAD - GmbH

Erasmus+ Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

Hints for a successful application for a programme country

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Partnership

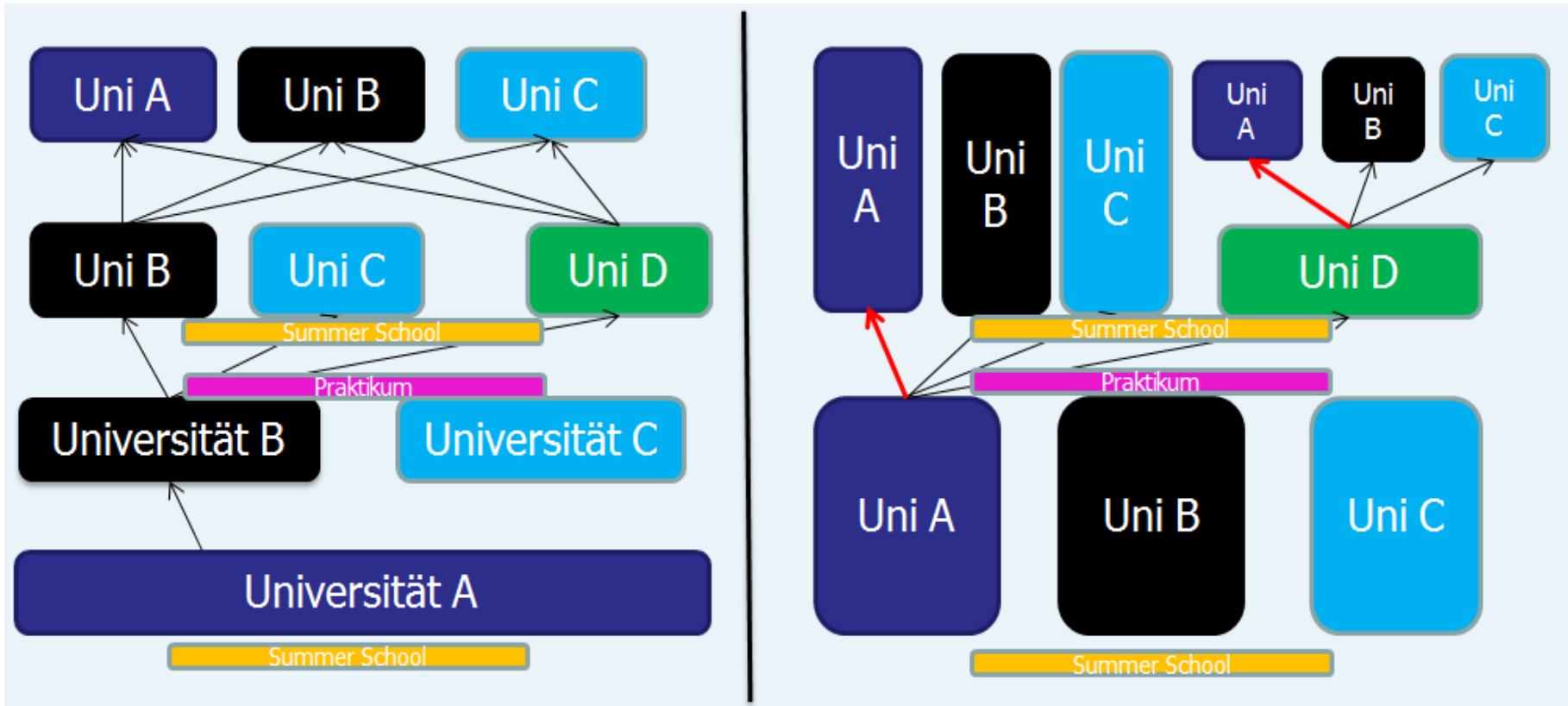
- At least 3 HEIs from 3 different Programme Countries:
 EU28 & FL, IS, MK, NO, **RS**, TR
In case of the special call with Japan: at least one HEI from JP has to be in!!!
 → Accreditation / recognition at application stage!
 (European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Projects)

- positive:
 - HEIs from Partner Countries (no restriction like in CBHE)
 - **Businesses** in the widest sense like enterprises, research centres, NGOs, ... depending on the academic field
 - For internships or theses
 - Important proof for later employability
 - Teaching and giving input & feedback

„Jointness“ in EMJMDs

- Consortium Agreement & Curriculum
- Joint management boards, like:
 - Academic Board
 - Administrative Board
 - Selection Board
 - Quality Assurance Board → joint evaluation system include externals!
 - Students' Board
- Joint grading system & common examination rules
- Joint supervision of thesis
- Joint degrees (if possible)

Examples for student paths



→ These paths are not allowed!

University A, B, C from Programme Countries; University D from Partner Country

Participation Costs

- Calculation of the costs of one student from a programme country and from a partner country → per university / semester

Costs	Uni A	Uni B	Uni C	Uni D
Student fees				
Fee for the library				
...				
Student Association				
...				
Total	ProC xxx / PartC yyy	ProC aa/ PartC bbb	ProC 0 / PartC zzzz	ProC jjj / PartC jjj

- Calculation of average costs → participation costs per student / semester
- Internal distribution between the partners on the basis of real costs
- Don't forget the self-funding students!

Examples for Services

- Support with administration
- Support with visa
- Support with accommodation
- Integration with buddies and social events
- Students support by students
- Ad hoc culture and language programme

Award Criteria

- Relevance of the project (max. 40 points → **min. 30 points required**)
 - Quality of the project design and implementation (max. 20 points)
 - Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements (max. 20 points)
 - Impact and dissemination (maximum 20 points)
- ⇒ To be considered for funding, proposals must score **at least 70 points**
- In case of additional scholarships:
Relevance of the project in the targeted regions (Yes/No)



Relevance of the project (max. 40 points)

- The proposal's elements of "**jointness**"/**integration, design and structure** are tailored and effective for achieving the EMJMD aims and objectives;
- The proposal describes how the EMJMD is **integrated within the degree catalogues of partner** and defines the degree(s) intended to be delivered, especially the award of an EMJMD joint degree, if national legislation allows;
- The proposed EMJMD responds to clearly **identified needs in the academic field**;
- The proposal defines how the EMJMD aims to increase the **attractiveness of the European Higher Education Area**, and to foster **excellence, innovation and competitiveness** in terms of the academic fields/subjects targeted;
- The proposed EMJMD consortium is highly relevant with regard to **internationalisation in higher education** and has been designed to maximise the **benefits of student and staff mobility**.

Relevance of the project (max. 40 points)

DO's

- **Convincing evidence** for “jointness” and course **integration**
- **Thoroughly assessed results** of **needs analysis** at different levels
- **Innovation & excellence** for **HEIs, quality & attractiveness** widespread across the **EHEA**
- **Concrete benefits** for each **target group** (students, academic staff, etc.)

DON'Ts

- **Dominance of coordinating institution** instead of a common and integrated approach
- **Imprecise** targets for the degree award and **lack of joint strategy**
- **Inaccurate** needs analysis methodology resulting in **irrelevant conclusions**
- **Weak integration of internationalisation** strategies at the cost of stakeholders

Quality of the project design and implementation (max. 20 points)

- The proposal defines the **academic programme** and the **learning outcomes** and details how the **excellent academic content** will be offered;
- The proposal describes a set of internal and external **evaluation methods** of the EMJMD, how they will be put into practice and used to **monitor, upgrade and improve the quality** of the course;
- The proposal defines how the **student mobility** is organised and is instrumental to the course objectives, and presents a draft strategy/planning for an effective **involvement of scholars/guest lecturers**;
- The proposal explains in detail all relevant information provided to the **students/academic staff** prior to course enrolment, and the **services** offered in terms of support for accommodation, language training, administrative formalities (e.g. visa support), and insurance;
- The proposal clearly outlines the **course rules, student rights and obligations** concerning the **academic, administrative and financial** aspects of EMJMD implementation;
- The proposal describes the envisaged activities/facilities to ensure the effective **integration/ networking of the EMJMD students** within their **socio-cultural and professional environment**;
- The proposal clearly outlines the **interaction** between the EMJMD and **non-educational actors** in course implementation.

Quality of the project design and implementation (max. 20 points)

DO's

- **Effective strategy and tools** for monitoring and ensuring excellence
- **Academically relevant** design and **rationale** of mobility paths with **concrete learning outcomes**
- **Proactive consortium** support responding to students and staff needs
- **Interaction** with world of work **integrated** in the course

DON'Ts

- **Absence of an established mechanism** to appropriately react to evaluation findings
- **Unfeasible, unbalanced** and **ineffective** mobility schemes
- **Underestimation** of the administrative **workload** to the detriment of the course
- **Negligence of student integration** in socio-cultural and professional context

Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements (max. 20 points)

- The proposal clearly shows the fields of **expertise of the involved partners/staff** and how they are complementary and of added value for the EMJMD implementation. Where applicable, the proposal describes how existing cooperation agreements have been enhanced to meet the EMJMD's objectives;
- The proposal describes the **institutional commitment of each partner**, specifies their role and tasks in the EMJMD implementation, and outlines the working mechanisms of the **governing bodies and management tools** in place;
- The proposal describes, inter alia, the **joint criteria**, principles and requirements for student application, selection and admission requirements, student examination and performance evaluation;
- The proposal explains how the **student participation costs** have been calculated, and provides a description on how financial resources including complementary funding will be **mobilised, allocated and managed** within the partnership proposal's elements of "jointness"/integration, design and structure are tailored and effective for achieving the EMJMD aims and objectives;

Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements (max. 20 points)

DO's

- **Synergies** resulting from the **complementarity** of partners
- Existing partnerships enriched with **new partners** from **EHEA**
- **Inclusive** and **transparent** cooperation mechanisms, based as well on **mutual trust**
- **Academic jointness** as **central theme** during course implementation
- **Realistic** and **transparent** financial plan

DON'Ts

- **Unclear motivation** of partners to join the project
- **Failure** to ensure **institutional backing** of the partners
- **Lack of attention** to the variety of national **legal frameworks**
- Avoid too **rigid cooperation arrangements** not allowing for necessary adaptations
- **Imprecise** financial management provisions of the consortium

Impact and dissemination (max. 20 points)

- The proposal offers a convincing mid/long-term **development/sustainability strategy** and makes realistic projections beyond the EU funding period, and the ways to **mobilise other funding sources** for scholarships and self-funded students;
- The proposal explains how the EMJMD will generate **impact at institutional level** (faculty/university), and how it enhances the **internationalisation strategy** of the consortium partners towards relevant stakeholders at national/European/international level;
- The proposal describes how the proposed EMJMD encourages **entrepreneurship** and a sense of initiative, describes **how employers will be involved** in course implementation in order to improve student competencies and skills and thereby **enhance the employability of graduates**;
- The proposal describes the types and methods of **promotion/dissemination mechanisms**, its target groups, and the concrete tasks of the partners in the **awareness-raising strategy** of the EMJMD. It explains how it plans to **attract excellent students worldwide**;
- If relevant, the proposal describes how the **materials, documents and media** produced will be made freely available and **promoted through open licences**, and does not contain disproportionate limitations.

Impact and dissemination (max. 20 points)

DO's

- **Concrete indicators** and **tools** for measuring impact on **EHEA, HEIs** and other stakeholders
- **Tailored** promotion/ dissemination approach to different audiences
- **Integration of labour-market elements** to promote employability and support sustainability
- Provisions for **wide access** to course materials

DON'Ts

- Lack of definition and promotion of the programme's **distinctive selling points** demonstrating its competitiveness
- No **networking activities** to ensure wide programme **visibility** and **recognition** by academia, students and future employers
- **Sustainability strategy** not adequately considered and not integrated in **all project stages**

In case of additional scholarships: **Relevance of the project in the targeted region(s)** (Yes/No)

- The proposal describes the methods used to attract highly talented students from the targeted region(s)
- The proposal encourages cooperation with HEIs and /or other eligible participating organisation from Partner Countries in the targeted region(s). The added value of such co-operation to the EMJMD is clearly explained.

In case of additional scholarships: **Relevance of the project in the targeted region(s)** (Yes/No)

DO's

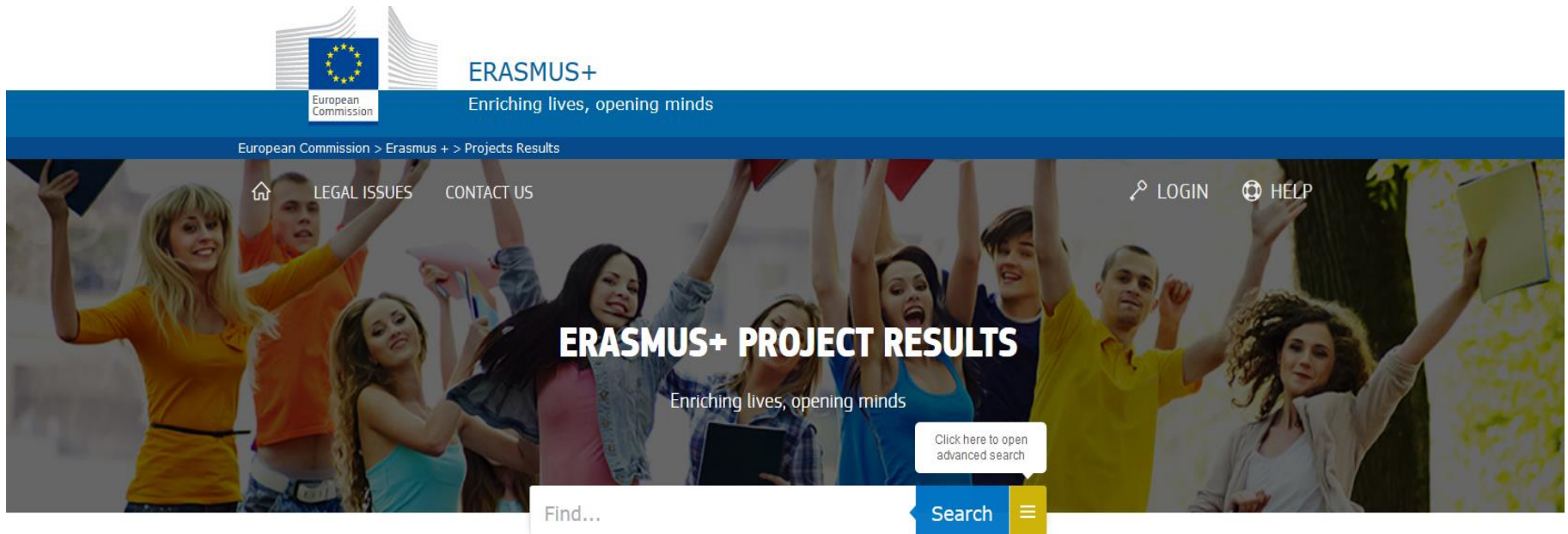
- **Mutual benefits** through the cooperation with the specific regions/countries
- **Concrete contribution** to meet the **challenges** in the **HE systems** of these countries
- Support for a strong and educated **human capital**
- Effects of the cooperation on **economic** and **social development**

DON'Ts

- **Imprecise plan** and **objectives** for building up cooperation with the regions/countries
- **Limitation** of collaboration to the level of student exchange
- **Unclear methodology** and **inappropriate approach** to reach excellent students

Erasmus+ Project Results Platform

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects>



The screenshot shows the top section of the Erasmus+ Project Results Platform website. At the top left is the European Commission logo, featuring the EU flag and the text 'European Commission'. To its right is the 'ERASMUS+' logo with the tagline 'Enriching lives, opening minds'. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: 'European Commission > Erasmus + > Projects Results'. A navigation bar contains a home icon, 'LEGAL ISSUES', 'CONTACT US', 'LOGIN', and 'HELP'. The main banner features a group of diverse young people celebrating, with the text 'ERASMUS+ PROJECT RESULTS' and 'Enriching lives, opening minds'. A search bar at the bottom has a 'Find...' input field, a 'Search' button, and a 'Click here to open advanced search' tooltip.

Important Sources

- Policy paper: EMJMDs – The story so far
https://eacea.ec.eu/sites/eacea-site/files/2_policy_paper_on_joint_degrees.pdf
- Best practices of Erasmus Mundus joint programmes
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/tools/good_practices_en.php
- Sustainability of Erasmus Mundus Master Courses - Best practice guide
<https://eacea.ec.eu/sites/eacea-site/files/sustainabilitysurvey2017.pdf>
- Joint Programmes from A to Z – A reference guide for practitioners (JDAZ)
<https://www.nuffic.nl/en/expertise/jdaz>
- Joint International Master Programmes: lessons learnt from Erasmus Mundus
<https://bookshop.europa.eu/en/joint-international-master-programmes-pbEC0313346/>
- Network for recognition of academic & professional qualifications
<http://www.enic-naric.net>

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