

Erasmus+ Programme Strategy at Mendel University in Brno for 2026–2028

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1. Introduction

The Erasmus+ programme represents one of the key tools for the internationalisation of Mendel University in Brno (MENDELU). Through supporting international mobility of students and staff, developing international partnerships, and fostering innovative forms of cooperation, it contributes to strengthening the quality of education, developing students' international competencies, and increasing the university's global competitiveness.

The Erasmus+ Strategy for 2026–2028 is based on MENDELU's Internationalisation Strategy and the university's long-term plan. It focuses primarily on supporting high-quality mobility of students and staff, developing strategic partnerships, strengthening cooperation within the European university alliance HEROES, and promoting inclusive mobility.

An important part of the strategy is also the digitalisation of administrative processes related to mobility, particularly the implementation of the Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) initiative and the use of Erasmus+ digital tools.

2. Position of Erasmus+ Programme at MENDELU

MENDELU actively participates in Erasmus+ programme through student and staff mobility (KA1) as well as through international cooperation projects (KA2). The programme significantly contributes to the development of international cooperation, improvement of education quality, development of intercultural competencies, and strengthening links between education, research, and innovation.

The university maintains a broad network of partner institutions in Europe and beyond, with Erasmus+ being one of the main tools for implementing these partnerships.

2.1. Student Mobility

Student mobility represents the largest part of Erasmus+ activities at MENDELU. Students regularly participate in study stays at partner universities as well as traineeships in foreign organisations.

Student mobility contributes to:

- development of professional and language skills,
- gaining international experience,
- improving graduate employability,
- development of intercultural skills.

At the same time, MENDELU admits a significant number of international students each year who come for study stays under the Erasmus+ programme. Incoming mobility contributes to the internationalisation of the academic environment and development of the international academic community.

2.2. Staff Mobility

Staff mobility is an important tool for the professional development of both academic and administrative staff of the university.

Academic staff use mobility mainly for:

- teaching stays at partner universities,
- establishing research cooperation,
- sharing teaching experience.

Administrative staff participate in training and professional meetings, through mobility programmes, which contribute to the development of their professional competencies and the exchange of best practices between institutions. They also attend language courses abroad, which significantly contributes to the internationalisation of the university.

2.3. International Partnerships

MENDELU has established an extensive network of interinstitutional agreements with partner universities within the Erasmus+ programme. These partnerships enable both student and staff mobility and form a foundation for further forms of cooperation.

An important element of the university's international cooperation is its participation in the European university alliance HEROES (Higher Education for Resilience-Oriented and Empowered Societies). The alliance creates new opportunities for the development of mobility, joint educational activities, and research collaboration.

2.4. Erasmus+ Cooperation Projects (KA2)

MENDELU also participates in Erasmus+ cooperation projects, especially KA2 projects, supporting international collaboration, innovation in education, and sharing best practices.

These projects enable:

- development of innovative teaching methods,
- creation of new study materials and tools,
- strengthening international project cooperation,
- involvement of academic staff in international consortia.

3. Strategic Priorities

The Erasmus+ Strategy for 2026–2028 focuses on:

- development of high-quality student and staff mobility,
- strengthening cooperation within strategic international partnerships,
- support for the university's participation in European university alliances,
- support for inclusive mobility,
- development of innovative forms of internationalisation in education.

3.1 Enhancing the Quality and Impact of Mobility

MENDELU will strive to enhance the quality and impact of both student and staff mobility through systematic support for mobility participants, simplification of administrative processes, and the use of digital tools. The aim is to ensure that mobility becomes an integral part of study and professional development, while also contributing to the development of the university's international cooperation.

Measures:

- increasing students' awareness of opportunities for study stays and traineeships within Erasmus+,
- systematic support for the mobility of both academic and non-academic staff,
- improving administrative and advisory support for mobility participants,
- digitalisation of mobility administration,
- implementation of the Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) initiative,
- strengthening the recognition of study results and credits obtained during mobility.

3.1.1. Increasing Student Awareness of Mobility Opportunities

- organising regular information seminars and presentations on the Erasmus+ programme for students,
- involving former mobility participants in sharing their experiences (so-called Erasmus ambassadors),
- targeted communication through websites, social media, and faculty communication channels,
- cooperation with faculties in promoting mobility within individual study programmes.

3.1.2. Systematic Support for the Mobility of Academic and Non-Academic Staff

- actively motivating academic and administrative staff to participate in mobility programmes,
- linking mobility with the development of teaching competencies and research cooperation,
- supporting short-term teaching assignments and training activities,
- sharing experiences of mobility participants within the university.

3.1.3. Enhancing the Quality of Support for Mobility Participants

- providing individual consultations to students before departure,
- ensuring support during mobility and after return,
- systematically evaluating feedback from mobility participants,
- using the collected feedback to improve processes and services.

3.1.4. Digitalisation of Mobility Administration

- gradual implementation of fully digital mobility administration processes,
- use of electronic documents and digital approval of mobility documents,
- integration of mobility administration into university information systems,

- reduction of paper-based administration and simplification of processes for both students and staff.

3.1.5. Implementation of the Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) Initiative

- continuing the implementation of digital data exchange between partner universities through the Erasmus Without Paper infrastructure,
- concluding Learning Agreements for student mobility within EWP via an in-house system,
- full digitalisation of interinstitutional agreements between partner universities,
- ongoing training of administrative staff in the use of EWP tools.

3.1.6. Strengthening the Recognition of Study Results and Credits Obtained During Mobility

- strengthening cooperation between faculty Erasmus+ coordinators and study programme guarantors,
- simplifying the recognition of study results obtained during mobility through digital tools,
- systematic monitoring of the quality of partner universities and their study offerings,
- cooperation with faculty vice-deans to ensure a wider selection and smooth recognition of compulsory and elective courses.

3.2. Strengthening Cooperation within the HEROES Alliance

MENDELU is part of the European university alliance HEROES (Higher Education for Resilience-Oriented and Empowered Societies). The Erasmus+ programme will be used as one of the main tools for developing mobility and cooperation within this alliance. The aim is to strengthen the mobility of students and staff among partner universities within the alliance, support the creation of joint educational activities, and deepen academic and research cooperation.

The development of cooperation within the HEROES alliance will contribute to strengthening the international dimension of education at MENDELU and to establishing long-term partnerships between academic institutions.

Measures:

- increase the number of student and staff mobility activities between universities within the HEROES alliance,
- support short-term mobility, intensive programmes, and summer schools within the alliance,
- develop joint courses and teaching modules among partner universities,
- involve academic staff in research projects within the alliance.

3.2.1. Increasing the Number of Mobility Activities within the HEROES Alliance

- active promotion of mobility opportunities at partner universities within the HEROES alliance among both students and staff,

- identification of study programmes and fields with the greatest potential for mobility within the alliance,
- creation of recommended partner universities within the HEROES alliance for individual faculties,
- sharing information on mobility opportunities and project cooperation.

3.2.2. Support for Short-Term Mobility, Intensive Programmes, and Summer Schools within the Alliance

- development of joint courses and teaching modules in cooperation with partner universities within the alliance,
- organisation of intensive study programmes (Blended Intensive Programmes – BIP),
- sending participants to Blended Intensive Programmes at partner universities within the HEROES alliance.

3.2.3. Strengthening the Mobility of Academic and Administrative Staff

- supporting teaching assignments of academic staff at partner universities within the alliance,
- developing training opportunities and job shadowing placements for administrative staff,
- sharing best practices in internationalisation, digitalisation, and mobility support,
- using staff mobility to establish research partnerships and identify common research topics among universities within the alliance.

3.3 Support for Inclusive Mobility

MENDELU focuses on expanding access to Erasmus+ mobility for students with special needs, disabilities, or social disadvantages. The aim is to increase the number of students with special needs participating in Erasmus+ mobility.

Measures:

- increasing awareness,
- providing individual support for students,
- offering financial and organisational support,
- cooperating with partner universities to ensure suitable study and accommodation conditions,
- sharing examples of good practice in inclusive mobility.

3.3.1. Increasing Awareness

- targeted information campaigns aimed at students with special needs,
- cooperation with the MENDELU counselling centre and study departments,
- presentation of examples of good practice and student experiences.

3.3.2. Individual Support for Students

- providing individual consultations when planning mobility,
- assistance in selecting a suitable partner university,

- support with the administration of applications for additional funding.

3.3.3. Financial and Organisational Support

- use of additional Erasmus+ grants for students with special needs,
- assistance in arranging support services, special equipment, or accessible accommodation,
- flexible planning of mobility.

3.3.4. Cooperation with Partner Universities

- selection of partner institutions with high-quality support for students with special needs,
- sharing best practices in inclusive education,
- coordination of support services between institutions.

3.4. Development of Strategic International Partnerships

Within Erasmus+, MENDELU will develop cooperation with high-quality partner universities both in Europe and beyond.

Measures:

- systematic evaluation of existing partner institutions,
- development of long-term strategic partnerships with selected universities,
- support for mobility towards institutions with high academic quality,
- strengthening cooperation with universities in regions with high potential for research and innovation.

4. Increasing MENDELU's International Attractiveness

The Erasmus+ strategy will support the development of incoming mobility for students and staff while contributing to the creation of an open and international academic environment at MENDELU. The goal is to increase the university's attractiveness for international students, academic staff, and partners, and to strengthen their integration into the academic and social life of the university.

A key role in this process is played by high-quality support services, active involvement of student organisations, especially ESN MENDELU, and systematic communication with partner universities.

Measures:

- improving services for incoming students and staff,
- supporting the integration of international students into both the academic and social communities,
- active promotion of MENDELU on international platforms.



4.1. Improving Services for Incoming Students and Staff

MENDELU will continue to develop a system of support services that will help international students and staff adapt to studying and working in an international environment.

Measures:

- providing clear and up-to-date information on study, accommodation, visa requirements, and administrative processes through websites and informational materials,
- improving coordination between the International Relations Office, faculties, and other university services,
- support in administrative processes for international students and staff,
- ensuring support for resolving practical matters upon arrival (accommodation, residence registration, university orientation).

4.2. Supporting the Integration of International Students into the Academic and Social Community

MENDELU will support activities that facilitate the integration of international students into the university community and strengthen intercultural dialogue between students.

Measures:

- organising adaptation and integration activities for international students,
- organising and implementing Welcome Week, which includes orientation to the university, informational meetings, orientation programs, and social activities,
- involving international students in student organisations and university events,
- organising cultural, social, and networking activities in cooperation with ESN MENDELU,
- supporting activities that promote intercultural exchange between Czech and international students,
- creating opportunities for international exchange students at MENDELU to share their experiences (e.g., through student ambassadors).

4.3. Active Promotion of MENDELU on International Platforms

MENDELU will systematically strengthen its visibility on an international level to attract high-quality international students and academic staff.

Measures:

- actively promoting MENDELU's study programmes through international educational portals,
- presenting the university at international education fairs and partner meetings,
- cooperating with partner universities in promoting exchange programmes,
- using digital communication channels and social media to promote incoming mobility,
- sharing experiences of international students and mobility alumni as part of the marketing communication of the International Relations Office.

5. Supporting MENDELU's Involvement in Erasmus+ KA2 Projects

In addition to mobility activities, MENDELU will actively support the involvement of academic staff and other employees in cooperation projects within the Erasmus+ programme, especially Key Action 2 (KA2) projects. These projects are a significant tool for developing international cooperation, innovation in education, sharing best practices, and strengthening the institutional capacity of the university.

MENDELU's goal is to increase the involvement of faculties and academic staff in KA2 projects and systematically support their preparation, implementation, and administration.

Measures:

- providing methodological support to faculties and project leaders,
- informing about project opportunities,
- supporting project collaboration,
- documenting and monitoring projects.

5.1. Methodological Support for Faculties and Project Leaders

- providing methodological support to academic staff in preparing project applications within the Erasmus+ KA2 programme,
- consulting project proposals and partnership suggestions,
- assisting with the interpretation of Erasmus+ programme rules and requirements of individual calls.

5.2. Informing about Project Opportunities

- regularly sharing information about current Erasmus+ calls,
- distributing information about webinars, information days, and training organised by the national agency or the European Commission,
- providing clear information about the different types of Erasmus+ KA2 projects.

5.3. Supporting Project Collaboration

- supporting the establishment of contacts with partner universities and institutions,
- using existing international partnerships, including cooperation within the HEROES alliance, to prepare joint projects,
- supporting the involvement of faculties in international project networks.

5.4. Documentation and Monitoring of Projects

- systematically documenting Erasmus+ KA2 projects submitted and implemented at MENDELU,
- monitoring the success of project applications,
- sharing information about implemented projects within the university.

6. Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

To evaluate the implementation of the Erasmus+ programme strategy, the following indicators will be monitored:

- number of outgoing students,
- number of incoming international students,
- number of mobility activities for academic and administrative staff,
- number of mobility activities within the HEROES alliance,
- number of joint courses or educational activities with partner universities,
- number of students and staff with special needs involved in mobility,
- satisfaction of mobility participants with administrative and organisational support based on surveys.