

## MOTIVATION STATEMENT

Dear colleagues,

It goes without saying that internationalization is a powerful tool for Ukrainian universities striving towards an integrated, open, extravert educational system closely reflecting the needs and demands of globalized labor market. What is particularly important for my home university, internationalization promotes equal opportunities both for central and provincial HEIs, therefore balancing our heavily centralized higher educational system and significantly decreasing corruption in the sphere of education due to the transparency of QA standards.

As a person directly responsible for developing a realistic internationalization strategy for Zaporizhzhya National University, I treat curricular integration of academic mobility programs as one of the key challenges on our way from ad hoc international activities to a more institutionalized approach. Since 2008, I've been involved into a number of projects related to raising HEIs internationalization profile in terms of academic mobility. I gained my first project management experience as a local workgroup secretary of TEMPUS SM\_SCM\_TO29B06-2006 "All Ukrainian Network of ECTS Regional Consultants Points"; moved on as local coordinator of TEMPUS SM\_SCM-T029B06-2007 «Developing Strategy of Students' International Mobility», and was appointed co-coordinator for TEMPUS-144882-2008-DE-JPGR «Quality Assurance Tools for the Management of Internationalization». In 2011, I won a scholarship from IREX UASP program to study academic mobility management at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (USA).

My primary experience as a local administrator of 2 EMA2 projects (ELECTRA and HUMERIA) proved that Erasmus Mundus program is a very efficient tool for designing internationalized curricula, improving QA, granting transparency of evaluation standards and academic recognition. Since 2012, 32 representatives of our faculty and students have participated in EMA2 exchange programs; and it's not stretching matters to say that their experience contributed a lot to curricular benchmarking and mastering ECTS toolware at ZNU.

At the same time, a number of performance gaps were identified in terms of attracting EM exchange students, reaching TG2 and TG3 applicants and, in some cases, appropriate recognition of academic results. Raising awareness of our faculty and students turned to be another important issue, as well as granting sustainability and horizontal dissemination of faculty and staff mobility results. It has become obvious that supportive infrastructure for Erasmus mobility should be developed on faculty level in order to grant its functional institutionalization, and that International Office staff should be properly trained in order to increase the density of Erasmus mobility flows.

Erasmus Mundus Staff Training program proposed by Tallinn University provides a unique opportunity to study best practices of more experienced universities in order to improve our performance in the above stated fields, to reconsider our promotional, branding and presentation strategies, and to develop networking for prospective Erasmus+ projects.

I have no doubt that participation in the training would increase my efficiency as EMA2 local administrator in terms of individual mobility management, related document flow, student support etc.; I'm going to disseminate the results of the training among the staff of International Office and Erasmus faculty coordinators via series of workshops on specific issues, such as recognition of academic results, reaching TG2 and TG3 applicants, language proficiency issues, study plans expertise. I tend to study the best samples of developing user-friendly Internet environment for prospective incoming Erasmus students to initiate the reform of our university website (the course catalogue in particular), which is one of the high priority tasks for the nearest future.

I also hope that taking part in the training would result in some quantum leap in terms of internationalization strategy and cooperation for the whole HUMERIA consortium. I apply for inspiration, fresh ideas, teamwork and new opportunities ahead.

Kind regards,  
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