

Mykolas Romeris University experience in Erasmus+ KA107

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Baltic Info Days 2018



Erasmus+

Mykolas Romeris University

- Located in: **Vilnius, Lithuania**
- Year of foundation: **1990**
- Type of Institution: **public**
- Number of students: **7500 of them >600 international from 59 countries**
- Number of full-time academic staff: **350 + ~220 administrative staff**
- Faculties: **8 academic units** (3 campuses in 2 cities)
- Focus areas: **SOCIAL SCIENCES - Law, Public Governance, Public Security, Political Science, Economics, Finances, Business and Management, Psychology, Social Work, ICT, Communication, etc.**
- Commitment to Internationalization is integrated in Institutional Strategy (from 2010 - latest review adopted for 2016-2020 period)

We consider the University being responsible to cherish civic society values, upbringing mature personalities, opening up and developing personal skills, critical thinking, creativity, leadership and social responsibility, and providing convenient opportunities for life-long learning, use and development of knowledge.



FACULTIES – INSTITUTES – SCHOOLS - ACADEMIES



Law



Public Governance



Economics and
Business



Public Security



Communication



Humanities



Psychology



Educational
Sciences and Social
Work

MRU FACES

8 academic units
3 campuses x 2 cities

PHILOSOPHY OF STUDIES

- Oriented towards the personal success of students - Student-centered approach: student academic and career support system, entrepreneurship, creativity and other transferable skills
- Digital study (blended learning) and other means for more individualized education and personal development
- **International dimension - content-wise and international mobility as a systemic element of studies**

Motto: Embrace success *now!*



VIDEO



MRU INTERNATIONAL AND WHY ERASMUS+ KA107

- The University's international ties reach all the regions of the globe
- 9 BA, 18 MA, 6 PhD programmes available in English
- SM: 350in+300out+400degree
- ST: 110in+120out+350proj.
- **GOAL: diversification of student body, integration of exchange and degree-seeking students for true international experience**
- From 2006, the University offers joint/double Master's degree study programs and encourages its students to study towards joint/double diplomas. (out of 32 registered JSP in Lithuania – 14 are at MRU)



110+ Bilateral Partners from 43 countries
350+ **Erasmus+** Universities from 30
Programme countries (KA103) and 25 Partner
countries (KA107)

History of focusing on certain regions (f.e. in Asia on KR, in Europe on UA, FR...) and profiling of relevant international study programmes with **strategic partners** (such as):

*Informatics and Digital Contents;
English for SP and Korean as second language;
European and International Business Law;
Intellectual Property Law*

Erasmus+ mobility (KA107)

- **2015-2017 Erasmus+ KA107:**

Applied for mobilities with 16 partner countries for a total of 102 mobilities (352.130 EUR)

➤ Mobilities approved for 15 countries, a total of 54 mobilities (167.565 EUR)

- **2016-2018 Erasmus+ KA107:**

Applied for mobilities with 21 partner country for a total of 230 mobilities (700.100 EUR)

➤ Mobilities approved for 21 countries, a total of 72 mobilities (186.935 EUR)

- **2017-2019 Erasmus+ KA107:**

Applied for mobilities with 25 partner country for a total of 230 mobilities (923.415 EUR)

➤ Mobilities approved for 25 countries, a total of 119 mobilities (303.900 EUR)

- **2018-2020 Erasmus+ KA107:**

Applied for mobilities with 33 partner country for a total of 300+ mobilities (1.479.500 EUR)

➤ Mobilities approved for 22 countries, a total of 95 mobilities (248.835 EUR)

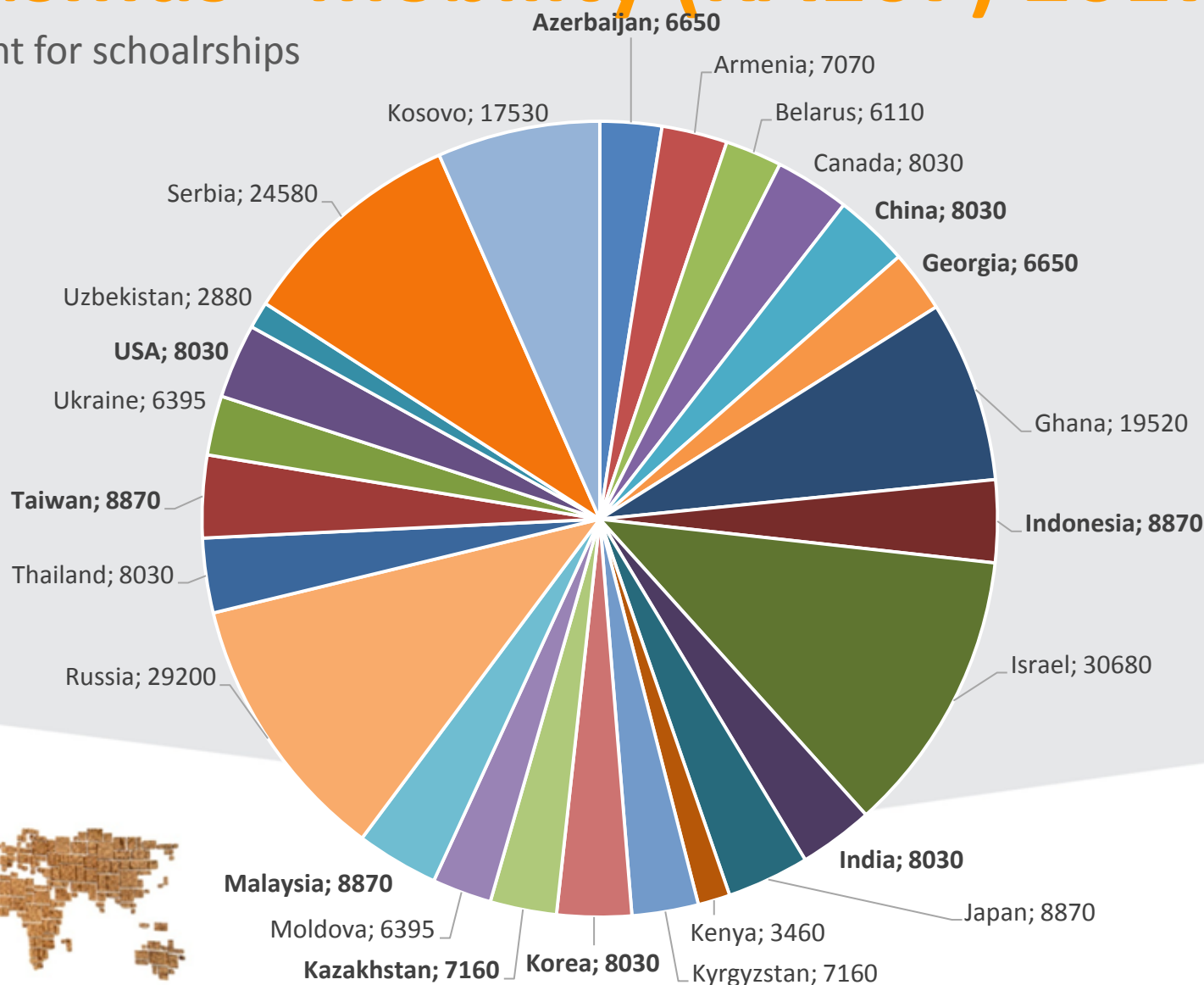
➤ Dissapointment about 8 countries from previous successful projects were not renewed

➤ BUT partnerships with 5 new countries became possible



Erasmus+ mobility (KA107) 2017

Amount for schoalrships



Experience from 2015, 2016 and beyond

- Always – Priority is Mobility and more focus on INcoming

in 2015 project transferred ~40 % OM to 5 additional scholarships (59 mobilities with 23 Universities = 39 IN, 20 OUT, 27 SMS, 32 ST).

in 2016 project transferred ~50% OM to additional incoming scholarships (104 mobilities with 37 Universities = 73 IN, 31 OUT), 28 SMS, 76 ST). For OUT scholarships used ESF cofunding

in 2017 project transfer 50 % OM to incoming scholarships, especially from countries which are not funded in 2018 project (MD, KR, GE, CN, etc.).



Challenges from 2015 and 2016

- Was difficult to inform about results (especially to countries where we have more partners than scholarships)
- There were/are cases when partners change (f.e. from the upcoming project)
- More interest in STT mobility than in STA
- Encountered specificities – (ID, IN – yes, almost finished student selection, sorry....- let's change into staff; JP – yes, we come, but staff rotates and - no to IN and OUT mobilities; UA, MD – non-Erasmus+ students arrive and claim that home coordinator promised that the MRU will pay Erasmus scholarship...)



Good Practice (which worked for us)

- International teaching/training weeks – a success (easier to organize – more interesting to participants and to host academic units and, of course, for students)
- Advise to adjust dates of International weeks with special events – f.e. State holidays (March 11, July 6) – cultural programme in place without any efforts and enriched with variety of spin-off activities
- Most of IIA we concluded with *, to ensure partners that we promise to accept students/staff even without scholarships (as 0-grant holders).
- Personal contacts with the IO of the Partner Universities
- Always a special meeting for students - KA107 scholarship holders during the Intro weeks
- Experience of students and staff during their mobility proved to be essential in promoting the programme (FB: MRUErasmus+). OUT and IN students/staff are true ambassadors of their country and University



International Teaching/Training weeks

Were occasional, but successful:

- September 2017
- November 2017
- [March 2018](#)
- April 2018
- [May 2018](#)
- [July 2018](#)



Scheduled in advance for 2018/2019 (2w/sem+STT)

- September 2018 (17-21)
- [November 2018 \(12-16\)](#)
- [March 2019 \(11-15\)](#)
- [May 2019 \(6-10\)](#)
- July 2019 (2-6)



Lessons learned and suggestions

- For a success, the academic units must get involved from the very application stage (their partners included, interests represented, etc.)
- Communicate with NA in advance and constantly – they are ready to advise, suggest, support
- Start using scholarship ASAP
- Plan B is always strongly recommended (for partner or mobility replacement)
- To clarify (twice, if needed) to nominated students if the scholarship is allocated or they can be accepted only as 0-grant holders
- Invited IO staff member from all new KA107 partners – it helps a lot to explain the details



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