

More Erasmus@IPB

more people, more inclusive, more digital, more green, more engaged.

Erasmus Policy Statement

Internationalisation and modernisation strategy

The Polytechnic Institute of Bragança (IPB, Portugal) asserts itself as an innovation co-creation ecosystem, involving students, teachers and staff with companies and organisations, aiming to create a regional knowledge-based economy and to implement strong international partnerships, both at EU and worldwide levels.

IPB aims at being a reference in the European Higher Education Area, in the context of the universities of applied sciences system, implementing innovative teaching and practice-based research, through collaborative laboratories, strategic partnerships and living labs, in a multidisciplinary and multicultural learning community.

IPB is a deep international and multicultural institution where 36% (3250 out of 9000) of its students are international students from 70 different countries. IPB has also a mobility program with widely recognized success, with an annual mobility of around 1000 incoming and outgoing students and 400 principals, teaching and non-teaching staff members, as the result of the collaboration with several HEIs from all over the world.

The EU and non-EU IPB partners are chosen taking into account similar HE profiles, curricula, and research interests, with emphasis in the European network of universities of applied sciences and in the Portuguese speaking countries and regions. IPB supports both the mobility of graduation (1st cycle and short cycle) and post-graduation students, for studies and internships. Currently, 25% of the IPB graduates have had an international learning mobility experience, above the 20% EU 2020 goal. Also, internationalisation at home is promoted through new collaborative online international learning projects, as well as taking advantage of the real student and teachers international environments and communities at IPB. Teaching and non-teaching staff mobility is deeply promoted and recognized within their professional activities and career development. A special emphasis for mobility is currently dedicated to the acquisition of skills in pedagogical innovation and curriculum modernisation.

All programs offered at IPB are designed according to the Bologna process and following the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) best-practices. Besides the academic programs taught in the Portuguese language, the IPB also offers bachelor and master programs fully lectured in English, as well as Portuguese language and culture courses for foreign students. In 2011, the European Commission awarded the ECTS Label to the IPB, acknowledging the quality of the information provided in terms of the degree programs offered and the management of student mobility within the European Higher Education Area. In 2013, IPB was also awarded the Diploma Supplement (DS) Label, ensuring the international transparency and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications.

The participation in the Erasmus+ Programme is of utmost importance to contribute towards the IPB's internationalisation and modernisation strategy and its main objectives:

- a) The consolidation of the student international mobility as part of HE learning experience at IPB and its partners, including studies and internships;
- b) The consolidation of the international mobility of the IPB and partners' staff as part of their career development and modernisation, including training and dissemination of innovative pedagogical practices and curricular developments;
- c) The enhancement of the international mobility for double and joint degrees within the European UAS system, as well as with strategic partners in the Portuguese speaking countries and worldwide, and thus improving the management and operation of partner HEIs in international relations capacities;
- d) The creation of international and strategic partnerships for common visions aiming at regional development and transitional processes, and European innovation ecosystems at HE;
- e) The consolidation of the European Education Area and its best-practices, enhancing transparency and ensuring full recognition across European Union, contributing to the European identity, diversity and cultural heritage.