



Erasmus Policy Statement 2021-2027

Scuola Superiore per Mediatori Linguistici "Nelson Mandela" (SSML, Higher Education Institution for Linguistic Mediators) has established a wider internationalisation strategy for the period 2021-2027, even if it's primarily focused on achieving those unimplemented or partially implemented goals in the previous 2014-2020 period.

On this basis, the new SSML internationalisation strategy primarily aims to foster its students and staff mobility activities, with a particular focus on blended and virtual mobility, in order to increase the number of mobility opportunities for them and strengthen the digitization of the Institute's procedures. In particular, as for staff mobility actions, the main goal is to share and train other education methods used in other Faculties of Translation/Interpretation, Intercultural and Linguistic Mediation, International Development and Cooperation and Political Sciences and International Relations of Partner Universities, in order to improve the SSML education system and develop some good practices to spread all over the world.

Then, the SSML wants to widen and foster its international action by drawing up other inter-institutional agreements within Programme Countries, even different from those speaking languages which are taught in its Linguistic Mediation Degree Course (English, French, Spanish and German), and develop some cooperation agreements with Partner Countries, particularly aiming to Russian, Chinese, Japanese and Middle East Academic Institutions with Faculties of Translation/Interpretation, Intercultural and Linguistic Mediation, International Development and Cooperation and Political Sciences and International Relations. Another important goal for SSML is to develop curricular traineeship activities with enterprises of Programme and Partner Countries, even in a blended and virtual mode, if possible.

By moving in this direction, the SSML wants to improve students and staff digital, intercultural and professional skills; to give students not only the opportunity to improve their language skills but also make them develop a sense of initiative and their entrepreneurial spirit, in order to increase their career prospects and make their access to the international labour market easier.

As for the results, it primarily expect students and staff could have a great experience and could become more open-minded. It also expect they could develop durable relationships with other people and get some useful technical and professional skills, even in virtual and digital environments.

The main objective of the internationalisation strategy is to pursue a general modernisation of the Institute, starting from the education system and ending to the individual experience, thus passing through a precise ECTS recognition of learning results and outcomes, even by digital tools and procedures. This would certainly fulfill some fundamental principles for building up a European Education Area, in which the participation to mobility actions would be the norm, all the participants would be able to speak fluently at least a foreign language in addition to their mother tongue and the Institutions involved would be able to share and develop new education methods to teach languages, thus coming into a European identity feeling, in which qualification and learning outcomes would be automatically recognized.

A central role will certainly be played by a new and stronger Erasmus+ Office, above all in promoting participation among students and staff with special needs, in order to give them the same opportunities of the other students and staff and make the inclusion concept a fundamental one in the overall strategy.