

## **ERASMUS + PROGRAMME**

# ERASMUS POLICY STRATEGY UNIVERSITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO (UNIRSM) I SAN-MAR01

#### MISSION AND INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY

The University of the Republic of San Marino (Università degli Studi della Repubblica di San Marino - UNIRSM) was founded in 1985. It is the only public university of San Marino, geographically located in the heart of Italy but with the capability of acting at an international level, because it belongs to a sovereign state. Associated with the University are important intellectuals and scholars and there is an ample selection of courses of study, from undergraduate and graduate degree programmes to master courses, from Advanced Education to the Research Doctorate in Historical Studies. The teaching is characterized by the excellence of the scientific and cultural standing of the faculty and the services to the students, offered in the various venues of the University which are located in a unique environmental and architectural context.

UNIRSM is a driving force of innovation in education, social and economic growth, both for its students and the territory. The University promotes a wider vision to face the challenges imposed by the external processes of change, in compliance with the principles of sustainability. The University's orientation strongly addresses innovation and internationalization.

UNIRSM is a member of the following international associations: EUA – European University Association IAU – International Association of Universities Magna Charta Universitatum NUSCT – Network of Universities of Small States and Countries

UNIRSM is also partner of several Universities, located in Italy, Europe, America and Asia, with which establishes several initiatives promoting international exchange of knowledge and experiences. In this context a program of student's exchange is realized.

The aim of UNIRSM is to become more global and to foster cross-cultural experiences, providing support to both the faculty and the students, and to integrate the wide range of international projects and transnational partnerships of the academic departments.

The mission of UNIRSM is to improve the performance across teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook and better position the University on international rankings. In 2020 the Republic of San Marino became member of the European Higher Education Area. Moreover, in March 2022 San Marino signed an agreement with the Italian Government and

the Italian National Agency for Higher Education (INDIRE) that allows San Marino to participate in the Programme.

The participation in Erasmus+ Programme allows UNIRSM to expand its international activities reinforcing the existing international participation, multiplying positive relations and formal agreements, fostering new cooperation among European higher education institutions, creating common projects oriented to promoting the European values of inclusion and democracy.

#### ERASMUS +PROGRAMME: OBJECTIVES AND IMPACT

For UNIRSM, participating in the Erasmus+ Programme, adds value to our institution by enhancing our internationalization.

The main goals are:

- increasing students international mobility;
- reinforce strategic partnership for research;
- increasing the offer of joint/multiple degrees with more European Universities;
- fostering networking and best practices regarding environmental issues and civic engagement, in line with principles of inclusion and diversity, climate sustainability, digitalization and active participation.

All this will contribute not only to raise skilled professionals, but also to build the future ruling class.

UNIRSM will be involved in the key actions as follows:

Key Action 1 (KA1) – Learning mobility of individuals:

Regarding students, teachers and staff mobility, during the Programme, a percentage 2.5 - 3% San Marino students will be admitted to attend University courses in Europe. A correspondent number of European students will be accepted in attending courses of UNIRSM.

Key Action 2 (KA2) – Cooperation among organisations and institutions:

UNIRSM will continue the positive experience achieved with the participation in the Project "Challenges to Democracy and Social Life in European Small States" (Erasmus Plus 2014-2020) maintaining that network and developing new relations aimed to design projects which are coherent with the international strategies of UNIRSM. In the first stages, the participation of UNIRSM will be in the form of partnership, in order to acquire the necessary expertise as project leader.

Participation in the Erasmus programme will positively impact the academic community: students, staff (both academic and administrative), the local community and stakeholders, the Institution as a whole, from the organizational administrative structure and routines, to the governing bodies. Another goal for the future is to promote a Master Erasmus Mundus.

The participation will contribute towards achieving the University's mission by making the institution more modern, more international and more attractive.

The concrete objectives will be:

- to introduce a new opportunity for the San Marino students, teachers and staff;
- to reinforce the University offer in international paths;
- to improve the collaboration with other European Universities;
- to establish courses in English language or provide support and encourage participation and the use of the Online Language Support (OLS) (direct link: Online Language Support | Erasmus+ (europa.eu).

The main aspect related to the impact will be the further higher visibility and prestige of UNIRSM and the San Marino Institutions and Organizations within the local context and abroad.

# **QUALITY**

UNIRSM assures the quality by fully applying the Erasmus+ Programme and its principles and the European standards and guidelines of The Bologna Process.

UNIRSM has a specific procedure in its Quality Management System, focusing on all phases and aspects of public-funded projects. The activities related to Erasmus Plus Program will be planned in detail, assigning tasks to different roles, fix deadlines, define threats and risks. Qualitative and quantitative indicators for both processes and results will be also identified. A periodical revision/update of the activities is planned at least every 3 months to keep under strict control progresses, achievements, deadlines, and, in case, detect problems.

# UNIRSM implements:

- a) the inter-institutional agreements (IIA), also in digital form
- b) the learning agreement (for an effective study plan)
- c) European credit transfer and accreditation system ECTS.

UNIRSM adopts the European Credit Transfer and accumulation System (ECTS): 60 ECTS credits equal of a full year of study, 180 ECTS equal to a Bachelor's degree and 120 ECTS equal to a Master's degree. UNIRSM, in accordance with the ECTS Users' Guide 2015, has developed conversion tables of ECTS grades by disciplinary area, based on the percentage distribution of grades obtained by students enrolled in study courses belonging to each area in the last three academic years.

- d) diploma supplement
- e) Erasmus student charter

UNIRSM is actively committed to implement the European Student Card Initiative, which goal is to foster and improve the exchange of student information, as well as to speed the access to online courses and services at other higher education institutions (giving student more choice in the courses they can follow) and allowing virtual mobility and blended learning.

As regards the non-European field, a specific role is played by university and economic relationships with the emerging countries of Latin America - mainly Brazil -, the Asian area such as China, India, and Japan, thanks to the partnership agreement in the form of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

### WEBLINK UNIRSM

- International: <a href="https://www.unirsm.sm/en/internazionale/">https://www.unirsm.sm/en/internazionale/</a>
- International Mobility Partner Universities https://www.unirsm.sm/en/internazionale/dimensione-internazionale/
- International Agreements: https://www.unirsm.sm/en/internazionale/accordi-internazionali/