Focus on Erasmus+

About Erasmus+ (2014-2020)

Erasmus+ is the European Union’s programme for education, training, youth and sport in implementation from 2014 to 2020. It aims to boost skills and employability, as well as modernising education, training and youth work.

With a budget of 14.7 billion euros for the period 2014-2020, Erasmus+ gives opportunities to students, trainees, staff and volunteers to spend some time abroad to increase their skills and employability. It also supports organisations to work in transnational partnerships and to modernise and improve their education systems.

Erasmus+ includes a strong international dimension (i.e. cooperation with non-EU countries), notably in the field of higher education and youth, allowing the programme to open to institutional cooperation and mobility of higher education students, doctoral candidates, staff and institutions from all around the world, including Brazil.

Erasmus+ - What’s in it for Brazilian students, researchers and higher education institutions?

1. **Erasmus+ credit mobility grants: Study part of your degree in Europe**

   **Brazilian students/researchers:** If your home university has inter-institutional agreements with European higher education institutions (HEIs), you will be able to apply to spend part of your degree period (3 to 12 months) at the European partner university. Your academic activities abroad will be fully recognised and will count towards your degree once you come back to Brazil. This mobility is possible at bachelor, Master or doctorate level.

   **Brazilian HEIs:** To set up agreements with HEIs in the European Union, Brazilian HEIs must contact their European partners who will apply to the annual call launched by their national agencies, with a deadline in the first quarter of the year.

2. **Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees & Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorates: Follow an entire degree in Europe**

   **Brazilian students/researchers:** Erasmus Mundus Joint Master degrees (EMJMD) and Joint Doctorates (JD)^* are offered by international consortia of higher education institutions from both within and outside the EU. They provide high quality integrated courses and joint or multiple diplomas by offering studies or research at two or more HEIs.

   They award full degree scholarships to:
   - Masters students to study in an EM Joint Master Degree
   - Scholars and guest academics to teach or carry out research as part of an EMJMD
   - Doctoral candidates to take part in an EM Joint Doctorate

Students and doctoral candidates from all over the world are eligible to apply, including Brazilians, and can apply directly to the selected joint programmes. Candidates can also enrol on a self-funded basis.

**Brazilian HEIs:** Brazilian public and private HEIs can partner with their European counterparts and enter a consortium to offer a EMJMD. The application is submitted by HEIs from programme countries on behalf of the consortium. The call is launched annually.

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To sum up for students and researchers:

Individuals cannot apply to the Erasmus+ Call for Proposals. They can find out more about scholarship opportunities from their International Relations Office within their home university (credit mobility) or can apply directly to the consortium offering the Joint Master Degree of their choice (Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees).

Note that within the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMD) programme, 75% of scholarships offered are earmarked for candidates who are nationals of non-EU countries (partner countries).

*From 2014 onwards, new Doctoral Programmes and additional doctoral fellowships will be available under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, which form part of the EU's Horizon 2020 programme for research and innovation.
3. **Jean Monnet Activities** are designed to promote excellence in teaching and research in the field of European Union studies in various disciplines. Jean Monnet Activities take place worldwide, including in Brazil.

**Brazilian students/researchers**: Individuals cannot apply for a grant.

**Brazilian HEIs**: Jean Monnet Activities calls are issued annually, in October. Brazilian HEIs submit their proposal directly to EACEA.

Under the Teaching and Research activity, 3 different modalities can be supported:

- **Jean Monnet Module**: Short teaching programme (or course of a minimum of 40 teaching hours per academic year) with a duration of three years.
- **Jean Monnet Chair**: A teaching post with a specialisation in European Union studies for university professors or senior lecturers.
- **Centres of Excellence**: A focal point of competence and knowledge on European Union subjects. Centres of Excellence have a project duration of three years.

4. **Capacity building in the field of higher education (CBHE)**

This action aims to support the modernisation, accessibility and internationalisation of higher education in the partner countries (including Brazil). Two categories of capacity-building projects are supported for 2 to 3 years: Joint and structural projects, benefitting either the organisations or the whole higher education system in eligible partner countries.

**Brazilian HEIs** can benefit from financial support to develop capacity-building projects based on multilateral partnerships with institutions from other Latin American countries. They can either lead the consortium and/or be one of the partners.

**Brazilian students/researchers**: Individuals cannot apply.

5. **Additional opportunities by Erasmus Mundus**:

Read our [focus on Erasmus Mundus](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-mundus) with a list of EU-Brazil projects that issue regular calls offering scholarships of different durations for undergraduates, masters, PhD students as well as for postdocs and staff funding mobility. These opportunities will run until 2017.

**Interview with Brian Holmes, Director, EACEA**

Following his visit to Brazil on the occasion of the FAUBAI Conference (Fortaleza, 16-20 April 2016), Brian Holmes, director of the European Commission Executive Agency Education, Audiovisual and Culture (EACEA) that manages the Erasmus+ programme shared his views with our readers. In the interview, you will learn more about the primary objective of student mobility and its contribution to a better preparation for the complexities of modern life and the labour market. Mr. Holmes also discussed internationalisation of higher education institutions and gave us an overview of EU-Brazil academic flows and how to further enhance this type of mobility, including by working on academic recognition.

**Interested in research opportunities in Europe?**

You can apply for doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships and other research grants funded by the European Commission under Horizon 2020 programme for research and innovation. This includes grants under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions and those offered by the European Research Council (ERC).

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**Statistics**:

In 2015, 352 credit mobility flows took place between Brazil and Europe (both ways). 45% were staff mobility, 55% learner mobility.

Did you know that the University of São Paulo is the unique Brazilian university to be a full Partner in a joint masters degree? USP is part of the Erasmus+ International Master in Innovative Medicine (IMIM) coordinated by the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, in the Netherlands.

Beside USP, 6 Brazilian HEIs partner European universities and take part in JMD.

In 2015, 8 CBHE projects include institutions from Brazil.

For testimonies on Erasmus+ in Brazil click [here](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-mundus) and read an overview of Jean Monnet activities at UFMG, UFRJ experience with Erasmus Mundus, and the interview of the new Erasmus Mundus Alumni Association (EMA) representative in Brazil, Sofia Vilasboas.

**Sources**: Erasmus+, EU-funded scholarships for Brazilian nationals, by the European Commission, 2014; Erasmus+ website and programme guide for 2016; EACEA presentations: [Come to Europe brochure](https://www.eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/)

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Note that additional funds were released to increase the participation of Brazilian Higher Education Institutions in Jean Monnet Activities.