

The Internationalization Strategy of “Henri Coandă” Air Force Academy, Brașov 2021 - 2027

Foreword:

The increase of the internationalization process of “Henri Coandă” Air Force Academy (AFAHC) is one of the priorities of the strategic plan for the period 2021-2027. Achieving this goal, integrated in the general development strategy, will contribute to the adaptation of the academy to the current international context of higher education and to the constantly changing environment.

The specific measures provided in the general strategic plan, for achieving this objective, are specific objectives in the framework of the internationalization strategy.

General objective:

The increase in the international visibility and quality of education and scientific research processes, by expanding cooperation with relevant institutions in the countries of the European Union as well as outside the European environment.

Specific objectives:

- the implementation of foreign language teaching programs (together with partnerships with other universities), including master’s programs;
- stimulating professors to teach in foreign language programs;

- intensifying the academy efforts to stimulate the participation of both teaching staff and students in international mobility and cooperation programs;
- supporting a foreign internship program for teachers and young researchers from the academy;
- identification and implementation of the necessary measures for linguistic competences improvement of the teaching staff and students;
- improving the accommodation process of international students, by involving Romanian students and staff in process of adapting to the life of the academy and the city (welcoming at the airport, providing useful information on the relationship with the academy and local authorities);
- regular organization of events dedicated to international students;
- participation of academy / faculties representatives in international events dedicated to promoting the educational and research offer;
- intensifying the process of attracting foreign specialists, professors and students to carry out activities within the academy.

Measures:

1. Implementation of programs taught in a foreign language (English), including Master's programs:

- drafting performance indicators for the management of the faculties aiming at developing the study programs with teaching in a language of international circulation (initiation / periodic evaluation in order to ensure the desired quality);
- introducing at least one study program with teaching in a language of international circulation in the faculties that have not included such programs in the educational offer;
- increasing the number of students participating in *joint* programs;

2. Expanding cooperation with foreign higher education institutions for internships and mobility:

- continuing the dialogue, by organizing regular meetings at institutional level, with partners from higher education institutions in Europe and beyond, in order to identify opportunities for international training for students;
- intensifying faculties activities level for the development of dialogue with partners from higher education institutions in Europe and not only, in the field of activity, in order to identify internship opportunities in the international environment for the students of the academy;
- efficient use of the financial resources made available through the Erasmus+ program to increase the number of students benefiting annually from international mobility;

3. Supporting and stimulating professors who teach within the Erasmus + Program:

- facilitating the priority to competitions for international teaching mobility within the Erasmus + Program;

4. Fostering the academy efforts to stimulate the participation of teachers and students in international mobility and cooperation programs:

- continuing the measures already implemented at the academy level, regarding the stimulation of teachers and researchers to participate in international scientific research and education projects;

- increasing the capitalization of teacher mobility: i.e. participation in international scientific research and education projects, joint publication of research results, organization, in partnership, of relevant scientific and educational events at international level;

- developing international partnerships for academy less represented fields;

- recurrent evaluation, both at the level of faculty and academy, of the results of concluded international agreements, to increase their degree of implementation;

- increase the level of information on the opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ Program (both with the program countries and with the partner ones) and through other international cooperation programs implemented at academy/faculties, through:

a) organizing regular meetings (at least once a semester) of the representative of the management of the faculty, responsible for internationalization and of the Faculty Erasmus+ coordinator / Erasmus coordinators within departments with teaching staff and personnel interested in participating in international mobility;

b) increasing the relevance and efficiency of information events organized at the faculty level; organizing information sessions for students on international mobility opportunities, at the beginning of the academic year (before the autumn selection) and at the beginning of the second semester (before the spring selection), in which to participate, as guests, outgoing and incoming Erasmus+ students, as well as other internationals;

c) intensifying the process of disseminating, on the institution official website and on the notice boards, information on the opportunities offered by the Erasmus + Program and other international programs implemented at the academy level;

- updating (annually or whenever necessary) the information regarding the description of the study programs from the academy educational offer, in English, on the institution web page;

- enhancing the institution communication with potential stakeholders / participants in specific internationalization activities through social media tools.

5. Financial support for foreign internship programs for academy teachers and researchers:

- organizing annual competitions within the academy, so as teachers and researchers may obtain funding, in order to achieve international mobility;

- monitoring and evaluating the results obtained in the mobility, to ensure the increase of the research-development-innovation capacity and international visibility;

6. Identifying and implementing all the necessary measures for the development of linguistic competences of students and teaching staff:

- students and teachers participation in foreign language courses provided by partner academies / universities under the Erasmus + Program.

7. Improving the process of international students' accommodation, to not only the life within the academy but also the city life, by involving Romanian staff and students:

- involving students in receiving internationals at the airport/ in Braşov, providing useful information on the relationship with the academy and local authorities, conducting guided tours through Braşov or surroundings, etc.;

- improving the quality of information materials developed for international students (Erasmus student guide, international student guide, survival kit) - useful for both students and teaching staff visiting the academy;

- organizing counseling and guidance activities to adapt international students to a different cultural environment.

8. Periodic organization of events dedicated to international students:

- continuing the events dedicated to students that have already become a tradition, that include the Erasmus students: *Students' International Week*, *AFASTUD International Conference*.

9. Participation of academy representatives in international events dedicated to the promotion of the educational and research offer:

- regular (annual) organization of international events bringing together the institution international partners (under the Erasmus+ Program and other cooperation programs implemented in the academy);

- organization of international scientific events in the country or abroad in partnership with other academies/ universities, research institutes or profile organizations;

- extending the participation of academy representatives in international events or fairs of education, research or in the interest of education.

10. Intensifying the process of attracting foreign specialists, teaching staff and students to carry out activities within the academy:

- increasing the number of foreign teaching staff and specialists, guests for lectures, specific courses / activities held at the academy;

- inviting recognized personalities as guests, at international conferences or other specific events of education organized by the academy;

- increasing the relevance of mobility of teachers staff and personnel from the academy/ partner universities in AFAHC, by organizing meetings at institutional level (with the Rector/ Vice-rectors) on increasing the quality of existing partnerships and improving the activities carried out within those partnerships;

- diversifying and improving the quality of the academy promotional materials; ensuring the framework for the easy access of faculties to these materials drafted at institutional level.