

## 1. ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS) TRANSLATED IN ENGLISH

### 1.2 Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): your strategy

Your Erasmus Policy Statement should reflect how you intended to implement Erasmus after the award of the ECHE. Should you wish to add additional activities in the future, you will need to amend your Erasmus Policy Statement and inform your Erasmus National Agency.

What would you like to achieve by participating in the Erasmus Programme? How does your participation in the Erasmus Programme fit into your institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy?

(Please reflect on the objectives of your participation. Please explain how you expect the participation in Erasmus to contribute towards modernising your institution, as well as on the goal of building a European Education Area<sup>1</sup> and explain the policy objectives you intend to pursue).

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

The MO.SO.S Foundation, as a Technical Higher Institute (ITS) offers tertiary education, delivering a 5th/6th EQF level in the field of Sustainable Mobility. Acting in close collaboration with Italian Ministries, companies, universities, research centres and local authorities, the Foundation implements **post-graduate courses that offer highly qualified, skills-based technical training**, designed to support students' access to employment opportunities.

Learning-by-doing, project work, problem solving, design thinking, are some of the most used teaching approaches in ITS training, also characterised by the central role of the internship experience. All MO.SO.S courses provide a period of professional training in a company, which allows students to make use of the skills acquired and to contribute to the development of the company's digitisation-innovation processes, by exploiting the knowledge and innovative dynamics of Higher Technicians and contributing to the implementation of the Italian National Industry Plan 4.0, within the ITS 4.0 ministerial program.

The key features of ITS MO.SO. S.'s training offer are therefore: a) technological innovation b) close co-designing relationships with companies looking for qualified personnel, and c) the immediate and consistent integration of graduates into the reference labour market.

The Foundation's partner company network is directly involved in the definition of the profile and outgoing skills for each course. **During the needs assessment undertaken with the partner companies in the sectors (e.g. Transport, Logistics, Infomobility and Sea Professions) it became clear that international experience is crucial in structuring a training pathway that empowers the students to perform at a professional level in the sectors of road, sea and air transport.**

In this context, the ITS's desire to increase the resources made available for the development of the Foundation's internationalisation policy is included.

The Internationalisation Strategy and international mobility policy are, in fact, fundamental components of the institutional vision, which from the outset has moved to structure its operations in the European context in order to strengthen the quality of the Institute and its activities, thanks to the constant exchange and relationship with an extensive international network.

Since its inception, ITS has launched several initiatives to increase its European reach, initiating a series of partnerships with other institutions and key players in the sector, including:

- Project **"PORT-5R- For sustainable waste management in Mediterranean ports"** Funded by the second call of the Interreg Italy-France Maritime Programme 2014-2020, in which the MO.SO.S Foundation is the Applicant. The project aims to define a common cross-border strategy to improve environmental sustainability in port areas, focusing on the application of the principles of the "5R Strategy" (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Collect, Recover.) for waste management. An online training module will also be provided.

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the priorities of the European Education Area, such as recognition, digital skills, common values and inclusive education, please consult the following website:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en)

- Project "**TOUR. I.S.M.O.: International Tour for Maritime Trade in Hospitality**", funded by the third call of the Interreg Italy-France Maritime Programme 2014-2020, for which MO.SO.S. Foundation is the Applicant. The project is tailored to the specific needs of students living in the French-Italian cross-border area, who are involved in an initiative aimed at strengthening the Innovative Tourism sector. The project selects 45 students for a skills-building programme in the tourism sector, which includes a cross-border mobility pathway allowing them to carry out a training internship in some of the most innovative companies in the sector. At the end of the internship, the project creates a cross-border internship management model, providing tools necessary for planning, implementation, monitoring and assessment of mobility activities in the cross-border area.

- Development of a **collaboration between MO.SO.S. Foundation and Union des Ports de Plaisance de Corse** with the aim to continue the established partnership to promote the environmental sustainability and competitiveness of marinas in the cross-border area.

- Implementation and promotion of the "**Common Protocol for cross-border waste management in Italian-French ports**", a cross-border commitment to sea health signed by the main institutions and stakeholders interested in the issue of environmental sustainability in the port and coastal sector.

In addition to this, the Foundation is a member of important **sector networks** such as the Logistics Association of Sustainable Intramodality (ALIS), which brings together all operators in the world of transport and which is also a member of the Foundation, the Association Network Foundations ITS ITALIA etc.

The MO.SO.S. Foundation's aim is to **increase international cooperation** both within the EU and outside the EU, particularly with regard to mobility opportunities, which, with regard to internships, is a mandatory component of the Institute's curriculum. Through the signing of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education, it will therefore be possible to increase mobility opportunities for students and staff and to activate new partnerships capable of:

- **To give international character to the educational offer of the ITS** (also thanks to the activation of joint modules) with the aim of increasing the language and technical skills of the students and aligning their skills with those of students from the most advanced regions of Europe in the fields of Transport, Logistics, Infomobility and professions of the Sea;
- **Orienting the training of Superior Technician to European integration and the free movement of professions**, by facilitating the development of the training curricula (study and/or internship) of students in training institutions in other European countries with full and complete recognition of the training activities carried out by the ITS;
- **Strengthening the privileged relationship with the business world by expanding it to a European and extra European dimension**, thus supporting the integration between the educational and the professional sector, and the matching of the professional skills provided by the ITS with the requirements of the production sectors;
- **Expanding the area of needs assessment of the skills** required by the professional sector;
- Allowing students to do an **internship abroad**, in order to improve their professional skills, grant them access to the highest standards of technological development and to increase their opportunities for placement at the international level;
- **Welcoming incoming students to align their skills** with those of Italian students and develop lasting relationships between countries and different educational and professional realities;
- Taking concrete action to **modernise internal processes** by encouraging and recognising staff participation in cooperation projects with strategic partners;
- Developing an **international network of higher education institutions** to jointly develop creative and innovative solutions **to improve the quality of the educational offer and the overall action of the Institute**, with a view to modernising management, administrative processes and the provision of training courses, with particular focus on Distance Training;
- **Activating new strategic partnerships aimed at developing human potential and building and sharing knowledge internationally**, including through the development of specific scientific research and with a focus on disadvantaged groups;
- In collaboration with the training institutions and companies involved, **contributing to the construction of a European Education Area** to support the building of a strong European identity, as well as the competitiveness of European territories and production systems.
- Among these objectives, the attention to **multilingualism and multiculturalism** stands out in particular, as they are considered fundamental transversal competences for the national and international labour market, but also necessary elements for the construction of a working environment based on quality and innovation.
- Through the activation of new partnerships with organisations from different social, educational and professional sectors, MO.SO.S will be able to improve the teaching and all the services provided to students, trainees, and apprentices, in line with the evolution of their needs and expectations.
- The creation of a **more modern and dynamic working environment**, starting from the **improvement of the qualifications of teachers and trainers**, is another important objective of the MO.SO.S Foundation, closely linked to the activation of ERASMUS+ projects and to the strategic planning capacity of the professional growth of its staff. In line with its ambition of **territorial development**, MO.SO.S aims to contribute to the wellbeing of local communities, improve social and educational animation practices, broaden its sphere of action to actively involve young people, with particular attention to those belonging to disadvantaged categories.

Please reflect on the Erasmus actions you would like to take part in and explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution. Please explain how your institution's participation in these actions will contribute to achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy.

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As part of **Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) – "Mobility for Learning"**, the MO.SO.S. Foundation expects that student mobility will be available in every area of the training units provided in the course. To ensure high quality, the mobility activity must be **compatible with the objectives of the training course and take into account the opportunities for personal development of the student**.

Students can do, individually or in combination, either a period of study abroad at a higher education institution related to the course undertaken or a period of internship or both. This combination creates synergies between training and professional experience abroad and can be organized in different ways depending on the context: one activity after another or the two activities at the same time.

In the planning of mobility for internships, the ITS will ensure consistency between the **outgoing profile of the trainee, the profile of the company and the role played in the internship**. Particular importance will be given to learning pathways that develop digital skills to contribute to the technological advancement and innovation of companies in the Sustainable Mobility sector, also with reference to the objectives set out in the Industry 4.0 plan.

Internships abroad will be funded and carried out during the course of study, typically after the first semester of the course.

By facilitating the performance of their training curriculum (study and/or internship) in higher education institutions abroad with **full and complete recognition of the training activities carried out by the ITS**, the preparation of the Superior Technician is strengthened, preparing it for European integration and free movement,

As far as staff are concerned, **teaching/training/exchange opportunities abroad are planned for them**. This activity allows the teacher/technical and administrative staff of the ITS to teach and/or participate in training activities at an ITS partner and/or a foreign company. The mobility of teaching staff can cover any subject area/discipline of the units of the training pathways offered by the Foundation. These activities aim to support the professional development of teaching and non-teaching staff, as well as the development of pedagogical skills and route design.

**Through participation in the calls of key actions KA2, "Cooperation between organizations and institutions"**, the ITS MO.SO.S. Foundation, aims to strengthen and multiply opportunities for exchange with peers and key players in the international arena, in order to carry forward:

- The **exchange of good practices** for sharing tools, strengthening training provision, improving the quality of processes and the accessibility of its services to students across Europe (Capacity Development Projects) with a view to fully implementing the principles of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
- The **retraining of the professional skills and soft skills of staff**, with a view to lifelong learning (Sector Skills Alliances) also to assess and take concrete action on possible cultural resistance to change and the risk of demotivation;
- The **activation of transnational strategic partnerships also through virtual cooperation** (taking full advantage of existing digital innovations and IT Support Platforms) with the aim of experimenting with transnational and integrated training activities (e.g. joint modules, joint titles, double titles) in view of greater internationalisation of pathways;
- The activation of **Transectoral Partnerships** to stimulate and start **new joint Research and Development activities**, aimed at aligning the institutions involved with the digitalisation and interconnection processes of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, involving the business world also in Mobility;
- **The expansion of the geographical area and network of companies involved in project work and traineeships of students**, encouraging knowledge of the most advanced and strategic production realities and actively collaborating in the development of new processes and prototypes in a technological development key (Alliances for Knowledge).
- The **development of common protocols** to promote the development, verification and implementation of often stringent innovative practices, such as the most reliable safety conditions and health support for staff and students involved in outbound mobility, with particular reference to the COVID-19 emergency and any new pandemic waves.

**In the context of Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support for policy development and cooperation**, the MO.SO.S. Foundation aims to contribute to the **development and implementation of new policies for systemic improvement and innovation in the training areas of the specific Sustainable Mobility cluster**, through the definition and dissemination of replicable and scalable models of good practice. More specifically, the Foundation will

operate on the basis of the following specific objectives:

1. Help to improve **marketable knowledge of Sustainable Mobility skills** through cross-study between international and Eu standards and manufacturing needs.
2. Contribute to the activation of "**innovation transfer accelerators**" in the sustainable mobility sector by defining the best teaching methodologies for teacher training and consecutively for students - and identifying the best technological devices that support them (e.g. teaching labs, simulators, etc.).
3. Contribute to the development of the teaching function, through the activation of paths and processes aimed at **training trainers** (according to the logic of lifelong learning).

Other actions may include projects for:

- Improving social, civic and intercultural skills;
- Improving language and digital skills;
- Promoting entrepreneurship and employability to facilitate employment opportunities for student in the European the labour market.

What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on your institution?

Please reflect on targets, as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators in monitoring this impact (such as mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects (under the KA2 action), sustainability/long-term impact of projects etc.) You are encouraged to offer an indicative timeline for achieving the targets related to the Erasmus+ actions.

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The Foundation intends to implement the mobility of students and its administrative technical staff with the aim of creating a "bridge" with international realities and constantly monitoring the activities and good practices that derive from these exchanges. The expected impact of activating an E+ mobility programme is:

- a) Currently, most of the mobility opportunities of ITS MO.SO.S., are linked to internships, but they are mainly carried out in Sardinia. The ITS aims **to expand these opportunities by offering more quality internships outside national borders**, to experience placement in different cultural and professional contexts and to encourage students to learn other languages. In this way, more students will benefit from highly formative exchanges and internships abroad (+50%);
- b) All forms of student mobility **improve the quality of higher education**, as they promote **cross-cutting skills** such as communication skills and those related to living in multicultural environments. In addition, **internships help to bridge the gap between education and the skills required by the labour market**, promoting the acquisition of the advanced technical skills most requested by companies.
- c) The ability to activate mobility opportunities abroad will make ITS MO.SO.S courses more attractive. The increased interest in ITS courses (and therefore the continuation of studies) by secondary school students **helps to combat early school dropout and increase the employability of young people in the region**.
- d) The Foundation's internationalisation activity has **a significant impact both on the participants** (who improve their personal and professional skills by confronting different realities and cultures) and **on the territory** on which these new skills flow.

The ITS MO.SO.S., offers a post-diploma programme designed to train professionals with a high technological specialization able to allow a qualified entry into the labour market. Consistently with its "technological" and highly "professionalizing" vocation based on practical training (hands-on education), the activation of new projects of cooperation and support to policies will allow to:

- A. Continuing to **modernise the organisation** to make the Foundation more competitive, efficient and flexible in relation to the highest European educational standards, thus supporting its role as an important player in the development of the industrial system of small and medium-sized enterprises both in the short and long term (15% new processes reprogrammed in the administrative/organizational/educational sphere);
- B. Develop in an experimental form at least **3 joint programmes and study plans and 3 common modules** (including online modules and parts of the program carried out in foreign language) also in preparation for mobility opportunities (internships), sharing the most advanced approaches to Distance Training and continuing to focus on **the hybrid teaching model** characteristic of ITS (teachers from both the training and professional environment)
- C. Plan and activate **new forms of Virtual Mobility and Blended Mobility** (up 30%) through the use of available platforms, facilitating the relationship with companies (50 companies on the network by 2027), its sustainability over time and supporting the key role of ITS training internships;
- D. Support access to innovation **for 15 staff members and 200 students** by responding to the growing

demand for emerging and highly skilled technology competences in sustainable mobility and transport to bridge the gap between higher education and skills required in the labour market;

- E. Offer to new generations of students and learners concrete **opportunities for job placement in different international contexts (15% international job placements by 2027)**, also thanks to the optimization of title recognition processes and the automatic validation of the knowledge, qualifications and skills resulting from the courses;
- F. Promote and join **10 new cross-sector networks** for strategic cooperation between education sectors, local/regional enterprises and public authorities for the creation of stable relationships and knowledge sharing on the themes of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0);
- G. **Introduce 5 pathways for cooperation and exchange of practices** on health services and support at different educational levels to promote accessibility, health security, inclusion and fairness for all (both in the selection of candidates and in the management of all stages of the mobility process, as well as in the more general conduct of the Foundation's institutional activities).

The MO.SO.S. Foundation cannot fail to take into account - at the time of drafting this Erasmus Policy Declaration - the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which threatens to impact the process of building European identity and the underlying relations that support its functioning. The Foundation wishes to contribute to addressing this situation on several fronts.

From the point of view of the internal organization, the Foundation is doing its best to safeguard its staff, while ensuring that the institution's activities continue to benefit its students and all partners. In addition to this, from a long-term perspective and in order to broadly support the fight against this serious threat, the MO.SO.S Foundation aims to promote joint study, monitoring, evaluation, activation and awareness of the most advanced prevention and containment measures in the context of current and future epidemiological emergencies.

The sustainability of the actions carried out within the framework of E+ is guaranteed not only by the central importance of these actions in institutional policies, but also by the ease of access to other funding instruments (European programmes and territorial cooperation, co-financing by private partners and other partner institutions of the Foundation, other public and private funding programmes) with which it will be possible to ensure the continuation of actions over time and integration with the Foundation's other activities.

This way, by sharing and implementing the principles of the Charter, the MO.SO.S. Foundation aims to ensure the quality of all activities undertaken under the E+-Program and thus contribute to the quality of the educational system as a whole