

Proposal Evaluation Form

	EUROPEAN COMMISSION EDUCATION, AUDIOVISUAL AND CULTURE EXECUTIVE AGENCY	ERASMUS+ Evaluation Summary Report
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Call: EACEA-03-2020-1
Type of action: EPLUS2020-ACR
Proposal number: 101014663
Proposal acronym: SISSA
Duration (months): 86
Proposal title: Strengthen research through long term mobility
Activity: Other countries

N.	Proposer name	Country	Total Cost	%	Grant Requested	%
1	SCUOLA INTERNAZIONALE SUPERIORE DI STUDI AVANZATI DI TRIESTE	IT	0	-	0	-
	Total:		0		0	

Abstract:

Located in Italy, in the city of Trieste, SISSA features 80 professors, about 100 post-docs, 300 PhD students and 110 technical administrative staff. SISSA is "international" by nature; 30% of our students and postdocs are from abroad and Trieste is unique for the particularly high concentration of national and international scientific institutions present in and around the city which is unrivalled in Europe. One of SISSA's main assets is the wide network of international relations with other universities and research centres which number around 140 throughout the world. Another indicator of structured international relations is SISSA's remarkably high level of project funding at an EU level. These relations allow the School to build partnerships in the field of scientific research and to create opportunities for students to connect and work with other research groups and scientists during their training. At the moment, an average of 30 students per year are involved in international mobility over 1 month (10% of total students). With the participation in the Erasmus programme, SISSA wishes to double such figures in order to extend and strengthen its links with the international scientific community. We cannot expect to increase our numbers "clockwork". The first couple of years will be a sort of experiment since we will have to identify the institutes with a stronger interest to join us in this enterprise. So, we foresee a very slight increase in numbers for the first few years, but we are quite confident that, in the second part of the programme, these will add another 5 - 10% (15 - 30 students). Participating in this programme we want to create "spaces of action" for young researchers, aimed at developing and certifying their skills, in a logic of completion of the profile of independent researcher.

Evaluation Summary Report

Evaluation Result

Total score: 100.00 (Threshold: 76)

Form information

Criterion 1 - Relevance of the Erasmus Policy Statement

- The Erasmus Policy Statement is clear, consistent and relevant;
- The Erasmus Policy Statement reflects on the relevance of the Erasmus+ Programme within the applicant's institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy
- The Erasmus Policy Statement reflects on the planned implementation of the Programme actions and how these will contribute to achieving the objectives of the applicant's institutional strategy.
- The targets and indicators are described when explaining the envisaged impact of the participation in the Programme.

Expert assessment:

The applicant presents a clear Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS) in line with the institution's profile. The EPS is consistent with the mobility activities that the institution intends to undertake.

The scope of the EPS is, however, limited to outgoing mobility activities. It is recommended for the applicant to read the Charter guidelines to learn more about the opportunities offered by the Programme in case they decide to enlarge their participation to other Programme activities.

The institution should contact their NA if they decide to modify their EPS.

Criterion 2 - Adherence to the ECHE principles and practical implementation in the Higher Education Institution

Criterion 2.1 – Recognition and Transparency:

The application reflects on adequate procedures for full automatic recognition of all credits gained for learning outcomes achieved during a mobility period abroad/ a blended mobility. The application should reflect on the necessary measures to achieve:

- a correct use of learning agreements, including online learning agreements;
- the inclusion of appropriate information on learning outcomes, volume of workload (credits) and grades in the transcripts of

records;

- achieving full automatic recognition of credits and the recognition of grades (if appropriate) after outgoing mobility;
- a clear and easy path for students to appeal in case full automatic recognition is not achieved.
- The provision of full information on the grading system in the inter-institutional agreements;
- The provision of grade distribution tables, together with transcripts of records (whenever grades are used)
- The transparency of the course catalogue (following the rules of the ECTS Users' Guide, explaining how the information will be provided in a timely manner and providing a link to the course-catalogue.
- The application reflects on adequate procedures for staff recognition when it comes to participation in mobility and in European and international cooperation projects.

Expert assessment:

The institution has a recognition methodology that is adapted to their profile, but that does not entail full automatic recognition.

The applicant should carefully read the Council Recommendation for full automatic recognition for more information on how to improve their methodology to implement it at institutional level.

Further to the measures to implement full automatic recognition, the institution should ensure full transparency towards students, which should also include a clear procedure for appeal.

Criterion 2.2 – Adequate procedures for adherence to the principles:

The application reflects how the Higher Education Institution will adhere to the ECHE principles ([cf. the ECHE Annotated guidelines](#)) and details the procedures in place to participate in the Programme activities.

Expert assessment:

The application demonstrates that the institution will adhere in a satisfactory way to the ECHE principles, and details how they will favour mobility of staff.

Criterion 2.3 – Commitment to the new principles:

The applicant institution demonstrates a commitment to further develop the implementation of the new ECHE principles, notably:

- Ensuring full and equitable access to participants from all backgrounds, paying particular attention to those with fewer opportunities;
- Having in place a well-explained methodology for allocating ECTS credits. If this is not the case, it must be explained why the applicant is not yet using ECTS credits and how they plan to implement it in the future;
- Putting measures in place to implement the European Student Card Initiative;
- Promoting the programme's Erasmus+ mobile App to students;
- Implementing and promoting environmentally friendly practices in the context of the Erasmus+ Programme;
- Promoting civic engagement and active citizenship amongst outgoing and incoming students before, after and during mobility.

Expert assessment:

The application describes a fair and equitable selection procedure to be implemented. It includes some actions to ensure the inclusion of groups with fewer opportunities for participation in the Programme activities. The institution should also consider the possibility of creating training activities for staff and students to promote full and equitable access to participants from all backgrounds.

The applicant shows commitment to implement the European Student Card Initiative and promote the use of Erasmus+ Mobile App. The applicant should improve their knowledge about these two initiatives and provide a timeframe to implement these initiatives in the institution.

They should also ensure that the institutional information is present and up-to-date in the E+ mobile App. They should also devise a promotion campaign for these initiatives in their institution.

The institution demonstrates that they intend to promote and implement environmentally friendly practices. The examples given are appropriate and in line with the new principles of the ECHE including also promoting sustainable means of travel.

The institution declares that they aim at promoting civic engagement and active citizenship amongst the participants in mobility activities at all stages. Nonetheless, the examples provided are limited in scope to the academic life and should relate more to the promotion of the Erasmus activities. The activities should rather aim at turning mobile participants into civically engaged citizens, as well as at developing their skills beyond the formal education setting, volunteering and taking active part in their local society.

Criterion 3 - Quality of the management structure

- The applicant institution shows qualitative levels of general management, including internal management structure, human resources and mobility/project organisation from preparation through to recognition, dissemination and evaluation;
- The institution has the capacity to implement the activities in place and ensure their sustainability
- The applicant institution demonstrates its commitment to quality management, with emphasis on human resources and sustainable structures of cooperation and communication;

Expert assessment:

The institution demonstrates that it has the capacity to implement the planned activities and to ensure their sustainability. There is therefore a commitment to improve the current cooperation structures. The measures for guaranteeing the visibility of Erasmus + opportunities are acceptable, as well as those to promote the Charter principles in the institution.

Decision

Status: **Accepted**

Summary of the proposal's key strengths and key weaknesses

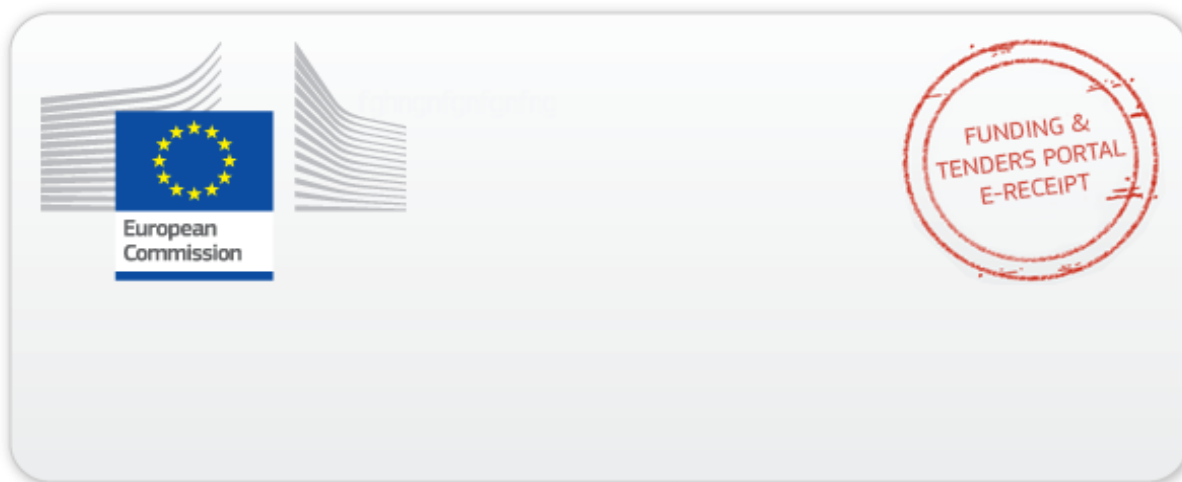
The institution can be accepted for renewal of the Erasmus Charter for the period 2021-2027.

The institution should carefully read the Erasmus Charter Guidelines to ensure a sustainable and qualitative participation to the Programme.

ECHE Reference code

Eche field

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