In the following sections of the application form, you will need to explain how your institution will fulfil the ECHE principles if the Charter is awarded. You are encouraged to consult the ECHE Guidelines for support in completing this application.

Please note that your Erasmus+ National Agency will monitor your Erasmus Policy Statement and your answers to the questions given in the application. The Erasmus+ National Agency reserves the right to request more information on your activities and propose supplementary measures, for the purposes of monitoring and implementing the Charter principles by your institution.

1. ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

1.1 Erasmus activities included in your EPS

In this section, you need to tick the Erasmus activities covered by your Erasmus Policy Statement. Please select those activities that your HEI intends to implement during the entire duration of the Programme.

Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility:

The mobility of higher education students and staff	☑

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

Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices	☑
Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities	☑
Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees	☑
Partnerships for Innovation	☑

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3):

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support to policy development and cooperation:	☑

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[1] 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)

Mykolas Romeris University (MRU) is a state university (public HE institution), focusing on social sciences, humanities and interdisciplinary research on Social Innovations for Global Growth. University was established in Lithuania in 1990, and in academic year 2019/2020 enrolls about 7000 students, incl. 600 international degree seeking and exchange students from over 50 countries, who study in the fields of Law, Public Governance, Business, Political Science, Psychology, Languages, Public Security etc. ~200 doctoral students study in the fields of law, management, psychology, philology, economics, education, provided in consortiums with partners from Lithuania and abroad. From 2019 MRU doctoral students have a possibility to receive European doctorate certificates (Doctor Europaeus) – MRU was the first Lithuanian university to legalize such possibility. Internationalization has been embedded in the overall University's strategy and is integrated in the strategic development plan for the current period of 2016-2021 and the following decade. The vision of MRU is focused on a sustainable, green university valuable both for the Lithuanian society and international community, providing international education in unity with high level research, educating highly skilled and socially engaged graduates for the needs of the state, labour market, and personal development, creating conditions for continuous personal learning and applying modern management principles in governance of the University.

University focuses to provide learners with high quality, research based, individualized and experiential studies with integrated mobility window or internationalization at home experience, systemic blended learning in all disciplines and cycles; convenient opportunities for inclusive lifelong learning and continuous professional development trainings, including MOOCs and other collaborative online international learning tools; and develops organizational culture of the university based on implementation of activities supporting sustainability (environmental, social and economic) and academic integrity. MRU is a member of IAU, EUA, AUF, and active in other key international organizations such as ASEF, UNAI, cooperates with over 200 universities, public and business entities.

Enhanced student and staff mobility, engagement in academic and research networks, EU, national and international programmes, including Erasmus+, H2020, NordPlus, COST - are some key factors for internationalization complemented by a solid academic offer of several international joint or double degree programmes, English-taught programmes and individual course units for degree and credit mobility students.

Globalization of higher education and strengthening of European higher education area (in which the free movement of learners is guaranteed, enabling all young people to benefit from the best education and training, and possibility to find employment across Europe, having a strong sense of their identity as Europeans, of Europe's cultural heritage and its diversity), demand for innovations and new forms of cross-border cooperation, mobility and joint/double degrees or modules, require MRU to be an active player in the new Erasmus programme, thus to answer challenges and contribute to the common goals of the a European Education Area laid down in the communication on "Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture" published ahead of the EU Leaders' meeting in Gothenburg on 17 November 2017, Bologna process, Education and Training 2020 and other strategic documents. The most important objectives for the MRU participation in the new Erasmus Programme shall be strengthening the quality and volume of learning mobility (including study, traineeships, training) for all three cycle students and staff to develop knowledge, transversal also digital skills, unlock their potential, increase their personal development, encourage job sustainability or prospects and active citizenship. University intends to participate in all types of foreseen cooperation partnerships.

Partner institutions for mobility and other European or international projects are and will be chosen primarily from already existing partnerships and networks, also new partners will continue be identified on the basis of matching academic profile, aims and directions of development and cooperation, also language of instructions or research in which MRU students and staff have proficiency. In terms of geographical areas for internationalization development, MRU takes an openness to the world strategy rather than its limitation. Despite that, the primary partnership development apart from EU Member States or third countries associated to the Programme, shall concentrate but will not be limit to non-associated third countries in the regions, neighbouring the EU, South-East Asia, Asia, North America and other industrialized countries, ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) States. Choice of partners in geographical regions shall also be in line with national priorities as they are set by the foreign policies of Lithuania or included into biannual National plans for HE internationalization development.

Strategic development plans (which are being published at the MRU page: https://www.mruni.eu/en/university/dokumentai/ set KPI's for measuring internationalization performance, which are highly relevant to explaining reasons of the university's engagement in new Erasmus programme: such as shares of outgoing students for international learning mobility and incoming for degree or credit mobility to be at least doubled in comparison with the 2020 indicator (4% of all students per a year) by the end of the new Erasmus programme; percentage of staff engaged in international outgoing mobility for teaching to increase twice as well and maintain the

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[1] 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

balance with incoming staff mobility at the level of 1:1; increasing other internationalization opportunities for non-mobile students, such as Internationalization at home practices and outreach them to all study programmes; number of international projects with University participation to increase in quality (more coordinated projects), diversify in scope (strategic, capacity building partnerships and the Partnerships in Excellence and Innovation, networks supporting policy developments), double in number, etc. Special attention in University' strategic development plan is allocated on Partnership in Excellence - European Universities and the Erasmus Mundus joint master degrees. MRU is already involved as member of the InclusU alliance application in 2020 - The European University for Inclusiveness which is composed of eight universities (University of Lille, Babes-Bolyai University, European University Viadrina, Malmo University, Mykolas Romeris University, Roma Tre University, University of Minho, University of Wroclaw) which are together putting efforts and sharing the same values, strategy and long-term vision, and as the InclusU intend to become a champion of university inclusiveness in governance, learning, teaching, research and engagement. MRU has applied for EMJMD as coordinator at least twice for further advancement of joint master degree into EMJMD level with a programme on "Social Work with children and youth" and as partner of the programme in GOvernance & Administration of Leisure and Sports International Master (GOALS).

Participation in Erasmus programme, shall contribute to further modernization of MRU as targeted by renewed EU Agenda for higher education. Agenda puts priority on **tackling future skills mismatches and promoting excellence in skills development**, which leads to the increasing the quantity of HE graduates while maintaining excellence in quality and relevance for the future. By participating MRU shall enhance learning mobility possibilities, maintain quality of study programmes, apply automatic academic recognition of periods abroad and academic qualifications, share good practice with foreign partners in guidance to students achieve their personal development plans and finish study programmes in flexible manner adaptable to their needs. MRU maintains strategic partnerships with business entities, actually involves employers and labour market institutions into development and delivery of the study programmes to increase relevance of provided education to the needs of the MRU graduates' careers. Employment data, alumni career monitoring also helps evaluate the delivered programmes and assure quality and relevance of education. MRU will also address policy issues such as: continue providing variety of study modes (especially for already working learners and adults), exploit ICT potential for blended learning and other forms of e-studies, apply active career guidance for personal development of students; provide financial incentives for staff development and excellence in teaching, abide EU principles for innovative doctoral training.

For the purpose of **building inclusive and connected higher education system**, MRU has developed clear progression routes for transfer of non-university HE students to 2nd cycle by providing additional bridging studies and applies recognition of relevant professional experience as part of informal or non-formal education. MRU has developed a social project "4 mm" to help school graduates who did not achieve sufficient school graduation results for eligibility to higher education to upgrade their knowledge on specific subjects with the purpose of retaking state exams the following year and thus increasing their chances to get into higher education. MRU offers convenient modes of study for working students through blended learning and adapted timetables of contact work, modules for continuous professional development. Flexibility in educational opportunities, mentorship system, tailored personal guidance, non-academic counselling, financial support system for students from lower income backgrounds are considered as important measures to strengthen inclusiveness, keep a high ratio of MRU graduates and their employability. For enhancement of internationalization and quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation, MRU will implement actions to include learning mobility systematically into curricula as mobility windows, as part of double degree options or joint study programmes, as collaborative online international learning modules, shall continue using ECTS, DS, will promote elimination of unnecessary barriers' in Lithuania for admission of graduates from other countries (non-EU), their access to quality higher education and talent retainment through employment or further studies. University values and recognizes that well-organised voluntary and community work can be a particularly effective way to help students develop their wider practical experience and skills, and civic mindedness. Student and community organizations are already strong partners of the University and engagement of students is highly appreciated. So far academic recognition of active student engagement into voluntary or community activities is practiced within the framework of certain study programmes, but the discussions on wider recognition of active citizenship and engagement is already on agenda at the University and nationally, and expected to progress until the end of new Erasmus programme.

For strengthening the **contribution to innovation in teaching, learning and research**, the University has set up favourable infrastructure for researchers and innovators, relevant researcher's support system and project management support teams that help the academics to devote their time on developing meaningful and needed innovations, international research projects with global partners, also engage into national policy development and assessment projects and ensure the visibility of research outputs. MRU will continue a policy of including subjects that increase entrepreneurial, creative and digital skills of students into all cycles of studies (a set of digital skills from 2020 is embedded element in all bachelor cycle programmes); maintain and develop new partnerships with business and other public and private organizations; support business incubators to facilitate entrepreneurial start-ups, involve into local or regional research and business clusters.

For the continuous **support of effective and efficient higher education systems**, MRU will continue its governance based on principles of democracy, competence, self-governance, transparency and effectiveness by operating within the limits set by national legislation. MRU will further seek alternative sources of funding, foster entrepreneurship research, provision of more teaching and learning services to society (governmental, private businesses, individuals), strengthen marketing of international study programmes and recruitment of students globally.

While clearly recognizing the need of efficient, understandable and convenient digital online administrative procedures for boosting student mobility, University is fully complying with the digitalization processes and is ready to join fully the Erasmus without paper and European Student card initiative in line with the vision to create a European Education Area by 2025. Digitalization of mobility administration goes in line with University's sustainability policy in documents management, which reduces paper documents circulation at the University to a minimum, because all documents are prepared and signed electronically. Electronic documents are preferred and are valid in all areas of activities, including administration of learning mobility. Moreover, University's electronic archive is being developed currently. Accordingly, University will fully comply with set milestones of 2021 - to manage inter-institutional agreements and online learning agreements; 2022 - to send and receive student nominations and acceptances; 2023

- to exchange transcripts of records related to student mobility.

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.

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

MRU would like to take part in the new Erasmus programme in all actions of the programme:

KA1: "Learning Mobility": The mobility of higher education students and staff.

KA2: "Cooperation among organisations and institutions": Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices; Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities; Partnerships for Excellence – Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Degrees; Partnerships for Innovation.

KA3:"Support to policy development and cooperation": networks and policy support measures.

KA1: Learning mobility (Student and staff mobility) administration is coordinated by the International Office (IO), with high level of involvement by academic faculties in mobility organization and implementation. Overall supervision of mobility organization at the University is carried out by the Erasmus committee of the University consisting of Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Faculty coordinators, representatives of academic affairs centre, research and innovation centre, international office and student organizations (Student Representatives Body and ESN Vilnius local section). Committee sets general guidelines for selection of students, staff, principles of funding allocation to academic faculties, solves appeals, etc. In each academic faculty there is an academic coordinator of international mobility (usually - a vice-dean), responsible for running the selection, academic advising, academic recognition of mobility periods participants, etc.

Before the new Erasmus programme, University carried out a thorough review of all mobility partnerships with a purpose of identifying more intensive and wider partnerships which are suggested for extension and reducing inactive agreements from further extension. Inter-institutional agreements are initiated by the Faculty coordinators after review on academic matching of the counterpart academic departments in terms of matching the academic profile, curricula and available language of instructions for students (also teaching staff) exchange. Erasmus inter-institutional agreements are to be signed online by the Vice-Rector for Education and Research or authorized Institutional Coordinator before the actual mobilities begin.

Database and monitoring of agreements, also communication with partners before, during and after the mobility is to be carried out by MRU International office. Academic coordinators of each faculty also intervene into communication with partners in case questions are concerning the content of studies, confirmation of learning agreements, also when staff mobility for teaching issues are being discussed.

In case of student traineeship/staff training mobility, a training agreement is prepared and signed among MRU, Student/Staff and the Host organization in order to outline obligations of all parties, learning outcomes and ensure quality of traineeship and academic recognition after successful completion of the training programme. If needed, quality assurance may include an advance staff visit to the potential host organization of the future trainee funded from the organisation support grant or a monitoring and support visit during the mobility period. With organizations accepting several MRU students consequently, an agreement is to be signed for a longer-term sustainable cooperation.

Information is provided to exchange participants on relevant internet pages of: http://erasmus.mruni.eu (for outbound participants) and https://www.mruni.eu/en/university/organizational_structure/international-office/for-students/#tabs-nested-1 (for inbound students) and https://www.mruni.eu/en/university/organizational_structure/international-office/for-visiting-staff/ (for inbound staff)

KA2 and KA3: For the support of MRU staff participation in European projects there is a dedicated Project office established at the Research and Innovation Center of the University, which accumulates good practice and monitors all MRU local, European and international projects implementation, provides help in development of centralized actions-type of project proposals. Advisory assistance in the preparation of projects involving mobility (such as Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees) is provided by International office staff as well.

There is a Project development, submission and management order approved at the University which clearly guides the University staff into applicable procedures to guarantee transparency of application and approved commitment of institution (especially in case of co-financing requirement). Participation in European projects implementation is recognized during the annual academic staff performance assessment. Special attention is given to international or nationally supported financial schemes for development and implementation of joint or international study programmes, internationalization of curricula, innovative teaching methods development and transfer, business start-up incubators, or other projects that answer the University's strategic development targets.

Participation in All Key Actions of new Erasmus programme shall directly contribute to the objectives of MRU strategic development (enhanced learning mobility, more and diverse projects, European University initiative implementation and joint degree development, engagement in national policy development and assessment

projects).

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.

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

The most important objectives for the MRU participation in the new Erasmus Programme shall be strengthening the quality and volume of learning mobility (including study, traineeships, training) for all three cycle students and staff to develop knowledge and transversal, also digital skills, unlock their potential, increase their personal development, encourage job sustainability or prospects and active European citizenship. Academic mobility expansion and diversification, increased involvement in cooperation projects (with strategic partnerships and sustainable networks), internationalization of academic programmes as double degree/joint programmes or modules with integration of blended mobility and systemic blended learning, paperless mobility administration and overall digitalization of procedures to match with the digital transformations in the overall economies and society are some indicators that University plans to achieve over the period of following strategic development planning period.

Outgoing students with experience of international mobility (increase from actual 4% in 2020 to 8% of students by 2030) Such KPI will help to reach a target that 25% of MRU graduates have international mobility experience over the period of degree programme cycle.

Incoming degree mobility students (increase from actual 8% in 2020 to 15% of students by 2030).

Outgoing staff international mobility for teaching or training (increase from actual 15% in 2020 to 25% of staff by 2030).

Ratio between incoming and outgoing students and staff maintained at 1:1 for sustainable and balanced mobility.

Involvement in international cooperation projects (increase from submitted 48 applications resulting with 17 projects in 2019 to 40 projects in 2030, almost triple increase in active involvement of staff in building sustainable international consortiums)

Mobility administration procedures digitalized and online including automatic mutual recognition of study results from periods abroad in place by 2023 (inline with the set milestones for Erasmus without papers by the EC).

Increase the % of students by 10 % who would be rather satisfied or very satisfied with the following aspects of mobility experience by 2030 (Satisfaction with accommodation, Assistance with issues related to visa and insurance).

Overall satisfaction of outbound and inbound participants (from actual 94% of outbound students and 97% of inbound students who were very satisfied or rather satisfied with their mobility experience in general to 98% by 2030).

New Erasmus programme KA1 is envisaged to directly impact reaching learning mobility goals of institutional strategy, digitalization of mobility administration and also supports University's dedication of internationalizing its academic programmes by transforming them into joint or double degree study programmes or in other ways such as by incorporating mobility windows for studies, blended learning or traineeships abroad which will also help to recruit more international talents and partners. Doctoral education already includes obligatory mobility period for all students and participation of a defence jury member from a foreign university.

New Erasmus programme KA2 shall directly help to reach University's targets of higher engagement into cooperation projects and building sustainable partnerships ensuring the long-term impact of project results.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

2.1 Implementation of the new principles

> Please explain the measures taken in your institution to respect the principles of non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion of students and staff. Describe how your institution ensures full and equitable access to participants from all backgrounds, paying particular attention to the inclusion of those with fewer opportunities.

The University's Code of Academic Ethics is a primary document stating the principles of academic integrity, community values and behaviour at Mykolas Romeris University (https://www.mruni.eu/mru_lt_dokumentai/centrai/akademiniu_reikalu_centras/teises_aktai/Academic_ethics_code_2015_06_02.pdf): Members of the University Community shall follow the principles of equality, justice, equal opportunities, avoid and do not tolerate any form of discrimination, personalisation, harassment, abuse of power, nepotism. There is a dedicated Commission for supervision of Academic Ethics at the University which immediately reacts to any sign of potential infringement of the Code of Academic Ethics and analyse appeals according to its competence.

Implementation of non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion into mobility activities is first of all guaranteed by transparent provision of information accessible to all potential candidates, documented rules of selection for mobility activities and all description of procedures of participation in mobility activities. Provided information underlines that students from lower socio-economic backgrounds or having special needs will receive top-up amounts according to national requirements if they chose to take part in mobility activities. At MRU such information is transparently provided on the dedicated University web-sites to each type of moblity: https://www.mruni.eu/lt/universitetas/struktura/tarptautiskumo_tarnyba/erasmus_plius/#tabs-nested-2 (in Lithuanian language for outgoing students for studies, traineeship); https://www.mruni.eu/en/university/organizational_structure/international-office/for-students/#tabs-nested-1 (in English language for outgoing students for studies, traineeship); https://www.mruni.eu/lt/universitetas/struktura/tarptautiskumo_tarnyba/erasmus_plius/#tabs-nested-3 (for outgoing staff).

Students and staff with special needs are additionally informed about possibilities for additional support to special needs and encouraged to apply for mobility. Such information is additionally circulated by e-mail through the special needs officer of the University https://www.mruni.eu/en/university/asm_spec_poreikiais/kontaktai/ who keeps a close and continuous contact with all academic community members who have declared their special needs. Individual counselling by both - special needs officer and outgoing student coordinator - takes place in order to find out about individual needs and which support measures will be the most appropriate (in addition to financial top-up amount) such as .whether environment needs to be adapted to students with special needs or additional assistance to learning is needed or extra time during exams/coursework will be helpful. Additional consultations with partner institutions are then taking place in order to find out if assistance is available to mobility participant with special needs.

Measure to encourage students with family responsibilities, part-time jobs include provision of individual consultation by academic coordinators and international office staff for counselling based on individual need of particular student. Additional consultations with partner institutions are then taking place in order to find out if mobility with minor family member is possible, what are available additional services (day care, accommodation, etc.).

Individual consultation measures are applied for outgoing and incoming participants in order to respond the most effectively to the needs of mobility participant.

Despite additional efforts to encourage students with fewer opportunities to participate in learning mobility, numbers of such participants are still very low, therefore University puts a lot of hope to change the situation in the new Erasmus programme through blended learning options with short mobility, which is expectedly more suitable to especially students with families or those who work during their studies.

> Please explain what measures your institution will put in place to implement the European Student Card Initiative, and promote the use of the programme's Erasmus+ mobile App to students. Please refer to the timeline indicated on the European Student Card Initiative website[2].

Staff of the University engaged in organization of mobility (international office staff, academic coordinators, leadership, ICT center staff) have been informed about the European student card initiative and the digitalization roadmap expected to be completed by the University for implementation of digital mobility administration in a timely manner (IIA and OLA by 2021, student nomination and acceptances by 2022, exchange of ToR by 2023). MRU shall use Erasmus dashboard for IIA and outgoing students OLA management. For incoming mobility management, MRU uses third party (DreamApply) service provider, which already has Online Learning agreement management function

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[2] https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-student-card-initiative_en

in place. Company is taking relevant measures to make sure the system is connected to Erasmus Without Paper network in a timely manner.

Periodical trainings on implementation of digital mobility management are organized by the National Agency. In turn, the trained staff is planning a periodic trainings for wider MRU staff and relevant stakeholders (especially ESN MRU Vilnius section students) to build capacity for implementing digital mobility management, relevant counselling capacity to future mobility participants, also promotion of using the Erasmus+ Mobile App to outgoing students and provision of information about MRU to be accessible to incoming students in Erasmus+ Mobile App before the new Erasmus programme.

Please explain how your institutions will implement and promote environmentally friendly practices in the context of the Erasmus+ programme.

MRU has integrated sustainability into its mission and strategy and therefore is committed to promote environmentally sustainable and responsible behaviour among its academic community and mobility participants. The new sustainability strategy is under discussions at the moment of application. While understanding that international mobility may often be impossible without air travelling, University will encourage its mobility participants to opt for more sustainable internationally connecting transportation - such as trains where possible.

Once the inbound mobility participants arrive to Lithuania, they are and will be encouraged to explore the city and country by bicycle, public transportation, scooters or on foot. Campus of University is green and located on bicycle routes, conveniently connecting with the city centre/old town, and other routes to surrounding areas. Sustainable green transportation is strongly facilitated by the city of Vilnius and mobility participants will be encouraged to use it as well. Promotion of policy and practices will be reflected in the student guide, also presented during the introductory weeks.

Mobility participants will also be immersed into other University's environmentally friendly practices - recycling on entire campus, responsible energy saving practices, online provided and open access learning materials (instead of printed) by the library of MRU, Online learning environment Moodle, paperless information boards (screens), Mobile Apps for checking class timetables, connecting with professors and other staff.

Outgoing mobility participants will be advised to limit themselves with international travel to the host country and enjoy its thorough exploration during the mobility period by green transportation (instead of multiple weekend travelling to other surrounding countries by airplanes). Paperless mobility administration will also support the negative impact on environment - OLA, grant agreements signed as electronic documents, online certificates, confirmations, Transcript of Records, etc.

Cooperation projects with MRU participation will also be advised on using as much paperless documentation as possible – online time-sheets, agreements, minutes of project meeting, etc., opting for virtual meetings and avoiding the unnecessary international travel when not necessary, sustainable project visibility products, etc.

Please explain how you will promote civic engagement and active citizenship amongst your outgoing and incoming students before, after and during mobility.

For MRU which is social and state sciences university it is essentially important to promote civic engagement and active responsible citizenship among its entire academic community, including mobility participants. University supports volunteering activities by the students and engagement into student organizations, especially which help to integrate the incoming students into academic community and social life of the university (ESN MRU Vilnius local section). Active citizenship includes responsible participation in elections, debates, events and other engagements at local, national or European levels, therefore outgoing participants are always advised to contact Lithuanian embassies while being abroad and get timely information about upcoming elections or other events organized for the local Lithuanian community. Similarly, incoming students are also provided with contacts of their home country embassies to contact for the purposes of participation in elections or other civic engagement activities.

After the mobility, all participants are asked to share experience of mobility and their personal stories with future participants of the mobility programmes, classmates or target groups with fewer opportunities , join ESN MRU Vilnius section and become a volunteer or mentor for new incoming student to help him/her overcome challenges of arrival to a new country, different culture and environment. Due to exceptionally active ESN MRU Vilnius section, the incoming students to MRU have all possibilities to join various volunteering activities through SocialErasmus project, Multilingual Lithuania project or Erasmus for Schools project implemented by ESN Lithuania and local section of MRU.

2.2 When participating in Mobility Activities - After mobility

Please demonstrate your commitment to implement full automatic recognition in your Higher Education Institution.

> Please describe the concrete steps you will take to ensure the full automatic recognition of all credits gained for learning outcomes achieved during a mobility period abroad/ a blended mobility, according to the Council Recommendation on Automatic Mutual Recognition[3].

There is a confirmed procedure of recognition of academic credits at MRU (https://www.mruni.eu/mru_lt_dokumentai/centrai/akademiniu_reikalu_centras/teises_aktai/Recognition_of_acad_credits_AV_2013_09_23_1.pdf) , which already enforces that the studying results (t.i. credits and grades) of a person shall be transferred without restrictions, if they are approximated with the studies offered at the University by the fact that the studying results have been acquired during learning mobility period in another higher education institution that the University has an exchange agreement with. MRU has been ECTS label holder (when it was possible) and continues using the ECTS tools responsibly and transparently - if the Learning agreement has been signed before the mobility by the responsible academic coordinator of relevant faculty, it guarantees that upon successful completion of courses and receipt of Transcript of Records from the host institution, academic credits and grades will be recognized and transferred without restrictions. Blended learning mode is considered as equivalent to full-time studies if stated so by the host institution. Recognition of academic credits from traineeship mobility is also guaranteed by signing the learning agreement for traineeship by all three parties before the mobility. Upon receipt of traineeship certificate issued after the mobility, recognition of credits and traineeship results will take place without restrictions.

> Please describe your institution's measures to support, promote and recognise staff mobility:

Erasmus committee of the University consisting of Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Faculty coordinators, representatives of academic affairs centre, research and innovation centre, international office and student organizations (Student Representatives Body and ESN Vilnius local section) agrees on distribution of annual staff mobility funding to academic divisions (Faculties). Selection of staff for teaching mobility is done at the Faculties based on academic proficiency, relevance of proposed lectures to the host university curricula, foreign language proficiency, added value of the mobility such as further development or implementation of Joint/double degree programmes, blended learning or other collaborative online international learning modules or cooperation projects. Teaching abroad is recognized in annual assessments of academic staff performance by Dean of the faculty. International staff mobility for teaching or training is also among essential criteria for advancement in academic career. Staff mobility is promoted on a dedicated web-page, news announcements, information campaigns. Selection of staff for training (priority is given to non-academic staff) takes place at the department of office where the staff in question is employed.

2.3 For the Purposes of Visibility

> Please provide the web link where you will host the Erasmus Policy statement in the future. Please reflect on how you plan to regularly promote the activities supported by the Programme.

In case of receiving the Erasmus charter for higher education, University commits to host Erasmus Policy statement at the following webpage: http://erasmus.mruni.eu to ensure visibility and promotion of the activities to be supported by the new Erasmus programme.

> Please describe how you will ensure that the principles of this Charter will be well communicated and applied by staff at all levels of the institution.

Principles of new Charter will be communicated to all staff of the University through the main internal communication channels – MRU newsletter and MRU newspaper "MRU Pulsas", also will be additionally presented and explained to academic coordinators of the faculties and other staff that the Principles be applied and interpreted unanimously at all divisions of the University.

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[3] The text of the Council Recommendation on Automatic Mutual Recognition may be found at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1568891859235&uri=CELEX:32018H1210(01)