

Erasmus + Statement Declaration

Since its creation in 1973, CUNEF has always had strong international focus. Academic experience abroad is a key feature of CUNEF students' profile and plays a fundamental role in university study. With the aim of providing our students and staff with the professional and personal training allowing them to work in an increasingly global world, CUNEF offers international mobility opportunities mainly through the Erasmus+ Program.

As a European higher education institution, Europe is a natural job market for our students as well as an opportunity for our staff to participate in European projects and develop the necessary knowledge to advance in our society. Since the year 2007, as an affiliated centre to the Complutense University in Madrid, CUNEF has been participating in the Erasmus Program, mainly in the KA1 initiative stating agreements with 49 academic partners. In the last 5 academic years, CUNEF has hosted 403 Erasmus incoming mobile students and has sent abroad 280 Erasmus Outgoing students for an academic period in one of our partners within the Erasmus Program KA1 initiative.

On March 7th, 2019, CUNEF has been officially recognized by the Madrid Regional Assembly as a Private University which will allow us to operate as an independent University starting in the academic year 2021/2022. This recognition process has been successful, as we believe it is a great opportunity for our students, staff and partners to face new challenges and to compete for excellence fulfilling the global demands of society. As a new independent institution, in order to provide our students and staff with the professional and personal training, which will allow them to work in an increasingly global world, CUNEF Universidad aims to increase its international presence through the participation in all Key Areas of ERASMUS+.

In the short term international mobility opportunities for students, faculty, and staff, will be a priority by participating actively in the Erasmus Program KA1 initiative, specifically in (1) Student mobility for studies; (2) Student mobility for traineeships; (3) Staff mobility for teaching and (4) Staff mobility for training.

Also, in the mid-term, CUNEF Universidad wishes to participate by increasing our partnership agreements for cooperation, innovation and excellence with program institutions (KA2) and by supporting policy development and cooperation initiatives (KA3) generating more opportunities for our community to develop and gain a more global perspective and gain more visibility in the international scenario.

Specifically, and in addition to increase our international orientation, we believe that by participating in the Erasmus+ program we may achieve:

- **Regarding KA1:**
 - **Equity and diversity:** to guarantee equal opportunities through a strong scholarships and bursaries program that allows us to educate those professionals who can transfer our values within the environments they operate.
 - **Plurality:** to integrate different points of view and promoting consensus and collaboration among all groups in decision-making.
- **Regarding KA2:**
 - **Academic excellence:** to become a reference institution in teaching and research in Europe by developing joint/double degrees following the so-called European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes (EA), adopted by European Ministers responsible for higher education at their conference in Yerevan, May 2015.
 - **Commitment:** to become levers of change and innovation for the society to contribute to respond, in an agile way, to the important changes that may occur locally and in a more international dimension.
 - **Transparency and accountability** towards those institutions and groups to whom we interact and cooperate with.
- **Regarding KA3:**
 - **Sustainability:** To always, be inspired by principles of sustainability such as environmental protection, social development, and sustainable economic growth in cooperation with program partners being the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) fully integrated in CUNEF Universidad mission and vision.

And, in the long term, our aim is to participate together with our partners at the European Universities Initiative and, in this way, to contribute to build a European Education Area and "to bring together a new generation of creative Europeans able to cooperate across languages, borders and disciplines to address societal challenges and skills shortages faced in Europe".

CUNEF Universidad strategy is characterized by three strategic lines which are:

1. Specialization.

From the degrees that have defined CUNEF's academic history, Business Administration and Law, degrees are created to develop STEM skills (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) in order to respond to the new demands of the labor market.

2. Excellence.

Leaning on a high faculty profile recruitment and career promotion based on research and teaching quality and on high quality students, guaranteeing equity by providing with equal opportunities through a strong scholarships and bursaries program that allows us to educate those students who are able to transfer our values within the labor market.

3. Internationalization.

Internationalization has always been present throughout the history of CUNEF, as its Board was especially sensitive to the impact that this phenomenon was going to have on the market and society. Since the 1990s, it has been essential to ensure an international experience for CUNEF students, and staff. At CUNEF, we work hard on developing international partnerships with Erasmus Program institutions with the aim of consolidating and enhancing our students, and staff's profile and our presence at a European level.

In narrowing scope, we are focused on:

- To increase the number of Erasmus Inter-institutional Agreements and cooperation/innovation projects.
- To increase Erasmus Program mobile students and staff rates (both incoming and outgoing).
- To develop joint/ double degree programs with Erasmus Program partners.
- To facilitate access to international traineeships that leads to international employment opportunities for our students in Europe.
- To participate together with our partners at the European Universities Initiative.

CUNEF Main Internationalization Objectives

In order to fulfill CUNEF Universidad Strategy in regards of Internationalization, we have established the following main objectives:

1. To adapt our degrees for them to have an international dimension.
2. To implement a bilingual and international community.
3. To develop strong research international groups.
4. To increase the amount of mobile student and staff participating in Erasmus Mobility Program (incoming and outgoing)
5. To propel students' participation in Erasmus Traineeships.
6. To strength international academic inter-institutional cooperation agreements within the Erasmus Program including our potential participation at the European Universities Initiative.
7. To reinforce our international alumni network.
8. To get more visibility in Higher Education rankings paying special attention to those Europeans like U-Multirank.

Impact: Internalization At Cunef Unversity

CUNEF Universidad´s International Presence

CUNEF Universidad is a full and active member in several international networks and organizations. By participating in the Erasmus Program, our staff will see the practices, policies, and educational system of the destination country firsthand. By actively generating ideas and sharing best practices our staff will help us to driving innovation and optimizing our operating models. This will definitely have a positive impact to both CUNEF Universidad and our Erasmus Partners.

CUNEF Universidad´s Bilingual Degrees

CUNEF Universidad offers bilingual degrees to reinforce our international dimension with the aim of attracting incoming mobile students and providing mobile opportunities for our students, as well. The Erasmus program will help students to improve their language skills and profile by generating a greater understanding of social and cultural diversity. Besides, those international profiles are very valued in the marketplace.

International mobility and exchange programs

CUNEF Universidad aims to continue to participate in the Erasmus mobility programs (KA1). This type of international experience offers a series of benefits such as skills enhancement that directly impacts on students and staff professional development. It can also serve to open doors to new partnerships and cooperation among institutions (KA2), The participation on the Erasmus Program will be key in helping us to promote and develop international mobility policies (KA3) and acts as a motivational incentive at work, alongside other aspects.

By participating in the Erasmus Mobility Program, CUNEF Universidad´s students, and staff will enlarge their impact beyond their local environments.

- Students will not only enhance global career opportunities but will also improve their linguistic skills in other languages, make lifelong friendships, and gain appreciation of host country and culture. On the other hand, incoming exchange students can share their experiences from their countries of origin bringing a wealth of knowledge to CUNEF Universidad classroom. Both outgoing and incoming mobile students contribute a lot to their host and home schools. They bring both diversity and new perspectives and will reinforce their European identity.
- Staff will grow on their career development and may broader their teaching and researching opportunities and to have a much larger impact in the development of knowledge and the latter application of it.

International internship programs

CUNEF Universidad will explore opportunities for our students to complete a traineeship abroad participating in the Erasmus program, which we believe is a huge added value in their curriculum and a way to differentiate our students in the marketplace and boost their international careers. Also companies have the opportunity to recruit talent and to get closer to universities.

International Research Collaborations

CUNEF Universidad is committed to research as a model for knowledge transfer and promotes the exchange of ideas and projects with other professors and centers. By participating in the Erasmus Program CUNEF Universidad aims to promote discussion and exchange among Erasmus mobile staff to advance the frontier of knowledge and generate the possibility of opening new research projects among Academic Partners within the Erasmus Program. CUNEF researchers have already participated in several EU funded actions from the H2020 programmes and they will participate also at the different initiatives in Horizon Europe. The opportunity to collaborate with international research projects will undoubtedly be beneficial for the European Education Area as a whole.

1. To adapt our degrees for them to have an international dimension.
 - To offer every bachelor's degree both in English and in Spanish.
 - To offer at least 2 master's degrees in English.
 - To develop 2 double degrees / joint degrees for BBA and Law degrees.
2. To implement a bilingual and international community.
 - To adapt services and policies to promote an international cultural community.
 - To support Erasmus Program policy development and cooperation.
 - To provide our staff with the necessary tools to develop the language skills necessary to teach in both English (C1) and Spanish.
3. To develop strong research international groups.
 - To create at CUNEF Universidad a very attractive research environment to bring here the most talented researchers.
 - To help CUNEF researchers and CUNEF research groups to participate at Horizon Europe.
4. To increase the amount of mobile student and staff participating in Erasmus Mobility Program (incoming and outgoing)
 - To increase the rate of incoming and outgoing mobile students by 25%.
 - To increase the rate of Outgoing/Incoming faculty for training or teaching purposes by 15%
 - To increase the rate of Outgoing/Incoming mobile staff by 10%.
5. To propel students' participation in Erasmus Traineeships.
 - At least have 10% of students to participate in the Erasmus Traineeship initiative.
 - To increase the number to 5% of job offers for students' placement internationally.
6. To strength international academic inter-institutional cooperation agreements within the Erasmus Program including our potential participation at the European Universities Initiative.
 - Erasmus program: to increase the number of Erasmus Partnership for Cooperation by 5%.
 - To participate at the European Universities Initiative.
7. To reinforce our international alumni network.
 - To launch two international alumni chapters, one in Europe that help promote CUNEF Universidad in order to attract Erasmus Academic Opportunities.
8. To get more visibility in Higher Education rankings paying special attention to those Europeans like U-Multirank.
 - To be recognized by the THE as a top European University in our specialty fields.
 - To be included at U-Multirank.

CUNEF Universidad participation in the Erasmus Program will be essential for us to achieve our international and academic strategic goals.

Stamp

Name and Signature
of the Legal Representative