



HAC_R Erasmus+ Policy Statement

With more than 20 years of education experience, Hacer Creativo (HC) is a HEI accredited by the Spanish Ministry of Education, in the fields of Fashion and Graphic Design. It is a respected multidisciplinary institution with experience in combining academic theory with industry reality to ensure students are educated to succeed in an increasingly demanding market. HC is committed to innovation along with a quality EBI training methodology focused on personalization. In addition to structured education courses, the college is active in collaborating with local, national and international entities and enterprises in the organization and coordination of projects, conferences, workshops for its students, professors, professionals and the community in general.

Internationalization is an integral piece and a central running theme throughout HC, therefore a fundamental aim in our overall institutional strategy.

HC Policy objectives

The main objectives for the present and future of our institution's international activity are:

A.) Increase undergraduate students and staff exposure to collaborative research, mobility and cross-European networking

I. HC intends to continue fostering strategic alliances with neighbouring and third countries which include mobility activities for undergraduate students, administrative and faculty staff as well as collaborative research and innovation on topics and themes especially relevant to HC such as sustainable fashion, textile cultural heritage, digital innovation in design and social inclusion through design.

II. HC intends to notably increase the number of undergraduate students and staff who experience mobility and/or exchange both in Europe and abroad.

III. HC intends to search for and create opportunities for undergraduate students and staff to be part of research and innovation projects at HC for overseas partners and abroad for the HC students. Enabling in this way for research placements to become part of undergraduate study programs.

IV. HC commits to promoting its international strategy, via the appropriate channels, with the



intention of encouraging under-represented groups to be able to study higher education in the arts at HC as well as stimulating their participation in exchange programs such as the Erasmus+.

B. Employability at the heart of HC internationalization strategy

I. HC intends to ensure its programmes and courses remain relevant to market needs and employer and student interest in order to ensure positive and successful **employability** outcomes for graduating HC students.

II. HC intends to support educational innovation in programs with the objective of advancing in the development of e-learning and blended learning courses for all students.

III. HC intends to continue supporting teaching and learning in a multilingual environment.

IV. HC intends to support regular opportunities for lecturers and administrative staff to travel and live a European experience through Erasmus programme initiatives.

Modernizing HC

In order to continue ensuring the opportunity to participate in international networks and increase professional, social and intercultural skills, learn ways of doing and internationalize curriculums, HC aims to have a road map for the truthful delivery of its strategic plan for the following 10 years.

A considerable part of the internationalization plan includes the continuance of the active participation HC has had in the Erasmus+ program. Since 2018, when HC first received the ECHE, it has been an extremely valuable means for a small, but striving school to be able to achieve a strong international network of partners ranging from artistic institutes like itself, to large universities, SME's or large institutions and gain global visibility and involvement. Thanks to Erasmus our school has been able to collaborate with countries such as France, Italy, Portugal, Bulgaria, Albania, Hungary and Germany among others. It's truly been a change of phase for the school in regards to gaining an international dimension for both students and staff, seeking to also contribute to quality higher education and innovation in the arts at a global level.

Besides continuing fruitful work and collaboration with existing partners, our Design school will search for new partnerships with a special emphasis on the development of networks and agreements in different geographical areas such as the Mediterranean area, with the aim of



taking advantage of the cultural bonds of the Mediterranean culture as well as to enrich our network of partners with eastern countries because of our past positive experiences working together. Nordic countries are also of great interest in regards to our area of specialization: design. These countries have proven to be at the frontline providing cutting-edge design innovation and becoming a reference for the rest.

Beyond Europe, emergent countries such as Latin America where important linguistic, historical and cultural links are of great importance also countries like India, with which HC has been long working on volunteer and social inclusion programs are of great interest.

Partners are selected on the basis of cooperation will lead to sustainable and promising outcomes for both parties. The complementarity with HC and the quality of studies offered in the fields of design (fashion and graphic). Besides considering geographical area and in order to evaluate potential partners, criterion and information such as rankings, strategic alignment or match of interests, research synergies, advantages regarding mobility for students and staff will be of significant consideration. HC also commits to avoid signing agreements that will not be active or fruitful.

HC collaborating in the creation of the European Education Area

HC heartily supports the priorities of the European Education Area and seeks to build on the effort and processes of its delivery with an active partake by addressing its priorities and objectives. In doing so, HC looks to contribute to modernizing higher education as well as promoting a sense of European identity and belonging. Specific efforts to continue **promoting lifelong skills** such as cultural awareness, entrepreneurship, active citizenship and multilingualism among others through our EBI learning methodology, research and educational innovation projects and mobility programs is a clear priority.

All students who take part in the exchange and mobility programs are selected on the base of merit and the potential benefit they may take out of the study and learning abroad experience. HC selects students without regard to race, sex, religion or social background. Applications from students with disabilities are listed on the same basis as all other candidates in an effort to effectively foster **common values and inclusive education**.

Support technology use and the development of **digital competences** in design education is of upmost importance for HC in order to ensure excellence and quality in the higher arts education



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as well as to ensure positive employability rates and stimulate entrepreneurship among students in the design fields.

Thanks to our International team, agreements with our partners are well executed ensuring an **automatic mutual recognition of diplomas and learning periods abroad**. It is an essential part of making exchanges fruitful for both undergraduate students and the schools and Erasmus+ serves as the ideal framework ensuring academic recognition.

HC is an authorized Cambridge English centre, our students learn English since their first year and therefore on improving students ability to communicate and learn in other languages. This year our school has also been authorized by the Spanish Ministry of Education to offer a bilingual degree program, small steps taken to improve students **Teaching and Learning of Languages and make HC** even more attractive for both our students and those who come on mobility. Receiving visiting lecturers (including under Erasmus+) adds to the international character of our education. HC looks forward to successfully implementing many more initiatives in this direction. HC is a small private design school; it relies on funding from private sources, which includes its own endowment. Contributions destined for research and educational initiatives from competitive external funding and fundraising are of great importance to the school in its intent to modernize and strive. HC increasing works on proposals and plans to obtain such funding as well as mechanisms to be more financially autonomous. Positive results in these two aspects are what will ultimately allow HC to grow and meet its modernization and internationalization objective in a sustainable way.