

Semmelweis University (SE) aims to give students the possibility to learn about other countries' higher education and health care systems, and to ensure that the results of its teaching and research activities extend beyond Hungary's borders. In accordance with our university's three-fold mission, our international relations encompass the fields of education, research and health care. We have a number of well-established bilateral agreements within the frame of the Erasmus Student Mobility Programme (ESMP). Several bilateral agreements exist in the fields of joint research and development, scientific cooperation, and staff exchange. Our six faculties maintain relations with more than 200 foreign institutes of higher education in various areas of cooperation.

As one of the European Union's smaller Central-Eastern European countries, Hungary, and thus Semmelweis University, must closely follow the EU's strategy and objectives. It is among our priorities to familiarise our specialist doctors, health care workers and physical education professionals with international results. Participation in international mobility programmes, such as ESMP, holds numerous advantages for students and staff members alike.

Among the strategic goals of Semmelweis University is to take on a leading role in Central and Eastern Europe as the region's leading centre of biomedicine, and to increase its international competitiveness in the fields of research and development, education, and health care.

We are working on developing our international relations in order to further the above-mentioned goals.

Our Erasmus bilateral agreements cover the European Higher Education Area. One of our most important strategic partners is Germany, where we have Erasmus, and other bilateral agreements with 30 higher educational institutions in the areas of education and science. The German partnership plays a determinative role in the realisation of regional collaborations, most notably the Danube Strategy. Austria, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Slovenia are our most important strategic partners in the region. Furthermore, we endeavour to strengthen our regional role by taking an active part in the following international organisations: EUA, AAHCI, DRC, IAU.



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Our most important partner institutions in the field of medical education outside the EU are located in the United States. The development and expansion of our collaboration with American partners is an important strategic task not only in the area of education, but in research as well.

Every year the number of applicants is increasing but our teaching staff remains the same, so we would like to advertise in other countries to attract the best and the brightest.

In recent years, there has been an increased interest in our university from regions that we had not formerly collaborated with (Central Asia, the Far East, the Gulf Region). We are also planning to develop relations with countries, such as China, Vietnam, Uzbekistan, and Saudi Arabia.

Developing joint cross-border programmes is an important element of our internationalisation strategy. So far, Semmelweis University offers six programmes in collaboration with foreign universities; five of these joint programmes result in a Semmelweis University degree while the sixth results in a dual diploma. This latter programme, the TCN Atlantis project, presents a good example of how dual diploma programmes may be developed. Ten Hungarian, ten Finnish and five American B.Sc. nursing students have received such a dual diploma within the frame of this programme thus far.

Our general strategic aims are:

- To act in accordance with the objectives of the Erasmus+ programme
- To increase the number of incoming and outgoing students, instructors, and staff
- To extend the Programme beyond Europe
- To efficiently utilize the opportunities offered by the university's excellent infrastructure (e.g. pathology, neurology, neuropathology)
- To maintain the university's high standard in education and research

The development of a joint Ph.D. diploma as an expansion of the ESMP is among our strategic goals for the near future. We are already working on a pilot project with an American university's Ph.D. school, which includes semester-long student exchanges, joint thesis advisors, and the launching of joint courses.