



ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY

Medika College for Vocational Studies in Healthcare

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This Strategic document is enacted as comprehensive and long-term paper that is to sets priorities and goals for internationalization and further improvement of our studies and Vocational College. Its overall aim is to improve quality of studies (using international exchange, support and experience as major tool of advancement) via advancements in areas of study programme quality, students and staff mobility, students and staff additional skill and knowledge trainings as well as by participating regional and international projects to the maximal extend our current teaching and student capacity allows us to. By doing so, we will enhance the quality / excellence, promote our own knowledge growth and internalization and ultimately, be more attractive to students and be able to include and hire more staff and serve more students. In all these aspects general goals of our school, higher education and ERASMUS are all in accordance of advancing health care education quality, nationally, internationally and when possible worldwide.

Looking up to the global trends in the field of higher education, the Medika College for Vocational Studies in Healthcare (further abbreviated as CVSH MEDIKA) recognized the internationalization of its activities as a good direction of development, a way to introduce innovations and focus on the exchange of experience between international schools, students and teaching staff.

This primarily refers to the mobility of teaching, non-teaching staff and students in order to increase intercultural communication and the inclusion of CVSH MEDIKA in regional, European and global trends in the field of non-education, teaching and support systems. To bring this to reality, we have enacted "The strategy of internationalization of CVSH MEDIKA for the period from 2021 to 2026 (hereinafter: the Strategy) as a step towards improving the quality of work of CVSH MEDIKA.

To implement the Strategy during 2021-2026, we have decided to take all necessary steps to join ERASMUS projects as a source of partners, projects and findings.

It is necessary to introduce mobility into the higher education as an element of quality and a factor that later affects employment. The mobility of teaching staff and students is an element that contributes to a better quality of higher education, increasing the competencies of both teachers and students, and brings much needed the recognition of CVSH MEDIKA in the regional, European and world academic community. We are young school, with only 2 years in operation, and we appreciate any opportunity to raise visibility, skills, experience and knowledge of our teaching staff as well as we are devoted to creating new possibilities for our students. Lastly, but much needed. our students should be able to hear other experienced teachers, exchange experiences and knowledge with foreign students and participate in international projects in order to improve their future professional skills. All these will also ultimately bring prestige and attractiveness to the school that is competing in an open marked with already established institutions of same profile, in Republic of Serbia, but also regionally.

In our enacted and to be implemented vision CVSH MEDIKA strives to connect students and teaching staff through internationalization of teaching and international cooperation and thus improve skills and knowledge of teaching staff and students, as well as to contribute to the development of society and influence the quality of higher education in Serbia, Europe and through projects, cooperation with eminent scientists and scientific research - even. worldwide. Since we have to make first "baby steps" towards making this vision real, for period of 2021 - 2026 we are keen to start cooperation locally - with existing schools in Republic of Serbia that are already

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erasmus members, and as well cooperate regionally with health care colleges in ex-Yugoslavia we are already familiar with (and have pre-existing contacts) as well as regionally, in post communist societies of Eastern Europe that share similar experiences, transitional and post communist heritage, possess similar knowledge and in past, our country and health sector have already cooperated with. We need to take best of our past and bring it for the best of our common future. Later on, we wish to have as many within EU experiences as country and College that strives to reach EU standards, and lastly we wish to cooperate with health care colleges in Latin America, North America, Africa and Asia that have positive experience of past (Non-Aligned Movement) and that we can provide with knowledge and higher standards.

Mission of CVSH MEDIKA is to raise the scientific competencies of employees and the improve mobility of teaching and non-teaching staff and primarily to enable students to have international knowledge and experiences .

In our 2021-2026 STRATEGIC GOALS we have set a high standards of:

- Internationalization of study programs,
- Increasing the number of incoming and outgoing students and staff mobility (students, teaching and non-teaching staff),
- That we legally and administrative prepare for mobility projects (thus erasmus application),
- Improving the work of the Center for International Cooperation,
- Improving cooperation with foreign higher education institutions and other partner institutions through international projects,
- A significant contribution will be made through the publication of papers in international scientific journals, and later the publication of international scientific journals that meet the standards of influential citation databases,
- Staff training for writing international and other projects will be organized,
- Performing functional, organized and structural improvement of the School,
- Establishment of an appropriate normative framework in the field of international cooperation,
- Continuous improvement of language competencies of employees and students,
- Providing reliable and sufficient financial resources,
- Monitoring the process of internationalization and development of international cooperation.

With the aim of more efficient realization of strategic goals and continuous monitoring of the internationalization process, all activities will be performed within the Office for International Cooperation, which will organize and coordinate the work of services related to international cooperation.

Also internationalization has aspect of enhancing our research opportunities whereby our researches can join internal projects, as well as we invite international researches in area of health care to come and demonstrate the new knowledge to our students and staff. In fast paced changing world where health care knowledge is ever-changing and advancing faster than other areas of science, we see this as both opportunity for growth and necessarily of the time we all live in. In compliance with the newly adopted EU Digital Education Action plan, we intend to train its academic and administrative staff in developing digital competences and open science skills to be

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applied in education, research and services. As a prerequisite to this, we will adopt Open Science policy documents (Open Science Rulebook, Decision on Amendments to the Bylaw on Doctoral Studies, Agreement on Sharing Primary Research Data, Instructions for publishing in Open Access, etc.) developed within the ERASMUS+ CBHE Project BE-OPEN.

The newer knowledge, innovation, foreign students exchange and teaching staff visits can further enhance master studies we are organizing, where modern theoretical and practical knowledge is even more stressed.

The enacted strategy of internationality will enable international cooperation, participation in international projects, establishing cooperation with foreign partners and thus contribute to the recognition of CVSH MEDIKA in the regional, European and world academic community.

By enacting our own Strategy, action plan and joining Erasmus we should become a reliable national and international partner, increase quality and attractiveness of our own studies, participate in enhancing global health care knowledge and "bring back" the higher standard of excellence for teaching staff, modernized knowledge and international experiences. We see no other way to advance the quality but to be fully committed to ERASMUS and our own Strategy of internationalization, as well as to short term action plan.

In Belgrade,

03. May 2021.



Head of Vocational College

PhD Miroslav Knezevic, prof.