

**ATHENS UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS AND THE ERASMUS+ INTERNATIONAL  
CREDIT MOBILITY PROGRAMME**

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-2016**

In the academic year 2015-2016 the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB) participated successfully in the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) Programme with the objective to develop further its international collaboration at academic and research level, in the context of its internationalization and extroversion strategy.

The Erasmus+ ICM Programme, which is funded by the European Commission and managed locally by the Hellenic National Agency, aims to promote the cooperation between EU and non-EU Universities through: a) the mobility of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle students with the use of the ECTS system which ensures academic recognition of the learning outcomes, b) the short duration teaching staff assignments and c) the training of teaching / staff members

The 2105-2016 Programme's duration was initially 16 months but it was extended to 26 months after the approval of the Hellenic National Agency; it started on 01/06/2015 and ended on 31/07/2017.

AUEB, as the Project Coordinator, established partnerships and signed interinstitutional agreements with the following non-EU Higher Education Institutions:

1. Université du Québec à Montréal - École des sciences de la gestion, Canada
2. Nanyang Business School, NTU Singapore, Singapore
3. Armenian State University of Economics, Yerevan, Armenia
4. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Business School, USA
5. Stetson University, School of Business Administration, Florida, USA
6. Stevens Institute of Technology, Howe School of Technology Management, New Jersey, USA
7. Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow, Russia
8. Soongsil University, Seoul, Korea

During the above mentioned period, AUEB received a total of 20 incoming participants from the non-EU partner Universities, as follows:

- Four students in total studied at AUEB for an academic semester; one student from each one of the following Institutions: Stevens Institute of Technology, Soongsil University, the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia and the Armenian State University of Economics
- Seven teaching staff members for short duration teaching assignments; one from the Université du Québec à Montréal, two from the Stevens Institute of Technology, two from Stetson University, one from the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia and one from Nanyang Business School

- Nine staff members for staff training; two from the Université du Québec à Montréal, two from the Stevens Institute of Technology, one from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, one from the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, one from Soongsil University and two from the Armenian State University of Economics.

The incoming staff members participated in AUEB's 4<sup>th</sup> Erasmus+ Staff Training Week, which was held from June 20<sup>th</sup> till June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and they had the opportunity to share best practices, exchange ideas and network with colleagues from other EU institutions.

A total number of 11 students and staff of AUEB spent an Erasmus+ ICM period at non- EU partner institutions, as follows:

- Two students studied at Soongsil University and one at the Université du Québec à Montréal
- Five teaching staff members in total; one teaching staff member for short duration teaching assignments to each one of the following host institutions: the Université du Québec à Montréal, Stetson University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia and Nanyang Business School
- Three staff members for training; one to Soongsil University and two to the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia.

Incoming and outgoing students who spent a study period abroad reported that the Erasmus+ ICM Programme proved to be highly beneficial for them, as it gave them the opportunity to learn from the inside about the host country's culture and educational system, interact, exchange ideas with their peers at the host Institution and further develop their intercultural, communication and academic skills.

According to the participant teaching staff's testimonials, they had the chance to strengthen their cooperation at academic level with their colleagues at the partner institutions, develop further research projects, share experience and expertise, improve their skills and get acquainted with new teaching methods.

The mobile staff members considered their training period abroad inspiring and fruitful, as they shared best practices, exchanged experiences with their peers regarding their working methods and got an insight in the partner institution's structure and procedures.

Success stories and testimonials of the Erasmus+ ICM participants can be found on the Hellenic National Agency's webpage: <https://www.iky.gr/en/about-iky/success-stories>

The impact of the 2015-2106 Erasmus+ ICM Programme to students and staff was significant and it led to an increase in the demand for participation from these groups.

AUEB, focused on continuous progress and extroversion, aims to enrich its partnerships with more non-EU Universities, establishing thus new ones for the further development of the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme.