# Erasmus+ Policy Statement

Internationalisation is at the heart of all activities at EPITA and the school has developed very proactive policies to encourage and allow students, staff, and faculty mobility within Europe and outside. All the challenges in the information technology and digital field are directly linked to the international agenda and EPITA focusses on this global dimension to create stronger bounds within the European Union and new cooperation with countries around the world. EPITA has developed important partnership with more than forty countries and is working on expanding this number for both increasing the experiences of our students but also gives the chance for countries to exchange visions on their educational systems and methods.

To prepare its future graduates to collaborate in a multicultural environment, the school has developed a wide range of bilateral and multilateral agreements to encourage students to have at least an international experience of one semester during their studies. Full academic recognition is given to students on Erasmus and Exchange programs, which allows EPITA graduates to gain the intercultural competences, language and employability skills needed to compete in an increasingly global environment. EPITA aims to build an international campus by welcoming foreign students to allow a multicultural environment for all students during their studies. Transnational education and our close collaboration with our European and non-European partners lie in the heart of this process. These agreements are the backbone of our strategic plan and ever since our participation in the Erasmus program 2014-2020, our main objective has been to increase our inter-institutional agreements and develop more opportunities for students and staff mobility and give a chance for countries to exchange visions on their educational systems, methods and strategies on how to work altogether. This international experience offered by EPITA is essential for our students and past EPITA reports have shown that about 20% to 30% of our students end up working abroad after their cursus at our school. (Annex 1)

In alignment with our European and international strategic plan, our goal is to achieve international excellence in education and research, and this will be strengthened with the award of ECHE.  The key objectives we have identified are:

- To be recognized as a world class school of computer science & engineering
- To engage in projects that benefit society throughout the world
- To provide research and education that meet the needs of the international community
- To participate in research projects at European and international level
- To enhance student and staff mobility

- To understand the economic, socio-political, and technological issues our societies are facing and bring solutions through teaching and research of the highest academic standard
- To encourage cultural diversity, inclusion, tolerance, and engage in sustainable projects to help reach the seventeen sustainable development goals implemented by the United Nations
- To educate 'global citizens' with the understanding and skills to live and work in a multicultural community, through a broad curriculum and learning environment.

Having successfully built an extensive network of like-minded partners over the past few years where our focus was to expand our staff and student mobility, we now want to build new collaborations that will concentrate on developing strategic alliances in the service of education, research and culture to benefit our students, staff and develop our international alliances.

In pursuit of these goals, our international framework focusses on modernizing our institution and building a European Education area by ensuring positive employability outcomes for our graduating students and engaging our staff to collaborate at global level. To ensure that our courses remain relevant to our students wishing to work within the EU and beyond, the international strategy merges with the school's teaching and learning strategy in supporting:

- The development of new courses matching the needs of employers
- The innovation of our curriculum including the development of e-learning/blended learning courses
- The opportunities given to our academic and administrative staff to spend time in Europe through the ERASMUS framework and strengthen bounds between institutions
- The learning of foreign languages

Through this new ECHE 2021-2027, EPITA will develop through Erasmus +, the mobility of the administrative staff and faculty in international networks in order to increase their own professional, social and intercultural skills, learn from good practices overseas, internationalize the curriculum and strengthen international partnerships on several levels. EPITA is committed to implement with partner institutions, the development of online platforms for a more digital European Society. EPITA is also working on the finding of alternatives forms of experiences through what the ERASMUS + Program offers. This could also be beneficial for the students and staff linked to our institutions, to help build a better European and international identity through discovering new educational methods on academic subjects and contemporary challenges.