

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (OVERALL STRATEGY)

TAI TRANSFORMING ARTS INSTITUTE – UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS supports the EU Modernization and Internationalization Agenda for Higher Education. Our acceptance of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education is integral to the realization not only for our institutional and international strategies as a Higher Education Institution, but also aims to contribute actively to the European Union's modernization and internationalization agenda in higher education, which includes the following 5 priorities which we embrace:

1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs.

TAI is committed through its Quality Assurance Department, which vertebrates all Academic activity at TAI, to seek a high level of excellence in terms of Academic attainment levels. We are a University Center affiliated to Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, therefore we must comply with their academic standards of quality as well as develop our own in the fields of our specialty, which artistic teaching.

2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education

TAI is committed to improve the relevance of Artistic Higher Education as a way to transform people in a positive manner and improve society. TAI has developed a unique pedagogical method based on the realization of multidisciplinary projects. Learning by doing where students learn to assume responsibilities and solve real life problems with a hands on attitude.

3. Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation.

TAI is committed to develop cross-border cooperation in the arts with Institutions and Universities outside Spain. TAI's Theater Company '*Compañía de Artes Imaginarias*' and film production company '*Abre tu Mente Producciones*' are two platforms which are meant to project and attract student and faculty talent. Spain is a strategic point of entry in Europe for Latin American students as well as for Asian students to Latin America. TAI therefore wants to facilitate cross-border academic and artistic cooperation with institutions in Asia and Latin America.

4. Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development

TAI has in its 45 years of history an excellent track record of closeness with the Creative Industries. Most faculty and teachers are professionals are active professionals and artists in their respective artistic disciplines, and our objective for the near future is to guarantee that 100% of TAI students, undergraduate and graduate, develop internship programs in a wide variety of Businesses and Institutions, private and public. TAI through its Departamento de Desarrollo Profesional (Career Services Department) has signed, as of 2016, more than 85 internship agreements with Institutions and companies, some of which do seek collaborations not only in terms of student internships, but also in developing research.

5. Improving governance and funding

TAI is a very innovative School in terms of methodology, which is project based, and introducing artistic disciplines such as Photography, Music Composition, Fine Arts and Design, Performing Arts and Cinematography in Higher Education in Spain. At the same time TAI is relentlessly rigorous in terms of learning outcomes and the acquisition of competences and abilities. After 45 years of existence TAI knows that good teaching and especially good teaching in the arts is expensive and very complex to manage. For this reason, TAI has developed and implemented in 2015, at all levels, a circular and flexible structure with an open hierarchy. TAI wants each member of the staff, Academic or Administrative, to be empowered, motivated and committed with its values and mission. At the same time the Fundación Aula, which belongs to TAI, is developing a fundraising and funding strategy to be able to get money for scholarships and projects. TAI wants to become a social company where all profit is reinvested for the benefit of teaching.

International strategy

On the one hand, these aspirations involve strengthening links with Latin America, where the 20% of our students come from. On the other, developing exchanges within the EHEA under the Erasmus programme, and within the European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA), that encompasses Europe's best University and Art's Schools centres. <http://www.elia-artschools.org/>

Asia -particularly China- is of great interest to TAI. Work is already underway to provide to our students international exchanges to China, within the TAI-Global programme.

Spain is a strategic point of entry in Europe for Latin American students as well as for Asian students to Latin America. TAI therefore wants to facilitate Spain's Cultural Heritage, Artistic Patrimony and language is of great importance to the world. Because of its strategic location in Madrid, TAI wants to promote and facilitate cross-border academic and artistic cooperation with institutions in Asia, Latin America and Europe, mainly. However, in the long term Africa is also in TAI's mind, specially to develop projects involving growth and cooperation to enrich and support Artistic Education in countries with growing economies.

Our international partner Universities are selected on the basis of a criteria of quality and reciprocity of the values and mission. TAI involves teachers and students in the selection of destinations that they'd like to have ties with.

The internationalization strategies of TAI, when implementing cooperation programs within the ERASMUS framework, follow the global strategy of our Organization and, of course, the objectives of the EU Modernization and Internationalization Agenda for Higher Education

A fundamental part of this strategy is to promote the cultural diversity with French, Italian, German and English-speaking centers, being the most common languages spoken among our students.

TAI wants also in the middle term to promote bilingual programs in order to facilitate cultural diversity at home. A Language Center is also planned in order to provide TAI students with enough linguistic competencies to be able to participate in mobility Programs.

Besides the Erasmus exchanges, TAI wants to develop artistic and Academic projects with different educational institutions outside of Spain, through its two years Master's Degree Programs, which are planned for the Academic year 2016-17.

In the Short term TAI expects a very positive and direct impact on its modernization and competitiveness with the participation in the Erasmus+ programme. Our short term priorities are as follows:

1. The full internationalization of our University Centre through cross border cooperation, the participation in mobility programs such as the AK1, the development of bilingual programs, the development of a Language Center and being an active member of ELIA.
2. To strengthen the quality, relevance and projection of our Academic programs.