

Press release

Movers make a difference in Europe – new record figures for the ERASMUS Programme

German students and lecturers are the most mobile

Bonn, 15 March 2007. In the academic year 2005/2006, 23,848 German students and 2,760 lecturers were able to study and teach under the EU ERASMUS Programme in one of 30 other European countries. With these new record figures, Germany ranks first among European countries when it comes to sending students (ahead of Spain: 22,891, France: 22,501 and Italy: 16,389) and lecturers abroad (ahead of Spain: 2,351, France: 2,134 and Poland: 1,741). The above figures are the result of an analysis carried out by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), which on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is carrying out the task of a national agency for the ERASMUS Programme in Germany.

Press Officer and
Head of Section
Francis Hugenroth
Phone: +49 228 / 882-454
Fax: +49 228 / 882-659
Mail: presse@daad.de
www.daad.de
Kennedyallee 50
53175 Bonn
Germany

The ERASMUS Programme – celebrating its 20th anniversary this year – is one of the most visible success stories of the European Union. Since 1987 it has enabled more than 1.5 million students to study abroad in one of by now 31 participating countries (27 EU countries as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey). In 2005/6 approx. 280 German universities participated in the ERASMUS Programme with in some cases remarkable exchange figures. The most sought-after destination countries for German ERASMUS students were Spain (5,063 or 21.2%), France (4,498 or 18.9%), and Great Britain (3,106 or 13.0%). German management (5,097 or 24.6 %), language (4,478 or 21.6 %), and social science students (2,776 or 13.4 %) were the most mobile.

Germany is the primary destination for students and lecturers from Central and Eastern Europe. In 2005/06, 5,563 ERASMUS students and 1,255 ERASMUS lecturers from that region studied or taught at German universities. From a total of about 18,000 ERASMUS students who had chosen Germany as their host country, thus almost one third originated from Central or Eastern Europe. The number of German students completing part of their studies in Central or Eastern Europe has also increased: 1,756 students (7.4% of all German ERASMUS students) and therefore 305 more than in the previous year went to that region.

Finally, Germany is Turkey's primary exchange partner in Europe, ahead of the Netherlands, France, and Italy. Out of a total of 2,852 Turkish ERASMUS students, 691 (=24.2%) had come to Germany.

From academic year 2007/2008 onwards, the ERASMUS success story will be continued with a significantly improved budget under the umbrella of the EU's Lifelong Learning Programme (2007 – 2013). The target is to double the number of ERASMUS students to 3 million by 2012. In addition, the monthly mobility grants will gradually be increased to €200. Currently, German students receive a monthly average grant of €121 for their studies abroad.

Contact: DAAD, EU Programmes Group, Dr. Siegbert Wuttig,
Phone: +49 228 / 882-349, e-mail: Wuttig@daad.de