



Erasmus+ for higher education in Palestine*

What is Erasmus+ ?

Erasmus+ is the European Union (EU) programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2021-27. Erasmus+ funds academic mobility and cooperation projects that involve partners from 27 EU Member States and six associated countries¹ on the one hand (Erasmus+33), and from non-associated countries throughout the world on the other. Erasmus+ supports activities that are closely matched with the common priorities for cooperation policy with third countries and regions. These factsheets look at the extent of an individual country's involvement in this international dimension of Erasmus+ since the programme started in 2021, and compares its involvement in the 2014-2020 phase.

*This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

¹These six countries are Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, North Macedonia, Serbia and Türkiye. For the purposes of these country factsheets we refer to the 27 + 6 countries as *Erasmus+33*. This is not an official term and has no policy significance.

International mobility

Erasmus+ funds study or teaching periods at a foreign university for students and for academic and administrative staff. Erasmus+ international credit mobility provides for exchange between universities in Erasmus+33 countries and those in other parts of the world. **Students** study abroad for 2-12 months and obtain credits which are then recognised at their home (sending) institution as part of their degree. Traineeships are also possible within this academic study period. Alternatively, shorter-term study periods of 5-30 days are also possible if combined with online studies as 'blended mobility' **Staff** mobility can be for 5-60 days.

There are distinct budgets for different regions of the world - some 17% is dedicated to mobility with the South Mediterranean. The global budget is divided between the Erasmus+33 countries. Institutions from these countries make up bilateral partnerships with universities from the South Mediterranean and apply on behalf of their partners. The first selection of projects in the 2021-27 phase was made in 2022. The figures below represent the mobility planned by projects selected in each annual call for proposals.

	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2014-20
Instances of university participation from Palestine	558		121	150	132	155			
Students and staff moving to Erasmus+33	1 737		307	549	403	478			2 475
Students and staff moving to Palestine	500		134	203	105	58			1 240
Percentage of mobility in region	6.7		5.6	8.75	6.0	6.68			6.9

In addition to the above mobility managed under ICM Partnerships selected in Calls for Proposals, individual European universities can also decide on an ad-hoc basis during the year to use up to 20% of their European mobility budget to send students and staff to non-associated countries. These are the numbers of Europeans sent to Palestine each calendar year in this way.

	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2014-20
Students and staff going to Palestine	27	0	12	14	0	1			n/a

Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters

Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJMs) award EU-funded scholarships to Masters students worldwide. The programmes last from one to two years during which students study in at least two different Erasmus+33 countries, and obtain a joint, double, or multiple degree. Institutions from partner countries can also be part of the consortia that deliver these programmes (though this is not obligatory). They can take part as full degree-awarding partners - or as associated partners, where they participate in the programme in some kind of other capacity. Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDMs), introduced in 2021, are preparatory projects to bring a joint programme to the point where it is ready to operate as an accredited joint degree programme, and apply to EMJM.

Palestine in Erasmus Mundus projects	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2014-20
Total EMJMs selected in call	166	27	30	34	36	39			713
Total EMJM proposals received in call	557	70	58	94	140	195			250
Proposals received involving Palestine	2	0	0	1	0	1			10
Selected EMJMs involving Palestine	0	0	0	0	0	0			2
Coordinators/partners from Palestine in EMJMs	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Associated partners from Palestine in EMJMs	0	0	0	0	0	0			2
Total EM Design Measures selected	266	40	62	57	55	52			na
EMDM proposals involving Palestine	1	0	0	1	0	0			na
Selected EMDMs involving Palestine	0	0	0	0	0	0			na

Each EMJM receives EU funding to award a certain number of scholarships to students worldwide, covering tuition, travel, and a living allowance. Additional scholarships are also available for students from specific regions. Students can find the programmes on the Erasmus Mundus joint masters catalogue (see links), and apply directly to the programme coordinator. It is also possible to pursue EM Masters without a scholarship.

EM scholarship winners from Palestine	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2014-20
EM scholarship winners from Palestine	36	5	9	6	11	5			42
<i>From global budget</i>	18	4	5	2	6	1			23
<i>From additional regional budget</i>	18	1	4	4	5	4			19
Scholarships worldwide	13 524	2 413	3 038	2 869	2 805	2 399			11 851
EM programmes offering scholarships		139	168	155	149	129			348

Capacity-building for Higher Education

Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education action (CBHE) projects, which last from two to three years, are aimed at modernising and reforming higher education institutions, developing new curricula, improving governance, and building relationships between higher education and enterprises. They can also tackle policy topics and issues, preparing the ground for higher education reform, in cooperation with national authorities. Around 11% of the global budget for CBHE projects is for the South Mediterranean. The first projects in the 2021-27 phase were selected in 2022.

Capacity building projects can be addressed to a group of countries or a single country. They can also be cross-regional.

Palestine in CBHE projects	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2014-2020
CBHE proposals received in call	3 887		620	790	972	1 505			4 830
CBHE projects selected in call	636		149	162	153	172			908
CBHE proposals received involving Palestine	225		58	76	41	50			264
CBHE projects selected involving Palestine	14		2	4	3	5			36
CBHE projects coordinated by Palestine	4		1	1	1	1			16
Instances of participation from Palestine in selected projects	47		10	12	11	14			145

Jean Monnet Activities

Jean Monnet activities (JMA) aim to develop EU studies worldwide. Since 1989 they have been supporting Modules, Chairs, and Centres of Excellence to promote excellence in teaching and research on the European integration process at **higher education level**. The programme also supports policy debate with the academic world through networks and a number of associations in the domain of EU studies.

Palestine in Jean Monnet	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2014-2020
JMA higher education proposals received in call	5 951	781	823	1 020	1 337	1 990			7 600
JMA higher education projects selected in call	1 438	242	357	337	257	245			1 862
Proposals received from Palestine	0	0	0	0	0	0			17
Projects selected involving Palestine	0	0	0	0	0	0			2
Networks involving partners from Palestine	0		0	0	0	0			1

Other Erasmus+ cooperation with Palestine

Capacity-building for Vocational Education and Training (new in 2021-27 programme)

This action supports multilateral partnerships of organisations active in the field of VET in EU Member States or countries associated to the programme, and those from the South Mediterranean. They aim to support the relevance, accessibility and responsiveness of VET institutions and systems in these regions and countries of the world as a driver of sustainable socio-economic development. The first selection of projects was in 2022.

Palestine in CBVET projects	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
CBVET proposals received in call	1 193		121	162	299	611		
CBVET projects selected in call	273		58	68	74	73		
Proposals received involving Palestine	77		13	20	19	25		
Projects selected involving Palestine	15		5	2	5	3		
Instances of participation from Palestine in selected projects	32		10	6	9	7		

Capacity-building for Youth

These are transnational cooperation projects that bring youth organisations together to work on issues of concern such as climate change, equality, democratic participation and employability. Projects may integrate mobility activities for young people or youth workers.

Palestine in CB Youth projects	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
CBY proposals received in call	1 888	213	227	292	367	789		
CBY projects selected in call	208	45	28	39	42	54		
Proposals received involving Palestine	126	14	15	34	29	34		
Projects selected involving Palestine	16	2	4	3	3	4		
Instances of participation from Palestine in selected projects	18	2	5	3	3	5		

Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange (new in 2021-27 programme)

Virtual exchange fosters online people-to-people activities that promote intercultural dialogue and develop soft skills. Young people gain access to high-quality crosscultural education (formal and non-formal) without physical mobility. Moderated discussions, training courses and interactive open courses are among the activities supported.

Palestine in EVE projects	2021-27	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
EVE proposals received in call	714	58	69	92	160	335		
EVE projects selected in call	92	13	17	16	25	21		
Proposals received involving Palestine	28	3	2	3	8	12		
Projects selected involving Palestine	7	1	1	1	3	1		
Instances of participation from Palestine in selected projects	10	4	1	1	3	1		

More information:

Erasmus+ website: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node_en

Erasmus+ projects & results: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/>

Erasmus+ funding opportunities: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/opportunities/opportunities-from-outside-the-eu>

Erasmus Mundus programme catalogue: https://www.eacea.ec.europa.eu/scholarships/erasmus-mundus-catalogue_en

Reflects situation following 2025 selections