



Exploring the Benefits and Challenges of Erasmus+ by Ankara University Perspective

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Erasmus+



Ankara University

- 17 Faculties, 12 Colleges and Vocational Schools, 13 Graduate Schools and Institutes
- City university; 7 campuses in the center and more outside
- 57.000 + students
- 9400 + staff
- Almost 3000 international students
- € 1.3 million Erasmus KA 103 budget
- KA 107 is about to start with two countries; Russia and Cuba

Our Erasmus History



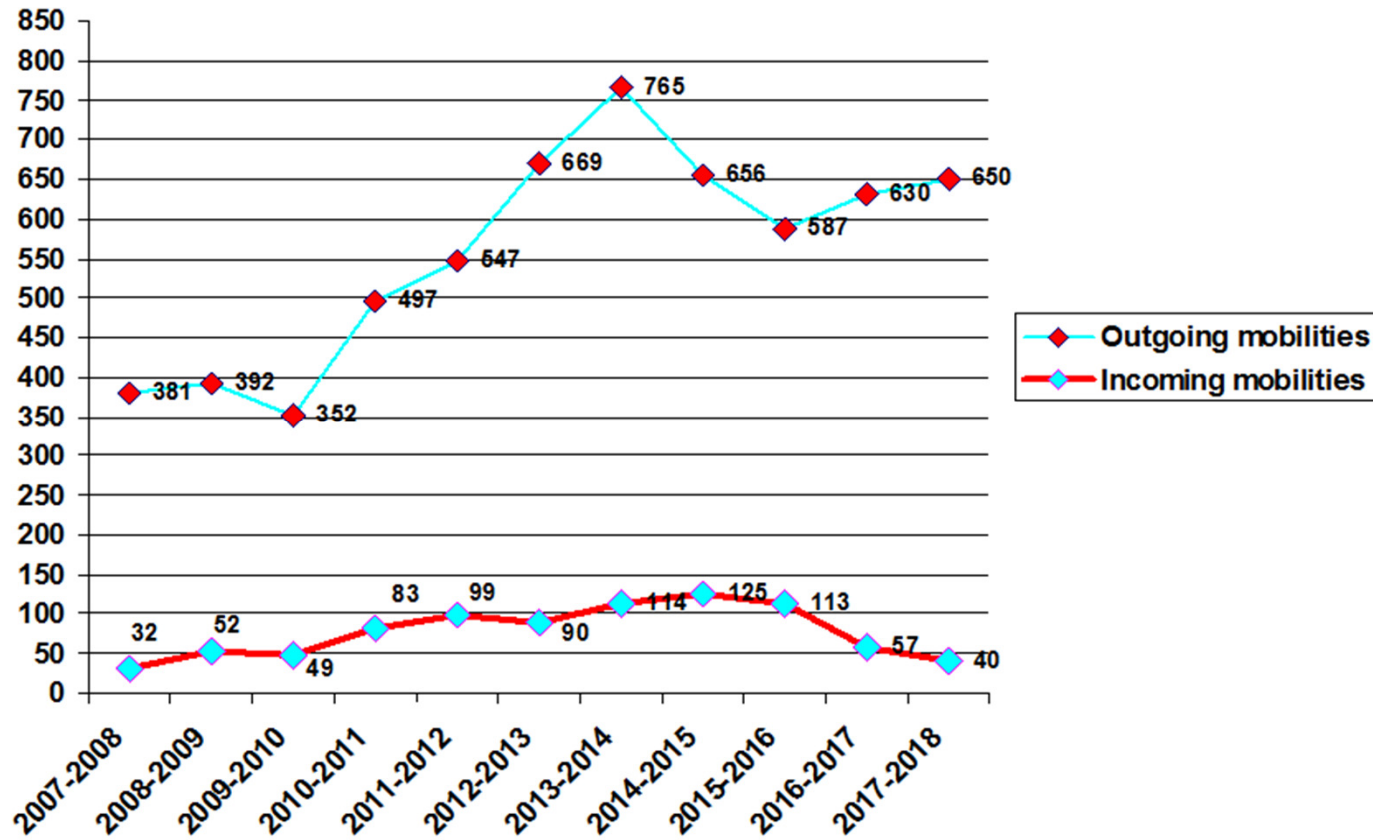
- Started in academic year 2003-2004 with 7 students
- One of the first universities from Turkey, participated in the programme
- Students were provided with an extra grant from the university budget until 2012, to promote the mobility
- Students have benefited from foreign language courses offered by our language center (TÖMER), free of charge
- Visits to potential partners by departmental coordinators were supported and this helped for increasing the number of partnerships
- By 2014 (Erasmus+), the number of partnerships have increased up to 250 institutions
- Today, more than 600 bilateral agreements

Structure at ANKU



- 4 offices dealing with international relations
 - EU Educational Programmes Office
 - International Students Office
 - Foreign Relations Office
 - Mevlana (Exchange programme supported by Turkish HEC) Office
- 3 offices dealing with Erasmus+
 - EU Educational Programmes Office
 - EU Youth Programmes Office
 - EU Project Office

Mobility Numbers in Years



Some Changes after Erasmus+

- Positive
 - Less paperwork
 - Scanned or electronical signatures are accepted
 - More O/S
 - Mobility Tool
 - OLS
 - Well defined agreements
- Negative
 - Less budget
 - More IT tools to deal (MT, OLS, Local) but not integrated



Benefits



- Enhancing Bologna Process; ECTS principles are now much more known
- All course catalogues are updated and online; Bologna Information System
- Facilitated the renewal of Student Information Systems (run by Student Affairs Unit)
- Increased the awareness of Key Actions, other than KA 103 (still not enough)
- Increased number of English medium programmes (also traineeships)
- Increased O/S gave us more flexibility to develop our IT systems
 - app.erasmus.ankara.edu.tr
 - Mobile app: Wherasmus™
- More linguistic support to students

Benefits

- 2 national mobility consortiums (for traineeships)
- 2 initiatives to start an EMJMD
- Update of the internal regulations according to EUC and Policy Statement
- 1 Erasmus+ Sport project (as partner)
- 2 JM Chairs
- More efficient budget use; more than 99.5 %



Challenges



- Structural; English medium courses are available but still not enough, compared with the size of the university
- Insufficient applications for key actions other than KA 103 and KA107; increased number of promotion and support services needed
- Linguistic skills of the students and the staff
- Stable budget by N/A
- Promotion of the new structure of the programme
- Application to central projects (directly to [the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency](#)) are very few

Thank you

