



UNICA IRO Meeting 2024

Building the Ideal International Relations Office: Balancing between Challenges and Tangible Results in a Dynamic Environment

Session 1: E+ briefing: What's new on Erasmus+?

After a presentation led by the European Commission on the latest novelties of the Erasmus+ programme, the participants will take part in a World Café exercise where they will have the chance to share experiences related to the EU flagship programme in a dynamic format. The session starts with 3 presentations on different topics from representatives of 3 UNICA members, who will then serve as the “table hosts” of the World Café exercise.

GUIDELINES

What's the World Café method?

The World Café method is a structured conversational process used to foster open, creative, and collaborative discussions among diverse participants. It's particularly effective for generating ideas, sharing knowledge, and exploring complex issues in a relaxed, café-style environment. Here's how it works:

1. **Set Up:** Small tables are arranged with chairs. Each table has a “table host” who guides the conversation. Each table corresponds to the theme of each of the 3 presentations that precede the exercise.
2. **Rounds of Discussion:** Participants at each table engage in 3 series of timed discussion rounds on the specific topic. After each round, participants rotate to different tables, while the “table host” stays to summarize the prior discussions to new participants.
3. **Harvesting Ideas:** After the rounds, insights from each table are shared with the larger group. Facilitators capture and compile key ideas, emerging themes, and potential actions.

Guiding questions for the table hosts

Table 1: New Forms of Mobilities | Table host: Teodora Monica FULGA, Bucharest University of Economic Studies

Guiding Question: “How can Erasmus+ adapt to support new forms of mobility that meet evolving student and institutional needs?”

Round 1: Participants discuss emerging mobility formats (e.g., virtual, blended, short-term) and brainstorm which types might best address current needs.



Round 2: Building on Round 1, participants delve into specific barriers (e.g., funding, logistics, partnerships) and potential strategies to overcome these.

Round 3: Informed by the insights from previous rounds, participants suggest practical steps Erasmus+ could take to promote and support these new mobility types effectively.

Table 2: Expanding the Scope of the Erasmus Program - Implementation Challenges | Table host: José CONCHINHA, NOVA University Lisbon

Guiding Question: "What challenges arise from expanding Erasmus+, and how can we address these to ensure program success across diverse institutions?"

Round 1: Participants identify the biggest challenges institutions face with the expanded Erasmus+ scope (such as administrative complexity or diversity in institutional capacity).

Round 2: Using Round 1 insights, participants explore strategies and tools that institutions could use to address these specific challenges.

Round 3: Based on previous suggestions, participants outline key recommendations for Erasmus+ to support institutions in managing these expanded demands.

Table 3: Erasmus Without Paper | Table host: DERŠEK ŠTUHEC, University of Ljubljana

Guiding Question: "What will it take for Erasmus Without Paper to become fully effective and widely adopted across institutions?"

Round 1: Participants discuss potential advantages of Erasmus Without Paper and share initial concerns or challenges related to adoption.

Round 2: Building on Round 1, participants explore specific barriers (technical, administrative) that prevent full adoption and consider possible solutions.

Round 3: With these barriers in mind, participants suggest what Erasmus+ could provide (e.g., training, resources) to facilitate a smoother transition to a paperless system.