

Erasmus+ 2021-2027: EUROCHAMBRES congratulates the European Parliament on adopting an ambitious negotiation position

The European Parliament adopted in plenary today its position on the Erasmus+ Programme for the 2021-2027 financial period. Funds tripled, a significant increase in the mobility for VET and the creation of centres of vocational excellence are the most welcomed elements.

That the [Erasmus programme](#) is one of Europe's greatest success stories can be hardly questioned. But the EU cannot rest on its laurels and today's plenary vote shows that the European Parliament is willing to bring the European programme for excellence a step (or EUR 30 billion) further.

While the European Commission's proposal was already considered ambitious for doubling the Erasmus budget from EUR 14.7 to 30 billion, the European Parliament went even beyond, by agreeing to tripling the funding to EUR 45 billion.

"In the current context dominated by Brexit talks and by nationalism being on the rise, the European Parliament's vote is to applaud", **EUROCHAMBRES President Christoph Leitl** declared.

Besides allowing more young people to take part in the renowned EU programme, the new Erasmus+ foresees a significant increase in funds allocated to the mobility for Vocational Education and Training (VET). This measure *"is crucial for VET to be seen by young people and their families as a first choice, not as the "poor cousin" of university education"* commented President **Leitl**.

But the game is not over. The final Regulation text must be negotiated and agreed with the Council under the next parliamentary term. EUROCHAMBRES now calls Member States and the European Commission to agree on the tripled budget for Erasmus+ in trilogue negotiations and reiterates the importance of strengthening the mobility for VET. *"Today it is more important than ever that the EU maintains an ambitious and inclusive programme to enhance the employability of European citizens and the competitiveness of businesses"*, concluded President Leitl.

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