EMT Network

Cooperation opportunities with Ukraine under Erasmus+

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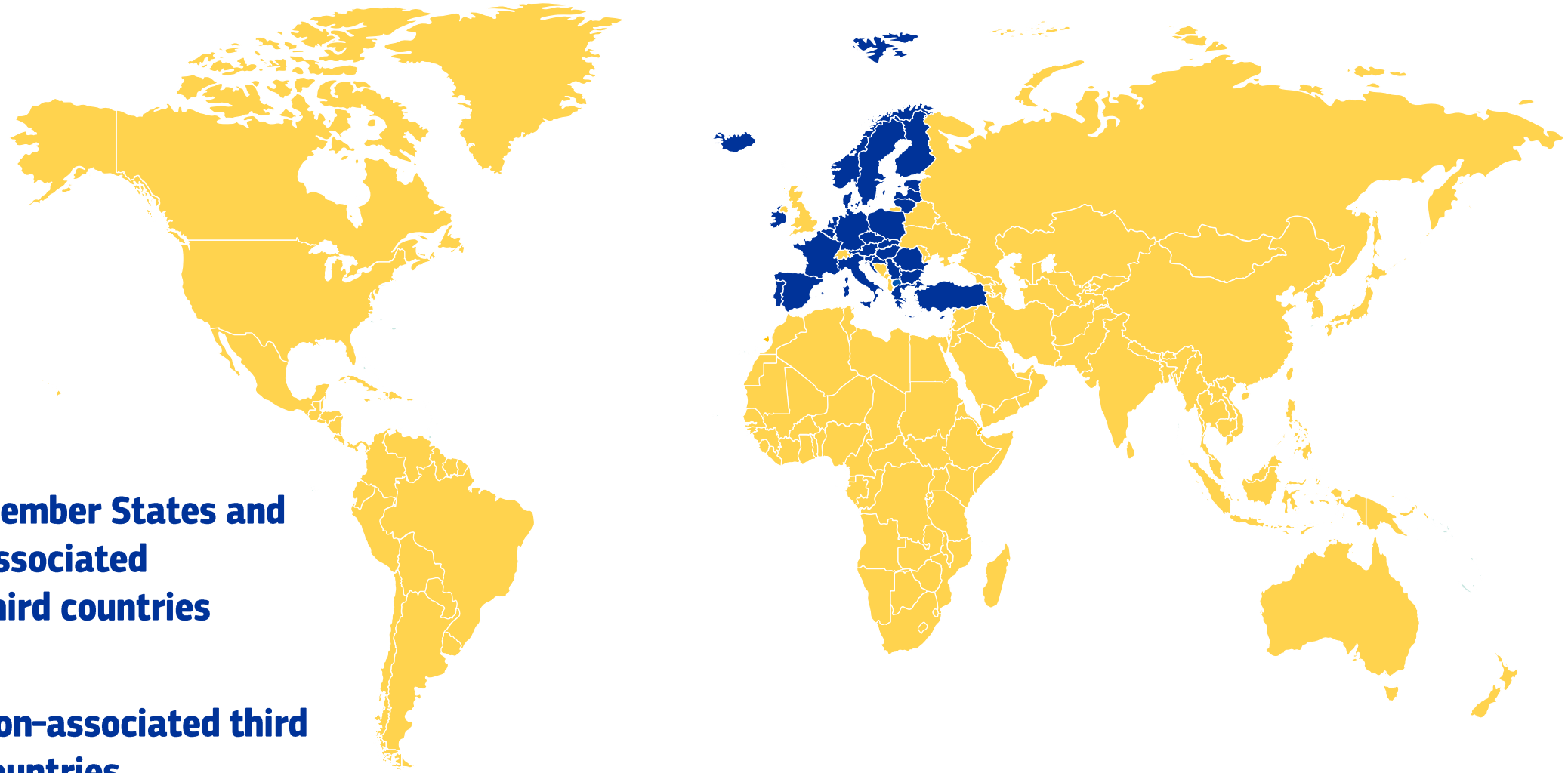
What is Erasmus+?

- The EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport
- Funding for programmes, projects and scholarships
- EUR 26 billion for 2021-2027
- Fosters EU-EU and EU-international cooperation
- Erasmus+ programme 2021-2027:
  - builds on previous programme
  - more international

International dimension of Erasmus+



Member States and associated third countries

Non-associated third countries

Actions opened to international cooperation
Overview per field

HIGHER EDUCATION

- **International Credit Mobility**
- **Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters & Erasmus Mundus Design Measures**
- **Capacity Building for Higher Education**
- **Jean Monnet activities**
- **Alumni Association**
- European Outgoing mobility
- Cooperation Partnerships*
- Alliances for Innovation*

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- **Capacity Building in VET**
- European outgoing VET mobility
- Centers of Vocational Excellence*
- Alliances for Innovation*
- Cooperation Partnerships*

YOUTH

- **Virtual Exchanges**
- **Youth exchanges and youth workers mobility**
- **Capacity building in Youth**
- Cooperation Partnerships*

SPORT

- **Capacity Building in Sport**

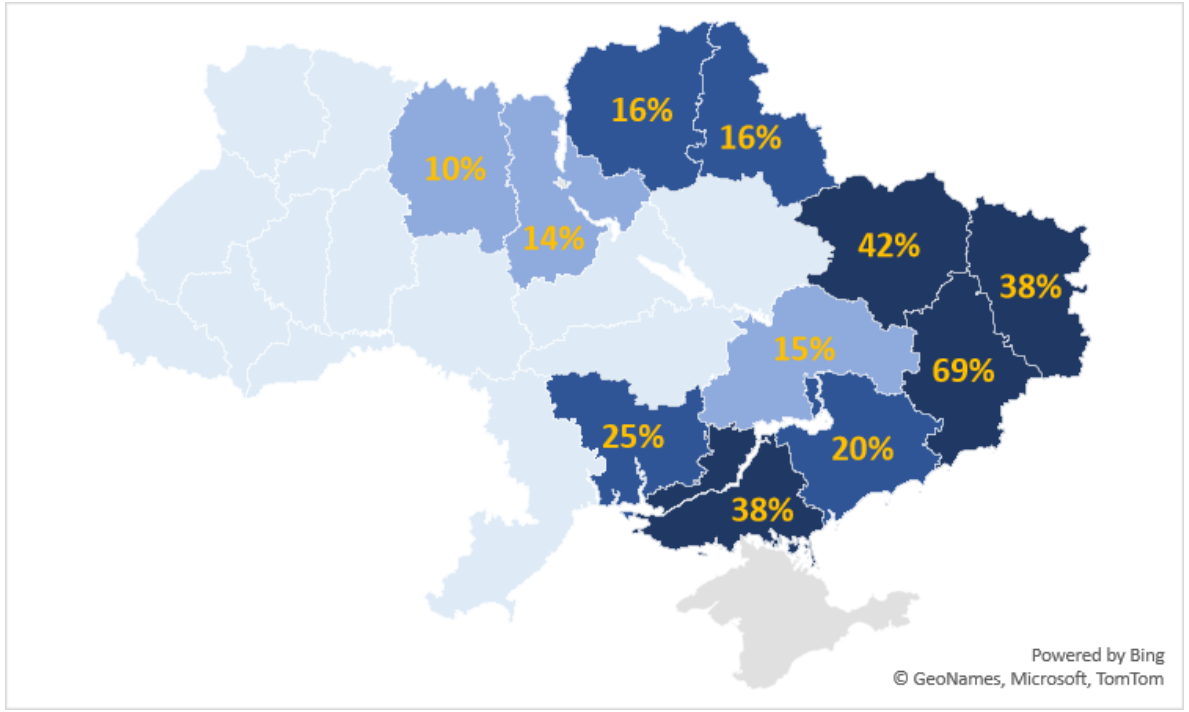
* Conditional access - Partners from Non-Associated countries must prove added-value to the project

State of the education system in Ukraine

- US$33 billion in reconstruction and recovery needs (4,000 educational institutions damaged or destroyed)
- Learnings losses estimated to US$168 billion in income losses over the working life of today's students
- **Yet, education is not only surviving but will be a key driver of Ukraine's recovery**

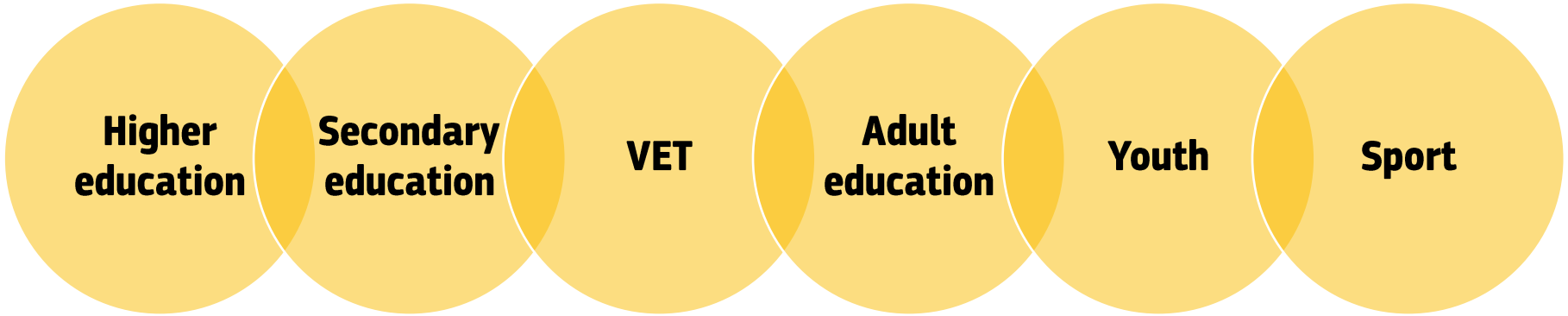
Erasmus has been a key channel of support for Ukrainian institutions

Share of damaged and destroyed educational institutions



Ukraine will remain a priority for Erasmus+

"The Programme will also continue the effort to mitigate the ***socio-economic and educational consequences*** *of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, including by supporting projects that* ***promote educational activities and facilitate the integration of people fleeing the war*** *in Ukraine into their new learning environments, as well as* ***activities supporting organisations, learners and staff in Ukraine****"*



Concrete cooperation opportunities for engaging with Ukrainian universities under Erasmus+

Cooperation projects and mobilities

1. Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)

Objective: Support the modernization and internationalisation of higher education institutions in third countries:

- Develop and adapt curricula, in terms of content and teaching/learning methods
- Support university-enterprise cooperation
- Work on upskilling of academic and administrative staff
- Reform of governance and management systems at national, regional or HEI level
- Foster internationalisation of universities

The grant covers various costs:

- Project management,
- Staff mobilities for training/teaching,
- Workshops,
- Equipment purchases

No co-financing is required, but consortia should ensure sustainability of results beyond the grant period.

1. Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)

FOSTERING ACCESS TO COOPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- Smaller scope projects
- Focused on higher education institutions.
- Designed for newcomers to the programme, less involved countries/regions, and for disadvantaged target groups.
- Enhance management capacities, quality of education and accessibility
- Budget between 200 000 and 400 000€
- 2-3 years.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR TRANSFORMATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- Focused on higher education institutions and local actors linked with industry
- Designed to have a larger impact on innovation, university/business relations and institutional governance.
- Promoting reforms in universities
- Budget between 400 000 and 800 000€
- 2-3 years.

STRUCTURAL REFORM PROJECTS

- Focus on macro level policy reforms
- Involve national competent authorities, HE sector and institutions
- Support Policy making (expert advice, training, creation of representative bodies ...)
- Develop Implementation of tools (Quality assurance, credit systems, accreditation procedures, recognition...)
- Support Internationalisation (Bologna type reforms, surveys and studies...)
- Budget between 800 000 and 1M€
- 3-4 years.

1. Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)

Eligibility	Associated countries	Non-associated countries
Strand 1 and 2 – National project	At least 2 different countries involving a minimum of 2 HEIs each	One single country involving a minimum of 2 HEIs
Strand 1 and 2 – Multi-country project	At least 2 different countries involving a minimum of 2 HEIs each	At least 2 different countries involving a minimum of 2 HEIs each
Strand 3	At least 2 different countries involving a minimum of 2 HEIs each	At least 1 country involving a minimum of 2 HEIs; the national competent authority responsible for higher education

The number of participating organisations from third countries not associated to the Programme must be equal to or higher than the number of participating organisations from countries associated to the Programme.

1. Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)

Why it matters for academic departments?

Benefits for academic departments

- Co-develop new or revised curricula with EU and Ukrainian partners
- Pilot new teaching methods, digital tools, or courses
- Host staff or student trainings, study visits, workshops
- Purchase teaching equipment (e.g. for digital language labs)

Academic ownership

- Projects are academically led – not just administrative
- Your input shapes what is taught, how, and to whom
- Opportunity to lead work packages, publish outputs, and scale up innovation

1. Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)

- **BURN (strand 1):** supports war-affected Ukrainian universities by promoting psychological recovery through academic collaboration, training, and the creation of a Center for Psychological Resilience and Wellbeing.

- **ReGrow (strand 2):** aims to develop a joint Master's in Precision Agriculture, promoting sustainable practices, digital transformation, and skills development to support green growth and regional cooperation.

- **DigiUni (strand 3):** aims to ensure accessible, high-quality learning in Ukraine through a unified digital education ecosystem.

1. Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)

How to apply?

- **Build your consortium,** with EU/associated universities and HEIs/authorities from Ukraine
- **Choose your project type** (strands 1, 2, or 3)
- **CBHE application are usually led by central services/IR office:**
  - Coordinator applies via the Funding & Tenders Portal
  - Will be assessed centrally, via EACEA
  - Use official application package: detailed work plan, budget, LFM, impact plan
  - Include clear needs analysis, objectives, and sustainability strategy
- **Submit your application:**
  - Deadline: 5 February 2026
  - Action: ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE
  - Refer to the Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2026, Section on CBHE

2. International Credit Mobility (ICM)

Objective: two-way exchange of students and staff between European universities and institutions in partner countries worldwide:

- Foster intercultural learning and cooperation
- Strengthen academic partnerships
- Support Ukrainian higher education in times of war

Modalities:

- Students can study or train abroad (3-12 months), fully funded
- Staff can teach or receive training abroad (5 days – 2 months), fully funded

Mobility flows can go in both directions:

- EU ⟶ Ukraine (send your students/staff)
- Ukraine ⟶ EU (host Ukrainian students/staff)

2. International Credit Mobility (ICM)

Benefits for academic staff:

- Short teaching mobility to Ukrainian partner universities
- Training opportunities (e.g. job shadowing, workshops)
- Develop or refresh joint course content with peers abroad

Benefits for students:

- Exposure to new languages, methods, and cultures
- Integration of mobility into the curriculum
- Opportunities to host motivated Ukrainian students on your campus

Department-level impact::

- Kickstarts longer-term cooperation (CBHE, research)
- Enhances international profile of your degree programmes

2. International Credit Mobility (ICM)

Who can apply: ICM is a decentralized action run by National Agencies. Only higher education institutions in Programme Countries can apply for ICM funding:

- Departments don't apply directly, but they help define the content and shape the partnerships
- EU universities must have the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education to benefit from ICM
- Ukrainian partner universities must have an inter-institutional agreement with your university

What's funded:

- Travel costs and daily subsistence for students and staff
- Organisational support for departments
- All Ukrainian participants receive full grants

Application deadlines in February 2026 (exact date TBC)

2. International Credit Mobility (ICM)

Roles and responsibilities:

- The applicant organisation (always the Programme Country HEI) submits an application to its National Agency on behalf of its partner(s).
- Once selected, the beneficiary organisation (always the Programme Country HEI) signs and manages the grant agreement and reports at the end of the project. The beneficiary is financially responsible for the entirety of the grant.
- The sending organisation (from either a Programme or a Partner Country) is responsible for selecting the students and staff and sending them abroad. This includes preparation, monitoring and recognition activities.
- The receiving organisation (from either a Programme or a Partner Country) hosts the students and staff from abroad, providing support during their stay.

2. International Credit Mobility (ICM)

What can you do as a department?

- **Identify a relevant Ukrainian partner or department:**
  - e.g. Translation faculty in Lviv, Kyiv, Kharkiv, etc.
  - Or build on contacts from CBHE, previous mobility, other projects, etc.
- **Define your mobility goals**:
  - Who teaches what, where, and for how long?
  - How will incoming Ukrainian students be hosted in your faculty?
- **Coordinate with your IR Office**:
  - They handle the application and manage inter-institutional agreements
  - Usually collaborate on draft mobility agreements, course matching, and recognition procedures
  - Handle budget and grant administration, as well as mobility logistics

3. Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges (EVE)

Modalities: connecting youth and students in Europe with peers in other world regions:

- Structured, facilitated online discussions or courses
- Conducted in small groups across borders, often embedded in coursework
- Complement physical mobility or provide an alternative

Objectives:

- Foster intercultural understanding and tolerance
- Improve soft skills (communication, teamwork, critical thinking)
- Make internationalisation accessible to more students
- Support EU values, democratic engagement, and digital inclusion

3. Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges (EVE)

Why it matters for academic departments?

Academic benefits

- Embed virtual exchanges in a course or seminar
- Work jointly with a Ukrainian department to co-teach a module
- Expand reach to students who can't travel

Broader impact

- Builds trust and academic ties with Ukrainian partners
- Enhances your department's digital teaching offer
- Supports Ukrainian students amid war-related mobility constraints

What's funded?

- Staff time for facilitation and coordination
- Platform/tools development
- Participant outreach and support

3. Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges (EVE)

How does it work? Partnership-based projects (3 EU org + 3 from partner region)

- Can be HEIs, NGOs, youth organisations
- Ukrainian universities and youth NGOs are eligible
- **Projects typically co-organise**:
  - Facilitated dialogues
  - Joint online courses or assignments
  - Debate series, discussion cycles
- **Projects should normally last 36 months**
- **Typical grant size:** up to €500,000 per project (with €200 per participant)
- **Same general advice as for CBHE – match-making and coordination with IR office**

3. Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges (EVE)

All virtual exchange projects need to be:

- Moderated by trained facilitators
- Secure and protective from the perspective of participants and hosts, in full compliance of the EU data protection rules
- Politically sound and culturally relevant
- Open and accessible at user experience and interaction level.
- Mainly synchronously, with possible asynchronous components (e.g. readings, videos) and
- Foresee a method of recognition of participation and learning for young people at the end of the exchange

- **2026 call deadline**: 26 March 2026
- **Application submitted via EACEA**
- **Call ID**: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-VIRT-EXCH-NE (Neighbourhood East)

Final considerations for universities

Ukraine is a strategic and active Erasmus+ partner:

- Cooperation helps support Ukraine's higher education during wartime and recovery
- They are very active and eager to engage with EU universities

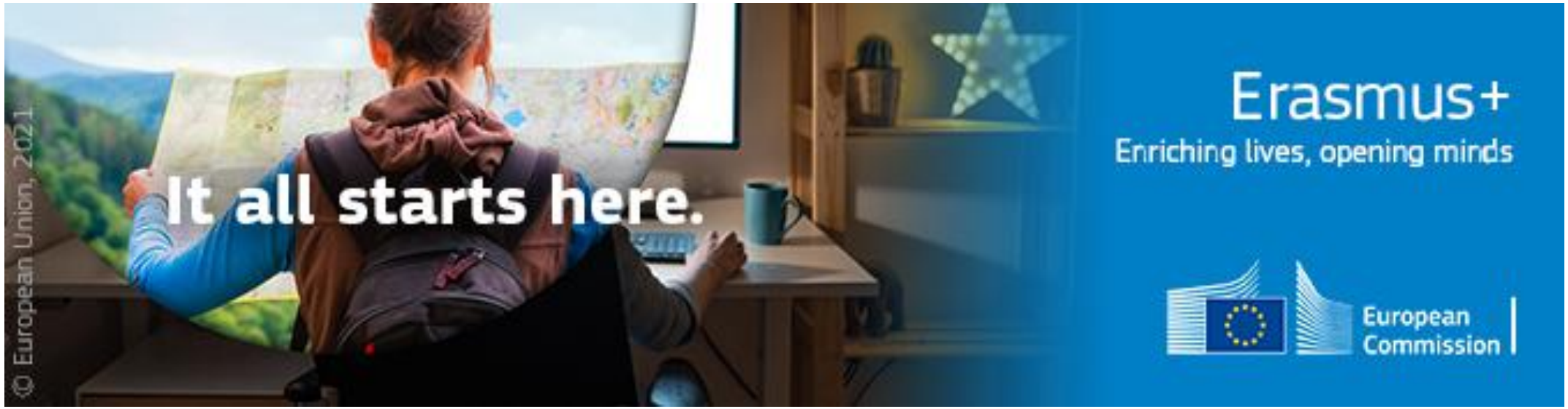
Please do not hesitate to reach out to the National Erasmus+ Office!!!

- Can help you build contact with Ukrainian universities
- Understand specificities of the local context

Academic departments play a central role:

- Shape the content, curricula, and partnerships
- Engage early with Ukrainian peers and your own International Office
- Staff mobility, joint course design, and virtual collaboration are great entry points to longer term cooperation – even beyond Erasmus+
- **Erasmus+ projects remain highly competitive**

Thank you for your attention!



More Information

Erasmus+ Programme guide (all EU languages)
https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-programme-guide

Recorded training sessions for each Action
Erasmus+ World Wide Webinar 2024 - Erasmus+ (europa.eu)

Online trainings (for Actions managed centrally in Brussels)
https://www.eacea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events_en

Erasmus+ Factsheets (per continent and per country)
Factsheets and statistics on Erasmus+ - Erasmus+ (europa.eu)

Erasmus+ Projects database to get inspiration and find results
Search - Erasmus+ (europa.eu)