

GENDARMERIE AND COAST GUARD ACADEMY

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Gendarmerie and Coast Guard Academy (*Jandarma ve Sahil Güvenlik Akademisi*, herein after JSGA) is a higher education institution founded in 2016 aiming to educate future officers, non-commissioned officers and other personnel of Gendarmerie General Command and Coast Guard Command of Turkish Republic, and to contribute to the universal knowledge by conducting scientific research in fields related to security.

JSGA's main strategic aim is to become a higher education institution nationally and internationally recognized by training high-quality personnel for service and conducting cutting-edge research in related fields. One of the main pillars of this aim is the further internationalisation and modernisation of JSGA by international cooperation. Opportunities offered by Erasmus programmes are essential drivers of reaching this aim. Therefore JSGA is increasing awareness of its staff and students and encouraging them to take advantage of these programs.

JSGA will ensure further modernisation and internationalisation of its academic and administrative departments through the direction of building a European Education Area. One of the strategic aims of JSGA within this context, which Erasmus programmes will be critical to achieve, is to ensure that all students have an abroad experience to study or for another activity. By achieving this aim, JSGA wants to make sure that fundamental values of Europe, the idea of diversity and aspects of a stronger European identity are appreciated by all students and staff.

JSGA considers foreign language education as an essential aspect of officer education and aiming to develop the quality of its education further. JSGA offers an international language course abroad to nearly half of its students of faculty and aims to increase this proportion in the future. JSGA also views its students' abroad experience is an opportunity for them to interpret European culture and identity, as a contribution to their self-development. In order to assure this, JSGA organises a variety of events in aforementioned language courses abroad.

Erasmus programmes are an invaluable opportunity for JSGA, to develop cultural awareness, interpersonal skills and encourage multilingualism. These aims are essentially important for future Gendarmerie personnel, since they are going to be working in peacekeeping and stability operations in various regions within an international body like EU or NATO (e.g. *EUFOR Althea in Bosnia-Herzegovina*).

JSGA seeks to make inter-institutional mobility agreements with European counterparts responsible for education of Gendarmerie&Law enforcement officers or have degree programs related to fields being studied in JSGA. By now JSGA has one inter-institutional agreement, and it aims to increase this number to 5 by 2021 and to 10 by 2022. JSGA also aims to develop strategic partnerships with related universities in terms of Key Action 2. With regard to cooperation and exchanges of practices and innovation, JSGA aims to cooperate at international level to exchange best practices in law enforcement and security with its European counterparts. JSGA will also collaborate with potential partners to offer joint degrees within the scope of European Universities and Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees. Within the scope of Key Action 3, JSGA will work to create opportunities for

innovation in public security policies with cooperation of both European public bodies and higher education institutions.

To increase the impact of staff mobility activities, personnel of JSGA have been making presentations to share their learning experience with other students&staff after their mobility activity. They also prepare a detailed report of their activity to the presidency of JSGA for further evaluation of future directions and implementations of mobility activities. JSGA also aims to participate in international projects. To increase awareness and encouraging staff and students, JSGA will organise meetings to inform about programs of EU. By participating in programmes and developing new partnerships, JSGA will improve its administrative capacity to effectively manage various funding resources.

As a part of its internationalisation strategy, JSGA aims to develop the effectiveness of its modes of communication to international audience. To achieve this, the web site of JSGA has been updated to a more user-friendly interface and translated into four different European languages (*English, French, Spanish and Italian*) for improving potential incoming international staff's and students' experience.

JSGA aims to increase the number of its international students and incoming&outgoing staff. Currently JSGA has been accepting international students via bilateral cooperation agreements between governments, but it aims to extend the scope of international cooperation and mobility by making inter-institutional agreements within Erasmus programme. JSGA's target institutions for mobility are primarily FIEP and EUROGENDFOR member EU states' higher education institutions for their law enforcement personnel (*Turkish Gendarmerie General Command is a member of International Association of Gendarmeries and Police Forces with Military Status [FIEP] and an observer member of European Gendarmerie Force [EUROGENDFOR]*). JSGA also aims to develop ties of cooperation with leading universities specialising in security sciences and public management in a broad sense.

To contribute its internationalisation process, JSGA also intends to carry out international projects with new partnerships. As a beginning strategy, JSGA will first seek to cooperate with other institutions as a shareholder to advance its experience, and then to proceed on as a project coordinator institution within new consortiums.

JSGA is improving its IT infrastructure and capacity to adopt new modes of information management and online education, which will also meet the needs of Erasmus programme mentioned in European Student Card Initiative and European Education Area more broadly. JSGA by now has technical capacity to deploy and use Erasmus Without Paper Network. In this sense, JSGA ensures to be able to manage inter-institutional agreements and online learning agreements by 2021, to send and receive student nominations and acceptances by 2022 and to exchange transcripts of records related to student mobility by 2023. JSGA will also promote the use of Erasmus mobile app for efficient administration of activities.

JSGA ensures that all student and staff, both incoming and outgoing, are embraced with non-discrimination and transparency policy and have equal access to all services provided. JSGA also assures that an environmental friendly strategy will be one of its first priorities in all kinds of program activities.

As a higher education institution of future law enforcement personnel, human rights education is an essential part of curricula in JSGA. All student and staff are ensured to comprehend key notions of democracy, diversity, fundamental rights and mutual respect.

JSGA ensures that all mobility activities will be closely monitored and experiences of mobile staff and students will be shared to increase the effectiveness of impact. Supports for participant of mobility both for incoming and outgoing staff and students will be constantly provided by JSGA.