

## EUROPEAN POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

of the Conservatorio di Musica " Scontrino" , Trapani

The Conservatorio "A. Scontrino" of Trapani declares to continue its work towards achieving the objective and priorities of European policy: increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs; improving the quality and relevance of higher education, allocating funds for excellence; strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation and regional development; linking higher education, research and business; improving governance and funding. The aim of the Institute is, overall, to promote the quality of the higher education in all study programmes, established in two-tier system, from the time of the implementation of the Bologna Process: the first-cycle and the second-cycle of studies. Constant monitoring will be given to the use of Ects, whose catalogue will be kept updated in the content and will be translated in English. European cooperation in a policy of internationalisation is one of the main strategic goal and plays a key role for the Institution in order to elevate level, structure and content of educational standards. The Conservatorio encourages increasing participation of students and teachers in Erasmus mobility and active participation in European projects. It belongs to the Association Européenne des Conservatoires (AEC) and actively participates at its meetings and seminars. It has also organized two Intensive Projects, "Mediterranean Sounds Festival" (Mesfe) with Spain, Malta and Greece; and "Focus Jazz in Movie Music" (FJAMM) with Turkey, France and Malta. Through its activities (didactic, artistic, cultural) it aims to create a spirit of cohesion and high purpose and to forge links between musical training, culture and research. International Relations play a very strong role in this plan. Currently the Institute has several active Erasmus partnerships, but it will strive to further widen and diversify both student and staff mobility, establishing productive relationships with partners that show a true willingness to share their skills. Being a fairly small school (with about 100 students involved in higher education), it is acutely aware of the benefits of international partnerships and the pooling of complementary strengths.

The Conservatorio bases its European educational policy on the overall aim to promote the quality of higher education music institutions, both at training and at research, in order to prepare the students for a life in a multicultural community and thus facilitate their future employment.

In this context it has defined its main strategic goals: to develop the international role of the Conservatorio specifically within the context of Europe; to provide students with an international, intercultural educational experience; to enhance the European dimension in teaching; to attract more European students, lecturers and researchers; to enable more staff and students to benefit from visits to or a period of study in Europe.

To achieve these objectives the Conservatory develops the student and staff exchange, especially in the frame of Erasmus Programme, both as mobility and participation to international project. Achievements of outgoing students at host universities are fully recognised at home, thanks to careful and detail preparation of their periods of study abroad. So, experience collected in the course of cooperation with the partner universities will be extensively used in planning future student flows, so that maximum advantage for the student can be assured, with a view to promoting the European dimension in the education of students remaining at their home university. Teaching and staff mobility to partner universities is an activity of special importance, getting familiar with different organisation of the teaching process and novel teaching methods, techniques and teaching aids. Therefore, this activity is also very valuable for the teachers themselves. This implies: organization on courses, seminars, study weeks with European partner; implementation of new technologies in education; allocation of funds for English language study; promotion of equal opportunities for men and women at the Conservatoire activity.

The Conservatorio is determined to further support the priorities of the Modernisation Agenda with all available measures in order to obtain the best possible effect of the cooperation to the benefit of modernisation of the system of Higher Education, for students, graduates, staff members and the university as a whole. In order to this, the Institution intends: to develop, in a European perspective, a modernisation of curricula and the way they are operated, to offer a reputation for high standards of teaching, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, to build up a variety of programmes to provide more opportunities for students, by knowledge and core transferable competences, to succeed in high-skill occupations. The Institution also intends to participate to Intensive programmes or International programmes which foster the linking between education/research and business with the right mix of skills : transversal competences, e-skills for the digital era, creativity and flexibility and a solid understanding of their chosen field. So the Conservatorio promotes the mobility of learners, teachers and researchers in a strategic cooperation between European Institutions, not neglecting the social aspect, in a context of increasing global competition, to provide a common framework, in order to adapt to a growingly global environment.