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# **CONTACTS IN EU MEMBER STATES**

Please see the Tempus website:

http://ec.europa.eu/tempus





# TEMPUS

**Modernisation in Higher Education** 









# THE TEMPUS PROGRAMME 2007 – 2013

# Modernisation in higher education

Tempus is the EU programme that supports the modernisation of higher education in the partner countries of the Western Balkans, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, North Africa and the Middle East. It contributes to creating an area of cooperation in the field of higher education between the European Union and partner countries surrounding the EU. Tempus promotes the voluntary convergence with EU developments in higher education deriving from the Lisbon Strategy to create more jobs and growth, and the Bologna Process to establish a European Area of Higher Education.

# WHAT DOES TEMPUS DO?

Tempus finances two types of action through regular calls for proposals published on its website: http://ec.europa.eu/tempus

# 1. JOINT PROJECTS

Joint Projects are based on multilateral partnerships between higher education institutions in the EU and the partner countries. Joint Projects can:

- develop, modernise and disseminate new curricula, teaching methods or materials;
- boost a quality assurance culture;

- modernise the management and governance of higher education institutions;
- strengthen the role of higher education institutions in society and enhance their contribution to the development of lifelong learning;
- reinforce the "knowledge triangle" of education, research and innovation in universities
- encourage links with the labour market, including the promotion of entrepreneurship and the creation of business start-ups;
- facilitate the enlargement of existing "Erasmus Thematic Networks" and the extension of their activities in partner countries.
   Joint Projects include small scale and short duration mobility activities for students, academic staff, researchers, university administrators and enterprise.

# 2. STRUCTURAL MEASURES

Structural Measures contribute to the development and reform of higher education institutions and systems in partner countries, to enhance their quality and relevance, and increase their convergence with EU developments.

They can address issues linked to the reform of governance (qualification systems, quality assurance, autonomy...), or the links between higher education and society (world of work, other sectors of education...).

This includes studies and research, organisation of national, regional and thematic conferences and seminars, provision of training, policy advice and dissemination of information.

# **ACCOMPANYING MEASURES**

Tempus also finances certain 'accompanying measures'. Unlike Joint Projects and Structural Measures, these are funded through calls for tender or framework contracts. They comprise dissemination and information activities such as thematic conferences, studies and activities aiming at the identification and exploitation of good practice, consultation of stakeholders, etc.

# **HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN TEMPUS**

Tempus is open to higher education institutions and authorities, as well as all organisations and enterprises directly related to higher education. Those interested in applying for Tempus funds should check the following website, where calls for proposals are regularly published: http://ec.europa.eu/tempus

# TEMPUS PROMOTES THE EU'S POLICY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In the area of higher education, the European Commission works closely with the Member States to support reforms in Europe's higher education systems, to make them more coherent, more flexible, and more responsive to the needs of society. In particular, Europe's universities must face the challenges of globalisation, and reforms are needed to release their full potential to help create more growth and jobs and make Europe's knowledge-based society a reality. Together with the Member States, the European Commission is pursuing three main areas for reform in higher education:

- curricular reform
- improving governance
- funding reform

These efforts include the Bologna process, which aims to create a European Higher Education Area by 2010.

# TEMPUS AND THE BOLOGNA PROCESS

The Bologna process has put in motion a series of reforms needed to make European higher education systems more compatible and comparable, more competitive and more attractive for European citizens and for citizens and scholars from other continents. Through programmes like Tempus, the European Commission wishes to support these efforts.

The aim of the European Higher Education Area is to provide citizens with choices from a wide and transparent range of high quality courses, with the benefit of smoother recognition procedures too. Three priorities were defined to reach these ambitious goals: the establishment of a comparable degree system, a European dimension to quality assurance, and the recognition of degrees and study periods abroad.

# For more information on the Bologna Process:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/educ/bologna/bologna\_en.html