



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Overall Strategy

International partnerships and the mobility of students and staff are areas of strategic priority at St Mary's University. A key aim of the institutional Corporate Plan 2016-2026 is expansion on a local, national and global level through research, enterprise and a contemporary portfolio of market-aligned programmes at both the undergraduate and postgraduate level. Important to such goals and their respective impact, is the university's International Strategy 2015-2026, which prioritises the sophistication of international partnerships for academic endeavour, research and business.

St Mary's currently has 74 existing international agreements throughout Europe, Latin America, the United States and the Asia Pacific region. The Pro-Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement, supported by the senior staff of the International Department, works to review current collaborations and align new partnerships with the institutional strategy and key global priorities. This is with a view to leveraging the institution's prestige in existing areas, whilst harnessing, cultivating and channelling the global potential of emerging talent and research champions.

Europe remains a key region for institutional collaborations. By 2017 and beyond, St Mary's aims to have attained new, higher ground by expanding its partnership portfolio into the area of high-yield research and social impact. The Erasmus platform is therefore a key component to the internationalisation of St Mary's and to the institution's ongoing and future development in Europe.

St Mary's has integrated the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education 2014-2020 (ECHE) into its strategic framework, whereby the Erasmus+ programme is a sustainable mechanism to facilitate and strengthen mobility bringing both pedagogical and professional results. As part of the ongoing growth of undergraduate student exchange agreements as well as research partnerships, both within and outside of Europe, Erasmus exchanges will continue to be core to the institution's global engagement strategy.

Erasmus+ Projects and the expected impact

Continued Expansion: St Mary's strives to develop new links in the internationalisation of its programmes, supporting the extension of Erasmus to new subject areas. Sustainability comes through support whereby the institution will continue to promote the benefits within its Faculty areas and departments, in full support of academic staff establishing European exchange programs.

A skilled, market-ready and globally attuned professional for Europe: St Mary's has a continually developing scholarship, partnership and participation strategy defined by the global of scope agreements.

Quality in higher education: St Mary's is developing new programs to enhance existing modes of study, in addition to its pioneering research centres in Bioethics, Theology and Human Trafficking. St Mary's guarantees the highest quality in the organisation of student and staff mobility, ensuring equity and equality of treatment to domestic and international students. Each incoming Erasmus student will become a fully integrated member of an academic school, participating and contributing in both their own academic development, and the institution's excellence.

Cross-border and trans-national co-operation: Whilst academic excellence and research are central to the globalisation of an institutions, so too is integrating and embedding global citizenship into the learning and university experience. Transferable skills are central to curriculum development at St Mary's, which informs partnership activity and the volume of student and staff mobility. St Mary's is committed to facilitating collaborative crosscutting and lasting communities of knowledge and practice with its global partners.

Knowledge Transfer and Enterprise: St Mary's is today in the position to not only pioneer linkages in higher education but also in research and business, maturing ideas into concrete, applicable solutions. St Mary's is prioritising projects that can become sustainable beyond funding and pilot project cycles. As emerging economic regions (EERs) play a significant role in global economies, there has been increasing awareness of the importance of relevant international expansion in these regions. Market opportunity and the drive to gain first mover advantage, however, must be supported by evidence-based engagement with Europe.