

# International Relations at

Université

de Strasbourg



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### **Editorial**

### A university that is committed worldwide

The International Relations policy makes Unistra a university that is committed worldwide. It also enables the university to gain in attractiveness, influence, readability and effectiveness of action, both on a European and international scale.

academic developments and the specificities of the institution, Unistra's internationality enables it to distinguish itself and to position itself as a visible and attractive partner, a university open to the world, multilingual and intercultural. The International Relations strategy is based on a strong and clear political vision, in conjunction with a competent, responsive and agile s, management team.

Through data, committed actions and testimonies from the university community, this document presents the international strategy of our institution which contributes to the implementation of two of its six fundamental missions: participation in the construction of the European Higher Education and Research Area, and the development of international cooperation.

This document, accessible to a wide public, is intended to

bear witness to and illustrate the international identity

of the 'Université de Strasbourg'. Integrating both global

International Relations is a connective and multilateral institutional policy, an international policy of connection and sharing between the faculties, research units and central services for the development and enhancement of our students, researchers, lecturers and administrative and technical staff.

September 2020

Prof. Irini Tsamadou-Jacoberger Vice President for International Relations



**21%** of students are internationa

#### Close to **3000** inbound and outb

students a year

### 345

institutional partners in **54 countries** 

#### 488 Erasmus+ partne in 32 countries



### **Our international policy**

### and its operational set-up

#### 

Located in the heart of Europe, the 'Université de Strasbourg' has more than 750 international partnerships, nearly 21% international students and staff representing more than 80 different nationalities.

The alliance of European universities EPICUR and the European campus EUCOR are assets which are essential for the university's scientific influence, for the learning of its students and for the development of its staff.

Our university must go even further and offer each of its members concrete opportunities to forge international links, through collaborations and mobility of course, but also through campus life shared by students and staff of multiple nationalities.

Document for the strategic orientation: 'Université de Strasbourg 2030' adopted by Congress on 20 January 2020



#### A prominent place on the international stage

Developed in 2017 and based on a dual top-down and bottom-up approach, our international strategy takes into account the university's privileged partnerships, the international activity of the faculties, schools, institutes and research units, and the synergy of this activity with that of other local actors. An inventory has made it possible to determine indicators to evaluate this activity and its impact, to identify and prioritise the needs of the university, and finally to set the objectives of the International Relations policy of the 'Université de Strasbourg' and the actions that reflect its implementation.

The orientations of our international policy are dictated by Unistra's place in history and in Europe. The university is also anchored in the political, economic and technological context as well as in society and its imperatives. In this sense, Unistra's internationality is not a given: it is the result of a process and a dynamic that is consistent with the constant evolution of the environment. The process of internationalisation requires the setting of priorities in terms of partnerships, needs, wishes and actions to be carried out. The context, international competition, funding sources, and labels of excellence play an important role in defining these priorities.

Fostering the international influence of the 'Université de Strasbourg', boosting mobility for everybody, strengthening the coordination between international training and research, developing international training to increase the number of degrees, going beyond bilateral cooperation in order to promote network cooperation, sharing our experience and scientific and academic expertise by encouraging cooperation abroad: these are the objectives that embody our vision of Unistra's international policy.

> Prof. Irini Tsamadou-Jacoberger Vice President for International Relations

### **The International**

### **Relations Department (DRI)**

**2017-2021:** a department at the service of a far-reaching international policy.



The International Relations Department's mission is to implement the university's International Relations policy, in particular by fostering international cooperation, but also by participating in the construction of the European Research and Higher Education Area.

In concrete terms, a team of 30 people organised into different sections is responsible for different projects and professions. Implementing an International Relations policy on an institutional level means, above all, developing a global process on different scales, combined with in-depth knowledge and expertise in International Relations (IR).

Since 2017, the DRI has been restructured to improve its efficiency. Although its activities are very diverse, they are always aimed at responding to demands that are unique: accompanying international cooperation project leaders and finding operational solutions, being the guarantor of international cooperation agreements, promoting, organising and measuring the international mobility of the university's students and staff, participating in various national and international networks, such as the 'Bienvenue en France' project and the project to coordinate the mobility of students from the USA within the Utrecht international network.

#### Rachel Blessig

Director of International Relations and Partnerships



International students Welcome Day September 2019.

# Facilitating mobility

A few figures Ø

+7% increase in students going at least 1 semester abroad:

**1426** in 2019-2020 compared to **1330** in 2017-2018

### +56 nternational mobiliti for academics and

**80** missions in 2020 compared to **24** in 2017

International mobility cannot be decreed. It depends in particular on the motivation and support of students; the teaching teams and institutions; its integration into curricula; and the financial resources.

Our institutional policy has set itself the objective of increasing mobility for for everybody. To this end, the measures taken and the actions undertaken must remove the three obstacles often mentioned, namely financial, linguistic and psychological.

We consider that the extension of mobility presupposes a change of mentality and the taking into account of maturity and the advancement of the student's professional development throughout his or her course of study. We have undertaken a very particular review of how to enhance the value of the mobility experience and to reinforce its impact on the personal, academic and professional fields.

Reflection on the recognition and enhancement of international administrative mobility is a flagship action of the Vice President for International Relations. A working group of administrative staff has drawn up a range of proposals on the recognition of international mobility for administrative staff.

> Prof. Irini Tsamadou-Jacoberger Vice President for International Relations

Since 2017, many measures have been taken to increase mobility, including:

- → The opening of international mobility to students in their second year of undergraduate studies. This has been implemented since 2017-2018 for internship mobility, and since 2018-19 for study mobility.
- ightarrow The opening of Erasmus+ international mobility to PhD students. This was implemented in February 2019.
- → The implementation of a single International Relations system to simplify administrative procedures by going digital.
- → For an international mobility Erasmus+ Internship: transition to direct management throughout the year.

# Experiencing mobility to better understand it



The experience of mobility is unquestionably formative, whether with a view to going on mobility or welcoming staff on mobility. I therefore support actions aimed at staff mobility, both as a trainer and as a learner or trainee. In the context of my Erasmus+ mobility in Romania, the procedure was so flexible that I did not encounter any particular difficulties. The only hindrance that I can point out was the novelty of the system. Especially the way of taking into account the credits of training hours, which was new for the team leaders. I would also like to thank the DRI team for providing me with all the information I needed to make my mobility project a success and for providing me with high-quality support before I left.

> Amandine Elchinger Scientific English Translator and Trainer, 'Télécom Physique Strasbourg'





By nature, research is international and knows no boundaries. As Director of 'Direction de la Recherche et de la Valorisation' (DiReV), internationalising activities is part of my DNA. This is why I encourage all staff members to participate in Staff Weeks or to investigate the services of our partner universities within the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union. I also regularly welcome international colleagues to the DiReV. In in the Autumn of 2019, together with the General Directorate of Services, we visited four universities in Quebec in order to strengthen our strategic partnerships. An example of internationalisation is my personal integration into the Scientific Steering Committee of the Institute of Pharmacology at the 'Université de Sherbrooke'.

> Évelyne Klotz, Director, 'Direction de la Recherche et de la Valorisation' (DiReV)



Delegation from the 'Université de Strasbourg' at the 'Université du Québec à Montréal' (UQAM) in October 2019, on the initiative of the Vice President for International Relations.



In May 2019, I had the chance to participate in a Staff Training Week at the 'Universidad de Granada' in Spain: a week of training, meetings and exchanges of good practices on the reception and support of foreign researchers.

Convincing my department (DiReV) was not difficult, as it favours this type of experience, and I also had the opportunity to go abroad during my studies. I was therefore convinced that training abroad could bring me a lot of benefits.

The International Relations Department helped me with the administrative procedures for this project and a few signatures later, I was easily able to benefit from an Erasmus+ package covering all the expenses related to this trip (transport, accommodation, food etc.). The outcome of this Staff Training Week has been very positive. Beyond the very pleasant destination, the content of the training courses was given in English. So this oneweek immersion allowed me to strengthen my language skills. It was also an opportunity to exchange and create contacts with counterparts from neighbouring countries and to come back with new ideas regarding my missions within the Euraxess service centre.

Lauriane Masson

Support officer for foreign researchers, 'Direction de la Recherche et de la Valorisation' (DiReV)

## Welcoming and supporting international students

#### **Extending internationalisation**

#### to new audiences

In order to contribute to the development of mobility in Europe and around the world, we have extended the Erasmus+ mobility programme to second year bachelors' programmes or equivalent and doctoral programmes. We have also strengthened the incoming and outgoing mobility of the academic community thanks to support schemes set up by the International Relations Department and financed by IdEx (initiative d'excellence).

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### A rapidly evolving short-term programme activity:

**4.58** international students came to Strasbourg to participate in one of the **17** short programmes organised by the International Relations Department and the UFR/faculties/ schools/institutes in 2019.

#### to new types of programmes

We have implemented a model of short term programmes, often in English, giving ECTS credits. These programmes are tailor-made to meet the requests and needs of our partners. Various themes and fields are proposed:

- ightarrow Arts, literature, languages
- → Law, economics and management, political and social sciences
- → Social sciences and humanities
  → Sciences and technologies
  → Health

#### to new languages

The 'Université de Strasbourg' promotes multilingualism through a wide range of disciplinary courses in foreign languages: English, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Greek, Arabic, Russian, Turkish, Japanese, Chinese, etc.

#### 123 training courses open for international partnerships (double or multiple degrees in one or more countries)

In order to strengthen its international attractiveness, the 'Université de Strasbourg' is a long-term partner of Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses. Until 2019, it participated in three Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses; in 2020 the university is partner in two courses:

#### $\rightarrow$ Master Erasmus Mundus CLE

(European Literary Cultures) 'Université de Strasbourg / Faculté des Lettres' (coordination: 'Università di Bologna') / 2014-2024

#### → Master Erasmus Mundus Euroculture

'Society, Politics and Culture in a Global Context' 'Université de Strasbourg / Faculté des langues' (coordination: 'Rijksuniversiteit Groningen') / 2011-2021

#### → [completed] Master Erasmus Mundus MIM

'Crossing the Mediterranean, towards investment and integration'

'Université de Strasbourg' / Faculty of Social Sciences (coordination: 'Università Ca' Foscari Venezia') / 2014-2019

Moreover, the 'Université de Strasbourg' aims to bring together its various partners on themes of excellence to work not bilaterally but in a network.

#### Training with

international partnerships

#### Arts, Literature and Languages

1 Bachelor 26 Masters

#### Law, Economics and Management, Political and Social Sciences

7 Bachelors 25 Masters

#### Sciences and Technologies

5 University Diplomas in Technology (DUT)

**3** Professional Degrees

4 Bachelors 18 Masters

**9** Engineering Degrees

#### Social Sciences and Humanities

5 Bachelors 19 Masters

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### The 'Bienvenue en France' label

In December 2018, the 'Université de Strasbourg' made a commitment to obtaining the '*Bienvenue en France*' label, with strong political support from the Vice President for International Relations and operational implementation by the International Relations Department. This strategy has made it possible to analyse the reception conditions and services throughout the university, to highlight good practices and to identify obstacles and areas for improvement. Obtaining the '*Bienvenue en France*' label with three stars (the highest level) in July 2019 confirms the quality of the institution's international welcome services.

From June 2019 on, funding throughout various calls for projects has made it possible to work on concrete projects: a feasibility study for the implementation of a reception services platform; the creation of a specific document for international students; a buddy programme for all international students; the census of courses offered in foreign languages and the updating of the course catalogue; and the provision of courses in French as a foreign language.

> Rachel Blessig Director of International Relations and Partnerships



The 'Bienvenue en France' label allows us to:  $\rightarrow$  improve the reception of international students by setting up a buddy programme.  $\rightarrow$  increase the offer of courses in French as a Foreign Language (FLE) to students outside the exchange programme and to refugee students.  $\rightarrow$  develop the International University House (MUI).

The 'Bienvenue en France' label highlights and improves the reception services for students, but also for other audiences: teachers and researchers, doctoral students and administrative staff. Since January 2019, the DRI has implemented a programme involving more than 11 central services and numerous faculties and departments to ensure that each entity improves its practices.

#### The International University House (MUI)

Opened in 2016, the International University House (MUI) is the emblematic building for the reception of international students. The strong support of the local authorities in this project shows the commitment of the territory to the international visibility of the 'Université de Strasbourg'.

The MUI brings together various central services that welcome the university's international public: the departments for 'Mobility' and '*Bienvenue en France*' attached to the 'Direction de la Recherche et de la Valorisation' (DiReV); the Euraxess Centre of the Research and Development Department; the EGTC Office of the trinational alliance 'EUCOR - The European Campus'; the International Students' Office of the 'service de la vie universitaire' (SVU) and the Unistra's migrant reception system.



The International University House (MUI).





### Coordinating international training and research

The link between training and research seems to be obvious, but is rarely put forward by researchers and teacher-researchers in scientific collaborations and training in international partnerships when developing international actions and projects.



Unistra was the first university to propose a partnership to the CNRS in order to support its tools for the internationalisation of research: the International Research Project (IRP, ex-LIA) and the International Research Network (IRN, ex-GDRI). A system financed by IdEx was set up at the end of 2018 to promote these actions within Unistraaffiliated laboratories, with an evaluation committee from the research commission. In 2020, 17 projects are being supported (12 LIA, 2 IRP, 3 IRN), and 4 projects are currently being evaluated (May 2020).

Historically, the main activity of Unistra's International Relations Department has consisted of supporting teacherresearchers in setting up training courses with international partners, in liaison with with other components via the network of International Relations Correspondents in Training (CoRIF). At the end of 2018, we also set up a network of International Relations Correspondents in Research (CoRIR), with representatives of all Unistraaffiliated research units. The objective is to link the CoRIF and CoRIR networks to make the synergy between training and research obvious and dynamic.

> Prof. Philippe Turek Deputy Vice President for International Relations

# A few figures

#### In 2020:

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**6** International Research Networks

L International Research Laboratory

4 International Research Projects,
2 of which are coordinated by Unistra

**12** Associated International Laboratories (LIAs), <u>6 of which are</u>

coordinated by Unistra

These actions involve

17<sub>countries</sub>

### An integrated network of International Relations Correspondents





Founded in 1966, the Group for Oriental, Slavic and Neo-Hellenic Studies (GEO, UR1340) is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary team. It is organised into nine specialties, bringing together specialists in Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, Turkish, Slavic, Modern Greek, Japanese, Chinese and Sanskrit studies. The GEO pursues a very dynamic policy of scientific cooperation on an international level, centred on excellence. One of its flagship partners is Japan.

As part of the IdEx programme (2013-2016) 'Platform for languages and theatre at the Université de Strasbourg', a long-term collaboration has been established with Waseda University, labelled Top Global University by the Japanese government (Mext), which has already resulted in three international symposia organised in Strasbourg and Tokyo. The GEO also intends to continue its drive to work closely with research teams with a similar configuration to its own, particularly in Europe, along the lines of what has been done with Brazil, with the Universities of Brasilia and the Universities of Brazilia and São Paulo.

> Prof. Sandra Schaal Correspondent for Research, UR1340, GEO





In November 2018, a delegation from the 'Université de Sherbrooke' (Canada) came to Strasbourg in order to strengthen the partnership between our two universities.

In this context, we welcomed a member of this delegation, Prof. Y. Dory, interested in the fields of medicinal chemistry, synthesis methodology and pharmacology. One year later, we invited the director of the 'Pharmacology Institute of Sherbrooke', Prof. E. Marsault.

As our laboratories have many common interests in research and training, the exchanges were rewarding. We hope to realise our intentions and initiate collaborative projects.



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#### Interview with:

- → François Doppler-Speranza (F.D-S.), Correspondent for 'Partnership' F3S, 'Faculté des Sciences du sport'
- → Pr Peggy Ducoulombier (P.D.), Vice Dean in charge of International Relations, 'Faculté de Droit, de Sciences politiques et de Gestion'
- → Luc Hebrard (L.H.), Deputy Director of International Relations, 'Faculté de Physique et Ingénierie'
- → Maïté Ludwig (M.L.), Head of the Department of Schooling and International Relations, IUT Robert Schuman
- → Elodie Thevenet (E.T.), Head of International Relations, EM Strasbourg Business School

#### How would you define the role of the international Correspondent?

M.L.: The international correspondent is a local contact that helps students in organising and preparing their international adventure. Therefore, I encourage them, and my teaching and administrative colleagues, to go abroad.

**F.D-S.:** This very rewarding work also consists of presenting the foundations of our public services in education and research, that our university defends and that are very well perceived, to our foreign partners.

**E.T.:** We ensure close contact with our students, teaching and administrative staff. That leads to an efficient top-down and bottom-up exchange of information about international relations.

**P.D.:** My role is to support teacher initiatives and student projects. This bottom-up approach is ensured by the following actions: welcoming foreign colleagues, supporting double degree projects, encouraging teacher and student mobility, developing new agreements and so on.

#### What are your main missions?

F.D-S.: The daily work consists of directing and then evaluating the candidates' files, but also following and helping students who are already abroad in all academic and personal aspects. CORI's work in the Faculty of Sports also consists of monitoring the progress of students enrolled in the overseas training course in Athens, which contributes to Unistra's influence.

**L.H.:** CORI's missions go far beyond this, as they are particularly involved in monitoring and implementing the agreements.

**E.T.:** My missions consist of deploying the international policy of the university and the School to different stakeholders, participating in the elaboration of an international strategy for my component in keeping with the global policy of the university, keeping a watch over international relations in general by getting involved in national, European and international networks of higher education.

### What are the advantages of this function?

F.D-S.: Listening and exchanging are the basis of CoRI's work in the Faculty of Sports: students are accustomed to taking on roles as group leaders or competing in sports competitions abroad, so they sometimes make suggestions, which CoRI can use to forge new links and encourage the most reluctant to move on and broaden their horizons.

#### How do you perceive your role following the impact of the health crisis in 2020?

**P.D.:** The health crisis is forcing us to change our approach to International Relations. Solutions still need to be developed by pooling ideas and best practices. For example, by offering remotely accessible courses that can be integrated into students' courses even if they are not in Strasbourg, or by inviting foreign colleagues to videoconferences and seminars.

Michaela Gulea, CNRS Research Director, 'Faculté de Pharmacie'

First meeting of the CoRIRs in Strasbourg, October 2018.





Erasmus+ cooperation

**32** countries in 2019-2020

compared to **31** in 2018-2019

1217 Erasmus+ agreements in

2019-2020 compared to **1062** in 2018-2019

**488** Erasmus+ partner institutions in

2019-2020 compared to 435 in 2018-2019



Promoting our international cooperation around the world

### **Our privileged partners**

#### Strong historical partnerships

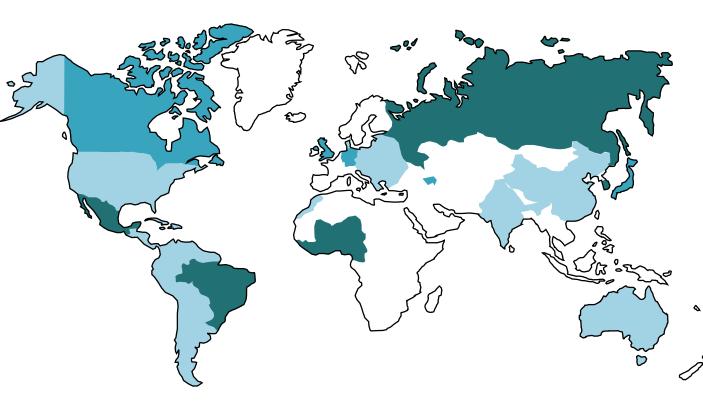
#### Germany Canada Japan Azerbaijan

United Kingdom

Australia United States China India South America Eastern and Central Europe Morocco

#### Partnerships to explore

Brazil Mexico Russia West Africa South Korea



#### Bilateral cooperation outside Erasmus+

**67** countries in 2019-2020 compared to **49** in 2017-2018

**380** agreements in 2019-2020 compared to **311** in 2017-2018

**340** partner institutions in 2019-2020 compared tot 289 in 2017-2018

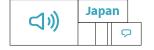
#### **A few figures** ഊ

Call for projects of Erasmus+ credits outside the EU

€**197.88**5

€152,927





I went on my first lecture tour to Japan in 1985 and, for a variety of reasons, my relations with that country, that I have visited about 25 times, have only grown stronger over the years.

Very early on, I was able to meet some wonderful scientists, notably at Tohoku University and Tokyo University. Makoto Fujita, one of the most creative chemists (Wolf Prize 2018), came to visit us many times. He has also often invited me to give lectures, notably in Nagoya, Okazaki or, recently, in Tokyo and Sendai. Our laboratory has been fortunate to collaborate with him and other teams for several years, leading to a series of very well received publications.

Since 2016, I had a privileged link with Kanazawa University, where I gave numerous lectures and participated in scientific discussions aimed at helping Kanazawa researchers.

Today, my relationship with Japan is very positive: joint research with Japanese teams, comprehension of Japanese culture and traditions and lectures in Japanese universities (more than 80). The most important thing is probably the friendship that binds me today with many Japanese people.

> Prof. Jean-Pierre Sauvage Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016, 'Laboratoire de Chimie organo-minérale'

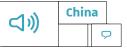


100% of Télécom Physique Strasbourg's graduate engineers have international experience. Convinced of the tremendous opportunity that a long stay abroad represents, the School has considerably expanded its offer of double degrees and academic semesters: Israel, Brazil, USA, Canada, China, etc.

By preparing our students before their departure, we identify with them the specific skills that the mobility will bring them. In addition, for the past two years, we have been offering cultural immersion courses for foreign students on arrival in France.

With the arrival of the ITIs (Interdisciplinary Thematic Institutes) we can offer excellent training in English to our partners. This training is part of the 'Université de Strasbourg's provision, particularly in medical engineering. Today, having an international profile is clearly essential for attracting the best students at the end of the preparatory classes.

> Prof. Christophe Collet Director, 'Télécom Physique Strasbourg'



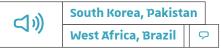
An important number of collaborations at the LECPCS have been carried out on a European level, sometimes within the framework of a long-term cooperation (ETH Zurich), a national ANR/PRCI project or a European programme.

Important collaborations with Asia, and especially with China, are being carried out with a large number of partner universities: Fudan University, Liaoning Normal University, Shenyang University of Chemical Technology, Tsinghua University or more recently Zhejiang University of Technology. A partnership with a Chinese company has also been started.

The areas of joint research are energy materials, environmental sciences, and more recently photochemotherapy.

These partnerships lead to a win-win situation by publishing excellent articles and having access to a pool of good candidates for Chinese CSC scholarships, sometimes it even leads to an international joint supervision of a doctoral thesis or the funding of a thesis by one of our partners.

> Prof. Laurent Ruhlmann, 'Institut de Chimie, Laboratoire d'Electrochimie et de Chimie-Physique du Cors Solide' (LECPCS)



Our research activity in the field of cardiovascular diseases and natural products is currently being carried out in cooperation with several international partners, notably with South Korea, Pakistan, West Africa and Brazil. The hosting of guest researchers, the training of young foreign PhD students as well as joint scientific conferences bring a real added value to our scientific activity, mixing cultures, creating networks and increasing our international visibility.

In 2018, we had the opportunity to initiate a new trinational Master's programme in the field of Biomedical Research in partnership with the Johannes-Gutenberg University of Mainz and the University of Luxembourg under the direction of Unistra.

It is an excellent training programme and scientific students, as well as European and international pharmacy and medical students, can benefit from this innovative, multidisciplinary and translational teaching. Studying at the three partner universities and doing an internship in an academic or industrial environment will be a strong, enriching and multicultural, international experience for the students.

> Prof. Valérie Schini 'Faculté de Pharmacie'



#### Promoting our international cooperation around the world

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Algeria, Canada, Ghana Iran, Italy, Russia, Serbia

International cooperation has always been important for the Faculty of Arts. Several long-standing and lasting partnerships (Tunisia, Hungary, Algeria, Iran, Azerbaijan, Ghana, Quebec, etc.) have forged this bond.

**(**)

In recent years, exchanges have multiplied and diversified around two new issues: the Erasmus agreements on the one hand, in Bachelor of Arts courses, 1 student out of 8 is an Erasmus student; and the double degrees on the other hand.

The latter are large-scale projects, which are being developed thanks to the strong international influence of the 'Université de Strasbourg'. In particular, they promote French as a language of teaching and research. Among the cooperations in progress or under discussion are: Novi Sad, Dnipro, Ispahan, Ferrara, Algiers, Tioumen, among others.

> Jean-Paul Meyer Dean, 'Faculté des Lettres'

#### Our overseas training courses

Unistra's overseas programmes

#### are a vehicle for

Unistra's outreach around the world

- → They contribute to the visibility and opening up of new areas, new partnerships, new audiences, new methodologies, experiments, resources.
- → They promote and enhance Unistra's know-how and expertise.
- $\rightarrow$  They enable the best students to pursue studies or research at Unistra.
- $\rightarrow\,$  They constitute an opportunity for Unistra students to study or do an internship abroad.

#### French-Azerbaijani University

Created in 2016, the French-Azerbaijani University (UFAZ) welcomed 538 students in 2019-2020 and the first Bachelor class graduated in July 2020. The work carried out by the team of the 'Université de Strasbourg' has made it possible to structure and perpetuate this project through the creation of Master programmes which will open in September 2020 and the development of research activities. As a result, the UFAZ now offers a structured framework for collaboration with dedicated governance and diligent monitoring by the 'Université de Strasbourg' and the Azerbaijan Oil and Industry University (ASOIU).



UFAZ steering committee meeting in Strasbourg, December 2018.

UFAZ contributes to the promotion of a scientific and industrial France, within the framework of a system of excellence where the academic and industrial worlds work together to train young people and develop applied research, directly linked to the socio-economic realities of the country in which it takes place.

**(**)

I greatly appreciated my four years bachelor experience at UFAZ. It offers many possibilities for the hard working student, including summer schools, international competitions, joining a research project or carrying out an internship in France. Students are actively supported by the administration and courses are provided by inspiring professors from the 'Université de Strasbourg'. Practical teaching benefits from state of the art physics and chemistry laboratories, and all students are provided with a laptop for computer science projects. This exceptional teaching environment got me accepted to pursue a Master's degree in Artificial Intelligence at the prestigious French École Polytechnique in Palaiseau. I would probably never have had this incredible opportunity if I had not done my Bachelor at UFAZ.

> L Irada Bunyatova Student, BSc. Computer Science, Graduating in 2020

Overseas trainingcourses in figures

### 27

Unistra overseas training courses in 10 countries

### 993

students enrolled in overseas training programmes in 2019-2020 in more than **10 countries**, compared to 602 in 2017-2018

Increase of **50%** of students in jus 3 academic years

# Our emblematic international programmes

The International Relations Department, a member of the 'Pôle unique d'ingénierie' (PUI), is responsible for international programmes related to training and strategic partnerships and capacity building, in particular the various Erasmus+ calls for projects.

A dedicated and specialised team (PUI-DRI) advises and supports project leaders during the preparation of the project and, for selected projects, ensures the monitoring of the project in all legal, financial and administrative aspects. Since 2014, the PUI-DRI has supported 99 projects in the Erasmus+ programme. In 2020, the university has 8 Jean Monnet activities, 1 project from the Sports programme, 1 Knowledge Alliance, 1 European university (EPICUR), 1 capacitybuilding project, 8 strategic partnerships.

In addition, to ensure the continuity of its programmes, the financial support IdEx provided by the DRI enables long-term cooperation.



Fourth Transnational Meeting of Cluster4Smart in Yecla, Spain - March 2019.

#### Cluster4Smart

#### ∞∃ Unistra - 'Faculté des Langues / ITIRI'; 2017-2020

The master's degree in cluster and territorial network management.

Professional training adapted to the very specific needs of the Smart Industry.

#### Medsol

#### ∞∃ Unistra – ECPM; 2016-2019

Due to the growing demand for energy in the southern Mediterranean region, governments and the energy industry are promoting the transition to renewable energies, including solar energy.

Higher education institutions (HEIs) in the region have therefore launched programmes to train staff in this field.

The Medsol project aims to strengthen the capacity of HEIs in Morocco and Egypt through the establishment of master's level programmes in solar energy and more generally to improve the quality of existing training programmes, teaching methods and laboratory equipment for practical research.

#### Jean-Monnet Centre of Excellence

The creation of the first Franco-German cross-border Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence will bring together researchers from the 'Université de Strasbourg', the 'Hochschule Kehl' and specialists in Franco-German continuing education from the 'Euro-institute' in Kehl.

This centre should give visibility to the teaching on Europe of the partners in the cross-border area, promote dynamic research on cross-border areas and European integration and contribute to the debate on Europe on the Strasbourg site and in the Eurodistrict area.

Two activities for the general public are also planned each year: a geopolitics festival and a film festival on a border-related theme.

### လို



#### **Our strategic alliances**

EUCOR - The European Campus

EUCOR - The European Campus is a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) created in 2016.

It is the result of the EUCOR network set up in 1989, which has become a pillar of cross-border cooperation by associating the universities of Basel, Freiburg, Mulhouse, Strasbourg and the Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT).





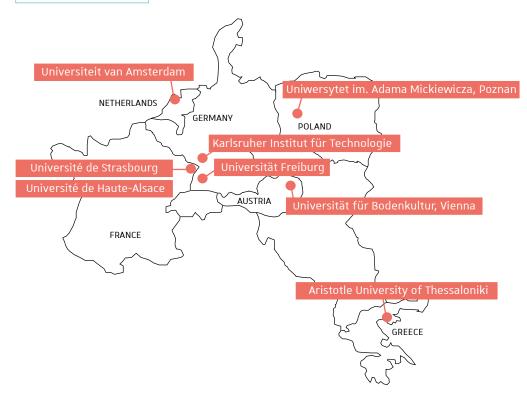
2019 has been marked by a lot of news for EUCOR -The European Campus : the online publication of a training catalogue, the signing of the strategic plan 2019-2023, the launch of the Interreg project 'Knowledge Transfer Upper Rhine (KTUR)', the new trinational doctoral programme in quantum sciences QUSTEC, new academic and scientific cooperation within the framework of the 3<sup>rd</sup> call for 'seed-money' projects, the joint declaration of the cities and universities of EUCOR - The European Campus, meetings of the Research, Education and International Relations policy groups.

> Joern Pütz Deputy Vice President for Franco-German Relations

#### The European University EPICUR

Created in 2019, and winner of the Erasmus+ programme, the EPICUR strategic alliance (European Partnership for an Innovative Campus Unifying Regions) brings together 8 partners across Europe. It is led by the 'Université de Strasbourg'.





# 4

### **Our international networks**

### Erasmus+

The Erasmus+ programme is a major tool for the 'Université de Strasbourg' in order to achieve the four strategic objectives of the university's International Relations policy. To this end, the International Relations Department orchestrates the Erasmus+ programme and all its actions for the university. Between 2014 and 2020, 99 projects within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme have been submitted, more than 30 of them have been successful and 19 calls for projects are currently being evaluated (July 2020).

#### **Key Action 1: Mobility of individuals**

- $\rightarrow$  7 prize-winning Projects KA 103
- $\rightarrow$  4 KA 107 prize-winning Projects with 6 countries
- → 4 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

#### Key Action 2: Cooperation on innovation and exchange of good practice

- $\rightarrow$  10 Strategic Partnerships
- $\rightarrow$  1 Knowledge Alliance
- $\rightarrow$  1 European University
- → 2 Capacity Building projects

#### **Jean Monnet Activities**

- $\rightarrow$  1 Centre of Excellence
- $\rightarrow$  3 Networks
- $\rightarrow$  2 Projects
- $\rightarrow$  4 Chairs

#### **Action Sport**

→ 1 prize-winning Project



The main task of the Franco-German University (UFA) is to develop Franco-German training and research.

In 2018-2019, 22 Unistra-UFA programmes with 318 student mobilities (211 outbound and 107 inbound) are implemented.

The Deputy Vice President for Franco-German Relations at Unistra is a member of the UFA Board of Directors.

### Utrecht**Network**

The 'Université de Strasbourg' is a member of the European network Utrecht, which has concluded student exchange agreements with the MAUI (United States), AEN (Australia) and REARI-RJ (Brazil) networks. Unistra is the European coordinator for the Utrecht network in the collaboration with the MAUI network.

### eurolife

The Eurolife network specialises in life sciences and brings together seven European universities dedicated to advancing life sciences research and education through partnerships.



The AC21 Academic Consortium was established in Japan as an international network of educational, research and industrial organisations from around the world. It brings together twenty-four of the world's leading educational and research institutions.



The League of European Research Universities (LERU) is an association of 23 particularly research-oriented European universities. The 'Université de Strasbourg' is one of its founding members. The aim of this network is to influence European research policies and to develop good practices through exchanges of experience between universities.



The European University Association (EUA) brings together European universities involved in teaching and research, national rectors' associations and other organisations active in higher education and research. It enables members to cooperate and keep abreast of the latest trends in higher education and research policies.



Unitwin - Unesco, the Complex Systems Digital Campus (CNSC), was approved in August 2013 by Unesco. In 2014, more than 100 higher education and research institutions, including the 'Université de Strasbourg', signed a letter of commitment to actively participate in the international CNSC, making this UniTwin one of the largest global networks spanning across more than 30 countries and 4 continents and bringing together more than 3 million students and 2000 researchers.



The Mediterranean Universities Union (Unimed) is an association of universities of the Mediterranean basin that has 127 associated universities. This network operates in a variety of scientific fields and aims to promote research and training in the Euro-Mediterranean region in order to contribute to the process of scientific, cultural, social and economic cooperation.



Campus France is a public organisation that promotes the French higher education and vocational training system abroad. It also awards the 'Bienvenue en France' label, which recognises the quality of the reception services given to international students. The 'Université de Strasbourg' received the maximum of 3 stars. The 'Université de Strasbourg' is a member of the Forum Campus France, bringing together 370 higher education institutions, whose aim is to make recommendations for participating in the attractiveness policy of French higher education. It also participates in the 'Studies in France' platform, an online service operated by Campus France for international students applying for training in France, with 44 partner countries.



The 'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie' (AUF) brings together 990 universities, grandes écoles, university networks and scientific research centres in 118 countries using French. Created nearly 60 years ago, it is one of the largest associations of higher education and research institutions in the world.

The university is member of this network and participates in annual reviews and seminars. The AUF supports the 'Université de Strasbourg' in particular for welcoming migrants.



Ceremony for the presentation of the 'Bienvenue en France' label in July 2019, chaired by Frédérique Vidal, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

5

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### Encouraging the transition from bilateral to network cooperation

A programme to transform cooperation is currently  $\Box$ under construction, financed by IdEx

The establishment of networked cooperations is a model

of international cooperation that is indispensable if the

'Université de Strasbourg' wants to meet the challenges

of today and tomorrow, linked to globalisation, such as

strong competitiveness, sufficient resources and digital

transformation. Building these networks with institutions

and research makes it possible to strengthen our visibility

disciplinary and interdisciplinary research and training

Prof. Irini Tsamadou-Jacoberger

We are also building a network with French-speaking

Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Africa,

and Francophile partner institutions, oriented towards

and influence, overcome administrative barriers,

We build thematic, disciplinary and interdisciplinary

and internationalise our training and research.

networks with world-renowned institutions to:

 $\rightarrow$  participate in the development of strong,

with our international partners;

on an international level.

Latin America and Asia.

→ enhance commonalities and complementarities

that share the same values and a common vision in training

#### Since 2018, four networks have been under construction:

- → Unistra-India Network
- $\rightarrow$  The Unistra-Germany
- $\rightarrow$  The Unistra-Australia,
- → The Unistra-French-



Unistra - Germany Network

Since the start of the 2018/2019 academic year, a strategic network with the following German partners has been set up:

- → 'Universität der Hansestadt Hamburg'
- → 'Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn'
- → 'Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf'

These three universities are winners of the German government's excellence strategy '2019' with thematic clusters and 'University of Excellence' status. In order to facilitate academic collaboration in research and teaching, 'Matchmaking Workshops' were organised with colleagues from Hamburg and Düsseldorf (art history, life sciences, psychology, physics, quantum sciences, linguistics, etc.). Other universities were similarly recognised such as the 'Europa-Universität Flensburg', the 'Universität Leipzig' and the 'Universität Gießen'. As a result of these actions, a first cycle of 17 Franco-German lectures in German and Romance Art History and Historical Sciences between the 'University of Düsseldorf' and the 'Université de Strasbourg' started on March 3, 2020 - 'Charlemagne and his reception in France and Germany'!

> Joern Pütz Deputy Vice President for Franco-German Relations





Since I arrived in Strasbourg in 2004, the 'Faculté des Sciences Historiques' has, under my direction, developed two Bachelor degrees (HISTRABA and TRISTRA-L) and two Master degrees (trinational bilingual Master's in Ancient Sciences and TRISTRA-M) and has established the Franco-German Doctoral College 'Crowd and Integration in Ancient Societies', a unique structure in France and Germany in the field of Ancient Sciences.

Since 2011, the 'Faculté des Sciences Historiques' therefore offers Franco-German courses at all levels, in various partnerships and conceptualisations. Since 2017, all Franco-German courses, for which I am responsible, are an integral part of the Franco-German university.

In terms of research, I have also led several Franco-German projects, among others, thanks to an ANR-DFG programme.

Since its foundation, I have worked for a rapprochement of the Sciences of Antiquity in the Upper Rhine Valley within the framework of the Collegium Beatus Rhenanus, of which I was president between 2012 and 2014.

> Prof. Eckard Wirbelauer Professor of Ancient History, 'Faculté des Sciences Historiques'



If you live on the banks of the Rhine, cross-border cooperation is a matter of course. In my case, it all started with the reception of biology students enrolled in the Franco-German programme. I then took advantage of the Procope (Campus France) exchange programme to start working with the 'Universität Leipzig' in 2016. A thesis funded by Unistra's IdEx in support of international activities (2016), then another in co-supervision (2018) supported by the Franco-German university (UFA), got this research work with Leipzig off the ground.

The results since 2017 have been more than positive, with very fruitful exchanges of students and researchers, the publication of five articles and an extended collaboration project at the 'Universität Leipzig' as part of a strategic partnership being prepared with Unistra. Franco-German programmes are a source of opportunities for research and teaching to be exploited (urgently needed in these times of budgetary scarcity)!

> Claude Sauter Research Director, IBMC

#### Unistra - India Network

Interactions with NCBS and InSTEM research laboratories in Bangalore have allowed the development of complementary approaches to those used in the laboratory I lead at IGBMC. These interactions have involved multiple exchanges and visits of scientists as well as the organisation of meetings. This has resulted in joint publications and the training of young researchers. In order to consolidate these interactions, we have benefited from several tools, such as the creation of a CNRS-Unistra Associated International Laboratory (LIA), two grants from the Franco-Indian Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research Cefipra, a Gutenberg Chair for one of our partners and an Early Career Fellowship Award from the Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance.

> Angela Giangrande Research Director, IGBMC

Signing of an agreement between Unistra and the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee in Strasbourg in September 2019.



#### Encouraging the transition from bilateral to network cooperation

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#### Unistra - Australia - Canada – Germany Network

We are currently in the midst of the second quantum revolution, a truly global effort to realise new quantum technologies that can benefit society as a whole. Accordingly, international cooperation is one of the highest priorities of the 'Université de Strasbourg's' quantum science efforts and of the International Graduate School on Quantum Science and Nanomaterials (QMat), which has welcomed dozens of bright young students from around the world since its establishment in 2018.

In 2019, QMat and the ''Université de Strasbourg' co-hosted the first Franco-German 'Quantum Future Academy' and launched a first-of-its-kind trinational doctoral programme: Quantum Science and Technology at the European Campus with partners from 'Karlsruher Institut für Technologie', 'Univerität Freiburg', 'Universität Basel' and IBM Research Zurich.

We are now in the process of establishing an ambitious 'Quantum Excellence Network', bringing together 4 major centre in quantum technology from Germany, Canada, Australia and France with a common vision: to lead the way in innovative researchoriented training and to strengthen our position together as research leaders in this important new frontier.

#### Prof. Shannon Whitlock 'Laboratoire de Matière quantique exotique'

#### Unistra network - 'Francophonie/Francophilie'

This network will be composed of experts from international partner institutions sharing common values: 'francophilie' and 'francophonie', multilingualism in training and research, multidisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity, openness to society. The aim of the network is broad: exchange of good practices, organisation of joint conferences, joint education and research projects, etc. To define the participants of this network, 174 institutions located in the five continents were analyzed according to 77 pre-established criteria, defining a standard portrait of each institution. 51 were selected and contacted. 17 agreed to participate in a launch event to be held in November 2020 in Strasbourg.



#### **Partner universities**

'Univerzita Karlova', Prague, Czech Republic 'Univerzita Palackého', Olomouc, Czech Republic 'Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai', Cluj-Napoca, Romania University St. Kliment Ohridski, Sofia, Bulgaria 'Universidade de São Paulo', Brazil 'Universidad de Cordoba', Argentina 'Université Cadi Ayyad', Marrakesh, Morocco Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel

'Galatasaray Üniversitesi', Istanbul, Turkey Stellenbosch University, South Africa University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana Korea University, South Korea Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea Ewha Womans University, Seoul, South Korea Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China Hong Kong Baptist University, China



Presentation during the Strasbourg-Hamburg days in July 2019.

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