

CEEPUS III Work Programme 2011-2013

Adopted Text

The Contracting Parties shall develop and promote individual university networks. These networks are designed to stimulate academic mobility, in particular regional student mobility within Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, and to promote Central, Eastern and South-Eastern European university cooperation as well as the development of joint programmes, ideally leading up to double or joint degrees, and joint thesis supervision.

Action 1: Establishment and Operation of Individual University Networks

1) A network shall comprise at least three universities, two of them belonging to different Contracting Parties. The participation of institutions other than eligible universities as Silent Partners shall be foreseen upon invitation by an eligible university and provided the CEEPUS budget is not affected.

2) Any university desiring to participate in a CEEPUS III network shall meet the following requirements:

- a) Periods of study or training or placement completed at one participating university or host institution shall be fully recognized at the partner universities.
- b) Mutual recognition within the network shall be foreseen. ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) or compatible systems shall be applied. In the case of students working on their theses or dissertations this might be replaced by a statement of both the supervisor of the home and of the host university that the study abroad period served the purpose of working towards a thesis or dissertation, respectively.

- c) In order to facilitate academic mobility, CEEPUS III courses and/or lectures shall be held also in English, German or French, respectively.
- d) The Contracting Parties agree to promote professional language courses by awarding scholarship months for preparatory professional language courses in English, German or French where appropriate.
- e) Accompanying language courses in the language of the host country might be offered where possible.
- f) A student studying within the CEEPUS III framework shall be exempt from registration and/or tuition fees.
- g) The use of e-learning shall be encouraged.

Action 2: Student and Faculty Mobility Scholarship Scheme

1) The Contracting Parties agree to award individual scholarships to students participating in the CEEPUS III activities described under Action 1 and 3.

2) Scholarships shall also be awarded to faculty (i.e., teaching, research and/or artistic staff of a given higher education programme) provided that they contribute to transnational university cooperation and/or appropriate training measures. Faculty members shall carry a workload of at least six teaching or supervising hours a week at the host university, as laid down in their mobility application.

3) Student scholarships for regular semester activities shall be awarded for a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 10 months each for the BA and MA cycle. Longer stays may be permitted for doctoral students. Shorter stays shall only be permitted for students working on their theses or dissertations.

4) Scholarships shall also be awarded to students and graduates for practical training and placement at a commercial enterprise, research facility, governmental institution or other organisation in the host country, provided that a definite and structured proposal is made.

5) CEEPUS III scholarships may also be awarded to students enrolled at an eligible CEEPUS III university for whom special arrangements for studying have been made outside a CEEPUS III network (Freemovers).

6) CEEPUS III scholarships are "comprehensive" scholarships, i.e. intended to cover living expenses, laboratory fees according to general usage in the host country where applicable, and housing and basic medical insurance where applicable during the stay in a host country. CEEPUS III scholarships shall be linked to the cost of living in the respective host country and shall be safeguarded against inflation. Additional scholarship months may be considered for students with special needs where applicable.

7) Since there is no transfer of funds, CEEPUS III scholarships shall be paid by the host country, with the exception of travel expenses, which shall be paid by the country of origin where applicable.

8) The CEEPUS III currency is defined as "one scholarship month". All Contracting Parties shall announce their quotas for the following academic year in yearly intervals at the Meeting of Senior Officials. The minimum requirement shall be 100 scholarship months.

9) CEEPUS III shall not cover overhead costs or expenses related to organisational purposes. Individual Contracting Parties and participating universities are encouraged to provide additional funding.

10) Network coordination meetings may be funded by using unused scholarship months where applicable.

Action 3: Short-Term Programmes

The Joint Committee of Ministers agrees to promote short term programmes under the provision that

- 1) These courses are designed to attract participants from as many Contracting Parties as possible, including the host country where applicable. Participants are defined as students and faculty (i.e., the teaching, research and/or artistic staff of a given higher education programme.)
- 2) These courses last for at least 10 working days and carry credits for students.
- 3) Excursions for at least 3 days and carrying credits for students might be funded where applicable. Participants are defined as students and faculty.
- 4) Conferences and similar events are explicitly excluded.