



Planning and delivering jointness in Erasmus Mundus Master programmes

EMSI Thematic Seminar

7 November 2024
Brussels



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Student services & mobility

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Moderator: **Ilka Kureck** (University of Siegen)



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master Cyberus

Student Services & Mobility

EMSI Thematic Seminar, Brussels
7-8 November 2024



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Year 1, Semesters 1 & 2
(common)

France, Université Bretagne
Sud, including
2 weeks in Estonia (Winter
School) & Spring School (one
week)

Year 2, Semester 3
(separate tracks)

- Belgium, Université libre de Bruxelles
- Luxembourg, Université du Luxembourg

Year 2, Semester 4
(individual)

World,
5-month
internship



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Services	Joint (Progr. Office)	Separate and coordinated	Separate
Scholarship payments	√		
Guidance on visa and residence procedures	√	√	
Guidance on accommodation and administrative procedures	√	√	
Practical advice on place and time of courses			√
Information sessions before mobility periods	√	√	
Peer support			√
Attention to students with disabilities and with special needs	√	√	
Health and Accident Insurance	√		
Career guidance		√	



Services	Joint (Progr. Office)	Separate and coordinated	Separate
Access to digital services			√
Access to computing facilities			√
Medical Psychological and Counselling Services		√	
Sexual Harassment and Violence Support		√	
Gender support		√	
Information on internship and job offers		√	
Information on networking opportunities		√	
Social activities		√	√



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	Difficulty
	Could be better.
	No warning sign

Drivers

- In our case:
 - A small consortium (3) and a simple mobility scheme
 - Similar (organizational) culture and same working language
- Interaction & information-sharing in the writing of the project
- Spelling out of what the services are
- Regular interaction between the staff in charge of services
- Regular information-sharing



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Challenges

- **Hurdles:**

- ✓ Visas and residence permits (paperwork, delay, stress)
- ✓ Housing (few rooms, more expensive in Luxembourg and Brussels)

- **Aims:**

- ✓ Embedding the EMJMD in the university (no stand-alone programme)
- ✓ Better understanding the partners' environments and regulations
- ✓ Better understanding students' needs (regular meetings, surveys, also after graduation) in order to better anticipate and respond
- ✓ Forming a close-knit community between actual students, alumni and researchers
- ✓ Exposing students to diversity (language, culture, organization, etc.)



REFLECTIONS

What if jointness was just parametric?



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**Goal and objectives: What are your priorities? Where is jointness best applied?
What is your strategy?**

What is the **overall goal**?

- Deliver an excellent joint master programme with the best students.

Services → **objective or goal**?

- Offer students the best environment possible for them to succeed in the studies and to fulfil themselves.

- Services
- Curriculum alignments with market needs
- Quality assurance
- Mobility

Excellent joint master programme
and joint/multiple degree



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Basic questions

Sometimes you should stop and ask yourself what you are doing:

- What for → What are the goals and objectives? With which priorities? How soon/late?
- What → What is your definition/practice of jointness? Jointness with just one pilot or jointness with all partners at the same time? Other models?
- How much → (real) jointness or (better) coordination or (efficient) separateness?
- Where → Where should jointness, coordination, separateness be best applied?
- How → Which processes can guarantee that jointness/coordination/separateness are carried out appropriately and efficiently?
- Who for → Who are you serving? (next slide). They may have different expectations and requirements? Which balance between them?



Your interlocutors/ stakeholders

Who are you accountable to? Who are you to serve? Who are you to report to? Who are your interlocutors? Who are your stakeholders?

- EACEA/EU → rule-setter and funder
- Students → users of the programme (customers/clients)
- Staff → implementers, organisers
- Institutions → employers and funders
- Society → ultimate beneficiary
- Country of residence → rule-setter, regulator and enforcer of the law and regulations

Jointness involves all those parameters. It is jointly defined and achieved by the balance that is struck between them all.



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