

INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

I. DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN EUROPEAN/ERASMUS+ and NON-ERASMUS+/WORLDWIDE AGREEMENTS

Cooperation agreements for international student and staff exchanges within Europe are typically part of the ERASMUS+ KA103 Program, which is funded and coordinated by the European Union. Erasmus+ contracts are highly standardized, and as a result require little negotiation or processing once both parties agree on the number of exchanges.

Cooperation agreements for international student and staff exchanges, as well as other types of international partnerships, which are not part of the ERASMUS+ KA103 Program must be individually negotiated between the two institutions. The terms of the agreement must be carefully considered and require an extensive approval process from both parties.

II. TYPES OF NON-ERASMUS+/WORLDWIDE AGREEMENTS

The International Office of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar differentiates between three fundamental types of agreement with international partner institutions. They vary in the binding nature of the agreement and the number of parties involved:

(1) LETTER OF INTENT (LoI)

- ≠ contract (not legally binding)
- = declaration of intent
- = formal statement by one party
- = typically prepared at the request of the partner institution

(2) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

- ≠ contract (not legally binding)
- = declaration of intent
- = formal statement by two or more parties
- = typically prepared at the request of the partner institution

3) COOPERATION AGREEMENT (CONTRACT)

- = legally binding agreement between two or more parties
- = the terms of the agreement, as well as the responsibilities of both partners, are specified in detail
- = may be based on an LoI or MoU

III. FORMALITIES OF NON-ERASMUS+/WORLDWIDE AGREEMENTS

- The Bauhaus-Universität Weimar requires that agreements be written (ie. not oral).
- As the legally authorized representative of the organisation, the president of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar must sign all agreements.
- The title of the document does not define the nature of the agreement; the content and character of the document determine whether it is legally binding.
- Agreements with the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar may be written in English or German
- Multilingual agreements should be avoided to reduce the risk of translation errors; in the case of multilingual documents, it must be clearly stated in the agreement that the English-language (or German-language) version has precedence.

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