



## Switzerland's participation in Erasmus+

Information dated 18 March 2024

- Switzerland has been participating in the Erasmus+ programme with third-country status since 2014. The multi-annual Swiss solution continues to guarantee legal and planning certainty for Swiss participants.
- The Swiss solution makes mobility activities in Europe possible in all areas of education.
- Swiss institutions can also participate in Erasmus+ cooperation projects as project partners with third-country status (partner country), including in the European Universities initiative. However, the opportunities for Swiss institutions to participate are limited.
- Association to Erasmus+ is a declared objective of the Federal Council.
- Negotiations on Switzerland's association to EU programmes (e.g. Horizon Europe, Euratom Programme, Digital Europe Programme, ITER and Erasmus+) began on 18 March 2024. They are part of an overall package of elements that Switzerland and the EU will discuss.

### A. FACTS

#### Erasmus+ (2021–27)

- An overview of Switzerland's cooperation with the EU in the field of education and activities compatible with Erasmus+ that are funded under the Swiss solution can be found on the [SERI website](#).
- Full information on the structure and the different programme areas of Erasmus+ can be found on the [European Commission website](#), as can all ongoing calls for tenders and proposals. Here there is also an overview of the various ways in which institutions from partner countries can participate (Programme Guide).

### B. Conditions of participation and recommendations to applicants

#### B.2 Mobility projects (Key Action 1)

Applications for Swiss participation should be sent to [Movetia](#), the National Agency for Exchange and Mobility responsible for implementing the Swiss solution. The exact conditions and the participation procedure for mobility projects at all educational levels can be found on the Movetia website.

#### B.2 Cooperation projects and support for policy reforms (Key Actions 2 and 3)

Swiss institutions have two options for participating in these actions in partner country mode: either as an EU-funded full partner or as a self-financed associated partner.

- Full partner: Swiss institutions can continue to participate as partners under the regular Erasmus+ application process and are funded directly from EU programme budgets. However, special conditions apply. For example, institutions in Switzerland cannot assume any coordination functions and applications must respect the necessary minimum number of partners and programme countries (not including Switzerland). These project participations do not receive additional funding from SERI.

- Associated partner: Alternatively, Swiss institutions can participate as associated partners in projects that are not funded from EU programme budgets. These applicants can apply for a financial grant from Movetia as part of the Swiss solution. In addition to the project application being accepted by the competent authorities at EU level, Swiss applicants must demonstrate that their participation contributes to the educational objectives jointly defined by the Confederation and the cantons. Details of how to apply for project funding are available on the Movetia website.
- Swiss universities have been able to participate in the European Universities initiative as associated partners since 2022. Swiss higher education institutions subsequently took part in the 2022 and 2023 calls. Participation in the 2024 call is also planned with federal funding.
- In contrast to the other Erasmus+ actions, all funding opportunities for activities under the Jean Monnet programme are also open to partners and coordinators from partner countries such as Switzerland.

### **C. Information on funding**

- The Swiss solution will be funded under the 2021–24 ERI Dispatch.
- Funding for international mobility and cooperation activities in education is guaranteed for the 2021–24 period, regardless of whether and from when association is possible. In the subsequent period, the Swiss solution will be funded under the 2025–28 ERI Dispatch. In the event of an association to Erasmus+, an application for funds would have to be made under an additional funding dispatch.
- Funding is governed by the provisions of the Federal Act on International Cooperation in Education, Professional Education and Training, Youth Affairs and Mobility (ICEMA; SR 414.51) and the associated ordinance (ICEMO; SR 414.513).

### **D. Switzerland's participation in the 2021–27 Erasmus+ programme**

Switzerland's association to Erasmus+ is a declared goal of the Federal Council.

Switzerland and the European Commission began negotiations on the complete package on 18 March 2024. Negotiations on Switzerland's association to EU programmes (e.g. Horizon Europe, Euratom Programme, Digital Europe Programme, ITER and Erasmus+) are part of an overall package of elements that Switzerland and the EU will discuss.

With regard to Erasmus+, negotiations should lead to an agreement on the main parameters for participation in the programme. This will pave the way for the next steps (incl. funding dispatch for the attention of Parliament) with a view to Switzerland gaining associated status as soon as possible.

Association negotiations also require negotiating mandates on both sides (Switzerland and the EU). Switzerland adopted the negotiating mandate for Erasmus+ at the beginning of 2021. The EU has not yet adopted a negotiating mandate for the Erasmus+ association talks.

### **E. Contact**

- **For questions regarding the submission of applications:**

Movetia, National Agency for Exchange and Mobility  
+41 31 303 22 00, [info@movetia.ch](mailto:info@movetia.ch), [www.movetia.ch](http://www.movetia.ch)

- **For questions about federal measures:**

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