



# ERASMUS MUNDUS SUPPORT STRUCTURE

Enhancing the Erasmus Mundus Experience

A European Commission initiative aimed at promoting  
the Erasmus Mundus community through knowledge  
sharing and networking



# Who we are?

- A support initiative financed by the European Union and implemented by a consortium of partners:
  - NTT Data
  - Academic Cooperation Association (ACA)
  - DAAD
  - Tipik
- Project period 2023-2026
- Budget: ~3.5 million euros



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ACA  
ACADEMIC  
COOPERATION  
ASSOCIATION



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

tipik  
by Sword

## The support initiative is aimed at...

- Promoting and supporting the exchange of experience and good practices among current and future Erasmus Mundus consortia.
- Enhancing networking opportunities and mutual support for various stakeholders.
- Developing a collaborative structure for the community to complement existing initiatives.
- Evaluating the impact of the Erasmus Mundus programme and showcasing its achievements.
- Building broader interest in the Erasmus Mundus programme.



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## Primary target audience

Higher education professionals involved in implementing Erasmus Mundus programmes at their institutions including:

- Consortia coordinators and partners overseeing Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters and Erasmus Mundus Design Measures programmes.
- Academic staff responsible for programme coordination and curriculum development.
- Administrative staff involved in programme design and delivery, including student recruitment, and mobility support matters (faculty and department/programme level).
- Administrative staff involved in overseeing and coordinating the institution's Erasmus Mundus portfolio (central level).



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## Secondary target audience

A wide range of stakeholders involved or interested in the Erasmus Mundus programme:

- Potential applicants including higher education institutions and their staff members interested in developing an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master or Erasmus Mundus Design Measure programme.
- Dedicated associations and university networks (e.g., Erasmus Mundus Alumni Association, ESAA, EMACT).
- National Agencies and offices for Erasmus+ in Programme and Partner countries.
- Other interested higher education institutions and their alliances or networks involved in joint degree programmes or other types of transnational cooperation partnerships.



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## What kind of support?

- Facilitate **peer learning and exchanges** between the existing Erasmus Mundus consortia through a range of activities:
  - An online Community of Practice platform.
  - Three annual large-scale onsite conferences.
  - Four thematic/regional hybrid seminars.
- Celebrate the Erasmus Mundus programme's **20th anniversary** with an **impact study** and an **anniversary conference in Brussels**.



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## What kind of support?

- Organise **two study visits** to showcase and promote good practices.
- Host **four worldwide webinars** to raise awareness about the Erasmus Mundus program among potential applicants.
- Facilitate the development of newly-selected Erasmus Mundus grant holders through a **mentoring scheme**.
- **Develop case studies, articles, and other communication materials** to highlight the successes of Erasmus Mundus.



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# CONTEXT OF JOINT DEGREES IMPLEMENTATION



As defined in the **European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes**, a 'joint degree' is a **single document** awarded by HEIs offering a joint programme and **nationally acknowledged** as the **recognised award of the joint programme**.

## Different types of joint degrees

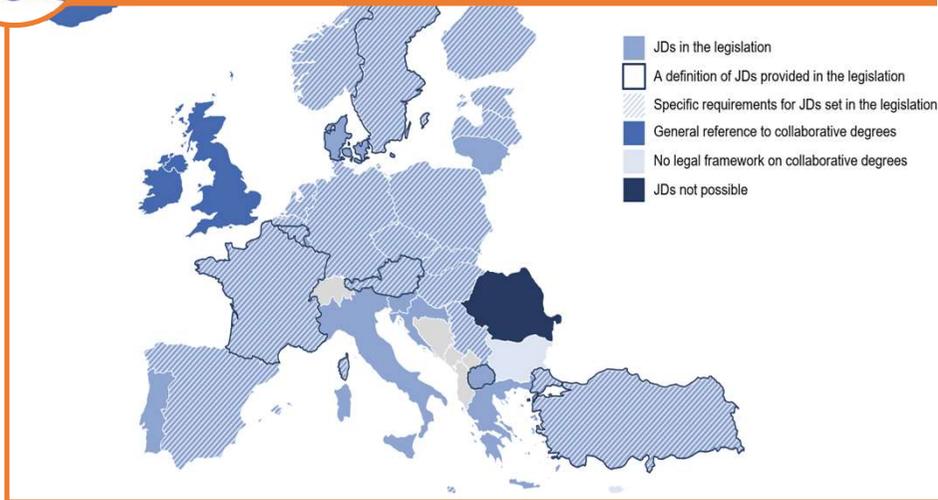
Type A Joint Degree

Type B Joint Degree per track

Type D Joint Degree Combination



## Legislative landscape of joint degrees



Source: Map 7 & Annex 6 of *Implementing Joint Degrees in the Erasmus Mundus action of the Erasmus+ programme (2020)*. EACEA.

VZO



## Current implementation of joint degrees

**55%** of the EMJMs (2014-20) offer a **JD** or degrees with a joint component

EHEA



Austria, Denmark and Poland



Economic and social sciences



France, Italy and Spain



Mathematics, environmental and geosciences programmes

GLOBAL

International collaborative degrees have become a **global trend**

Double/multiple degree



Joint degrees



Europe and North America



Asia



Latin America & Caribbean



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# MAIN CHALLENGES



## 1. LEGISLATIVE BARRIERS

- 1.1 Some national legislations do not allow JDs
- 1.2 Incompatible legal and technical requirements at national level
- 1.3 Lack of common guidance
- 1.4 Undefined & overlapping terminology



## 2. INSTITUTIONAL BARRIERS

- 2.1 Incompatible internal regulations
- 2.2 Institutional resistance
- 2.3 Time- & resource-consuming



## 3. RECIPIENT'S BARRIERS

- 3.1 Employers lack the knowledge/awareness of JDs as opposed to well-established national degrees
- 3.2 Students do not value JDs the same way they value double/multiple ones



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# Recommendations

- Advocate for adaptation of legislation to **allow the award of JDs** for HEI to be able to be flexible and autonomous in their decision, including to uptake the European Approach.
- Strengthen collaborating and **exchange of good practices** among countries with limited and as well as high regulatory boundaries.
- Provide a **space for dialogue between HEIs and their respective national authorities**; facilitate the identification and exchange of good practices among national authorities.
- **Enhance awareness** among HEI about the different options to implement JD, incl. through the European Approach.
- **Provide HEIs with clear guidelines** on how to interpret the unclear rules on JD implementation and the measures to adapt to them.



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# Contributions by the Erasmus Mundus Support Initiative

- Annual conferences such as the 2023 conference “**Boosting the potential of Joint Degrees in Erasmus Mundus**” 30 Nov & 1 Dec 2023 (Brussels)
- Implementation of a mentoring system (2024-2026) comprising one to one mentoring, study visits and webinars



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