

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

TOOLKIT WP2 Training International Relation Strategies: the case of UNIBO

Vilnius University 07-11 October 2019

Co-funded by the
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International by vocation



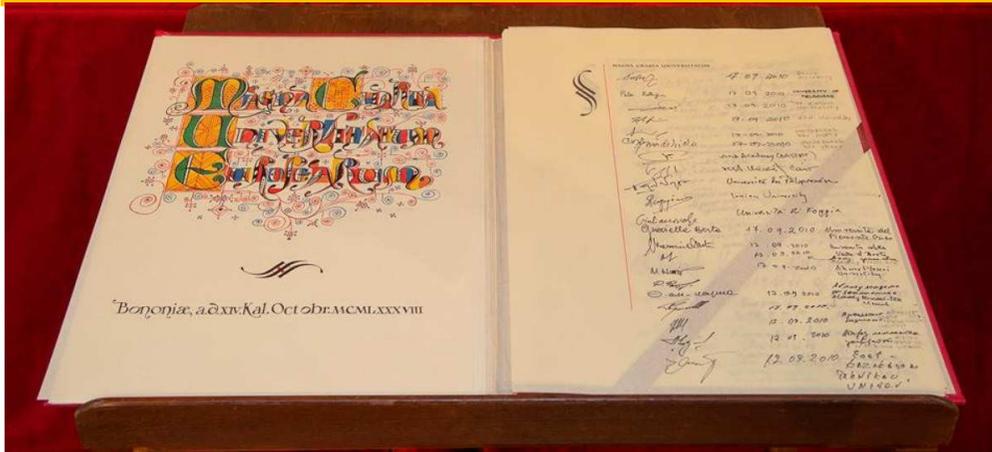
University of Bologna was founded in 1088, being the oldest University of the Western World.



It is international by vocation, since its foundation it was an international community including Scholars and Students from all over Europe.



And over the centuries



One year later in 1999 the Bologna Declaration establishing the European Higher Education Area was signed.

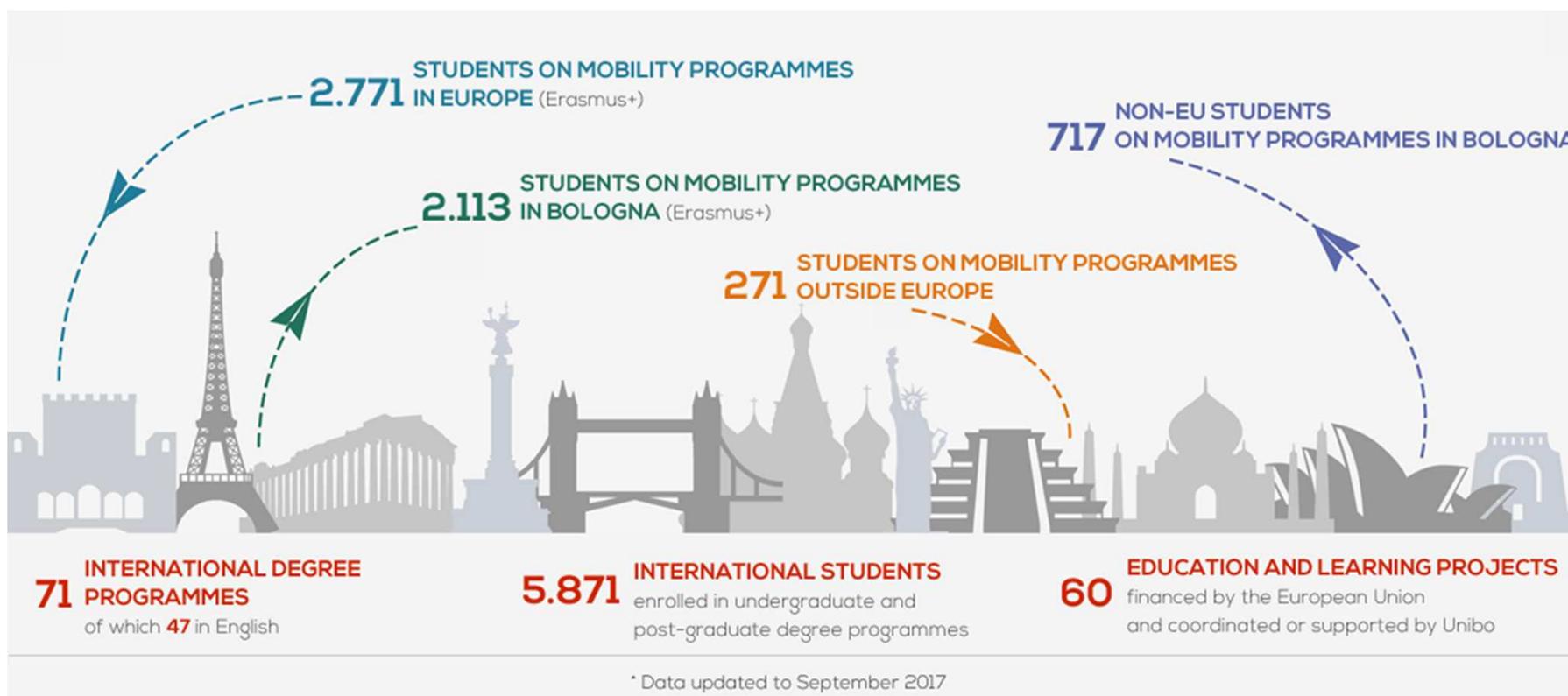
For the celebration of the ninth century of the Alma Mater, Rectors from 500 European Universities met in Bologna to sign the Magna Charta Universitatum: an international agreement confirming the autonomy of the universities



What does Internationalisation mean for us now?



In the Italian panorama the University of Bologna is acknowledged as one of the most international universities in terms of exchange students, international agreements and Erasmus+ bilateral agreements, EU funded projects, joint/double degree programmes and international curricula entirely delivered in English.



How does Unibo approach its international dimension?



Strategic Plan Alma 2021



The last Strategic Plan of the University of Bologna refers to the period 2019-2021 and it is built on three pillars deeply established in the first millennium of our history

EDUCATION

RESEARCH

THIRD MISSION



and the 17 objectives for sustainable development in Agenda 2030, adopted by the UN General Assembly.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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Internationalization



Internationalization is a dimension transversal to the 3 pillars and it is not regarded as an achievement to be accomplished per se, but as a mean to enhance the quality and innovation of Education and Research.



Positioning: internationalization

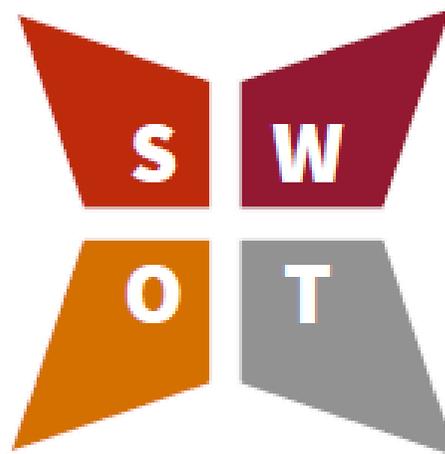


STRENGTHS

- National and international reputation
- Students' mobility incoming and outgoing

OPPORTUNITIES

- Horizon Europe
- Cooperation for development in Africa



WEAKNESSES

- Students services in relation with international standards
- Low capacity to attract international faculty and staff

THREATS

- Uncertainty on international panorama



STRATEGIC MAP



8 main Strategic objectives

12 reference strategies

- 0.1 Quality in Research
- 0.2 Project Capacity
- 0.3 Quality in Teaching
- 0.4 Attractiveness**
- 0.5 Students community
- 0.6 Innovation
- 0.7 Dissemination
- 0.8 Sustainability



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



0.4 ATTRACTIVENESS

To implement the attractiveness and strengthen the international dimension of the educational context through

- 0.4.1 Attraction of talented students;
- 0.4.2 Attraction of international students;
- 0.4.3 Strengthen the International academic offer
- 0.4.4 International agreements and partnerships



Specific objectives and indicators



Basic Objective	Reference Strategy		
<p>0.4.2 Attraction of international talented students and diversify their geographical catchment area</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="262 705 450 895"> <p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p> </div> <div data-bbox="499 705 687 895"> <p>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p> </div> </div>			
<p>INDICATORS</p> <p>Incoming students International students</p>	<p>2015</p> <p>2.310 7%</p>	<p>2018</p> <p>3.100 8%</p>	<p>2021</p> <p>First in Europe 9%</p>



Specific objectives and indicators



Basic Objective	Reference Strategy		
<p>0.4.3 Strengthen the International academic offer</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="230 651 421 837"> </div> <div data-bbox="468 651 658 837"> </div> </div>			
<p>INDICATORS</p> <p>N° of outgoing students</p> <p>N° of professors and researchers coming from international research institutions</p>	<p>2015</p> <p>2.745</p> <p>383</p>	<p>2018</p> <p>3.840</p> <p>864</p>	<p>2021</p> <p>First in Europe</p> <p>1.000</p>



Specific objectives and indicators



Basic Objective	Reference Strategy		
<p>0.4.4.Promote international agreement and partnerships</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="232 660 423 849"> </div> <div data-bbox="459 660 647 849"> </div> </div>			
<p>INDICATORS</p> <p>Number of international agreements</p>	<p>2015</p> <p>1.735</p>	<p>2018</p> <p>1.780</p>	<p>2021</p> <p>1.800</p>



Reference strategy: Internationalization



- Geographical Strategies
- International Networks and partnerships
- Cooperation for development
- **International mobility**
- **Reception and orientation policies**
- Unibo for refugees
- Internationalization at home

<http://alma2021.unibo.it/en/actions/international>



International mobility



Incoming and outgoing mobility of students, teachers and technical-administrative staff.

Specific Actions include:

- increasing the economic resources available for the various types of mobility
- improving efficiency via the rationalisation and enhancement of exchange agreements, the simplification of assessment processes and the measurement of reward incentives
- institutionalising the role of visiting professors, supported by effective reception services.



International mobility



References to the basic and specific Strategic objectives

O.1.1 - Qualify and promote PhD programmes degree in an international context

O.1.3 - Improve research quality and productivity

O.3.1 - Improve the skills acquired during the degree programmes in order to facilitate the entry of graduates into the world of work

O.4.2 - Increase the number of talented international students and diversify their geographical catchment area

O.4.3 - Strengthen the international dimension of learning environments and multilingual and cross-cultural policies

O.4.4 - Promote strategic international partnerships and agreements in the teaching field



The Alma Mater holds **first place among European Universities** in terms of the number of incoming and outgoing students.

The University of Bologna **promotes and supports international exchanges** and offers enrolled students several mobility opportunities for study and traineeship abroad through various Programmes.



International mobility -Progress



PROGRESS



1st place

In Europe for outgoing
ERASMUS students (+
16% from 2015)

1st place

In Europe for incoming
ERASMUS students (+
30% from 2015)



Reception and Orientation Policies



Improvement of the reception and orientation services for international students.

Specific actions include:

- Promotion of agreements with the city and territorial operators, with a view to recognising the status of international students as full citizens.
- Development of an integrated system of reception services, from the issue of visas to finding accommodation.
- Testing of orientation actions abroad in certain areas considered to be strategic.
- Offer of summer schools and MOOCs on Italian culture and language



Reception and Orientation Policies



References to the basic and specific Strategic objectives



EDUCATION



- O.4.2 - Increase the number of talented international students and diversify their geographical catchment area
- O.4.3 - Strengthen the international dimension of learning environments and multilingual and cross-cultural policies
- O.4.4 - Promote strategic international partnerships and agreements in the teaching field



WELCOMING STUDENTS



International desk

The University of Bologna offers an ad-hoc welcome and support service for students and international staff. The office is a single point of contact for international students and teachers and provides support and assistance for all incoming procedures, thus acting as a reference for access to all university services.

Welcome Day for international students (exchange and enrolled - about 6,000)

Students, in addition to receiving all the information on the university and cities, can learn about opportunities related to entrepreneurship and to the relationship with companies.

Cross-cultural counselling service for international students

The Cross-Cultural Counselling Service was established to prevent particularly critical situations relating to adaptation, study, complaints, isolation, conflicts with other students and/or teachers, practical environmental problems, through a cross-cultural perspective.

The service is free of charge and offers:

- assessment and analysis of psycho-social-cultural needs;
- first assistance and/or orientation actions.



International mobility -Progress



PROGRESS

+ 17%

International students
enrolled (compared to
2015)



Welcome Day for
international students



TOLC abroad: Chile,
Brazil, Argentina, Turkey





The main aim of the internationalization activities is the one of increase the quality of education and research. Internationalization is a measure to improve the learning and teaching quality.

The final goal is to create global communities to meet the development objectives not just at the institutional level but to impact on the whole society.

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Thank you!