ARAB EURO CONGRESS ON HIGHER EDUCATION

THE NETWORKED UNIVERSITY: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION BETWEEN THE ARAB WORLD AND EUROPE

TU BERLIN CAMPUS EL GOUNA, EGYPT
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UNIVERSITY OF PAVIA

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THE UNIVERSITY OF PAVIA

- The University
- The International Strategy
- Post-graduate programs in English
- Main Joint programmes
- Regional cooperation with Middle East: international projects
- Best Practice: MICAD; FCC; E+ KA107
The city of Pavia is half an hour from Milan

The University of Pavia is member of Coimbra Group, EUA, EMUNI, ISEP, PEACE Program, EADI, EAIE, NOHA

Founded in 1361, Pavia is an historical, comprehensive and international research University

Key datas

- **24.000** Students
- **1216** foreign students (6% PhD)
- **981** teaching staff + 958 administrative staff
- **2** Campuses (Pavia and Cremona)
- **18** Departments
- **83** Degree programmes (undergraduate and master)
- **17** PhD programmes (5 Schools)
- **350** Exchange programmes (Erasmus and others)
- **6** EM Action 2 projects (1 coordinator + 5 partner)
- **1** Joint PhD (EM Action 1)
- **20** Residence halls
- **1** University Sport Centre
INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY

- Promoting institutional internationalization
- Developing the already existing double degrees (Engineering, Economics)
- Post-graduate studies in English
- Offering International summer and winter schools
- Offering high quality welcome services for international students
- Active international networking
POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMMES
FULLY TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

- Medicine and Surgery (6 years)
- Molecular Biology and Genetics (2-years)
- Electronics Engineering (2-years)
- Computer Engineering (2-years)
- Building Engineering and Architecture (2-years)
- International Business and Economics (2-years)
- Economics, Finance and International Integration (2-years)
- World Politics and International Relations (2-years)
- Master in Cooperation and Development (16 months)
JOINT PROGRAMMES

EU PARTNERS

**ECONOMICS**
- Universidad de Siviglia; Universidad de Alcalá de Henares (Spain)
- Universität Tübingen; Universität Hohenheim; Eberhard Karls Universität (Germany)
- ESC Clermont-Ferrand; Université de Strasbourg; Universityè de Lyon 3 (France)
- University of Friburg (Switzerland)
- University of Vaasa (Finland)
- University of Szeged (Hungary)

**LAW**
- Universidad de Belgrano (Argentina)

**COMPUTER ENGINEERING**
Harbin Institute of technology; Tongji University; University of Electronic science and Technology of China (China)

**BUILDING ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE**
- Tongji University (China)
ARAB UNIVERSITIES INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

MULTICOUNTRY projects

- **Queen Rania Scholarship Programme** (2004-2010)
- **Tempus** (4 projects as coordinator) (2007-2013)
- **DUNIA BEAM** (2012-2016)

International Networks

- **PEACE PROGRAM, EMUNI, UNIMED**

ERASMUS + projects

- **Turkey**: Erasmus Programme (21 agreements)
- **NEW!! ERASMUS PLUS ICM (KA107: 2015 - 2017)**
COUNTRY COOPERATION

- **PALESTINE**: 5 different programs supported by Italian and European Institutions with several Palestinian Universities: training courses for the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, two research projects FIRB - Ministry of Higher Education Italy and ASTIL-Lombardy region, MICAD, E-PLUS.

- **JORDAN**: Master program in human development and capabilities with University of Jordan; TEMPUS(JoMDE); 3 PhD SCHOLARS from AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF MADABA

- **SAUDI ARABIA**: FOUNDATION YEAR (Ministry of Higher Education Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

- **IRAQ**: Exchange programme with Baghdad University since 1999

- **SYRIA**: ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE ASHARA/TERQA (MISSION ARCHEOLOGIQUE SYRO FRANCAISE WITH UNIVERSITÉ LYON 2, CNRS PARIS, UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW)
DUNIA BEAM

Develop a University Network for Improving the move-Ability Between Europe And Middle-East

Coordinator: University of Pavia, Italy
Joint Coordinator: An-Najah National University (Palestine)

Duration: 48 months (2012-2016)

203 Mobilities
Middle East to Europe
- 45 undergraduates
- 41 masters
- 24 PhD
- 23 post-doc
- 20 staff

Europe to Middle-East
- 23 undergraduates
- 10 masters
- 1 PhD
- 4 post-doc
- 12 staff

EU Partners
University of Pavia, University of Bologna (Italy), University Montpellier II (France), University of Granada (Spain), Aarhus University (Denmark), Uppsala University (Sweden), University of Vilnius (Lituania), Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium), Freie University Berlin (Germany)

Lot 2 Partners
PALESTINE: An Najah University, Bethlehem University, Birzeit University
LEBANON: Université Saint-Joseph, American University of Beirut, Lebanese American University
JORDAN: Jordan University of Science and Technology, University of Jordan, Princess Sumaya University for Technology
SYRIA: University of Damascus, Arab International University
“E-PLUS” - ENHANCEMENT OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

- **Coordinator:** University of Pavia, Italy
- **Donor:** Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Direction for Cooperation and Development
- **Duration:** 4 years (2011-2014)  
  **Funds:** 1.500.000 euros
- **Main field:** PhD and post-graduate studies in Italy for Palestinian students (West Bank and Gaza Strip)
- **Palestinian Partners:**  
  **WEST BANK:** Al Quds University, An Najah University, Arab American University of Jenin, Bethlehem University, Birzeit University, Hebron University, Palestinian Polytechnic University, Palestine Technical University, Ministry of Higher Education  
  **GAZA STRIP:** Al-Azhar University, Islamic University of Gaza
- **Italian partners:** University of Bergamo, University of Bologna, IUSS-Institute of Advanced Studies of Pavia, Politecnico di Milano, University of Palermo, Sapienza-University of Rome, University of Siena, University of Trento
- **Action 1:** 15 PhD scholarships in different Italian Universities  
  - **Value added:**
    - 3 of them are supported by their home Universities
    - All the scholars are committed to return back in Palestine teaching at their Universities once obtained the PhD
- **Action 2:** Multidisciplinary course on development issues in Pavia for 20 students  
  - **Value added**
    - West Bank Universities decided to leave 6 scholarship for Gaza Students initially not included
THE MICAD PROGRAM AT BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY (1)

- In 2005 in the framework of a TEMPUS/MEDA project the University of Pavia together with Radboud University Nijmegen and University College Dublin supported Bethlehem University to build up a Master Program in Cooperation and Development (MICAD).
- 25 students each year; 2 years program, 500 frontal hours, exams and final thesis.
- After 10 editions, MICAD is example of sustainability and capacity building.
- Every year, Pavia and Bethlehem exchange professors (at least 8), students (at least 2) and interns (at least 2); one former Pavia student is actually working at MICAD.
- MICAD is part of the CDN-Cooperation and Development Network, a network of Masters that share a similar curriculum which objective is to train professionals in the international cooperation setting. The other 4 poles are: Pavia, Italy (Master C&D), Cartagena de Indias, Colombia (ELACID), Kathmandu, Nepal (MICD), Nairobi, Kenya (MECOHD).
- NEW AIM FOR THE NEXT YEARS: open MICAD in Lybia (2 masters one in west and one in east Lybia - Lybian academy and Omar El Mukhtar University).
LESSONS LEARNED - MICAD AND MORE IN GENERAL

• **PPP**, Public and Private Partnership in particular local and international NGOs and International Organization

• **Institutional and capacity building.** Students trained in Pavia now work at MICAD

• Collaboration between MICAD, Elacid Colombia and MICD Nepal has already started.

• The **academic year** is basically the same as in Europe

• No problems with **credit system**: easy to translate into ECTS

Challenges for Arab-EU academic cooperation:

• A common credit system in the whole Arab Region

• Collaboration in PhD studies and joint research
FUND FOR COOPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE

• **A BOTTOM-UP APPROACH**: The Fund is financed thanks to the contribution both of the students (2 Euros each taken by their university fees) and of the University itself.

• **COOPERATION WITH PVS**: incoming candidates - degree seeking; outgoing candidates: exchange

• **DEFINITION OF PVS**: as indicated in the World Bank List (incoming: lower income and middle over income countries; outgoing: all countries defined as PVS)

• **STUDENTS GIVE MONEY ——> STUDENTS SELECT STUDENTS**: The Selection Committee is composed by 4 Professors per area of study + 3 administrative staff from IRO, and 7 student’s representatives (7-7 balance). Students can have an active role by taking decision with the academic community

• **QUALITY ASSURANCE – INCOMING STUDENTS**: awarded by 1 year scholarship. After that, they have to demonstrate their academic achievements and apply for the second year scholarship (1 year + 1 year). Students do not pay any fees at the university.

• **OUTGOING CANDIDATES**: short mobility (3-12 months) of study, research or internship in a PVS also in 1 year after getting the degree. UNIPV give the possibility to choose any Institution they find (but priority to UNIPV partners). Mandatory requirements to be selected: have pre-acceptance letter from and home department and the host institution

**In 6 years**

90 outgoing students (12 to Middle-East) + 30 incoming students (6 from Middle-East)
**Strength**

- No more huge consortia - **bilateral** relations with non-EU universities - faster process
- Chance to establish new agreements in **new regions**
- Increase EU higher education **attractiveness**
- **Less competitive** than EM
- **Easier application process** than EM

**Weakness**

- **Erasmus+ ICM name** (what do the applicants understand???)
- **No more collaboration** and debate with other EU universities. National competition
- **List of non-EU Universities is mandatory** (!!!) during the application process
- Non-Eu partners could be **not familiar** with ICM requirements
- **1 project for each country** (maximum 77 projects!)
- **No more degree seeking candidates**
- **No more participation costs**
- **No guidelines** from NA
- Projects last from 1 of June 2015 to 31 May 2017 (2° semester 2017 completely lost???)
- EU universities use **a different approach** to award scholarships. **Non-Eu universities will get confused?**
- No mention about **insurance requirements**!!!
- **How to cover extra-travel costs??**
- **Costs of dissemination** up to each EU university
- No clear process for **zero-grant applicants**

**Merge Erasmus and Erasmus Mundus**
ERASMUS PLUS ICM AT UNIPV

- 19 projects presented by 4 March 2015 to Italian NA and awarded 15 (ENI SOUTH, ENI EAST, IPA, DCI ASIA, DCI CENTRAL ASIA, DCI LATIN AMERICA)
- Around 500,000 euros awarded.
- Projects start officially on 1 June 2015 BUT results published in August 2015 (!!!)
- The financial agreement with the NA still to be signed

UNIPV POLICY

- CALL FOR APPLICATION managed directly by UNIPV (both for incoming and outgoing candidates)
- Funds managed ONLY by UNIPV (scholarships, travel costs and organisational costs)
- First call for application for Teaching Staff mobility published on the end of September – both incoming and outgoing candidates. Mobilities will start from 15 November 2015
- In case there is no already an agreement with partner: candidates can apply any field of study the partners offering. BA will be signed accordingly
- On January 2016 call open for Students (IN and OUT) and the Student’s mobility will start in the A.A. 2016-17
- Distribution of scholarships per country; and not per partner university
- Open questions: extra-travel costs; health insurance; mobility tool data; calculation of extra-days; zero grant candidates with countries non included in the application
THANK YOU

REFERENCES

- **UNIPV**: [www.unipv.eu](http://www.unipv.eu)
- **DUNIA BEAM**: [www.duniabea.eu](http://www.duniabea.eu)
- **MICAD**: [http://www.bethlehem.edu/academics/business/MICAD](http://www.bethlehem.edu/academics/business/MICAD)

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