



# Erasmus+ in Azerbaijan and possibilities for cooperation

National Erasmus+ Office in Azerbaijan

Parviz Baghirov

[www.erasmusplus.org.az](http://www.erasmusplus.org.az)



European  
Commission



## Azərbaycan

- The largest country in the South Caucasus region
- Population: 9.7 Mio (2014)
- Area: 86.600 km<sup>2</sup>
- Capital: Baku
- Language: Azerbaijani
- Government: Presidential republic



# Higher Education System in Azerbaijan

- Three cycle degree system (bachelor, master and PhD)
- ECTS fully adopted and Diploma supplement issued
- Most common model 240+120 credits (4+2 years)
- Unified admission exams by a separate government body “State Committee on Student Admission”
- Quality assurance mechanisms:
  - At institutional level – quality assurance departments – self-assessment, surveys, improvement oriented
  - At national level – Accreditation Unit at Ministry of Education (institutional and programme accreditation)
- National Qualification Framework – still in the process of development (possible area of cooperation?)

# Higher Education System in Azerbaijan (as of 2015)

<b>Total # of HEIs</b>	<b>54</b>	
Type	Public (38)	Private (16)

<b>Total # Teaching staff</b>	<b>16 993</b>
-------------------------------	---------------

Students	BA	MA	PhD	Total
Sum	126518	32 835	3 941	163 146



## Current HE reforms in Azerbaijan

- Curriculum Development (Focus on joint degree programmes)
- University Autonomy
- Development of NQF-based academic standards
- Programme accreditation (in regulated professions: medicine, education, law)
- Improvement of university quality and management
- New financing formula development (student voucher)
- Development of Competitive Innovation Funds for HEI



# EU PROGRAMMES

- Bologna process membership since 2005
- 67% of HEIs involved
- In Tempus since 1995 (ENI East)
- Experience of regional and cross-regional cooperation
- 45 Tempus projects total. In Tempus IV (2008-2013) 30 projects awarded, 22 on-going, 26 institutions involved.
- 3 (2015) + 3 (2016) **national** CBHE projects
- 675 (2015) + 840 (2016) Erasmus+ credit mobility scholarships with more than half of programme countries (including 18 EU countries)
- Network of “Tempus-experienced” public and private HEIs



**Qafqaz University student  
IRANA ALIMOVA was  
on a student mobility  
and studied Chemical  
Engineering at Polytechnic  
Institute of Braganca**

“ During this time I had an opportunity to get new friends, I got theoretical and practical experience and a really good knowledge from prolific professors. Note that: Erasmus+ is not one year of your life, but your life in one year! ”



**Azerbaijan State Economic University staff member ANAR RZAYEV was on staff mobility and gave lectures on Geo-economics at University of Dunaújváros in Hungary**

“ The time spent in Europe with Erasmus+ gave me excellent possibilities to explore better university governance and get better acquainted with methodology of successful cooperation between higher education and business community. ”





# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

## TEMPUS III

1) TACIS 2004 Curriculum Development .

Partner : UNIVERSIDAD DE LLEIDA - Lleida (ES)

Title : Master Sciences et Gestion de l'Environnement.

2) TACIS SCM 2006 Structural Measure.

Partner : UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID - Madrid (ES) .Grandholder :  
UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER

Title : Designing Quality Assurance Systems in Azerbaijani Universities.



# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

## TEMPUS IV 1ST CALL

1) 144537-TEMPUS-2008-GR-JPCR.

Partner : Politechnical University of Madrid

Grandholder : University of Patras.

Title : Curricula Reformation and Harmonisation in the field of Biomedical Engineering.

2) 144882-TEMPUS-2008-DE-JPGR.

Partner : University of Alicante.

Grandholder : Universität Oldenburg.

Title : joint Projects - Gouvernance Reform.



# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

TEMPUS IV 3ND CALL

511337-TEMPUS-1-2010-1-DE-TEMPUS-JPHES.

Partner : University of Alicante, Spain, ES.

Coordinator : Leipzig University of Applied Science.

Title : Enhancement of role of universities in transfer of innovations into enterprise.



# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

## TEMPUS IV 4TH CALL

1) 516664-TEMPUS-1-2011-1-UK-TEMPUS-JPCR.

Partner : University of Granada, ES.

Coordinator : University of Leeds.

Title : Modernising Undergraduate Medical Education in EU Eastern Neighbouring Area.

2) 517002-TEMPUS-1-2011-1-GE-TEMPUS-JPCR.

Partner : University of Alicante, ES.

Coordinator : Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

Title : Migration and Higher Education - Building Skills and Capacity.

3) 517340-TEMPUS-1-2011-1-IT-TEMPUS-SMGR.

Partner : Universidad de Alicante, ES.

Coordinator : Universita' degli Studi di Genova.

Title : DOCUMENTATION FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE OF STUDY PROGRAMMES.

4) 517346-TEMPUS-1-2011-1-SE-TEMPUS-JPCR.

Partner : Technical University of Catalonia, ES.

Coordinator : Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan.

Title : Establishing Modern Master-level Studies in Industrial Ecology.



# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

TEMPUS IV 5TH CALL .

530340-TEMPUS-1-2012-1-AZ-TEMPUS-JPHES.

Partner : University of Alicante, ES.

Coordinator : Qafqaz University.

Title : ECDL National Operator and Test Centers in Azerbaijan.



# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

## TEMPUS IV 6TH CALL .

1) 543893-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-AZ-TEMPUS-SMGR.

Partner : Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, ES,

Universidad de Malaga (University of Malaga), ES.

Coordinator : Azerbaijan State Economic University.

Title : Development and improvement of the University Administration on International Affairs.

2) 544047-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-GE-TEMPUS-JPGR.

Partner : European University Continuing Education Network, ES.

Coordinator: David Tvildiani Medical University

Title : Project Actors Capacity Training in Caucasus.

3) 544178-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-PT-TEMPUS-JPCR.

Partner : Universidade da Coruña, ES.

Coordinator : Lisbon Technical University, Faculty of Architecture/

Title : RETHINK - Reform of Education THru International Knowledge exchange.

4) 544191-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-PT-TEMPUS-JPCR.

Partner : Universitat de Girona, ES.

Coordinator : Institut Supérieur d'Espinho.

Title : Licence Masters professionnels en management des activités hôtelières pour le développement de l'industrie touristique en Géorgie, Azerbaïdjan et Moldavie.

5) 544282-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-UK-TEMPUS-JPCR.

Partner : University of Murcia, ES.

Coordinator : University of Westminster

Title : The development of a curriculum and establishment of a regional training platform for haematology in life sciences and medicine

6) 544517-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-IT-TEMPUS-JPHES.

Partner : University of Alicante, ES

Coordinator : University of Genoa

Title : Centre for the Third Age Education



# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

## ERASMUS+ 1ST CALL CBHE KA2

1) 561732-EPP-1-2015-1-FR-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Partner : Universitat de Sevilla

Coordinator : Conservatoire National des Arts et Metiers.

Title: modernization of educational programs in climate engineering

2) 561784-EPP-1-2015-1-FR-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP.

Partner : Universitat de Barcelona.

Coordinator : Universite de Montpellier.

Title: Restructuring and development of doctoral studies in Azerbaijan in line with requirements of European higher education area

## ERASMUS+ 2nd CALL CBHE KA2

1) 573554-EPP-1-2016-1-GE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP.

Partner : UNIVERSIDAD DE ALICANTE.

Coordinator : IVANE JAVAKHISHVILI TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY.

Title : Promoting Migration Studies in Higher Education

2) 573630-EPP-1-2016-1-AZ-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP.

Partner : UNIVERSITAT POLITECNICA DE VALENCIA.

Coordinator : KHAZAR UNIVERSITY.

Title : Promoting Excellence in Teaching and Learning in Azerbaijani Universities



# Cooperation with Spanish HEIs

## ERASMUS+ 1 INTERNATIONAL CREDIT MOBILITY KA1

1. 2015-1-ES01-KA107-015381 UNIVERSITAT POLITECNICA DE VALENCIA - KHAZAR UNIVERSITY

2. 2015-1-ES01-KA107-015461 UNIVERSIDAD DE MURCIA - Universidad Azerbaiyana de las Lenguas

Total: 22 students





# National Erasmus+ Office in Azerbaijan

## Overall objective:

“to improve relevance, effectiveness and impact of the Erasmus+ Programme in the country through assistance to European Commission’s services and national authorities in the Erasmus+ programme implementation”

## Specific objectives:

- Promotion of the programme and assistance to potential applicants
- Monitoring of CBHE Projects
- Promoting Bologna process and providing information on the implementation of reforms (organization of seminars, conferences, conducting studies)
- Engagement in more structured dialogue with educational authorities, involving higher education stakeholders.



## AREAS OF COOPERATION UNDER ERASMUS+

- Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE-former Tempus)
- Credit mobility
- Joint Degree Master Programme



# AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL PRIORITIES UNDER CURRENT ERASMUS+ CBHE CALL

## Category A (Curriculum Development – VALID ONLY FOR JOINT PROJECTS!)

- Teacher training and Education Science
- Life sciences
- Physical Sciences
- Engineering and engineering trades
- Manufacturing and processing
- Architecture and building
- Agriculture, forestry and fishery
- Health
- Transport services
- Others (Multidisciplinary, Interdisciplinary)



# AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL PRIORITIES UNDER CURRENT ERASMUS+ CBHE CALL (CONTINUED)

## Category B (Improving quality of Education and teaching – valid for both Joint and SM Projects)

- Bologna process
- Learning and teaching tools, methodologies and pedagogical approaches including learning outcomes and ICT-based practices Governance, strategic planning and management of HEIs

## Category C (Improving management and operation of Higher Education Institutions – valid for both Joint and SM Projects)

- Governance, strategic planning and management of HEIs
- Internationalisation of higher education institutions
- Quality assurance processes and mechanisms
- Development of research and innovative capacities (excluding research activities)



# AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL PRIORITIES UNDER CURRENT ERASMUS+ CBHE CALL (CONTINUED)

Category D (Developing the Higher Education sector within society at large – valid for both Joint and SM Projects )

- University-enterprise cooperation, employability of graduates
- Knowledge triangle, innovation (reinforcing links between education, research and business)



# REGIONAL PRIORITIES UNDER CURRENT ERASMUS+ CBHE CALL

## Region 2

(Eastern Partnership Countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Territory of Ukraine as recognized by International Law)

### Category A (Curriculum Development – VALID ONLY FOR JOINT PROJECTS!)

- Teacher training and Education Science
- Social and behavioural science
- Law
- Physical Sciences
- Agriculture, forestry and fishery
- Health
- Environmental Protection



# REGIONAL PRIORITIES UNDER CURRENT ERASMUS+ CBHE CALL (CONTINUED)

## Region 2

(Eastern Partnership Countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Territory of Ukraine as recognized by International Law)

### Category B (Improving quality of Education and teaching – valid for both Joint and SM Projects)

- Learning and teaching tools, methodologies and pedagogical approaches, including learning outcomes and ICT based practices (inter alia, flexible learning paths, blended courses, virtual and real mobilities, practical placements etc)

### Category C (Improving management and operation of Higher Education Institutions – valid for both Joint and SM Projects)

- Governance, Strategic planning and management of HEIs (including human resource and financial management)
- Internationalisation of higher education institutions (including recognition mechanisms and mobility, international relations capacities)
- Access to and democratisation of higher education (including the disadvantaged groups of people and regions)



# REGIONAL PRIORITIES UNDER CURRENT ERASMUS+ CBHE CALL (CONTINUED)

## Region 2

(Eastern Partnership Countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Territory of Ukraine as recognized by International Law)

Category D (Developing the Higher Education sector within society at large – valid for both Joint and SM Projects )

- University-enterprise cooperation, employability of graduates
- Knowledge triangle, innovation (reinforcing links between education, research and business)
- International cooperation at regional level (among countries from the same region)
- Definition, implementation and monitoring of the reform policies





## Azerbaijani HEIs active in international cooperation

- Experienced HEIs
  - Baku State University – 8 Tempus projects
  - Azerbaijan Languages University – 5 Tempus projects (first Tempus grantholder in Azerbaijan)
  - Azerbaijan State Oil Academy – 7 Tempus projects
  - Azerbaijan Technical University – 6 Tempus projects
  - Azerbaijan Medical University – 6 Tempus project
  - Khazar University (private) – 7 Tempus projects (Recent project grantholder for CBHE)
  - State Universities in Sumgayit, Nakchivan, Ganja and Lenkoran (up to 7 Tempus projects)
- Very ambitious HEIs
  - Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy
  - Qafqaz University (private) – 7 Tempus Projects (Recent project grantholder)
  - Tourism University



# Contacts

- **NEO Azerbaijan** [www.erasmusplus.org.az](http://www.erasmusplus.org.az)

**Parviz Baghirov**

E-mail: [pbaghirov@erasmusplus.org.az](mailto:pbaghirov@erasmusplus.org.az)

[pbagirov@gmail.com](mailto:pbagirov@gmail.com)

Phone: (994 12) 4974865

(994 50) 2038865



Erasmus+



European  
Commission

Thank you!