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| **Coventry University European Policy Statement (updated 2015)**    Coventry University [CU] is committed to Erasmus activities through the context of its International Strategy. The University promotes and encourages students to take part in an Erasmus exchange or work placement whilst studying at CU. Through the Linguae Mundi programme the University offers a wide range of foreign language courses for all students and staff as well as English as a Foreign Language for incoming students. In recent years this has been enhanced with the development of external accreditation mechanisms linked to the Common European Framework for Languages [CEFR] leading to AQA certification further to enhance student employability through preparations for experiential mobility.  Academic staff at CU are encouraged to make use of the Erasmus teaching mobility that is available to them. Academic staff are advised on opportunities through teaching mobility workshops and briefings to apply for multilateral and thematic networks and CU promotes joint curriculum development with overseas partner institutions. CU encourages the development of courses and modules which have an International dimension.  The University has a long and distinguished record in European activities. CU has been an active participant in Erasmus student and staff exchanges since 1987. The University has also participated in Tempus, Leonardo da Vinci and has submitted bids for curriculum development, thematic networks and Erasmus Mundus.  CU will continue to promote Erasmus to students and staff via information leaflets, internet, information seminars, European Days, email etc. Every student who goes on an Erasmus exchange is given a copy of the Erasmus Student Charter. The Erasmus Student Charter and the Erasmus Policy Statement is available on the Centre for Global Engagement [CGE] Study Abroad web page.  The University adheres to its own Equal Opportunities Policy (EQP). As well as the Universities EOP, the Students Union at CU has a Equal Opportunities Policy. Both policies can be found on the CU website.  The University continues to promote and implement the principles of ECTS in all its ERASMUS student exchanges. The University operates a 120 credit year system in line with other UK universities. CU is committed to providing the highest quality of education for its home and international students. The curricula of the University and standards of the University’s awards are assured by quality assurance and enhancement mechanisms which operate within the University’s Quality Strategy.  Every outgoing Erasmus student is given information about the curriculum at the host University and is advised by their academic tutor which courses are suitable for their CU degree. Pre-departure information\meetings are offered to all outgoing Erasmus students.  CU offers every incoming Erasmus student the opportunity to attend the Orientation Programme which enables all international students to integrate into the University’s system before classes begin as well as access to other on-campus activities organised through innovative programmes such as Culturae Mundi [CM].  The University continues to promote and support the opportunities of staff mobility. Over 100 staff took part in staff mobility further to support the outward mobility agenda in 2014-15.  CU ensures that students who take part in a work placement in Europe complete the appropriate paperwork in order to apply for funding. Students must complete a placement agreement which has to be signed by them, the employer and the student’s tutor at CU. CU also makes sure that every student has an employment contract with the employer and that they are covered on their employer’s health and safety insurance.   CGE is responsible for providing the support and the monitoring of their student placement. Tutors monitor their students via email and visits to their students after the first month then at three-month intervals. All placements that students undertake may contribute to assessments by external bodies such as HEFCE and the QAA. |

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