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**Assessment Report on Foreign Relations  
SUA in Nitra for 2016**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Foreign relations were a priority of the University in 2016 and the University was active in student and staff mobilities, project activities, as well as in the field of bilateral and multilateral agreements concluded with universities throughout the world and in organization of international events.

The Report offers a review of mobilities for individual Faculties in terms of student study or traineeship mobilities and staff teaching or training mobilities within various programmes, bilateral cooperation in countries in both Europe and other world. It also provides a review of international activities, list of conferences and international educational projects.

In 2016, foreign relations at the University level were managed by International Relations Office (IRO) in cooperation with Deans' Offices of individual Faculties represented by Vice-Deans for international relations.

# **1 INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

In the field of education, SUA focused its activities on student and staff mobilities within:

- international EU programmes (especially ERASMUS + Action K103, ERASMUS MUNDUS, etc.)
- CEEPUS networks
- bilateral agreements.

## **1.1 Student Mobilities for Study**

In academic year 2015/16, our University sent 251 SUA students for study and traineeship mobilities, which represents 3 % of the total number of SUA students.

The highest number of students – 78.48 % (197 out of 251) – realized their mobilities within ERASMUS+ Action K 103. Out of the total number of outgoing students within ERASMUS+, 58.37 % of students realized traineeship mobilities and 41.62 % of students realized study mobilities.

12.5 % of students out of the total number of outgoing students realized their mobilities with CEEPUS support and 5.26 % of student mobilities were realized within bilateral agreements SUA has with foreign universities.

The support of other international programmes was used by 2.49 % of outgoing students.

In 2015/16, our University hosted 387 student mobilities from foreign universities. Out of that, 202 students, i.e. 52.2 %, came within summer schools organized by SUA within various international programmes.

ERASMUS+ Action K103 supported 17 % of incoming students and 15.48 % of students came within bilateral agreements. Other foreign students came with the support of Erasmus Mundus – 9.97 % – and 4.5 % of students came within CEEPUS and other EU programmes (TEMPUS).

**Table 1 Review of overall number of incoming and outgoing students in 2015/16**

Programme	Number of outgoing students	Number of incoming students
ERASMUS+ K103	197	65
CEEPUS	31	2
ERASMUS MUNDUS	1	38
Bilateral cooperation	13	59
Summer schools	5	202
Other	4	21
In total	251	387

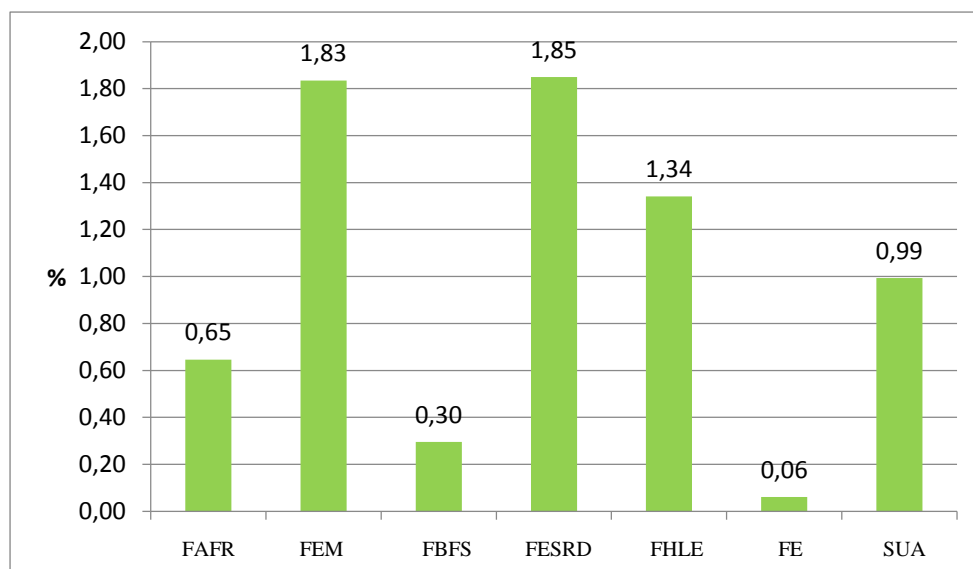
**1.1.1 EU Programme: Erasmus+**

In 2015/2016, 82 SUA students realized ERASMUS+ study mobilities and the Faculties with the highest percentage of outgoing students within ERASMUS+ are FESRD with 1.85 %, FEM with 1.83 % and FHLE with 1.34% and the highest number of students studied in the Czech Republic, Spain and Portugal.

**Table 2 SUA students at study mobilities within ERASMUS+ in 2015/16**

Faculty	Number of SUA enrolled students	Outgoing students at study mobilities within ERASMUS+	Outgoing students, study, % of outgoing students in relation to the number of enrolled students
FAFR	1702	11	0,65
FEM	2235	41	1,83
FBFS	1013	3	0,30
FESRD	757	14	1,85
FHLE	895	12	1,34
FE	1646	1	0,06
SUA	8248	82	0,99

**Chart 1 Percentage of outgoing students at study mobilities in 2015/16**



**Table 3 Outgoing SUA students at study mobilities within ERASMUS+ in 2015/16 according to countries of hosting foreign universities**

Mobilities of outgoing students – ERASMUS+ study in 2015/2016 according to countries							
Country	Faculty						In total
	FAFR	FBFS	FEM	FESRD	FHLE	FE	
Czech Republic	3		8	4	6	1	22
Hungary					2		2
Germany	2		2				4
Norway		1					1
Poland	3	1	2		2		8
Spain	1	1	8	1			11
Cyprus				3			3
Austria	1		2				3
Finland			1	1			2
Greece	1		1				2
Netherlands			3				3
Ireland			3	1			4
Latvia			1				1
Portugal			5	3	2		10
Slovenia			1				1
Turkey			1	1			2
Italy			3				3
In total	11	3	41	14	12	1	82

Incoming students from foreign universities at SUA:

In 2015/2016, SUA hosted 56 student mobilities for study within ERASMUS+ programme. The highest number of students studied at FBFS, FEM and FHLE and the highest number of them came from Spain, Poland and Turkey.

**Table 4 Number of incoming foreign students studying at SUA Faculties within ERASMUS+ in 2015/16**

Faculty	Erasmus+ study – incoming students
FAFR	8
FEM	12
FBFS	15
FESRD	6
FHLE	11
FE	4
SUA	56

**Table 5 Incoming foreign students in 2015/2016 according to Faculties and countries – programme Erasmus+ study**

Incoming foreign students 2015/2016 according to Faculties and countries – Erasmus+ study							
Faculty/ Country	FAFR	FEM	FBFS	FESRD	FHLE	FE	In total
Belgium			4				4
Czech Republic						1	1
France	3		1				4
Greece		1					1
Netherlands				1			1
Lithuania			1		2		3
Latvia	2		1				3
Hungary				1			1
Germany	1						1
Poland		1	3		5		9
Romania		2	1				3
Spain	2	2	1	4	4	2	15

Italy		3	1				4
Turkey		3	2			1	6
In total	8	12	15	6	11	4	56

### 1.1.2 Erasmus Mundus

Within Erasmus Mundus programme, one student of SUA realized a mobility in Russia and we hosted mobilities of 38 students.

**Table 6 Incoming foreign students at SUA within Erasmus Mundus in 2015/16**

Faculty	Number of enrolled students at SUA in 2015/16	Incoming students – study mobility in 2015/16
FAFR	1702	3
FEM	2235	5
FBFS	1013	0
FESRD	757	29
FHLE	895	1
FE	1646	0
SUA	8248	38

### 1.1.3 CEEPUS

SUA sent 28 students from FESRD and FHLE for mobilities within CEEPUS and hosted 2 student mobilities from foreign universities at FEM a FHLE.

**Table 7 Outgoing and incoming students at study mobilities in 2015/2016 according to Faculties within CEEPUS networks**

Faculty	Number of enrolled students at SUA	Outgoing students	Incoming students
FAPZ	1702	0	0
FEM	2235	0	1
FBP	1013	0	0
FESRD	757	7	0
FHLE	895	21	1
FE	1646	0	0
SUA	8248	28	2



#### 1.1.4 Other international programmes

15 student mobilities were hosted by FBFS within other international (TEMPUS).

#### 1.1.5 Bilateral cooperation

Within bilateral cooperation, 7 SUA students realized mobilities at foreign universities and SUA hosted 36 student study mobilities.

**Table 8 Outgoing and incoming students within bilateral cooperation in 2015/2016**

Faculty	Number of enrolled students at SUA	Outgoing students – study, bilateral cooperation	Incoming students – study, bilateral cooperation
FAFR	1702	0	0
FEM	2235	0	29
FBFS	1013	0	1
FESRD	757	5	5
FHLE	895	0	1
FE	1646	2	0
SUA	8248	7	36

#### 1.1.6 Summer schools

Summer schools were organized mainly within international educational projects and SUA hosted more students than were sent out.

**Table 9 Outgoing and incoming students within summer schools in 2015/16**

Faculty	Number of enrolled students at SUA	Incoming students, summer school	Outgoing students, summer school
FAFR	1702	2	1
FEM	2235	134	0
FBFS	1013	34	0
FESRD	757	11	0
FHLE	895	21	4
FE	1646	0	0
SUA	8248	202	5

## 1.2 Student Mobilities for Traineeship

Erasmus+, Erasmus Mundus, CEEPUS and bilateral agreements enabled our students to realize traineeship mobilities abroad and foreign students to realize traineeships at SUA.

### 1.2.1 Erasmus+

SUA sent 115 students for traineeship mobilities within ERASMUS+. The highest number of outgoing students was from FAFR and the highest number of students realized their traineeship mobilities within ERASMUS+ in the Czech Republic, Spain and Malta.

SUA hosted only 9 traineeship mobilities within ERASMUS +, most of them from Belgium.

**Table 10** Outgoing students at traineeship mobilities in 2015/16 within ERASMUS+ according to Faculties

Faculty	Number of enrolled students at SUA	Outgoing students, traineeship mobility	Percentage of outgoing students in relation to the number of enrolled students at Faculties in 2015/16, traineeship mobility
FAFR	1702	54	3,17
FEM	2235	21	0,94
FBFS	1013	23	2,27
FESRD	757	8	1,06
FHLE	895	8	0,81
FE	1646	1	0,06
SUA	8248	115	1,39

**Tabuľka 14** Prehľad o počte prijatých študentov z programu ERASMUS+ zo zahraničia za účelom stáže v ak. r. 2015/16

Faculty	Incoming students, traineeship mobility
FAFR	0
FBFS	5
FEM	0
FESRD	0
FHLE	2
FE	2
In total	9

### 1.2.2 CEEPUS

3 students from FBFS realized traineeship mobilities within CEEPUS.

### 1.2.3 Bilateral cooperation

SUA sent 6 students to realize traineeship mobilities abroad and hosted 23 student mobilities.

**Table 14**      **Outgoing and incoming students at traineeship mobilities within bilateral cooperation in 2015/16**

Faculty	Number of enrolled students at SUA	Outgoing students, traineeship within bilateral cooperation	Incoming students, traineeship within bilateral cooperation
FAFR	1702	2	13
FEM	2235	1	0
FBFS	1013	0	10
FESRD	757	0	0
FHLE	895	3	0
FE	1646	0	0
SUA	8248	6	23

It can be confirmed that the highest number of outgoing and incoming students realized their mobilities with the support of ERASMUS+.

### 1.3 Outgoing Staff Mobilities

Staff mobilities were in 2015/2016 realized mostly within ERASMUS+, ERASMUS MUNDUS, CEEPUS and bilateral agreements and they represented 206 mobilities in total.

#### 1.3.1 Erasmus+

Number of outgoing staff mobilities can be seen in the following Tables.

**Table 15 Outgoing staff teaching mobilities according to Faculties and countries within ERASMUS+ in 2015/16**

Faculty/ Country	FAFR	FBFS	FEM	FESRD	FHLE	FE	In total
Czech Republic		3	8		3	1	15
Finland	1				1		2
Poland	1		6	3	1	3	14
Spain				1			1
Sweden				1			1
Italy				1			1
In total	2	3	14	6	5	4	34

**Table 16 Outgoing staff training mobilities according to Faculties and countries within ERASMUS+ in 2015/16**

Faculty/ Country	FAFR	FBFS	FEM	FESRD	FHLE	FE	Other workplaces	In total
Czech Republic	2	1	4	1	2	2	1	13
Lithuania					1			1
Poland	1	2				1	2	6
Portugal			2		1			3
Austria				1			2	3
Slovenia	1							1
Spain		1						1
In total	4	4	6	2	4	3	5	28

The following Table shows the development of the number of staff mobilities in 2013-2016.

**Table 17 Development of the number of staff mobilities within ERASMUS+**

Type of mobility teaching/training (Te/Tr)	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Te	Tr	Te	Tr	Te	Tr	Te	Tr
FAFR	2	7	5	4	1	4	2	4
FBFS	5	6	10	3	2	12	3	4
FEM	8	4	9	1	9	8	14	6
FESRD	6	3	4	2	7	9	6	2
FHLE	2		4	3	3	3	5	4
FE	4	1	4	2	1	3	4	3
Other workplaces		3		8		3		5
In total	27	24	36	23	23	42	34	28

### 1.3.2 Erasmus Mundus

Within Erasmus Mundus, only FEM and FESRD staff mobilities were realized.

### 1.3.3 CEEPUS

31 staff mobilities were realized within CEEPUS.

### 1.3.4 International programmes

International programmes supported 80 SUA staff mobilities.

### 1.3.5 Bilateral cooperation

Within bilateral cooperation, SUA staff realized 30 mobilities.

## 1.4 Incoming Staff Mobilities

In 2015/2016, 223 staff mobilities were hosted by SUA.

### 1.4.1 Erasmus+

SUA hosted 77 teaching staff mobilities within ERASMUS+ 77.

**Table 17 Incoming teaching staff mobilities within Erasmus+ in 2015/2016**

Faculty	Incoming teaching staff mobilities within Erasmus+
FAFR	16
FBFS	11
FEM	20
FESRD	15
FHLE	8
FE	7
Other workplaces	0
SUA	77

There were also 39 training staff mobilities realized at SUA.

**Table 18 Incoming training staff mobilities within Erasmus+ in 2015/2016**

Faculty	Incoming training staff mobilities within Erasmus+
FAFR	7
FBFS	6
FEM	3
FESRD	4
FHLE	2
FE	9
Other workplaces	8
SUA	39

### 1.4.2 Erasmus Mundus

In 2015/2016 SUA hosted 3 staff mobilities within Erasmus Mundus at FESRD and FE.

### 1.4.3 CEEPUS

There were 26 CEEPUS staff mobilities realized at SUA.

**Table 19 Incoming staff mobilities within CEEPUS in 2015/2016**

Faculty	Incoming staff mobilities within CEEPUS in 2015/2016
FAFR	0
FBFS	0
FEM	4
FESRD	3
FHLE	6
FE	13
SUA	26

#### 1.4.4 International programmes

International programmes enabled SUA to host 26 staff mobilities.

**Table 20 Incoming staff mobilities within international programmes in 2015/2016**

Faculty	Incoming staff mobilities within international programmes in 2015/2016
FAFR	0
FBFS	3
FEM	19
FESRD	0
FHLE	0
FE	4
SUA	26

#### 1.4.5 Bilateral cooperation

There were 45 staff mobilities realized at SUA within bilateral cooperation.

**Table 21 Incoming staff mobilities within bilateral cooperation in 2015/2016**

Faculty	Incoming staff mobilities within bilateral cooperation in 2015/2016
FAFR	16
FBFS	10
FEM	4
FESRD	10
FHLE	3
FE	2
SUA	45

## **2 REVIEW OF CENTRALIZED ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY IRO FOR ACADEMIC MOBILITIES DEVELOPMENT IN 2016**

In 2016 IRO organized, coordinated or participated in organization of various events.

- **2 February 2016** Rector of SUA Dr.h.c. prof. Ing. Peter Bielik, PhD. Welcomed representatives of new management of Confucius Institute in Bratislava to discuss future development. In 2016 SUA applied for creation of Confucius class at SUA, which would enable enhanced Chinese language teaching and exchange mobilities with Chinese universities. SUA has offered teaching of the Chinese language since September 2014.
- **4 February 2016** SUA was awarded Jean Monnet Networks Plaque by EACEA within Jean Monnet Network project No. 564651-EPP-1-2015-1-SK- EPPJMO-NETWORK coordinated by FESRD.
- A group of SUA students attended an intense study mobility at Louisiana State University in USA in **9-17 April 2016** based on the agreement of universities, which has enabled us to organize this type of cooperation with our USA partner for more years. Such study mobility is also planned for 2017.
- Representatives of Chinese Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences visited SUA on **26 April 2016** who are a partner of SUA mainly in common research and publication activities.
- On **17 May 2016** SUA Rector Dr.h.c. prof. Ing. Peter Bielik, PhD. welcomed representatives of Russian St. Petersburg State Agrarian University, Kabardino-Balkarian State University and Russian State Agrarian University to discuss deeper cooperation possibilities.
- SUA Rector Dr.h.c. prof. Ing. Peter Bielik, PhD. attended a meeting in Warsaw on **18 - 19 May 2016** on the occasion of 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of Warsaw Agricultural University and the Rector of VAU was awarded Golden Medal of SUA for long-term cooperation.
- On **7-14 June 2016** SUA Rector Dr.h.c. prof. Ing. Peter Bielik, PhD. attended a conference in Chinese Ningbo and gave lectures during EDU EXPO, as well as bilateral visits and meetings and presented SUA to Chinese partners. The visit to China also resulted in signing of agreement on cooperation with Zhejiang Wanli University.



- On **12 July 2016** SUA Rector Dr.h.c. prof. Ing. Peter Bielik, PhD. welcomed representatives of Korea University, Seoul National University a Chungbuk National University at SUA.
- Since **27 June** to **9 July**, Visegrad University Association organized Summer school named FOOD SCIENCE AND BUSINESS STUDIES: Traditions meet novelties at SUA in Nitra and Sz. Istvan University in Gödöllő. VUA celebrated the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment in 2016 and brings together 57 universities from 23 countries and SUA Rector acts as its President.
- On **26 August 2016** SUA was visited by Zhejiang Wanli University, China and the visit resulted in signed agreement on deeper cooperation.
- On **14 September 2016** SUA was visited by Ukrainian Zaporozhye National Technical University.
- VUA General Assembly took place on **18-20 September 2016** at Sz. Istvan University in Gödöllő, Hungary.
- On **26 September 2016** SUA opened the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Chinese language teaching, which is accompanied by annual summer school organized by FEM.
- On **19 October 2016** a meeting of SUA Scientific Council and FESRD and FEM Scientific Councils took place on the occasion of awarding Doctor Honoris Causa degrees to prof. dr. ir. Guido Van Huylenbroeck from Ghent University, Belgium, and prof. Dr. Wilhelmus Johannes Maria Heijman from Wageningen University, Netherlands, for active cooperation.
- Ghent University, Belgium, organized General Assembly of ICA Association for European Life Sciences Universities on **25 October 2016** and SUA Rector was elected as Member of the Council for Middle and Eastern Europe.
- Representatives of SUA visited important Russian partner universities on **1-5 December 2016** and SUA Rector was awarded Profesor Honoris Causa degree by Belgorod State Agrarian University.
- SUA was visited by representatives of Eszterházy Károly University **8 December 2016** and they signed memorandum on cooperation and Erasmus+ bilateral agreement.

In 2016 IRO organized or participated in organization of several events, such as Erasmus Village, VUA summer school, and VUA annual meeting.

### **3 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ORGANIZED (OR CO-ORGANIZED) BY SUA IN NITRA IN 2015/2016**

#### **FAFR:**

**Modern aspects of maintaining human health, IX. international conference**

**Biodiversity after the Chernobyl accident**

**Rational use of fertilizers XXII. CULS Prague International Conference**

**36<sup>th</sup> Seminar on rational use of industrial fertilizers**

**COST Action FA1206 (STREAM) meeting titled „Ecological implications of strigolactones“**

#### **FBFS:**

**Animal Physiology 2016, Czech Republic**

**Risk Factors of Food Chain 2016, Rzeszów, Poland**

**Biotechnology and quality of raw material and food**

#### **FEM:**

**International scientific days 2016**

#### **FESRD:**

**Fast-growing Trees and Plants Growing for Energy Purposes**

**Towards climatic services**

**Sustainability of Rural Areas in Practice**

**EU Land Policy- the Pathway towards Sustainable Europe**

**EthnoEco I – The First Seminar on Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Slovakia**

**Legal, economic, managerial and environmental aspects of performance of competencies by municipalities (4th year)**

#### **FHLE:**

**Papradno 2016 - 9. International scientific fruitgrowing seminar**

**Horticulture-architectural proposal of recreational space in Banská Štiavnica**

**Water quality monitoring**

**Science of the youth 2016**

**International seminar – Project Inspiration and Project Risk**

**ENVIRO 2016**

**TF:**

**Student scientific conference 2016**

**Technical systems quality and reliability**

**XVIII. International scientific conference of youth 2016**

## **4 PROMOTION OF SUA, MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

In 2016 SUA actively focused on international cooperation by means of membership in the following international organizations and associations:

**VUA - Visegrad University Association** bringing together 57 universities from 23 countries

**EUA - European University Association** with tens of European universities

**DRC – Danube Rector’s Conference** with 50 universities from 13 countries

**Danube Knowledge cluster** improving life quality

**ASECU - Association of Economic Universities of South and Eastern Europe and the Black Sea Region** bringing together economically-oriented universities of the regions

**IAU – International Association of Universities** founded by UNESCO in 1950 with institution from 150 countries

**ICA / CASEE – Association for European Life Science Universities** with more than 60 universities

**ISEKI Food Association (Integrating Food Science and Engineering Knowledge Into the Food Chain)** bringing together universities, research institutes and companies

**International Agrarian Research and Development Cluster of the river Tisza basin**

## 5 INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS REALIZED AT SUA IN 2016

In 2016 there were **46** international educational projects realized at SUA – 2 of them at the level of the University and 44 at the level of Faculties. They were realized within programmes such as Erasmus+, LLP, Tempus, Erasmus Mundus, IVF and CEEPUS.

The highest number of Faculty projects was realized at FEM (39.1%), FESRD (25 %), FE (6.5%), FAFR (10.9%), FHLE (10.9%) and FBFS (3.3%). In total, SUA obtained **1,398,981.6 EUR**. The University projects represented **536,112 EUR**, Erasmus+ KA103 represented 488,464 EUR and „Erasmus+ world“ KA107 represented 47,648 EUR.

**Table 27 Realized international educational projects in 2013-2016**

Realized international educational projects in 2013-2016				
Faculty	rok 2013	2014	2015	2016
FAFR	44 100	12 256	3 000	4 443.97
FBFS	55 678.00	44 563	26 011	34 466.65
FHLE	628.00	24 265	1178983*	10 799,00
FE	25 251	42 776	14 295	8 290
FEM	80 756.51	74 922	535 258	269 505
FESRD	188 389.60	782 416	426 306	535 365
SUA "Erasmus"(LLP Erasmus, Erasmus+ KA103)	382 134.00	494 823	488 464	514 755
SUA Erasmus+ KA107			73 305	90 080
SUA	776936.61	1476021	2745622	1467704.5

\*Structural funds included

## **6 CONCLUSION**

Problematic aspects are less clear register of student and staff mobilities within other than Erasmus+ programmes as well as that of international educational projects in UIS.

### **Draft measures:**

1. promotion of SUA
2. consistent registration of international educational projects
3. reporting of all student mobilities to IRO
4. supporting Chinese language teaching
5. administrative supporting Confucius class
6. organisation of study mobility at LSU, USA
7. promotion of Erasmus+
8. search for new partner institution for student mobilities