

ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

STRAND 1

STRIVE PROJECT

**Strengthening Internationalization of
Vietnamese Emerging Universities**

**AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING
THE VIETNAMESE
INTERNATIONALIZATION VIRTUAL
CENTRE**

Milestone #8

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Article 1 – Preamble

This **AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE VIETNAMESE INTERNATIONALIZATION VIRTUAL CENTRE** is between the following parties:

Hanoi University (HANU), established in Building A km 9 Nguyen Trai, Dai Mo,, Hanoi 10000, Vietnam, legally represented by Professor Nguyen Van Trao, Rector,

and

Phu Xuan University (PXU), established in 28 Nguyen Tri Phuong, Hue 49000, Vietnam, legally represented by Nguyen Huu Chuc, Executive Vice Rector,

and

Quang Ninh University of Industry (QUI), established in Mao Khe Ward, Quang Ninh Province 200000, Vietnam, legally represented by Professor Hoang Hung Thang, President,

and

Academy of Public Administration and Governance (APAG), established in 77 Nguyen Chi Thanh, Hanoi 100000, Vietnam, legally represented by Professor Ba Chien Nguyen, President.

and

AlmaLaurea Interuniversity Consortium (AlmaLaurea), established in Viale Angelo Masini 36, Bologna 40126, Italy, legally represented by Professor Ivano Dionigi, President,

and

University of Evora (UEVORA), established in Largo Dos Colegiais 2, Evora, 7000 803, Portugal, legally represented by Professor António José Estevão Grande Candeias, Rector,

and

University of Tuscia (UNITUS), established in Via S. Maria in Gradi 4, Viterbo 01100, Italy, legally represented by Professor Tiziana Laureti, Rector.

(hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Parties” and individually as a “Party”)

The Parties recall their successful cooperation within the framework of an Erasmus+ funded project and express their shared intention to further strengthen and sustain this collaboration through the creation of the Vietnamese Internationalization Virtual Centre.

This Agreement reflects the common understanding of the Parties and sets out a non-binding framework for voluntary cooperation, in line with the principles governing Erasmus+ projects, including openness, dissemination of results, sustainability, and respect for institutional autonomy.

Article 2 – Context and background

The Parties have set their collaboration within the framework of STRIVE Project, “Strengthening Internationalization of Vietnamese Emerging Universities”, reference number 101128558, funded under the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

During the implementation of the project, the Parties developed shared methodologies and tools, recognized a stable network of academic cooperation, and produced tangible results with clear potential for further dissemination, exploitation, and long-term impact.

In accordance with Erasmus+ requirements regarding the sustainability and valorisation of project results, the Parties consider it appropriate to capitalise on the achievements of the STRIVE Project by creating the Vietnamese Internationalization Virtual Centre as a strategic tool to foster and expand their future cooperation, providing a structured yet flexible framework for continued collaboration.

Article 3 – Establishment and nature of the Centre

The Parties hereby agree to establish the Vietnamese Internationalization Virtual Centre (hereinafter referred to as the “Centre”).

The Centre shall:

- Operate as a virtual, non-profit, and non-legal entity;
- Serve as a collaborative framework for academic and institutional cooperation;
- Not create financial, legal, or employment obligations for the Parties.

The Centre is based on voluntary participation and mutual trust and shall function in full respect of the internal rules and procedures of each Party.

Article 4 – Mission and objectives of the Centre

The mission of the Centre is to promote, sustain, and further develop the results and networks established through the STRIVE Project, while contributing to the following objectives:

- To enhance the visibility of the internationalization strategies of the Parties;
- To monitor the international activities of the Parties;
- To promote networking and sharing of information on the internationalization opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ programme and other international programmes;
- To enhance the mobility opportunities for students and staff by providing relevant and accurate information on the Erasmus+ programme;
- To facilitate international partnership and cooperation activities;
- To provide support for strengthening the internationalization of institutions also promoting the signing of collaboration agreements (MoUs) among universities.

Article 5 – Activities of the Centre

The Centre may carry out, on a voluntary and best-effort basis, the following activities:

- Building international partnerships
 - Establishing and managing collaborations with EU partners and worldwide;
 - Facilitating field visits and institutional agreements with foreign universities and organizations;
 - Supporting joint degree programs, research projects, and conferences;
 - Promoting grant proposals or funding applications for international projects.
- Supporting international mobility of students and staff
 - Providing information and counselling to students and staff on Erasmus+ mobility opportunities;
 - Collaborating with foreign institutions for reciprocal exchange agreements.
- Monitoring international cooperation
 - Reporting on students and staff mobility experiences;
 - Tracking progress on internationalization and identifying areas that need enhancement.
- Dissemination and outreach
 - Developing promotional materials, including storytelling of mobility experiences;
 - Spreading the Centre's activities on Parties' websites and social media channels;
 - Liaise with other higher education institutions in the country and relevant stakeholders.

This list is indicative and non-exhaustive. Activities may evolve in response to the needs and interests of the Parties.

Article 6 – Resources made available to the Centre

The Centre shall rely on resources voluntarily made available by the Parties, which may include:

- Academic, technical, or administrative expertise;
- Digital platforms, tools, and communication channels;
- Access to existing information on international dimension and dissemination materials.

In particular, the Parties made available to the Centre the following human resources:

- 1 Strategy Development officer;
- 1 Dissemination officer;
- 1 IT Officer.

All partners are committed to provide the necessary resources to ensure the well operating of the Centre.

Article 7 – Responsibilities and commitment of the parties

The Parties commit themselves to:

- Cooperate in good faith and in a spirit of openness and mutual respect;
- Contribute to the activities of the Centre on a voluntary basis, also providing information and data for the monitoring of the international dimension of the Party;
- Promote the Centre and its activities within their respective institutions and networks;
- Ensure that any involvement in Centre activities is consistent with Erasmus+ principles and institutional policies.

Each Party remains fully autonomous and responsible for its own actions.

The European partners of the STRIVE Project, namely AlmaLaurea Interuniversity Consortium, University of Evora and University of Tuscia, are committed to promote the Centre's activities, share news on cooperation possibilities, provide consultancy to the Centre upon request of the Parties, including short-term on-site visits.

Article 8 – Governance structure and organigram of the Centre

The Centre shall adopt a light and flexible governance structure, which is detailed below, in line with the unit roles:

- An Honorary Chair, responsible for facilitation and external representation;
- A Strategy Development unit, composed of one representative per Party, in charge of implementing the Centre's activities and of updating the information related to the international dimension of the Parties;
- A Dissemination unit, composed of one representative per Party, in charge of promoting the Centre's activities among students and staff and for networking with new stakeholders;
- An IT unit, composed of one representative per Party, in charge of the technical maintenance of the Centre's website.

Decisions shall be taken, as far as possible, by consensus. The governance structure may be adapted by mutual understanding among the Parties. Periodic meetings among the Parties could/shall be arranged in accordance with the operating needs.

At present, the organigram of the Centre, as defined by the Parties, is the following:

Role	Name	Party	Position
Honorary Chair	Nguyen Van Trao	HANU	Rector
Head of Strategy Development unit	Dang Thi Phuong Thao	HANU	Lecturer, Director of ItaCentro
Strategy Development officer	Tran Nguyen Dieu Phuc	PXU	Staff at Institute for Partnership Development
Strategy Development officer	Ha Thi Ngoc Mai	QUI	Staff at Department of Science Technology and International Relations
Strategy Development officer	Nguyen Thi Ngoc Hien	APAG	Staff at Department of Science Management and International Cooperation
Head of Dissemination unit	Dang Thi Phuong Thao	HANU	Lecturer, Director of ItaCentro

Dissemination officer	Nguyen Huu Chuc	PXU	Acting Rector
Dissemination officer	Ta Van Kien	QUI	Head of Department of Science Technology and International Relations
Dissemination officer	Tran Thi Lan Anh	APAG	Vice Dean, Faculty of Law
Head of IT unit	Duong Nguyen Hoang	HANU	Vice Director of the Information Technology – E-learning Center
IT officer	Nguyen Bao Phuc	PXU	IT staff
IT officer	Le Ho Hieu	QUI	Director, Admissions, Information and Communication Center
IT officer	Dao Viet Cuong	APAG	Technical staff
EU Support officer	Luisa Mengoni	AlmaLaurea	Project manager for international relations
EU Support officer	Enrico Dongiovanni	AlmaLaurea	Project manager for international relations
EU Support officer	Cristina Barroca Dias	UEVORA	Vice-Rector for Teaching and Pedagogical Modernization
EU Support officer	Domingos Romão	UEVORA	Senior official within Rectorate Services unit
EU Support officer	Carlo Contardo	UNITUS	Head of Mobility and International Cooperation

Article 9 – Centre’s website and contents

The Parties agree to establish and maintain a common website for the Centre, which shall serve as the main tool for:

- Visibility and communication;
- Dissemination of results;
- Information sharing.

The website shall be hosted on the servers of Hanoi University at the following address: <https://ivc.hanu.edu.vn/>.

It shall include the following sections:

- Homepage (including STRIVE Project promotional and testimonial video);
- The Centre (including mission, organigram, activities);
- The Network (including list of members and hyperlinks to institutional websites);
- Boost International Cooperation (including link to partners search on EU Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal and to Erasmus+ CBHE calls for proposal);
- Information on International Dimension (including main indicators taken by Parties’ infosheets on international dimension developed under the STRIVE Project, and hyperlinks to detailed infosheets’ websites);
- Internationalization Data (visualization of the monitoring tool developed under the STRIVE Project);
- News (including events organized by the Centre and by the Parties);
- How to join (including sample of commitment letter).

The website shall comply with Erasmus+ communication and visibility requirements, including acknowledgement of EU funding where relevant.

Content shall be available in English and Vietnamese, be accurate, regularly updated, and aligned with open-access and dissemination principles promoted by Erasmus+.

Article 10 – Admission of new members

The Centre welcomes new institutions or organisations whose profile and objectives are consistent with its mission.

Admission shall be subject to a simple and transparent procedure consisting on:

- An expression of interest submitted by the candidate organisation in the form of a letter of commitment (see Annex I to this Agreement);
- Review and approval by the existing Parties by mutual agreement.

New members shall be granted the same rights and shall adhere to the same principles as existing Parties.

Article 11 – Duration and evolution

This Agreement shall take effect from the date of signature and shall remain in force for an initial period of 5 years, renewable by mutual understanding.

The Agreement may be adapted or terminated at any time by common agreement of the Parties, without financial or legal consequences.

Article 12 – Non-binding nature

This Agreement reflects the intentions of the Parties but does not create legally binding obligations under national or international law.

Any specific activities requiring binding commitments shall be governed by separate agreements, if necessary.

Article 13 – Final provisions

This Agreement may be amended by written mutual consent of the Parties.

It is drawn up in English, which shall be the working language of the Centre together with Vietnamese.

Signatures

For **Hanoi University**

Professor Nguyen Van Trao

Rector

Date

Signature

For **Phu Xuan University**

Professor Nguyen Huu Chuc

Executive Vice Rector

Date

Signature

For **Quang Ninh University of Industry**

Professor Hoang Hung Thang

Rector

Date

Signature

For **Academy of Public Administration and Governance**

Professor Ba Chien Nguyen

President

Date

Signature

For **AlmaLaurea Interuniversity Consortium**

Professor Ivano Dionigi

President

Date

Signature

For **University of Evora**

Professor António José Estevão Grande Candeias

Rector

Date

Signature

For **University of Tuscia**

Professor Tiziana Laureti

Rector

Date

Signature

Annex I: Sample of commitment letter for membership

Logo of
your
institution

With the present, I the undersigned **[Title, Name and Surname, Position of the relevant person]**, legal representative of **[Full name of your institution]** express the interest of **[Full name of your institution]** in becoming a member of the “Vietnamese Internationalization Virtual Centre”, created in the framework of the Erasmus+ KA2 CBHE STRIVE Project, “Strengthening the Internationalization of Vietnamese Emerging Universities” and hosted by Hanoi University,

[Full name of your institution] is committed to provide its academic, technical, or administrative expertise, digital platforms, tools, and communication channels, access to existing educational or dissemination materials and relevant information and data for allowing the Centre to accomplish its mission and activities.

In particular, the following human resources have been identified to join the Centre’s organigram:

[Title, Name and Surname, Position of the relevant person, Email, Phone number] as Strategy Development Officer in charge of implementing the Centre’s activities and of updating the information related to the international dimension of the University, under the coordination of the Centre’s Head of Strategy Development unit.

[Title, Name and Surname, Position of the relevant person, Email, Phone number] as Dissemination Officer in charge of promoting the Centre’s activities among students and staff and for networking with new stakeholders, under the coordination of the Head of Dissemination unit.

[Title, Name and Surname, Position of the relevant person, Email, Phone number] as IT Officer in charge of the Centre’s technical maintenance, under the coordination of the Centre’s Head of IT unit.

Any changes to the designated structure shall be promptly communicated to the Centre.

[Title, Name and Position of the Representative]

Signature and Stamp