Programmes in the field of science

**Horizon 2020**
Horizon 2020 is the European Union research and innovation framework programme for the period 2014-2020, with the EU budget of almost 80 billion euros. The structure of Horizon 2020 is based on three main priorities: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges. Horizon 2020 contributes to the realisation of the objectives of the key strategic documents of the EU in the area of research, technology and innovation – Europe 2020 and the Innovation Union – as well as to the building of the European Research Area.

Programme countries have put into place national support structures consisting of National Contact Points which are responsible for specific thematic areas and whose job is to provide information and assistance to potential applicants. In Croatia, the strategic management of the programme falls to the Ministry of Science and Education, whereas the majority of the NCP support structure is located at the Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes.
www.obvez2020.hr

**EURAXESS**
EURAXESS is the European Union programme aimed at fostering the mobility of researchers and scientists. The EURAXESS network covers 38 European countries and consists of 200 EURAXESS centres in all major European cities.

The EURAXESS service centre assists foreign researchers and scientists who visit Croatia to work on scientific projects. Additionally, this programme supports local researchers by providing them with information on research opportunities abroad, international cooperation, and available financial support and fellowships.
www.euraxess.hr
Programmes in the field of education, training and youth

**Erasmus+**
Erasmus+ is the biggest EU programme for education, training and youth. It spans the period 2014-2020 and has a budget of about €14.7 billion. The Erasmus+ Programme covers all EU programmes and initiatives, both European and international, in the fields of education (i.e., school education, higher education, adult education), training (vocational education and training), youth and sport.

Erasmus+ provides individual mobility opportunities for the purpose of spending a study or training period abroad, participating in professional development and training programmes, volunteering, youth exchange and engagement in international projects realised jointly by organisations somehow involved in the fields of science, training or youth work. Such cooperation is possible through strategic partnerships whose purpose is to support the modernisation of participating organisations and the development of their staff, leading to an improved quality of learning and teaching.

Individuals interested in Erasmus+ participation apply through their respective home institutions.

The Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes is the National Agency responsible for the implementation of the Erasmus+ Programme. The AMEUP provides information and assistance to potential beneficiaries, publishes calls for proposals for the allocation of mobility and strategic partnership grants, contracts and finances projects and monitors their realisation. Some of the Erasmus+ actions are centralised for all of the participating countries. Centralised actions are implemented by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency – EACEA (eacea.ec.europa.eu).

**Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS)**
The Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS) is a regional higher education mobility programme. The programme promotes international cooperation among higher education institutions and the mobility of students and staff. CEEPUS provides students and teachers with an opportunity to spend a period of study or to teach in one of the CEEPUS countries.

**Bilateral programme of mobility in higher education**
The bilateral programme of mobility in higher education is a programme of scholarships for Croatian and foreign citizens based on international bilateral agreements and cooperation programmes entered into by the Republic of Croatia and partner countries. In the implementation of the programme, the AMEUP cooperates closely with the Ministry of Science and Education, which is the signatory of bilateral agreements. Bilateral scholarships are awarded on the basis of public calls for applications, and they can be awarded for degree and non-degree mobility of students, PhD students and researchers as well as for summer language courses or one-semester Croatian courses for foreign students.

**European Solidarity Corps**
The European Solidarity Corps creates opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in their own country or abroad in the field of their interest. In this way they contribute to the enhancement of cohesion and solidarity in Europe as well as support local communities and help them respond to societal challenges.

**European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET)**
The European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) is a European instrument for the promotion of mutual trust and mobility in the field of vocational education and training. ECVET objectives include developing international mobility, promoting the recognition of learning outcomes in qualification acquisition, contributing to the transnational learning process, developing mutual trust and cooperation among VET institutions across Europe and encouraging lifelong learning.

**Eurydice**
Eurydice is a network of 42 national units based in all 38 countries of the Erasmus+ programme. Eurydice publishes descriptions of national education systems, comparative reports devoted to specific topics, indicators and statistics, as well as news and articles related to the field of education.