

## ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Izmir Kavram Vocational School was formally established in 2008 and it has the legal status of a private higher education institution. IKMYO aims to be an active partner in EU Education and Training Programs, and makes an effort to introduce these programs in its all units with the young and dynamic academic staff, many of whom received PhD degrees from prestigious universities.

IKMYO plans to establish strong, long-term and beneficial partnerships defining the number of participating students and staff, and the duration of their mobility via the interinstitutional agreements. These agreements ensure the variety of programs and departments included.

The vision of IKMYO which is stated as “the institution aims to be one of the most well recognized institutions within higher education in Izmir” can be interpreted in an international context to participate, contribute, learn and compete. IKMYO undertakes to support students and staff members participating in projects under the Programme. At the heart of the European higher education lies quality. To increase the quality of the education, IKMYO gives importance to the international cooperation and the objectives of the Bologna Process. Therefore, intercultural dialogue is encouraged.

As a global higher education institution, IKMYO cooperates with universities from different countries allowing students to best fit their own personal and career goals, benefit the most from the international exchanges and be a part of the local community as an international student at the host institution.

Studying and training abroad gives students an international perspective and adds social, cultural and professional contributions to their careers. Spending time abroad broadens people’s horizons and helps them acquire skills that are valued by employers – from foreign languages to adaptability and greater intercultural awareness. IKMYO would like to increase the number of well educated graduates, improve the quality and relevance of teaching and researcher training, and equip graduates with the knowledge and core transferable competences they need to succeed in highskill occupations.

In order to attract international students, IKMYO will pursue to increase the number of subjects offered and the study programmes in English. In the efforts to create more competitive and attractive degree programmes, IKMYO will have in mind key priorities related to Bologna Process namely: mobility, employability and quality. International collaboration and participation in the EU programmes means that the academic quality must be maintained, developed and presented outside the institution. International collaboration is vital from a quality assurance perspective. IKMYO aims to increase the quality of the education and believes that international cooperation contributes a lot to the quality of the education as students and academic staff participating in the exchange programmes and international projects gain experience and develop self-confidence. Therefore,

international cooperation and publicizing/promoting of the international exchange programmes will help to increase not only the number of people attracted to the College but also the quality of the education because such international programmes spark competition among students and staff, motivating them to work harder.

In today's competitive environment, higher education institutions and universities have to develop cooperation with industries. For this reason, IKMYO should make cooperation which includes the information transfer and training projects in addition to research and development activities. For regional development, IKMYO aims to achieve the target of cooperation among the research, higher education and business institutions. Izmir Kavram Vocational College would like to strengthen the knowledge triangle which is composed of the business world, the College and urban by encouraging partnership and cooperation with business.

Recently, digital communication has become vital. Administrative process will become much faster and efficient since paperless Erasmus will be introduced, IKMYO plans to contribute and be part of the new digital era. Due to the recent events that have affected world population, IKMYO is willing to develop creative solutions in order to increase the number of participants who aim to take part of the mobility programmes. Especially Nowadays the concept of work place gained different meanings, new skills and competencies are in great demand due to current changes occur around the world. IKMYO believes that accomplishing the program, gaining international experience, learning different perspectives will help students to find their desired jobs easily.

In conclusion, IKMYO contributes to the development of the region and the improvement of the city's standards of living. The main mission of the College is to prove the society with well-educated and entrepreneurial citizens, create and disseminate knowledge and expertise, as well as to pursue scientific, technological, cultural, and artistic excellence within a framework of the international quality standards.