

The Catholic University of Paris will be celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2025. In 2013, the university was planning its future in "The 2018 Campus" with the motto "**An Open Mind to the World**" reflecting its goal to increase its international partnerships. While reaffirming its position in the globalized and competitive environment of higher education and research, it launched in September 2019 a series of dynamic transformations leading to its 2025 jubilee, and whose effects will go on for many more years.

These dynamics and new projects are the result of a collective reflection on the identity of the Catholic University of Paris, its missions and its values, and this vision is expressed in **the "UNIVERSITAS" strategic plan** which is structured around four major axes:

- Axis 1: Research and teaching developments in touch with contemporary issues
- Axis 2: The integral development of the student
- Axis 3: A contribution to the international influence of Paris and France
- Axis 4: A stimulating university community

With this strategic plan, the Catholic University of Paris is positioned in perfect harmony with the priorities of the European policy in the fields of education and higher education, and the role of the Erasmus + program in the modernization and the internationalization strategy of the institution.

The Catholic University of Paris, confirms its commitment to a process of ever greater international openness, and its commitment to implement all the actions necessary to provide the greatest mobility offering for its students and staff, and to improve the quality and relevance of its training offers and research programs thanks to the relationships developed with our foreign partners. ICP thus intends to remain faithful to the line set in the Rome declaration of March 2017, when EU leaders had committed to working towards the achievement of a "Union where young people benefit from the best level of education and training and can study and find employment across the continent "

ICP has been a partner of the Erasmus + program from the start, and has seen the number of international students constantly increase from year to year, both for incoming and outgoing students, and it now has 259 partner universities, (four of which offer a double degree) 217 in Europe and 42 in the rest of the world.

The "integral development of the student" and the development of international mobility are intimately linked in the philosophy of education at ICP. Education does not stop in the university classrooms, and the global educational pact we are implementing first and foremost respects diversity, recognizes those who are different, which represents an enrichment for personal development. All of this contributes to strongly encouraging ICP students to go on mobility, discover different languages, cultures, lifestyles, and it places the Erasmus + program at the heart of our educational priorities, with the conviction that international relations participate in the construction of peace by building bridges between people and cultures.

ICP's international cooperation strategy aims to strengthen, on the one hand, the excellence of its research programs, of its teams and of its "Religion, Culture and Society" Research Unit (220 doctoral students) and, on the other hand, the success of its undergraduate students. An International Relations Steering Committee leads the review of proposals for new partnerships. They are judged according to their conformity to the fundamental educational missions of ICP, their potential to advance research at ICP in its fields and its themes of excellence and their potential to initiate other

collaborations with the partner institution as well as with other actors. The common scientific and / or educational interests, the relevance of the educational and research offerings, and a form of complementarity with the priorities of ICP are the determining elements.

With regard to student mobility, there are multiple objectives: to increase the linguistic level of students, to acquire adaptability and maturity, to be able to account for this within a professional project (cf. the "Habitus" pre-professionalization modules registered in all our undergraduate programs). The experience acquired abroad develops the entrepreneurial spirit.

The concept of mixed mobility has not yet been implemented at ICP but it is truly an interesting option that we will consider in the future. ICP pays particular attention to people with disabilities (150 students in 2020), who may find it difficult to spend an entire semester away from their medical facilities, and for these students it may be a unique opportunity. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its consequences for the coming semesters, this form of mobility may also be increasingly suitable.

Another priority for international cooperation agreements is to allow the development of education programs leading to a double degree, which increase the employability of students thanks to their scientific, linguistic, and intercultural added value.

The development of courses taught in English is also one of the strategic priorities of the Catholic University of Paris, in order to increase the number of courses which can serve as a basis for future international cooperation programs.

Beyond international relations, in constant interaction with the political, economic, digital, and cultural environment of Ile-de-France, ICP is a place of exchange and transmission between generations. It encourages commitment, openness to others and community life, and through its thirty-one student associations it develops creativity, taking responsibility with a focus on the inclusion of all, with a particular attention towards people with disabilities or frailty. Concerned with listening, welcoming and integrating everyone, ICP places accessibility and support for its students at the heart of its institutional strategy, in a spirit of solidarity and equal opportunities, regardless of their social, cultural or religious backgrounds. ICP is in line with the key competences enshrined in the European Higher Education Area which are "personal fulfillment and development, employability, social inclusion and active citizenship".

The values of ICP are fully in line with the appeal of President Jean-Claude Juncker, then President of the European Commission, at the Gothenburg summit in 2017:

"Education and culture are the key to the future - both for the individual and for our Union as a whole. (...) We must (...) ensure that education and culture are the engines of job creation, economic growth, social equity and, ultimately, unity. "