If you live in the EU and are looking for a programme to support your professional development as a teacher, Erasmus+ offers some very good opportunities. With an estimated budget of €26.2 billion for the period 2021-2027, Erasmus+ finances, among other things, teacher training courses. The programme 2021-2027 places a strong focus on social inclusion, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, leadership, sustainability and IT literacy, but also continues to support more "traditional" aspects of teacher education, including methodology.

You can participate in the programme, if you are a citizen or resident of the following countries:

## All EU member countries:

Belgium	Ireland	Cyprus	Netherlands	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Greece	Latvia	Austria	Finland
Czechia	Spain	Lithuania	Poland	Sweden
Denmark	France	Luxembourg	Portugal	
Germany	Croatia	Hungary	Romania	
Estonia	Italy	Malta	Slovenia	

Depending on agreements signed with the European Union, third countries involved in the programme are:

Iceland Liechtenstein North Macedonia Norway Serbia
Turkey

If you are neither citizen, nor resident of any of the countries listed above, your

organisation may still be eligible for Erasmus+ fundings, based on character and focus of the project, but this will require special research and application process.

You may need a visa for a project involving a third country. Your local Erasmus+ agency will support you with advice and information.

If you want to participate in an Erasmus+ funded course, there are several steps your educational organisation and you will need to follow.

## Step 1:

Sign up for an EU login account. This is the link you will need for that:

Create an account (europa.eu)

Using the key you will be provided with, register your school / educational organisation with your local Erasmus+ agency to receive your Organisation ID. You can use this ID for all future projects. You will not need a new registration.

As a part of the registration process, you will also need to upload and fill in the Financial Identification and Legal Entity forms. Use the link Forms for EU contracts

Here you will also find a downloadable pdf document with instructions for filling in the forms in English, French, and German.

The financial identification form is available in 22 languages at the following link:

Financial identification - European Commission (europa.eu)

The legal Identity Form is available in 22 languages at:

Legal entities - European Commission (europa.eu)

You can fill in the forms online (Adobe Acrobate 8 needed) or download, print, fill in, and submit a hard copy to your national agency. Filled-in online forms can and should be stored on your computer, too. You can find the necessary information for national agency for your country at:

National Agencies - Erasmus+ (europa.eu)

This includes national agency code, physical address, phone number, e-mail address, and website link.

Note: Even if you want to participate in a professional development course as an individual, the application must be sent through your organisation. Your assistance throughout the application project is typically helpful and valued.

Step 2

Choose a Course

All Pilgrims courses are eligible for Erasmus+ funding. Before you choose your course, please consider the following questions:

- What age group(s) are you teaching currently? Is this likely to change?
- Are you interested in general professional development, or do you need to focus on specific areas and context?
- Are you searching for a course for general professional development, or for helping you deal with specific challenges and requirements?
- What is your perceived language level in English? What is the level you feel comfortable to communicate on?
- Pilgrims course descriptions typically offer "Who is this course for" information, as well as the minimal required language level. Most importantly, please read through the content description of the course. This should be the main guide for making your choice. We use elaborate need-analysis tools on day one, so courses can be fine-tuned to meet participants' exact needs, but the content of the general course description will be the heart and core of the course. What may change is the day-by-day planning. This will depend on problems and areas you want to place a special focus on.

Note: Teachers working for the same organisation may want to apply for different courses, meeting their specific needs. This is not only possible, but highly recommended. Your course should be your choice, designed to make your work easier, more efficient, and more enjoyable.

Step 3

Apply for a course.

Teacher training courses are managed by the National Agencies. You will need to fill in the respective application forms.

Forms can typically be downloaded at the website of your Erasmus+ National Agency.

A useful tool to help you through the application process can be the Erasmus+ app: erasmusapp.eu