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AANT Accademia delle Arti e Nuove Tecnologie - Erasmus+ Policy Statement (EPS) 2021/2027

In 2021 AANT started a great expansion process. A key role in this process is represented by the internationalization sector, within which the Erasmus + program represents a fundamental part. Despite AANT's almost thirty-year experience in design, its structured international program is a recent consequence of this expansion. Such program is designed to extend the scope of the institution's network and connections with new companies and foreign partners. In fact, the core of the internationalization strategy envisages partnerships with European and non-European countries to achieve a decisive growth of the Academy from different point of views: didactical, cultural, but above all working methods.

The active participation of AANT in Erasmus + program will allow the Academy to expand technical, artistic and production skills in the fields of Art, Design and Graphic Design, for both students and teachers. At the same time it will provide visibility and be part of a network within which to discuss how to address the current changes in the design world due to post Covid-19 contingencies. In addition, the mobility of staff will allow the Academy to envelope the ability to deal with methods of work and selection increasingly related to the issues that all Academic Institutions face in Europe in this complex historical moment.

AANT's international strategy for the next 7 years is focused on Europe for exchange programs, and on starting collaborations with some specific non-European Countries to increase visibility and acquire credibility outside of Europe.

Institutional partners are selected on the basis of compatibility between methodologies and perspectives on design, with the ultimate goal of developing a synergy that is conducive to student, faculty, and

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institutional growth as a whole. A partnership proposal is first examined by the International Office, with the oversight of the AANT General Director. In the second stage, the Manager of International Office attempts to meet a potential partner's representative(s) whenever possible. Such meetings provide a useful opportunity to visit the infrastructure, e.g. laboratories and facilities in general. Partnership selections are based on: quality of methodology, programs, and instruction; interest from AANT students; compatibility between AANT programs and host university ones; language of instruction.

In Europe, the countries with which AANT has already established contacts and started collaboration negotiations and with which it plans to increase its presence are: Spain, France, Germany, Northern and Eastern Europe. AANT intends to expand its boundaries in the coming years, especially for internship programs and specific projects, in China, North America, India.

This process of expansion, planned for the next few years, will be accompanied by the expansion of the training offer, that will include the provision of courses in English. In that sense, the Erasmus+ program will have a great impact on the inter-institutional relations and it will support the strategy in negotiating international agreements.

With regard to the digital programs, AANT already has a deep knowledge and experience in the use of online platforms to provide online courses, specifically through Cisco Webex, Google Meet, Go to Meeting, Zoom tool - something that will be fundamental in facing the Erasmus Virtual Exchange initiative. Virtual didactic experiences will be part of the didactic system, as well as extracurricular activities and/or as an actual, integrated part of the existing courses. The existing technologies and tools also support the blended formula. In fact, this has already been activated for the majority of courses to face the COVID-19 crisis,

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allowing the students to attend lectures and extracurricular activities through the online formula. The aim is to set procedures for the incoming and outgoing virtual mobility.

AANT students are prepared to be citizens of the world. It is a common practice for AANT students to work abroad. This is because of the structure of teaching and its cultural approach, which is designed in its curricula to have no geographic boundaries. AANT is a very well known Academy in the professional world of Art and Design. Important Companies and Communication Agencies require AANT students to be employed in Italy and abroad, contributing to establish the name of AANT in the professional context. In that sense, AANT represents a moment of transition for their students that takes them into the profession with an open mind.

The international and Erasmus+ program will support the building process of a modern international environment, according to the European Education Area's guidelines such as digitalization of procedures and the adoption of inclusive policies. All AANT departments will be involved in international program and will be flexible in working and learning in order to guarantee quality in terms of decisions, activities, didactic offer, accessibility and security.

By welcoming foreign teachers, students and staff to AANT and by its international strategy, the Academy aims to:

- Develop artistic production and education related to the new creative professions, comparing and linking research, artistic education, artistic production and new job opportunities;
- Attracting a greater cross-section of society to higher education in the field of art, design and graphics, including through the promotion of disadvantaged or vulnerable people.



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- Further develop the recruitment of teaching staff, qualified in emerging disciplines, who are therefore competent in the application of new technologies to the field of art, design and graphics, and propose international workshops and art exhibitions as a showcase for the best students from our and partner institutions.
- Encourage student mobility to enhance learning by promoting transnational exchanges. In that sense AANT already offers financial aid and scholarships to international students interested in enrolling in both bachelor or master's courses
- Improve the use of ECTS and Diploma Supplement.
- Implement a partnership and collaborate with businesses in Europe and in non European Countries;

Propose internships for incoming and outgoing students in Rome, in the Lazio region and abroad, creating a permanent link between the years of study at the Academy and a period of internship in art galleries, museums, companies, professional studios, etc.

From now on, the intention of AANT is to make the Erasmus+ and international program linked to the future development steps of the Academy. Each step taken in terms of innovation, procedures, technologies and opportunities for students will be followed up by an update of the international program in terms of activities.

AANT intends to develop a creative international student community with a view to social inclusion and environmental protection in order to better integrate foreign students in the city of Rome. To widen our vision through a common interest in design, is a value that we intend to promote within our Academy. Studying in Rome, with its unique historical, artistic heritage, provides students with a rare opportunity.



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To facilitate this, one of the objectives for the next few years (realistically within 3 years from now) of AANT is to implement courses in English. The aim is to provide an opportunity for local and foreign students to meet and learn together using a common international language.

Incoming students and staff will improve the international environment of the AANT community. Outgoing students and staff will become ambassadors for the Academy. They will be highly motivated and encouraged to share their experience during and after the mobility.

In order to achieve the objectives set out in the internationalization strategy for the next 7 years, AANT relies on the following indicators.

By the academic year 2021/2022:

- To discuss, at least, 5 Bilateral Agreements for student and faculty exchange programs with European Academies.
- To sign agreements with at least 2 providers to facilitate traineeship abroad for AANT students in Europe and non-European countries.
- To promote the acquisition of English language certificates among Italian students in order to have at least 20% of enrolled students ready to do traineeship abroad

By the academic year 2022/2023:

- To mobilize at least 5 incoming and outgoing students during the academic year. AANT prefers semester-long exchanges for its students, while it is ready to welcome students for both a semester and a full academic year.

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- To have at least 3 students enrolled in the train sheep program abroad. With regard to internships, AANT promotes activities ranging from 2 to 6 months for its students.

By the academic year 2023/2027

- Having signed at least 20 bilateral agreements with European and non-European Academies
- To mobilize at least 10 incoming and outgoing students and at least 5 teachers and staff per academic year
- To have at least 5 students per year in internships abroad
- To maintain a percentage of students with language certificates of at least 30% of all enrolled students.

Endorsement of the Organization

This Erasmus Policy Statement is part of AANT's ECHE 2021/2027 application form, signed by its Legal Representative on June 8th, 2021.

Rome, June 9th 2021

Legal Representative of the institution
Egidio Polidori

