



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Modernisation of Education I: Europe 2020, country analysis, Erasmus+ coordination
Acting Director

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NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE ERASMUS+ NA DIRECTORS

Subject: Situation in Turkey – Implications for Erasmus+ projects

We have been made aware of some enquiries addressed to National Agencies by beneficiaries of the programme in relation to the implementation of Erasmus+ projects involving Turkish individuals and/or Turkish participating organisations as well as non-Turkish individuals carrying out mobility activities in Turkey.

Considering the current emergency state in Turkey, the Commission accepts that National Agencies may apply, if needed, the *force majeure* clause, as foreseen in the template of the grant agreement between National Agencies and Erasmus+ beneficiaries and as defined in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide and other contractual documents.

National Agencies may apply such clause to deal with requests such as cancellation or postponement of activities, interruption and termination of projects, replacement of project partners etc. in the most flexible way, notwithstanding the respect of the general legal framework applying to Erasmus+. This clause can be applied, where relevant and appropriate, under all the decentralised actions of the programme.

In this framework, National Agencies may decide to accept costs entailed by activities that have not taken place, as well as to consider additional costs that have been incurred due to exceptional circumstances. However, in all cases, project beneficiaries 1) cannot receive a financial support that is higher than the maximum grant amount initially awarded, and 2) must be able to provide a proof of the costs incurred, including for those costs that are normally covered as a lump sum or a flat rate grant.

The Commission invites the National Agencies to apply the maximum level of pragmatism and flexibility, within the legal boundaries set by the EU Financial Regulation and the programme rules, in order to maintain the good reputation of Erasmus+ as a programme that is close to its stakeholders.

I very much hope that this guidance will help you answer any requests that you may receive from beneficiaries on this topic.

The Commission will continue to monitor the evolution of the situation in Turkey and may decide to adopt further measures to ensure the smooth implementation of projects taking place in Turkey or involving Turkish individuals and participating organisations.

For further information or clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact the Commission via your NA Desk or by sending an email to EAC NA COORDINATION.

Yours sincerely,

Sophia ERIKSSON WATERSCHOOT