

# Erasmus: what's next?

States General of the Erasmus Generation



## WG: The Erasmus Programme impact on employment and entrepreneurship

Rome, 9 May 2018

# Goal of Erasmus traineeship



By doing a traineeship abroad with Erasmus+, participants can have the opportunity to develop competences and soft skills.

## Numbers

More than 73.000 in 2014 and more than 84.000 in 2016

Total of about 235.000 higher education students in three years, including the 20.500 recent graduates who went abroad on an Erasmus+ traineeship after their graduation.

## Impacts

The Erasmus Programme impact on **employment** and **entrepreneurship**.

- Important as first working experience with an added value: experience in EU.
- Allow to explore what European values are and being a European citizen means.
- The results determine social cohesion in Europe and promote economic growth and development.

**But... it could be improved! – we believe it**

# Methodology and Inputs



- An **analysis** of the current ET system was performed through participants opinions and experiences.
- The **needs** of the students and the gaps/weaknesses of the existent tools.
- Existent platforms and tools were presented, such as the website ErasmusIntern, Diploma Supplement and/or some forums of students.



A link between needs/gaps and current tools were made, and 3proposals arrived.

# Needs



Erasmus traineeship is a key action to make **positive social impacts** in a context with high unemployment rates among young people, but **readjustments are needed**.

During the group discussion the strategic importance of Erasmus traineeship emerged, but also the **confusion** on:

- the operating system
- the doubts concerning involved actors
- target
- new and old similar actions
- the lack of visibility of new calls

# Matrix



## Problems

## Needs

## Proposal

Difficulties to find a institutions	Unique platform, active social network inside a web database	<b>1</b> Develop a unique online platform providing to students with a company database interested on this Programme and the current open calls. A common EU platform for matching
Universities are not supportive enough. It is not always clear how to participate	List of accredited institutions to host students, visible and public	
Lack of homogeneity between the Universities		
Lack of quality standard that companies accredited should guarantee	Creation of a quality standard to assess companies performance on the Programme	
Target missing	Unemployed new-graduate students might be excluded if they did not apply before graduating	<b>2</b> Increase the target to apply to Erasmus Traineeship for students after their graduation (1 year after graduation)
Lack of skills recognition which is known and valuable for the ongoing labour market (LinkedIn, online tools)	Online badge to be used transversely in LinkedIn and/or also mentioned in cv, tool known and valuable for labour market	<b>3</b> Create recognized OpenBadges for students to certificate their new-acquired soft and hard skills

# Unique online platform for matching students and company/institutions



There are several platforms inconclusive and unclear for students, it is missing a standard platform of reference.

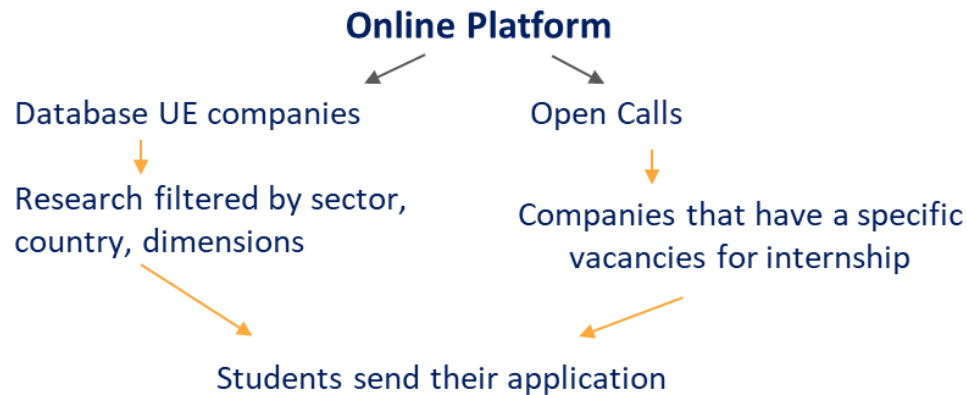
Platform with a database containing European companies and institutions interested in hosting students

+

Chance to publish open calls which students can apply directly through the webpage

+

Creation of a quality standard to assess companies performance on the action (chart of quality)



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# Increase the target to apply for students after their graduation



New-graduate students are excluded if they do not apply before graduating.

- Leonardo project doesn't exist anymore
- Less options for recent graduate students to live a professional experience abroad
  - Avoid frustration for those who do not find a professional opportunity after

University



## Increase the target

HOW?



To **expand the possibility to apply for traineeship** to these students that haven't found a job position after the first year since the graduation

Make a **special call** for recent graduates who are not integrated in the labour market and Double funding between university and institutions for a limited time of months to avoid abuse from company side



# Recognized OpenBadges for students to certificate soft and hard skills



Nowadays there is a certificate called **Diploma Supplement**, but it is perceived as weak. A recognized certification containing soft and hard skills is proposed.

Creation of recognition tools which are known and valuable for the current labour market

Erasmus+ badges to certify ET competences

## OpenBadges for recognized certification

- Each badge has a specific competence description & requirements
- Transversal use in online job search tools and/or also mentioned in cv
- Visual representation of skills/achievements

## Example Open Badges





# Our 3 proposals



**1** Develop a unique online platform for matching students and company/institutions

**2** Increase the target to apply to Erasmus Traineeship for students after their graduation

**3** Create recognized OpenBadges for students to certificate soft and hard skills

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## Thanks for your attention!