# Erasmus Without Paper– insight to situation in Finland and LAB

INTERNATIONAL WEEK

"Empowering Higher Education: The Synergy of Research, Development, and Education" 15.2.2024





#### **Erasmus Without Paper**

- Part of European Student Card Initiative (ESCI)
  - ESCI = European Student Card, Erasmus+ App and Erasmus Without Paper
- The Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) initiative paves the way to manage mobilities more efficiently by letting higher education institutions exchange information online
- EWP is an online network that connects HEIs participating in Erasmus+ programme
- EWP allows HEIs using the network to exchange IIA's and student data in a more secure and efficient way than traditional paper-based methods
- Each institution awarded by Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) 2021-2027 undertakes to

"Implement the priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme by undertaking the necessary steps to implement digital mobility management in line with the technical standards of the European Student Card Initiative."



#### **How EWP works?**

- Each institution participating Erasmus+ programme connects it's mobility system (e.g. in-house system, MoveOn, Mobility-Online etc.) into EWP (or system provider connects the system to EWP)
  - SCHAC = SCHema for Academia (e.g. lab.fi)
- If the institution does not use any system, they can advantage free platform in use
  - <u>EWP Dashboard</u> is free of charge and also connected to the <u>Erasmus+ Mobile App</u> and <u>OLA (= Online Learning Agreement platform)</u>
  - Mobility-Connect also free of charge platform for EWP compliance, system provider SOP
- When system is connected to EWP, the data from the local system can be released to EWP and the partner in question can access the data (fetch the data from EWP) in their own system
- Shared information: institution data, Inter-Institutional Agreements (IIA) and Learning Agreements (LA)
- Coming up also nominations and transcripts





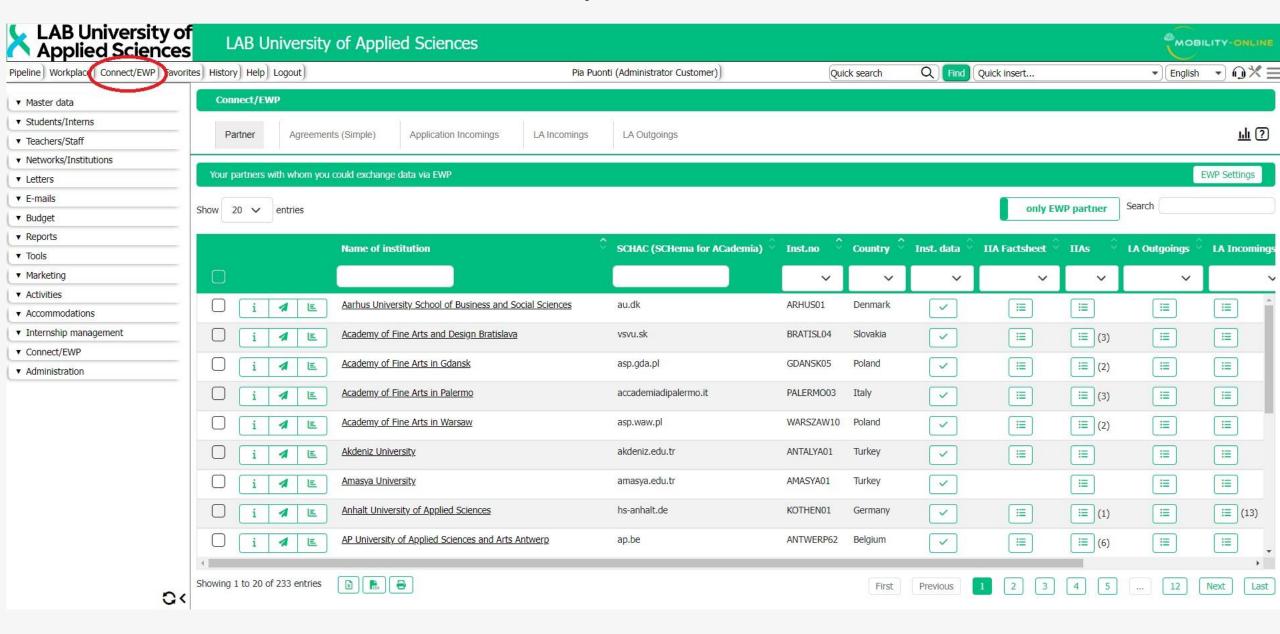


## **LAB Mobility-Online**

- Web-based management system for all types of mobility and exchange programs provided by SOP Hilmbauer & Mauberger GmbH & Co KG, Austria
- LAB mobilities starting from academic year 2020-2021 (LAMK used Mobility-Online since 2010)
- Registered/connected to EWP, SCHAC gained 28.1.2020
- Digital Learning Agreement shared in EWP
- IIA's shared in EWP, agreements done in institution level (LAB) on study field bases (4-digit ISCED codes in use)
- Local version vs. EWP version, linked to each other
- Connected to our study register "Peppi" (interface taken in use 12/2022 – incoming student information and all student mobility statistics)

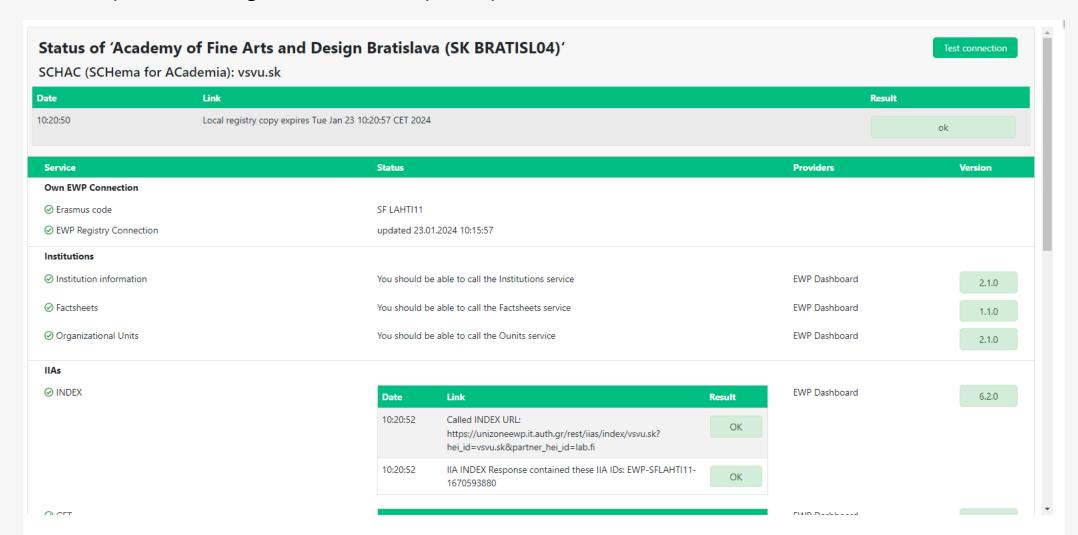


#### LAB Mobility-Online EWP "bubble"



#### **LAB Mobility-Online EWP - Test connection**

We are able to test the connection to the partner. Mobility-Online also gives info on the system provider and version in use.



#### EWP updates

- The main goal of 2024 is to improve IIA and LA functionality and increase the number of digital LAs
- IIA update (7.0) coming in March 2024
  - Functionalities: Changes to agreement and termination of agreement
  - Mandatory info: 4-digit ISCED, number of mobilities (months are optional), language level (SMS and STA)
- LA update: timetable not verified, technical changes (template 2023) and feedback received from the users
- Nominations and transcripts
  - EWP Dashboard users beta-version in testing use
  - Consultation via slack EWP User Groups
  - Slowly going forward with better planning than with IIA's and LA's
- User guides for IIA and LA available at <a href="https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/european-student-card-initiative/help-support/user-guide">https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/european-student-card-initiative/help-support/user-guide</a>
- <u>EWP admin</u> from each HEI <u>EWP Registration portal</u>







#### **EWP** in Finland

- EWP working group
  - Member from each institution
  - Lead by NA's digital officer
  - Each month a casual teams-meeting, "EWP coffee"
- Used system:
  - SoleMove 47%
  - Mobility-Online 31%
  - MoveON 11%
  - EWP Dashboard 11%
- 100% standby but...
  - Avarage 71% of the LA's done digitally
  - Avarage 76% of the IIA's done digitally
- 31 institutions are formating <u>ESI</u> based on the national learner number (recommendation)
  - urn:schac:personalUniqueCode:int:esi:FI:<oppijanumero>
- FIN <u>EWP Champion</u>: Häme University of Applied Sciences HAMK



## Notes - challenges

- Some partners do not use EWP yet
  - we need to have multinous guidance for students
  - we need to maintain different ways to work in the system
  - creates more work for everyone
- Terminology e.g. OLA versus DLA
- Templates were changed from paper to digital version
  - "too much" information send via EWP (in my opinion)
  - difficult to maintenance all partner information with changing contact details and strugtural differences, easily wrong info
- LA's rejected because of contact details or study dates are not totally correct (should not be reasons for rejecting the LA)
- LA is not accepted/rejected in EWP by partner and student is contacted via email to make corrections → create problem in our system when LA is not handled by the partner in EWP
- IIA's information needs to be first agreed via email and more carefully than in the "old days"
- Different information used in IIA's, e.g. ISCED-codes update makes this problem easier





#### Links



- European Student Card Initiative (ESCI)
  - https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/european-student-card-initiative
  - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCio2XOHw\_z2wtWeuGW4torg/featured
- EWP Competence Center
  - https://esci-sd.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/EWP/overview
- European University Foundation (EUF)
  - https://uni-foundation.eu/upcoming-erasmus-does-digital-webinars/
  - https://www.youtube.com/c/EuropeanUniversityFoundation
- HEI/API Coverage Matrix
  - https://registry.erasmuswithoutpaper.eu/coverage
- ESCI Community Service Desk
  - https://esci-sd.atlassian.net/servicedesk/customer/portals
- EWP Stats Portal
  - https://stats.erasmuswithoutpaper.eu
- EWP User Groups
  - https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/european-student-card-initiative/help-support/user-guide/EWP-user-groups
- EWP Newsletter
  - https://newsletter.erasmuswithoutpaper.eu/



# Thank you for your attention!

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