## Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

International strategy of Professional Education Competence Centre "Riga Technical College" is aimed on the HEI overall development, on the rise of the teaching and training standards that is based on the latest achievements in the field of the European higher education, its improvement, international cooperation, academic and placement mobility. The study process at the HEI is purposefully based on the demand of determinative environment and labour market, considering students' experience and a necessity to realize their inner potential. Active and successful participation in the EU educational programmes and projects is considered to be one of the most important directions of the HEI strategy concept.

Participation in Erasmus programme activities contributes substantially to the development and implementation of the up-to-date study programmes, to the improvement of the academic performance, to the promotion of the innovative approach to teaching and training, to the efficient and flexible management. LLP provides instruments and mechanisms for the HEI students and staff integration in the EU social, economic and cultural environment adding the necessary understanding of being a part of the Community.

The main criteria for the choice of partners from the EU and non-EU countries are common interests in training young specialists that have to be able to compete in the labour market, are skilled and competent at their technologies, existing opportunities for all participating parties to obtain knowledge and skills and exchange experience as well as to share cultural interests.

Geographical diversity of the international cooperation contributes very positively to the understanding of the tendencies of the modern technologies development and economy and increases the range of things that participants can learn within programme activities. Therefore Professional Education Competence Centre "Riga Technical College" intends to broaden the geography of international cooperation with the neighbouring and faraway countries.

The most important objectives of the HEI international cooperation are to improve the quality of the short-cycle higher professional education, to promote innovation and European dimension, to motivate students and academic staff for the creative attitude towards studies and working, to show the diversity of the modern world, to make international cooperation between HEI and enterprises the essential part of the study and practical training process, to exchange good practices.

Target groups of the mobility activities are short-cycle students and HEI staff in order to develop/improve international co-operation between HEI and industrial enterprises to meet the demands of the rapidly developing technologies, to develop study programmes and teaching modules based on the multidisciplinary approach; to develop the efficient assessment system of skills, knowledge and competences; to improve the college structure and management.

Procedure of selection of participants is transparent and is arranged in full respect for the gender equality and with no signs of any xenophobia and racism.

Information on the planned and undertaken activities is published on the HEI home page.

Results of the implemented activities and best practices are disseminated in the HEI departments, at informative meetings, HEI internal and international events.

Participating in the international EU and non-EU cooperation projects in teaching and training, Professional Education Competence Centre "Riga Technical College" is going to act in a proactive way, establishing the objectives, expected results and added values to succeed. Project activities are supposed to contribute to the institution development and modernisation. The analysis of the HEI academic and student potential, capacity, subject areas, forms of the project outcomes implementation is to be performed in a practical and reasonable way.

The HEI undertakes to provide the necessary support both at the institutional and department levels to students and staff involved in the project/s activities. Participation in such projects is considered one of the key components in the academic staff and study course/s evaluation. Visibility of the project activities is to be ensured, and results, outcomes, developed products and materials are to be disseminated.

Professional Education Competence Centre "Riga Technical College" participation in The Programme offers young people to obtain higher education in a modernised and internationalised environment that can provide getting knowledge-intensive jobs after graduating. Short-cycle professional education is very flexible in its reaction to the needs and demands of the industry and society.

Participation in the Programme is one of the means of modernisation of the HEI that stimulates the improvement of the quality and relevance of education. Study programmes are going to be purposefully updated that asks for the staff exchanges and close cooperation with enterprises to develop flexible teaching/learning approaches and delivery methods. Implementation of international activities supports training competitive and creative staff and students.

Modernisation of the HEI is expected to encourage a greater variety of study modes and enables more effective and personalised teaching/learning process organisation and invest in the staff continuous professional development.

Participation in the programme is expected to strengthen the quality through mobility and cross-border cooperation. Improved professional and personal competences, social and intercultural skills – these are the benefits to students, staff and institution.

Participation in the Programme activities is expected to develop a link between short-cycle professional education study programmes and enterprises that produce very high technological level equipment and machines, e.g. mechatronics, electronics, etc... Thus, undertaking a placement or training in the company, students and HEI staff get a unique experience and skills in their fields. That stimulates the development of creative and innovative skills in the discipline and, at the same time promotes innovation in the higher education.

Participation in the Programme is expected to encourage HEI closer and efficient partnership and cooperation with business to improve the attractiveness of the higher professional education, its organisation, management and funding improvement.