Birkbeck statement on Brexit regarding Erasmus+
4 March 2019

Birkbeck is committed to supporting students to benefit from international mobility. Uncertainty regarding Brexit processes impact the Erasmus+ scheme and the processes that will be in place beyond 29th March.

The UK Government released guidance on Erasmus+ in the case of no-deal Brexit. The guidance confirms that:

“In the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the government’s underwrite guarantee will cover the payment of awards to UK applicants for all successful Erasmus+ and ESC bids.”

Similar guidance has been issued by the European Commission for EU students studying in the UK over the period of withdrawal: “The Regulation ensures that people who are abroad through an Erasmus+ funded learning mobility activity on the day the UK leaves the European Union will not see their mobility period interrupted”. However, at this stage it is only a proposal. To take effect it must be approved by the European Parliament and the European Council.

The guidance from the UK Government and the European Commission should provide peace of mind for Birkbeck students currently studying on an Erasmus+ mobility, and for students currently studying at Birkbeck on an Erasmus+ mobility.

We will update this document at bbk.ac.uk/about-us/partnerships/erasmus with more details regarding arrangements for the 2019/20 academic year, when we have more clarity regarding Brexit and its impact on Erasmus+. We will work with our European partners to minimise disruption to existing plans wherever possible.

More information is available from Universities UK and on the Erasmus+ website.