## **Program Description**

For 25 years the vision, the values and the internationalization strategy of the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland have been shaping the background and the realization of our CEEPUS projects.

UAS Burgenland as a long-time coordinator of the network is the leading educational institution including science and research in Burgenland. It played a major role in the emergence of Austria's university-level institutes in the nineties. In 2013/14 the restructuring process took place by establishing five Departments and offering new study degree programs propelled by the motto "FH Burgenland bringt Besonderes zusammen" ("What we do is unique") which should highlight the uniqueness of its programs, people, and landscape. In the academic year 2014/15 an auditing process concerning the quality management of UAS Burgenland took place, including the area of internationalization. UAS Burgenland has been awarded the accreditation by the Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria in 14/15. Three subsidiary enterprises underlining the regional leadership in education were established: Research Burgenland, AIM - Austrian Institute of Management, and Academy Burgenland.

Consistent with this development the internationalization remains an integrative part of the Degree programs also in the future. UAS Burgenland cooperates with more than 100 partner universities and 400 enterprises in Europe. Burgenland's geographical location in the center of Europe makes it ideally suited for intercultural education with a focus on Central and Eastern Europe and beyond. The CEEPUS network is an essential component of this success. The activities within the CEEPUS network have to be seen under this perspective.

UAS Burgenland welcomes students from CEE countries as well as regular students from other countries, most of them coming from Croatia, Slovakia, Hungary and in the last years also from Georgia (Erasmus Project International Credit Mobility, Double Degree Students). The Joint PhD programs with in cooperation with universities from Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bosnia, Croatia and the Czech Republic, a Summer School with participation of Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Slovenia and intensified lecturer exchange with Croatia, Hungary and Slovakia ensure the scientific cooperation in the region.

The internationalization strategy of UAS Burgenland 2025 gives also support for curricular activities like excursions, summer language schools abroad, international conferences and weeks at the participating units (more Information see Special merit), which makes the CEEPUS network and UAS Burgenland as its coordinator a central player in the region. Many activities take place in combination with the Erasmus+ program.