Erasmus University Rotterdam is a research university with a pronounced social orientation in its education and research. Academics and students at our institution endeavor to solve global social challenges, drawing inspiration from the metropolis Rotterdam.

Erasmus University Rotterdam takes its name from the great philosopher, theologian, and humanist, Desiderius Erasmus, a man who had a great influence on the intellectual and cultural climate of his time, using the new means of communication of his time: books. Erasmus, regarded as one of the world’s foremost thinkers, was born in Rotterdam on October 28th, in 1466. He was one of the great minds of the Renaissance, a new era in the history of humankind.

Erasmus identified himself as Desiderius Erasmus Roterodamus, although he left Rotterdam when he was a toddler and became a true cosmopolitan: ‘I don’t want to be a citizen of a particular city, but one of the entire world’ (civis totius mundi). He stayed in Paris, London, Oxford, Cambridge, Freiburg im Breisgau and Louvain. He also lived in Italian cities, in particular in Venice, Rome, Turin and Bologna. He died in Basel, in 1536.

His spiritual point of reference was the Latin-Christian world, and although fighting/denouncing her abuses, he remained a loyal member of the Church of Rome and never joined the Reformers. He tried to convince the leaders of that time to work together to bring peace. He fearlessly defended freedom of speech and thought. He was highly esteemed among kings and learned persons because of his appeal for individual freedom and tolerance, drawing his inspiration from ancient Greek and Latin literature and the Bible. A learned society, united by a common belief was his ideal.

Erasmus of Rotterdam
My wish is to be a citizen of the world

The history of Erasmus University Rotterdam dates back to 1913, when Rotterdam merchants founded the Netherlands School of Commerce, a university for professional trade education. They regarded the proper education and development of the generations to come as essential to ensure that the port and city would continue to flourish. In 1939, this private school was converted into the Netherlands School of Economics (NEH). The NEH gained worldwide fame for its education and research in the fields of economics, business economics and econometrics, including the work of Nobel Prize winner Jan Tinbergen. The merger of the NEH and the Medical Faculty Rotterdam (1966) resulted in the formation of Erasmus University Rotterdam (1973).

Erasmus University Rotterdam
Make it Happen.

Research
for society

The scientific research at the Erasmus University has a strong social orientation, drawing inspiration from the issues facing the metropolis Rotterdam. It is deeply embedded in international research networks and one of the Erasmus University’s priorities is to recruit and train top academic talent. Socially relevant research is increasingly carried out by multidisciplinary teams. That is the case, for example, on themes such as the Economics of Health, Social Innovation, Transport and Logistics, Cognitive Psychology, Corporate Engagement, Sustainability, and the demographic study Generation R.

The three core themes of Erasmus University Rotterdam are Healthy Citizens and Health System, Inclusive Growth and Prosperity, and Vital Cities and Citizens. These three themes will include questions like: how can we keep our healthcare system affordable in the long term? Who is entitled to care? How can we ensure prosperity in terms of quality of life, sustainability and inclusive growth? And how can we ensure that cities remain liveable and citizens remain healthy? These three cross-faculty themes will be based on an integrated approach in the research areas in which Erasmus University Rotterdam excels and connect with the social challenges in the Rotterdam region.

External evaluation and quality assessment

Eighty per cent of research at Erasmus University is carried out in research schools. Their core activities are PhD studies and PhD research programmes.

To guarantee the high quality of scientific research after every six years the performance of the research staff is assessed according to internal procedures. On top of that every six years the research schools are accredited by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). International peer reviews are part of the procedure.

The NEH gained inter national fame for his pioneering work on an econometric model building and as international advisor to international organizations and governments of various developing countries.

Nobel Prize winner
Jan Tinbergen
(1903-1994)

The first Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded in 1969 to prof. Jan Tinbergen, professor at NEH, and his Norwegian colleague Ragnar Frisch. Tinbergen was a professor at EUR for 40 years. In 1966 he was one of the founding fathers of the Econometric Institute. Tinbergen gained international fame for his pioneering work on an econometric model building and as international advisor to international organizations and governments of various developing countries.

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international cooperation with education programmes that enable year and the increasing number of joint programmes that are attracting more in the number of accredited degree University Rotterdam’s continual drive major forces spearheading Erasmus Internationalisation is one of the and made more efficient. Netherlands. Through online education, Bachelor pass rates are the highest in the and career-oriented programme. Our students who appreciate an academic activating and practice oriented. We want our students to learn about the problems a multicultural city faces, but also to use their knowledge to help find solutions for them. Permanent education Another strong educational offshoot that elicits considerable enrolments is the approximately 80 post-initial programmes. Many (international) corporations, ministries and other governmental bodies send their staff to the advanced courses, post experience programmes, executive master classes or in-company training programmes taught at Erasmus University Rotterdam. Such programmes include for example MBA’s, Maritime Economics and Logistics, Development Studies, Health sciences, LLM, Business and Trade Law, Housing and Urban Studies, Financial Management, and Public Administration.

International class room Erasmus University Rotterdam has an excellent reputation throughout the world. Year after year Erasmus University welcomes more foreign students and lecturers (over 5,000 in 2015), as well as increasing numbers of Dutch students that feel attracted by the international programmes offered by the university. The atmosphere on campus confirms the university’s international allure: our classrooms include over 100 nationalities.

Alumni With over 70,000 alumni in more than 100 countries across the world, Erasmus University Rotterdam cherishes a thriving international alumni community, embracing all of its members from the day they graduate and new challenges appear. Our alumni continue to share the Erasmus experience that does not end on at graduation day. Having studied at Erasmus University, many of our alumni find their way to the corporate boardroom or obtain high profile public functions. According to the Global Employability Survey of the New York Times Erasmus University Rotterdam provides the best deployable alumni on the labor market in the Netherlands. Erasmus University Rotterdam is also the main supplier of CEOs in the Dutch business.

ISS and IHS team up in search for global impact For more than 50 years the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) and the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) have been providing post-graduate education and consultancy services in the field of capacity building in countries outside Western Europe. Both institutes are concerned with building human and institutional capacity to improve quality of life. The IHS specialises in housing issues and problems in relation to urban management. The ISS concentrates on global development issues and questions of social equality.

Woudenstein: enjoy studying and working in a challenging environment Erasmus University Rotterdam has a modern campus with international allure. There are many facilities for students, such as housing, sports facilities, the university library, food court, supermarket, hairdresser, bookstore and bike shop. In the Erasmus Pavilion is a theater. And the centre of the city is not far away.
A network university: connecting and combining strengths

Innovation and valorisation policy is linked to academic quality throughout EUR (long-term investment), but it is particularly visible in our areas of expertise - places where the science is strongest and the research profile is maximised. The universities of Delft, Leiden and Rotterdam have formed a regional partnership, in the form of a strategic alliance. In 2013 eight multidisciplinary centres were launched to focus on research and education relating to: the economic and financial crisis, the global heritage, ports and airports in relation to their hinterlands, innovation in Africa, governance of complex societies and organisations, sustainability, safety and educational research.

These multi- and interdisciplinary, thematic partnerships conduct groundbreaking research and are engaged in answers to the questions which will shape tomorrow’s society.

Three examples:

**SmartPort: inter-faculty centre of excellence**
Ideally located in the delta of the rivers Rhine and Meuse, with an open connection to the sea and a deep waterway linking it with the hinterland, Rotterdam has grown into Europe’s biggest and the world’s fifth largest port. In response to the Port of Rotterdam’s need for robust knowledge, Erasmus University has bundled its maritime and port-related research and education in the inter-faculty centre of excellence Erasmus SmartPort Rotterdam.

**Medical Delta: better health care and economic growth**
Medical Delta is a consortium which consists of excellent universities, medical schools, business parks, business incubators, companies and the regional government situated in the Western part of the Netherlands, economically the most important and densely-populated area of the Netherlands. In 2006, Delft University of Technology, Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Leiden University and Leiden University Medical Center started a cooperative venture focusing on medical technology to address the challenges facing the health care system.

**Rotterdam Global Health Initiative: combining strengths in networks and alliances**
The Rotterdam Global Health Initiative (RGHI) is a virtual network designed to promote worldwide collaboration in education, research and advisory services in the fields of health systems research, access to health care, financial systems, health economics management and logistics, governance and law. RGHI wishes to promote the interaction between global health researchers, practitioners, social entrepreneurs and policy makers to advance the health of people, light against poverty and socio-economic health inequalities, contribute to good governance in health and provide access to good health care as a human right.

Knowledge transfer: making knowledge suitable and available

The broad social orientation of research presents considerable possibilities for knowledge utilisation. In addition to education and research, knowledge transfer, particularly about economy and society, is regarded as one of the key tasks. The focus of the research profile (the societal issues of the metropolis) forms an excellent fit with this core task.

The EUR Holding and the Erasmus Medical Center Holding are currently responsible for a substantial part of these activities. The EUR Holding consists of 38 companies, with a total turnover of around €38 million per year. The activities of the EUR Holding encompass training and education, contract research and consultancy. The Erasmus Medical Center Holding has a total turnover of around €26 million in 2015.

The city of Rotterdam is a modern metropolis featuring the largest port in Europe and is home to more than 160 nationalities, 50,000 students and many multinational companies. A young dynamic city that keeps reinventing itself. Rotterdam offers Erasmus University the ideal academic laboratory for developing its scientific knowledge and putting it into practice. The university plays a prominent role in Rotterdam by making substantial contributions in such areas as health care and the economic and socio-cultural development of the city and the region.
A prominent feature in the university landscape

In 2015, Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) was again a prominent feature in the university landscape. Big steps were taken to promote the internationalisation of education and (international) research cooperation. In 2015, the EU-Health, Economics & Management was launched. This is the international joint master coordinated by EUR with the universities of Bologna, Innsbruck and Oslo as partners. Students and staff from all over the world come to Rotterdam to study and work at the university. For the first time in EUR’s history, the number of students enrolled in the university rises above 26,000.

Key figures of Erasmus University Rotterdam

- 26,212 Total number of enrolments*
  *Reference date: 8 October
- 10,010 Master enrolments*
  *Including students doing two or more degrees
- 16,202 Bachelor enrolments*
- 7,337 diplomas
- 374 doctorate conferrals
- 2,734 employees
  - 1,304 males
  - 1,430 females
- 475 professors
- 554 M€ annual turnover

Opening Polak Building

In September, the Polak Building, the multifunctional education building with lecture rooms and study places, is opened amid great publicity. This new build project is part of the second phase of the master plan Campus in Development (major renovation campus Woudestein).

Professor Pearl Dykstra

In 2015, Professor Pearl Dykstra from the Faculty of Social Sciences is appointed to the High Level Group of academic advisors for the European Commission. She is one of the seven top European academics who advise the commission based on their academic insights and thus contribute to the quality of European regulations.
Marine Corps 350 years

Erasmus University traditionally has good contacts in Rotterdam. Thus EUR’s ‘neighbour’, the Marine Corps - with their headquarters close to the university - celebrated its 350th anniversary with a big symposium in the Aula.

New Executive Board members

On 1 December, Kristel Baele takes over as president from Pauline van der Meer Mohr. On the left is Rector Magnificus Professor Huibert Pols and on the right the third member of the Board, Bart Straatman.

EUR and Research ranking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>EUR position within NL</th>
<th>EUR position globally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leiden Ranking / CWTS Rapport</td>
<td>(2014: 5)</td>
<td>88 (of 500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings</td>
<td>(2014: 3)</td>
<td>71 (of 400)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QS Top Universities</td>
<td>(2014: 6)</td>
<td>126 (of 700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) / Shanghai Rapport</td>
<td>(2014: 8)</td>
<td>151-200 (of 500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Taiwan University Ranking Rapport</td>
<td>(2014: 3)</td>
<td>71 (of 500)</td>
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Dies Natalis

During the 102nd Dies Natalis in November, honorary doctorates are granted on the recommendation of Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences / Erasmus MC and the Institute of Health Policy and Management to Professors Paul Gertler (University of California, Berkeley) and John Ioannidis (Stanford University).

Ratio of male/female employees

48.7% male 51.3% female

Award presentation to students and staff

Traditionally, awards for EUR students and staff are presented during the opening of the Academic Year.

Doctorate conferrals

M 168 F 206 T 374

Erasmus Charity Run

In April, around five hundred students, staff and alumni run the Rotterdam Marathon in a EUR shirt for charity. The proceeds of the sponsored run go to the Erasmus Education Fund.