

# Development of the compatible electrical power engineering curricula of the Central Europe universities

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**Abstract** — Fifteen years after political changes in Central Europe (CE) took place, the harmonization of the educational systems in CE countries with EU (European Union) standards is still a current issue. Even though university curricula and study programmes in these countries have undergone changes (e.g. the introduction of credit systems like ECTS) and as a result have approached EU standards, compatibility of entire curricula is still lacking. It is in the interest of the Czech Republic to ensure a European dimension in university education through the continuous development of curricula compatibility. The uniform teaching in the field of electrical power engineering is necessary, in view of the rapid globalization and the monopolization of products and equipment in the field of power engineering. University of West Bohemia (UWB) in Czech Republic, represented by the Department of Electric Power Engineering and Environmental Engineering, has extensive experience in the cooperation with the partner universities from its neighbouring countries - Germany, Austria and Slovakia. They have been cooperating in student and staff mobility and in research over a long period of time. The EU programs as Socrates -Erasmus or Tempus have played a significant role in their cooperation. The aim of described Erasmus project is to support curricula compatibility and comparability of current Electrical Power Engineering MSc. study programmes offered by each partner university (UWB, Czech Republic; Fachhochschule Regensburg, Germany; Technical University Kosice, Slovakia). All the participating universities have similar curricula and are engaged in similar research. The described Erasmus project continues successfully completed previous project of the participating universities. The duration of project activity will carry over a period of three years. After three years, a total of three re-designed courses and three newly designed courses will have been introduced at each partner university. The core courses already exist, but their structure needs to be re-designed to ensure their compatibility. The three newly designed courses enriching the existing MSc. study programmes will reflect topical problems related to new conditions in power industry. The jointly designed teaching materials will be used in the teaching at all the participating universities, in all forms of study (full-time, part-time, distance). The partner universities will prepare a common textbook in English for each newly designed course. The students will use the textbooks, but lectures will be held in the mother tongue. The curricula will be harmonized and the study requirements standardized. This will lead to the compatibility and comparability of study programmes and bigger competition of European higher education institutions. Due to harmonization of courses the study abroad should be more attractive not only for students of partner universities. In addition, the project should promote student and staff mobility and improve language knowledge both students and staff.