

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003549/25
to the Commission**

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(15 September 2025)

Subject: Access to accommodation for staff from third countries participating in Erasmus+ exchanges

Erasmus+ plays a key role in strengthening academic cooperation between the EU and third countries, including Japan. During a recent mission by Parliament's Delegation for Relations with Japan, the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology highlighted the housing difficulties encountered by Japanese scholars participating in Erasmus+ exchanges in the EU.

Despite the commitment under the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education to provide active support in finding accommodation, practical implementation appears to vary significantly, and the specific needs of scholars, distinct from those of students, are not always adequately considered. Furthermore, the housing situation in Europe has changed drastically in recent years.

In this context, and given the EU's ambition to become a global research hub through the 'Choose Europe' initiative:

1. Does the Commission have any specific measures in place or planned to improve housing support for scholars, particularly those from third countries like Japan?
2. What checks are done during the Erasmus Charter award process regarding the institution's capacity to support accommodation needs?
3. Does the Commission monitor the implementation of this provision once the Charter has been awarded, and how does it assess overall access to housing within Erasmus+?

Submitted: 15.9.2025

Answer given by Ms Mînzatu on behalf of the European Commission

(5 November 2025)

The Commission is aware of the shortage of adequate housing for students and scholars from third countries in several European cities.

In this context, the forthcoming European Affordable Housing Plan will promote access to affordable, sustainable and decent housing, including for students, youth and other groups.

Within the Erasmus+ programme framework, staff from third countries not associated with the programme are entitled to a daily allowance ranging from EUR 148 to EUR 190, depending on the destination country.

This allowance is designed to cover part of both accommodation and subsistence expenses during their mobility period, which generally spans one to two weeks.

The assessment of applications for the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) relies on the information provided in the application, where the institution's capacity to facilitate access to accommodation constitutes one of several evaluation elements. Applicants must describe the assistance they will provide to incoming students and staff in securing housing.

They are, however, not responsible to provide accommodation directly, as they do not always hold direct competence in this area, but they are expected to outline the support measures envisaged.

Responsibility for monitoring compliance with ECHE commitments rests with the Erasmus+ National Agencies, which act in accordance with procedures set out in the ECHE Monitoring Guide ⁽¹⁾.

Facilitating access to housing through relevant support and information is one of the obligations under the Charter. Should a higher education institution persistently fail to respect one or more ECHE commitments despite observations from the relevant national agency, the agency may reduce the organisational support funds allocated to that institution through the Erasmus+ grant.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.erasmusplus.nl/sites/default/files/2023-02/ECHE%20monitoring%20guide%20for%20Erasmus%2B%20National%20Agencies%202021-2027.pdf>.