



## Spain - Good practices in Social Dimension implementation in Higher Education



### The Faro Global Programme

One of the weaknesses of many Spanish students is the lack of international experience in the job market at least in the last years of their studies at the university. The Faro Global Programme's aim (<http://www.becasfaro.es/home.php>) is to help our students in the last years of studies to find jobs thanks to an internship (normally 6 months duration) in companies of member countries of the European Union, the USA, Canada and some Asian countries. This 9-year-old programme has enhanced the employability of our graduates and is considered a success story if we take into account the high level of participants who have found a job after the internship. The students get a grant (between 625 and 1,300 Euros, depending on the country of destination, paid by the Ministry of Education) which enables them to go abroad and increase their skills. While acknowledging that the number of students benefiting annually from this programme is not very high (1,050 in the next two years), the level of satisfaction is very high, as is the level of collaboration from Spanish universities. Currently, the Fundación General de la Universidad de Valladolid (the Valladolid University General Foundation) promotes and administers the Faro Global programme. This programme started in 2002. Since then, there have been four editions, three of the Faro programme offering periods in European Union and associated countries, and one of Faro Global, which widened the destinations to companies situated in Asia, USA and Canada. Almost 3,000 students from 92 degree courses and 67 Spanish universities have had the opportunity of enjoying a period of work experience in 44 different countries.