

# SENATI AKADEMIK I UNIVERSITETIT EUROPIAN TË TIRANËS

# VENDIM

## Nr.<u>2/</u> datë <u>23 / 12 /</u> 2022

"Për miratimin e dokumentit "Strategy for International Cooperation and Project Management 2023-2028"

Senati Akademik i Universitetit Europian të Tiranës, në zbatim të kërkesave të Ligjit Nr. 80/2015, datë 22.07.2015, "Për Arsimin e Lartë dhe Kërkimin Shkencor në Institucionet e Arsimit të Lartë në Republikën e Shqipërisë", Neni 38, germa d), dhe Statutit të UET, pika 19.2.7, c.,

#### VENDOSI:

- 1. Të miratojë dokumentin strategjik "Strategy for International Cooperation and Project Management 2023-2028", që përcakton fushat dhe objektivat strategjike që duhet të drejtojnë punën e njësive bazë dhe kryesore të universitetit, si edhe Zyrës së Projekteve dhe Ndërkombëtarizimit në fushën e rritjes dhe forcimit të ndërkombëtarizimit të institucionit. Ky dokument është hartuar me mbështetjen e universiteteve europiane partnere, në kuadër të projektit QUADIC të financuar nga Bashkimi Europian.
- 2. Dokumenti i miratuar, në format të përmbledhur të publikohet edhe në faqen zyrtare të UET, www.uet.edu.al.

Ky vendim hyn në fuqi menjëherë.









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# Strategy for International Cooperation and Project Management 2023-2028









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Vision and Mission

Vision Statement

The University strives to be a reputable international partner.

Mission Statement

The University utilizes international cooperation to foster the development of education and research. The University aims to do so by enhancing the cooperation with universities and institutions worldwide to develop internationally recognized educational programs, strengthen the academic position at the international level, increase the diversity and enhance the quality by organizing international scientific and academic events and developing joint international projects and publications.

# Strategic Fields

Education and International environment

# SWOT Analysis

The internal and external analysis of the University's situation in terms of education and its international environment.

# Strengths

- Institutional Commitment for Internationalization and Project Management
- Existing infrastructure (existing International Relations and Project Management offices)
- Existing staff capacities who speak English and other foreign languages
- Number of signed agreements with other higher education institutions
- Interest of students to study at higher education institutions
- Existing rules and regulations for mobilities of staff and students
- International recognition of diplomas
- HEI accreditation policy and quality assurance strategies

## Weaknesses

- Lack of study programs or list of courses taught in English
- Political constraints that hinder the movement of staff and students
- Insufficient competent administrative staff responsible for International Relations and Project Management
- Inadequate English language proficiency of the staff (academic and administrative)
- Insufficient budget allocation for internationalization
- Insufficient infrastructure (space, library, etc.)
- Insufficient materialization of the existing MOUs for the purpose of establishing study programs in foreign language
- Application of traditional teaching methods by majority of academic staff
- Lack of ongoing training for the staff on advanced teaching methods
- Lack of formal recognition of engagement in international projects for the purpose of staff promotion







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# Opportunities

- Erasmus + and other donors' projects
- Cooperation between Albania and countries of Europe for developing study programs in foreign language
- Experience on implementing joint programs between national HEIs
- Study programs offered in English language
- Utilization of international experience of the academic staff
- Use of distance learning and adoption of latest information and communications technologies
- Utilization of innovations in digital devices
- Open-access policy in research infrastructure
- Utilization of project management platform

# Threats

- Decreasing number of new students
- Brain Drain
- Inconsistent government policy in accreditation of study programs
- Strong competition of universities at the national and international level in the profile of study programs
- Institutional and study program (Re)Accreditation
- Pandemic threats

# Objectives

Objective 1.1

Update and implement the Regulations for the Office for Project Development and Internationalization

Objective 1.2

Build capacities of the Office for Project Development and Internationalization

Objective 1.3

Consolidate current cooperation agreements with international partners to support the internationalization of the institution

Objective 1.4

Establish the infrastructure and consolidate the existing human capacities necessary for international cooperation







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Research, Conferences and Publications

# SWOT Analysis

The internal and external analysis of the University's situation in terms of research, conferences and publications.

# Strengths

- Institutional Commitment for Internationalization of Research sector
- Existing infrastructure (existing Office for Scientific Research)
- Existing staff with good capacities on scientific research
- Experience in organizing international scientific events
- Existing rules and regulations for research and financial support from the HEIs and Ministry of Education
- Active participation in international consortia, projects, and grants
- Capital investments in research infrastructure

# Weaknesses

- Insufficient competent administrative staff dedicate to the research sector
- Inadequate English language proficiency of the staff
- Insufficient budget allocation to research support
- Insufficient infrastructure (space, library, lack of access to e-library in foreign language, etc.)
- Insufficient materialization of the existing MOUs
- Insufficient research cooperation and organization of joint scientific conferences
- Lack of ongoing training for the academic staff on advanced research method and scientific writing

# Opportunities

- Support from the Ministry of Education and HEIs
- Fund-raising of national and foreign grant financing
- Erasmus + and other donors' projects
- Cooperation between Albania's academic staff and other
- Joint programs between national HEIs
- Utilization of international experience of the academic staff
- Utilization of innovations in digital devices
- Open-access policy in research infrastructure

# Threats

- Lack of budget for research activities.
- Inconsistent government policy on quality of publication
- Non- readiness of academic staff to get involved in international research projects
- Pandemic threats







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Objective 2.1 Develop Joint international researches and publications at the individual and institutional level *Objective 2.2* Organize Joint international scientific conferences *Objective 2.3* Improve language and research skills of the staff and students *Objective 2.4* Improve the research infrastructure to meet the needs of internationalization

#### Mobility and Networking

#### SWOT Analysis

The internal and external analysis of the University's situation in terms of mobility and networking.

#### Strengths

- There is interest from management, academic staff and University students for international mobility (outgoing and incoming).
- Existing academic staff network with staff from EU universities
- Current international cooperation and joint projects
- Existing rules and regulations for mobility
- Active participation in international consortia, projects, and grants
- HEI accreditation policy and quality assurance strategies

#### Weaknesses

- Not trained administrative staff responsible for mobility activities
- Inadequate English language proficiency of the staff and students
- Insufficient infrastructure (space, dorms, library, etc.)
- Insufficient materialization of the existing MOUs for the purpose of mobility
- Unattractive destination for international students

#### Opportunities

- Support from the Ministry of Education
- Fund-raising of national and foreign grant financing
- Erasmus + and other donors' projects
- Cooperation between Albania and other countries
- Study programs in foreign languages
- Utilization of international experience of the academic staff
- Use of distance learning and adoption of latest information and communications technologies
- Utilization of innovations in digital devices







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## Threats

- Institutional and study program (Re)Accreditation
- Staff and student's readiness to get involved in the mobility projects
- Pandemic threats
- International universities reluctant to cooperate and involve University in mobility activities.
- No interest from international academic staff and students for international mobility with University.
- No budget allocation to promote and support international mobility from the University side and donors

## Objectives

Objective 3.1

Increase the mobility of the academic and administrative staff (outgoing/incoming)

Objective 3.2

Increase the mobility of students (outgoing/incoming)

Objective 3.3

Organize International Summer Schools and other short-term exchanges

Objective 3.4

Vitalize and extend the network of international partners and memberships in various international associations

Project Development and Management

## SWOT Analysis

The internal and external analysis of the University's situation in terms of project management.

Strengths

- Institutional Commitment for Internationalization and Project Management
- Existing infrastructure (existing IR and PM offices)
- Existing staff capacities
- Current international cooperation and joint projects
- Active participation in international consortia, projects, and grants

## Weaknesses

- Insufficient competent administrative staff for project development and management
- Inadequate English language proficiency of the staff
- Insufficient budget allocation to project writing
- Insufficient materialization of the existing MOUs
- The quality of partnerships
- Lack of ongoing training for the staff
- Lack of formal recognition of engagement in international projects for promotion of academic and administrative staff
- Lack of project management platforms/software
- Lack of experience in project development and management







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#### Opportunities

- Fund-raising of national and foreign grant financing
- Erasmus + and other donors' projects
- Cooperation between Albania and other countries
- Joint programs between national HEIs
- Utilization of international experience of the academic staff
- Utilization of innovations in digital devices

#### Threats

- Brain Drain
- Inconsistent government policy
- Interest of donors declining to finance projects and training of staff
- Staff readiness to develop and get involved in international projects
- Pandemic threats.

#### Objectives

Objective 4.1

Strengthen the staff capacities on project management skills

Objective 4.2

Encourage and support the staff to develop international projects

Objective 4.3

Conceive, prepare, submit and implement joint international projects

Objective .4

Establish the infrastructure for project management.

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