



**LUNDS**  
UNIVERSITET

## **Action plan for internationalisation at Lund University 2019-2021**

*Approved by the vice-chancellor on 3 October 2019.*

Internationalisation is a self-evident and obvious component of the Swedish tradition of openness that has contributed to improved knowledge of human beings, their surroundings and living conditions, as well as to the development of industry and to innovation. Internationalisation contributes to increased research quality, to more relevant education and provides necessary conditions for the implementation of Agenda 2030. The University's endeavour to contribute to a democratic knowledge society, characterised by diversity and tolerance, is challenged when internationalisation and fact-based knowledge is questioned in Sweden and abroad. The University aims to reinforce the work on internationalisation through the present action plan.

The Action Plan for Internationalisation 2019-2021 highlights measures to promote internationalisation at the University and to increase the attractiveness of the University. The action plan is based on the University's strategic plan for 2017-2026, in which the vision is for the University to be 'a world-class university that works to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition'. The University shall assume great societal responsibility and meet global challenges. One of the prioritised areas in the strategic plan concerns its continued development as an international university.

In the action plan, internationalisation refers to the deliberate process of integrating an international, intercultural or global dimension into the purpose, content and delivery of post-secondary education, in order to enhance the quality of education and research for all students and staff, and to make a meaningful contribution to society.<sup>1</sup>

In parallel with the action plan, the University intends to continue the strategic work with different regions in the world. The University has decided on a strategy for cooperation with Africa and recently decided on action plans for cooperation with the United Kingdom and Asia. The University also intends to take decisions on action plans for cooperation with North America and Latin America during 2019, with the Middle East and Northern Africa (the MENA region) and Europe in 2020, and with Sub-Saharan Africa in 2021. Moreover, the University is also working strategically on business intelligence, as well as strengthening its sustainability work through a strategy for sustainable development and through guidelines and regulations for business travel.

The work on the action plan has taken into account the recommendations in the interim government report 'A strategic agenda for internationalisation' (SOU 2018:3) and the final report 'Increasing the attractiveness of Sweden as a knowledge nation' (SOU 2018:78).

This action plan for internationalisation 2019- 2021 is to be followed up annually by the International Council.

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<sup>1</sup> Hans de Wit, Fiona Hunter, Laura Howard, Eva Egron-Polak (2015): *Internationalisation of higher education*. Directorate-General for internal policies, Policy department B: Structural and cohesion policies, Culture and education, European Union, p. 29.  
[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/540370/IPOL\\_STU\(2015\)540370\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/540370/IPOL_STU(2015)540370_EN.pdf)

## Goals of the action plan

The action plan is divided into four overarching goals under which specific goals are stated. A coordinator is assigned for the implementation of each goal, which is best done in close collaboration with other relevant units within the central administration, faculties or equivalent, and students' unions.

### **1. The students are to develop their international experience and intercultural competence**

Increase the number of students who complete part of their studies abroad to at least 25 per cent

- Carry out an inventory of the current outgoing students, including mobility of less than three months, and draw up a proposal for how and for which groups mobility can be promoted. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: February 2020.
- Carry out an inventory of which programmes lack mobility windows and identify the reasons for this, with the aim of increasing the visibility of the different ways and for which programmes mobility windows can be incorporated in programme syllabi. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: February 2021.
- Draw up a proposal for how students who study freestanding courses or undertake professional education and training can be offered better opportunities to complete part of their studies abroad. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: June 2021.
- Draw up a proposal for how the University should alter the range of partners, partly with the aim to adapt the outgoing opportunities according to the interests of the University and the students and partly to achieve a better balance between incoming and outgoing students. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: March 2020.
- Draw up guidelines for the transfer of credits from studies abroad. Coordinator: Division of Student Affairs. Deadline: December 2020.

Improved support for international students

- Draw up a proposal for how the University is to be able to offer accommodation to all international students in first- and second-cycle programmes partly divided in different categories of incoming students and partly in spring and autumn semesters. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: April 2020.
- Draw up a proposal for language training and language support for different groups of students with the aim to make it easier for incoming international students to communicate in Swedish and English in Sweden and for domestic students to communicate in international contexts. Coordinator: Division of Student Affairs. Deadline: December 2020.
- Draw up a proposal for how the University can improve support for international students with mental health issues. Coordinator: Division of Student Affairs. Deadline: May 2020.

Increased internationalisation at home

- Investigate how first- and second-cycle graduates can develop their international understanding and intercultural competence. Coordinator: Division of Student Affairs. Deadline: October 2021.

- Produce information and documentation on educational development for the internationalisation of teaching and training with multicultural student groups. Coordinator: Division of Student Affairs. Deadline: December 2020.
- Draw up a proposal for the development of support for virtual mobility. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: March 2020.
- Draw up a proposal for the development of conditions for incoming students' student influence. Coordinator: Division of Student Affairs. Deadline: October 2020.

#### Increased collaboration with universities abroad foreign universities

- Draw up a proposal for the development of the University's conditions for participation in EU funding programmes for educational collaboration. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: May 2020.
- Develop the support, including recommendations and agreement templates, for joint second- and third-cycle study programmes with universities abroad. Coordinator: Division of External Relations and Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: June 2020.
- Draw up a proposal for how the educational collaborations within LERU, U21 and EUGLOH can be promoted and made visible. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: December 2020.
- Draw up a list of recommendations for outgoing students prior to time spent in countries with non-democratic regimes, deficient respect for human rights or serious disregard for academic freedom. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: February 2020.

## **2. The quality and utilisation of research is to be reinforced through increased international cooperation**

#### Improve the conditions for international research cooperation

- Draw up a proposal for how the University is to increase its participation in the EU's framework programmes for research and innovation. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: June 2020.
- Draw up a proposal for how the University is to work with closer partnerships for research, education and external engagement. Attention is to be given to the environment and sustainability as important aspects. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: December 2019.
- Draw up a proposal for how internationalisation at all faculties or equivalent can be promoted through MAX IV and ESS. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: October 2021.

#### Improved visibility of research collaborations

- Develop Lucris and Scival as strategic tools to make the University's international research collaborations visible. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: November 2021.
- Draw up a proposal for how research collaborations can be further promoted and visibility improved through e.g. LERU, U21, EUGLOH and the Brussels Office. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: February 2020.

#### Improved support for innovation and utilisation

- Draw up a proposal for support for researchers and students for commercial utilisation and innovation within international collaborations. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: June 2020.

### **3. International cooperation is to be reinforced in order to contribute to the work on the global challenges and Agenda 2030**

Reinforce the University's role as an actor in societal challenges

- Draw up a proposal for how the University is to promote professional development of change agents in partner countries. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: April 2020.
- Establish a contract education course in collaboration with Vinnova, the Swedish Institute, Sida and other actors on the theme of transformative leadership for Agenda 2030. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: June 2020.
- Draw up a proposal for how the University is to work on lifelong learning from an international perspective as part of the University's framework for lifelong learning. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: December 2019.

Increase collaboration with key players nationally

- Develop a proposal for how the University can contribute to the collaboration platform for internationalisation with the aim to promote Sweden as a knowledge nation. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: September 2020.
- Establish a learning platform with learning resources and educational material on Agenda 2030. Coordinator: Division of Research, External Engagement and Innovation. Deadline: January 2021.

### **4. Staff are to have good international experience and intercultural competence**

Increased international mobility among staff

- Draw up a proposal for the development of mobility in different staff groups. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: July 2021.
- Draw up a proposal for increased support for staff prior to time spent in countries with non-democratic regimes, deficient respect for human rights or serious disregard for academic freedom. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: February 2020.

Reinforce the quality of internationalisation at home and in the contact with international staff and students

- Ensure that positions are primarily advertised internationally. Coordinator: Division of Human Resources. Deadline: continuously.
- Ensure that important information concerning regulations and recruitment processes is readily available in English. Coordinator: Division of Human Resources. Deadline: December 2019.
- Produce a proposal on how the Swedish language courses offered can be developed for non-Swedish-speaking staff. Coordinator: Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology. Deadline: December 2021.
- Evaluate the current English language courses offered and produce a proposal for how these can be developed with the aim to improve communication in English and reinforce the quality of contact with non-Swedish-speaking staff and students. Coordinator: Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology. Deadline: December 2021.
- Evaluate the current courses offered in intercultural communication for staff, and provide a proposal for how these can be developed. Coordinator: Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology. Deadline: December 2021.

- Develop the welcoming procedure for incoming international staff as well as the relevant tools and support with the aim to develop the welcome and introduction to Lund University as a workplace and to Swedish society. Coordinator: Division of Human Resources. Deadline: December 2019.
- Develop the University's work with international alumni. Coordinator: Division of External Relations. Deadline: April 2020.