

UNIVERSITY OF PRIŠTINA
temporarily settled in Kosovska Mitrovica



STRATEGY OF INTERNATIONALIZATION
of the University of Priština
temporarily settled in Kosovska Mitrovica

Kosovska Mitrovica, March 2023.

Pursuant to Article 23 and Article 70, Paragraph 1, Item 40 of the Statute of the University of Priština temporarily settled in Kosovska Mitrovica, the Senate of the University of Priština temporarily settled in Kosovska Mitrovica, at the session held on 29 March 2023, adopted the following

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INTRODUCTION

University of Priština in Kosovska Mitrovica (hereinafter referred to as UPKM) strives to utilize potentials of international academic and scientific cooperation for the further development of the quality of the teaching process, scientific research and innovation, as well as the wider social inclusion of the University with the respecting fundamental principles of the EU's renewed Agenda for Higher Education and the Strategy for the Development of Education by 2030 in the Republic of Serbia.

Internationalization of the educational process and scientific research is the backbone of the University's development, which entails concluding international agreements, finding opportunities for applying, implementing and monitoring the implementation of international development and scientific research projects, as well as international student and staff mobility programmes, organizing scientific research seminars and conferences, implementation of bilateral projects and programmes in cooperation with local, national and international institutions, and support to faculties in cooperation with partner institutions. Through the organization of studies and research, UPKM's aim for the period 2023 – 2030 is to continually perform the transfer, creation, dissemination and application of knowledge and transfer of competences that will have a positive influence on academic relations with universities from all around the world, mobility

of teachers, students, researchers and administrative staff, and developing collaboration with partner institutions at local, national and global scale.

1. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1.1. Active promotion and development of all types of international cooperation, including international scientific and research cooperation, international mobility of students, teaching and non-teaching staff, participation in international conferences, meetings and seminars related to the development of diverse segments of higher education, and establishment of joint study programmes with foreign universities;

1.2. Further participation and inclusion of UPKM into academic and international cooperation in the region, Europe and worldwide and the promotion of international scientific cooperation for the purpose to increase scientific reputation and potential of institutions within the University;

1.3. Modernization of study programmes, curricula, teaching methods, and teaching environments in line with best practices and trends in the European Higher Education Area;

1.4. Increase of the number of incoming and outgoing mobilities by the establishment of new and upgrading of the existing cooperation with foreign higher education institutions and organizations, preparation of legal and administrative support, and raising the quality and visibility of academic offer of UPKM;

1.5. Social inclusion and equal opportunities that would ensure greater scope and quality of participation by all vulnerable, disadvantaged and under-represented groups in international projects and mobility programmes. UPKM will strive to ensure measures and policies to include people with disability, poor socio-economic environment, geographical barriers, cultural differences, refugees, health problems, and all other disadvantaged groups;

1.6 Ensuring environmental protection and establishing ecologically acceptable practices.

2. SPECIAL OBJECTIVES

The following specific objectives of the Strategy derive from the defined general objectives:

- 2.1. Create conditions for the advancement of teachers and researchers, and the inclusion of the latest results of scientific research and development into the theoretical and practical context of the teaching process;
- 2.2. Improvement of existing and development of new study programs in the English language that will enrich the academic offer of UPKM for both local and foreign students;
- 2.3. Establishment and development of study programmes that will lead to the realization of double and joint diplomas;
- 2.4. Permanently informing teachers and researchers about international multilateral and bilateral scientific projects, enable their participation and within its possibilities, provide administrative and financial support for efficient project implementation and achievement of significant results;
- 2.5. Support the publication of scientific results and their inclusion into international Internet bibliographic systems, as well as the electronic access and the possibility to search these international databases for its researchers, students and teachers;
- 2.6. Increase the visibility and reputation of UPKM regionally and globally based on regularly updating its web presentation in English language, promotional publications, international and credit mobility projects, and actively engaging in relevant associations and networks;
- 2.7. Create new and continuously update the existing databases of international projects and international mobility projects;
- 2.8. Exploit the results of Erasmus+ CBHE projects that have been successfully implemented to further improve teaching, digitalization and innovation;
- 2.9. Ensure the participation of teaching and non-teaching staff at credit mobility, international conferences, meetings, seminars and training in order to get acquainted with the examples of good practice and latest development tendencies in the higher education;
- 2.10. Inform regularly UPKM students, teachers, researchers and administrative staff about the

possibilities of engaging in international mobility programmes, financial resources available and required procedures and competitions;

2.11. Provide the administrative support to students with the preparation of applications, documents and recognition process, ensure a system that will guarantee high-quality and competitive student applications;

2.12. Ensure the recognition of ECTS credits accumulated abroad during the mobility period, by establishing clear rules for a simple recognition of exams passed at the foreign university;

2.13. Ensure language support for incoming student mobility by organizing preparatory courses, awarded with ECTS;

2.14. Support the digitalization of administrative processes for international projects and mobility programmes by continuously and systematically developing its technical capacity and human resources to prepare for the realisation of new forms of international cooperation;

2.15. Maintain links with all the faculties, student services, Erasmus+ Officers and ECTS coordinators at UPKM to ensure a regular flow of information and a successful communication channel;

2.16. Foster closer collaboration between the university and students with fewer opportunities, by launching a virtual classroom to provide high-quality services to those students, this also could be used for international students and blended mobility;

2.17. Establish connection between students/staff who participated in credit mobility programmes with students, staff and the wider community, ensure civic engagement and active citizenship activities in the internationalisation process, and foster a closer collaboration between graduated students and businesses;

2.18. Ensure social inclusion and equal opportunities for students and staff in the internationalization process;

2.19. Development of a consolidate institutional environmental practices, reducing the adverse impact on the environment during the implementation of international projects and programmes by digitalization of administrative procedure, using e-publications and online promotional activities, and similar.

3. TASKS

Within the Internationalization Strategy UPKM will strive to:

- 3.1. Build sustainable relationships with Higher Education Institutions abroad, which shall be realized through participation in different cooperation programmes (Erasmus+, Horizon Europe, CEEPUS) and by signing bilateral and multilateral contracts with various universities to ensure cooperation and long-term relationships;
- 3.2. Embrace the modernisation agenda or fostering knowledge alliances taken into account EU priorities through the participation in projects in this field;
- 3.3. Develop and support interdisciplinary programmes;
- 3.4. Improve existing and develop new study programmes in English that will enrich the academic offer of UPKM for both domestic and incoming students;
- 3.5. Raise the visibility of UPKM research capacities and results achieved at national and international level;
- 3.6. Ensure more extensive credit mobility of professors, researchers, students and administrative staff, within the Erasmus+, and other mobility programmes funded by the European Union;
- 3.7. Raise the quality and visibility of academic offer of UPKM to increase the number of incoming students, academic and non-academic staff;
- 3.8. Promote and support English language learning to prepare students and staff to participate in student exchange programmes, which will ensure their active participation in the internationalization process;
- 3.9. Improve the services offered to incoming students, with a better housing offer, help with visas, the buddy system, language tandem or specific cultural activities, as well as the cooperation with the UPKM student organizations in order to help integrate foreign students;
- 3.10. Continuously raise awareness and promote the benefits of exchange programmes among students, staff and wider community;
- 3.11. Develop and support the digitalisation of administrative processes for international and credit mobility projects and programmes;

- 3.12. Ensure measures and policies to include people with disability, poor socio-economic environment, geographical barriers, cultural differences, refugees, health problems, and all other disadvantaged groups;
- 3.13. Support and promote social inclusion and equal opportunities in the internationalization and teaching process;
- 3.14. Support civic engagement and active citizenship activities in the internationalisation process;
- 3.15. Promote cost-effective travel choices, communication via online platforms, e-publications, online promotional materials, and cooperation with relevant stakeholders involved in environmental protection activities.

CONCLUSION

Based on all aforementioned, UPKM will, within the Strategy of Internationalization, strive to promote and sustain cooperation with HEIs, scientific and other institutions abroad, represent the University and its faculties in all aspects related to internationalization, and monitor the participation of the University and its faculties in consortiums, institutions for international cooperation, academic and other networks. Additionally, UPKM will support the initiatives to organize conferences at UPKM and visits by representatives of partner institutions and institutions abroad, and will also work on improving and coordinating the work of services and staff involved in the implementation of international cooperation activities.

UPKM objectives set out in this strategy will be defined in more detail by the Action plan for internationalization, and the implemented activities will be presented in a specific Annual Report.