



BALTIC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY



INTERNATIONALISATION POLICY 2019 - 2021

THE BALTIC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY'S INTERNATIONALISATION POLICY FOR 2019-2021 is the mid-term development policy designed based on the Academy's Development Strategy for 2016-2021 that reflects to and is aligned with the Academy's mission, vision and values.

The Academy's Internationalisation Policy for 2019-2021 *reflects to the fifth strategic goal* of the Academy's strategical development: stabilisation and expansion of the international dimension of the Academy in all spheres of activities: development of appropriate offers in order to attract the foreign students, visiting lectures, professors and researchers involvement into international organisations, cooperation with the foreign universities and research institutions, involvement into international projects.

The Internationalisation Policy *directly relates to the following strategic objectives* of the Academy's Development Strategy for 2016-2021:

- creation and development of inter-university programmes, as double degree and transfer programmes in cooperation with international higher educational institutions;
- attraction and recruiting of international full-time students;
- participation of the Academy in the EU and other international programmes, projects and grants;
- providing the opportunity to obtain the international certificate of the Academy's ECL certification centre from ECL Consortium for the Certificate of Attainment in Modern Languages and to attend one of the short-term and non-degree programmes;
- expansion of cooperation at international level, especially in the development of strategic partnership under projects and grants;
- diversification of study courses by attraction of highly-qualified international lectures to provide courses for senior and mid-level executives and professionals;
- involvement of the international visiting academic staff into the implementation of the Academy's study programmes.

The Academy's Internationalisation Policy is also *fully in-line with the strategic objective 2.4., and reflects the strategic direction 4.5. "Development of International Relations"* of the Academy's Development Strategy for 2016-2021.

THE BALTIC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY'S INTERNATIONALISATION MISSION is to develop, improve and increase the international recognition and competitiveness of the Academy, as well as its engagement into the local, national, regional and global educational and research community through the:

- encouraging of permanent international mobility of students, academic and administrative staff;
- building new international links and develop strategic partnerships with other higher educational institutions, academic and professional organisations, associations, units and networks worldwide;
- maintenance, development, strengthen and diverse existing co-operation ties;
- attraction and recruitment of successful international students, highly-qualified academic staff, scientists and researchers as well as their integration into study and teaching processes, scientific and research activities;
- participation in the national, regional, international and global scientific and educational exhibitions and fairs, conferences, seminars, internships as well as other activities and events;
- development and maintenance of friendly and attractive to all stakeholders, multicultural study and research environment;



- design, integration and implementation of curriculums, modules, courses, inter-university, various types of short-term and non-degree programmes in foreign languages;
- formation/generation of international and global academic, research and scientific activities and events;
- participation in international and global educational, scientific and research programmes, projects and grants.

#### THE ACADEMY'S INTERNATIONALISATION VISION:

to be a permanently and sustainably developed, internationally recognized, competitive, engaged into local, national, regional and global educational and research community higher educational institution of the Baltic region of the European Union with:

- highly-qualified, competitive, internationally oriented, focused on life-long personal improvement and development, sustainable economic growth students and prepared for the international professional career graduates;
- highly performed internationally oriented and recognised local and international academic and administrative staff, scientists and researchers;
- inter-enriching, creating new knowledge, innovation-oriented and sustainable academic, scientific and research cooperation with international and global business and professional environment, governmental institutions, universities and community for sustainable and responsible economic and social development;
- study programmes, modules, courses, inter-university, short-term and non-degree programmes that enhance local, national, regional, international and global competitiveness of students, graduates, academics, scientists and researchers;
- friendly, attractive to all stakeholders and developed multicultural study and research environment;
- regularly organized international and global academic, scientific and research activities and events.

We have designed the implementation plan of the Baltic International Academy's Internationalisation Policy for 2019-2021 and formulated main directions of actions with goals, objectives and measures contributing to their successful achievement and realisation, taking into account and including two types of internationalisation: external and internal or so called "internationalisation at home".

#### THE ACADEMY'S MAIN DIRECTIONS OF ACTIONS:

##### *1. Internationalisation of the Academy's units, departments, centres and management processes*

**GOAL 1:** Constant improvement of the Academy's units, departments and centres involved into international and cultural activities, work with international students, academic and administrative staff that encourage friendly and attractive international and multicultural study and research environment.

**Objective 1.1.:** Gradual improving the level of foreign language proficiency of the Academy's administrative staff to provide assistance and support to international full-time and exchange students, short-term and non-degree programmes participants, international academic and administrative staff, scientists and researchers for their better integration into study and teaching processes, scientific and research activities

The Academy provides the opportunity to all administrative staff to develop and increase their foreign language proficiency for development and maintenance of friendly and attractive multicultural study and research environment through providing assistance and support to international students, various programmes participants, international academic and administrative staff, scientists and researchers for their better integration into study and teaching processes, scientific and research activities.

**Objective 1.2.:** Continuous development and maintenance of activities and events organised and held in the Academy's Informational and Cultural Centres (seminars, open lecturing, conferences, meeting with the outstanding persons, presentations, etc.)

**Objective 1.3.:** Continuous improvement of the operation of the Academy's International Cooperation Department, ERASMUS+ Department, Visa Department and Information Centre services through gradual improvement of their internal systems of data collection and monitoring of operational tasks.

**Objective 1.4.:** Continuous improvement of e-environment for international students, academic and administrative staff, scientists and researchers, partners and agents with the purpose to make this environment clearer, more user-friendly and transparent.

## *2. Internationalisation of study, teaching and staff training processes and activities.*

**GOAL 1:** increasing and encouraging of students', academic and administrative staff participation in the international incoming and outgoing mobility within international programmes as ERASMUS+ and ERASMUS-Placement and bilateral exchange agreements to acquire international and multicultural experience during their study, teaching and work processes, to increase their international professional skills, knowledge and competences for their competitiveness, international orientation and recognition as well as for their preparation for international professional career.

**Objective 1.1.:** Increasing and encouraging of students' international incoming and outgoing mobility within international programmes as ERASMUS+ and ERASMUS-Placement and bilateral exchange agreements

Allow all Academy's students to conduct a part of their studies or internships at a partner university or organisation abroad and provide the same opportunities for partner universities' students by encouraging interest of local and international students in participation in these programmes

**Objective 1.2.:** Increasing and encouraging of academic and administrative staff international incoming and outgoing mobility within international programmes as ERASMUS+ and ERASMUS-Placement and bilateral exchange agreements.

Allow all Academy's academic and administrative staff to improve their professional skills, knowledge and competences by participating in teaching and staff training mobility at partner universities abroad and provide the same opportunities for partner universities' academic and administrative staff by encouraging interest of local and international academic and administrative staff in participation in these programmes.

**GOAL 2:** Increasing of students and academic staff foreign language proficiency and intercultural skills for successful engagement into the international study, educational and research community as

well as developing and popularisation of Latvian language and culture in international study, educational and research community.

**Objective 2.1.:** Increasing of students and academic staff foreign language proficiency and intercultural skills for their successful engagement into the international study, educational and research community, global competitiveness, international orientation and recognition.

The Academy provides the opportunity to all local students and academic staff to develop and increase their foreign language proficiency and intercultural skills by expanding of foreign language and intercultural learning options, short-term programmes and courses for their successful engagement into the international study, educational and research community.

**Objective 2.2.:** Development and popularisation of Latvian language and culture in international study, educational and research community.

The Academy provides the opportunity to all international students, academic and administrative staff to become acquainted with Latvian language, culture, political system and traditions for their better integration into the Latvian community, incl. study, educational and research communities.

**GOAL 3.** Attraction of highly-qualified international academic staff to lecturing at the Academy, to develop and maintain internal internationalisation for those Academy's students who cannot participate in international mobility for the improvement of their international orientation through the integration of international academic staff into study and teaching processes.

**Objective 3.1.:** Attracting of highly-qualified international academic staff to give open and guest lectures, as well as for joint lecturing with the Academy's academic staff

**GOAL 4.** Building of new international links by expanding of cooperation network with other European and non-European higher educational institutions in the field of exchange of students, academic and administrative staff under ERASMUS+ and bilateral exchange agreements as well as maintenance, development, strengthen and diverse existing co-operation ties and opportunities of local and international students, academic and administrative staff, researchers in this field of collaboration.

**Objective 4.1.:** Expand the number of inter-institutional agreements with higher educational institutions and organisations from Programme countries in the field of exchange of students, academic and administrative staff under ERASMUS+ Exchange programme.

Allow all local and international full-time students, academic and administrative staff to participate in the European mobility programmes in different regions and countries of the European Union to increase international attractiveness of the European Educational area as well as national, European and global competitiveness, international orientation and recognition of our students, graduates, academic and administrative staff and to develop, strengthen and diverse existing co-operation ties with European universities in this field of collaboration.

**Objective 4.2.:** Development the bilateral exchange with universities outside the European Union and expansion the number of such agreements to increase national, international and global competitiveness, international orientation and recognition of Academy, our students, academic and administrative staff and to develop, strengthen and diverse existing co-operation ties with universities worldwide in this field of collaboration.

The Academy expands the opportunities of all local and international full-time students, academic and administrative staff to participate in the international mobility programmes in different regions and countries worldwide thus increasing national, international and global competitiveness, international orientation and recognition of Academy, our students, graduates, academic and administrative staff as well as develop, strengthen and diverse existing co-operation ties with universities all around the world in this field of collaboration.

**GOAL 5.** Continuous design, development, improvement and increasing of study programmes, study modules or courses, that are offered in foreign languages by integrating them into the study curriculum and through internationalisation of the curricula as well as the development and implementation of inter-university, short-term and non-degree programmes in foreign languages for enhancing of local, national, regional, international and global competitiveness of students, graduates, academics, scientific and researchers as well as internationally recognition, competitiveness and attractiveness of the Academy for local and international students, academic and administrative staff, scientists and researchers, attraction of successful international students to the Academy.

**Objective 5.1.** Continuous design, development, improvement and increasing of study programmes at all levels and forms of education that are offered in foreign languages.

The Academy is prepared highly qualified, competitive, internationally oriented students and prepared for their international career graduates, as well as improved international recognition, competitiveness and attractiveness for local and international students, academic and administrative staff, scientists and researchers.

**Objective 5.2.** Continuous internationalisation of the curricula through design, development, improvement and increasing of study modules and courses at all levels and forms of education that are offered in foreign languages and their integration into the study curricula

Every student of the Academy can study at least a part of study programme in foreign languages.

**Objective 5.3.** Expanding international opportunities for the Academy and Partner universities' students through the gradual development and implementation of inter-university study programmes as double degree and transfer programmes with the universities worldwide.

**Objective 5.4.** Development and implementation of short-term and non-degree programmes in foreign languages for improvement of international cooperation and short-term mobility with partner universities and organisations for attraction of international students, academic and administrative staff to the Academy, increase the international recognition of the Academy as well as to form students', academic and administrative staff desire for professional improvement.

**GOAL 6.** Attraction and recruitment of successful international students through establishing contacts and gradual increasing the number of foreign recruiting agencies that represent the Academy, as well as through participation in the national, regional, international and global educational exhibitions and fairs

**Objective 6.1.** Gradual increase in the number of international full-time students in the Academy's study directions

**Objective 6.2.** Establishing contacts and gradual increasing the number of foreign recruiting agencies, agents, organisations and educational institutions involved into international students

**Objective 6.3.:** Providing financial support to the most talented and gifted international applicants and full-time students in the form of tuition-waiver grants and discounts from the Academy's internal funds and funds allocated by Latvian and international agencies and foundations to attract and reward the most gifted and successful international applicants and full-time students to the Baltic International Academy on tuition-waiver and discounts bases as well as to support their successful studies at the Academy

### *3. Intensification of internationalisation scientific and research cooperation.*

**GOAL 1.** Building of new international links and development of strategic partnerships by expanding of cooperation network with other European and non-European higher educational institutions in the field of science and research to maintenance, develop, strengthen and diverse existing co-operation ties, attract highly-qualified scientists and researchers, as well as to increase the network of potential strategic partners for joint participation in the international projects and grants.

**Objective 1.1.:** Development of scientific and research cooperation and activities with the European Union universities and universities outside the European Union, expansion the number of agreements in the area of science and researches to increase national, international and global competitiveness, international orientation and recognition of Academy, our students, academic and administrative staff and to develop, strengthen and diverse existing co-operation ties with universities worldwide in this field of collaboration.

Provide the opportunity to all local academic staff to participate in different scientific and research activities and events in different regions and countries of the world, to increase international recognition of the Academy's scientists and researchers, their engagement into regional and international research community, creation of new knowledge; to provide a platform for the exchange of opinions and inter-enriching communication, as well as to attract international highly-qualified scientists and researchers at the Academy and to build a strategic partnership for joint participation in the international programmes, projects and grants.

**Objective 1.2.:** Continue the Academy's participation in international projects and grants through submission of new projects and grants, implementation and improvement of existing projects and grants, as well as encouraging local academic and administrative staff in submission of individual projects and grants, thus improving international recognition of the Academy's scientists and researchers, competitiveness and engagement of the Academy as a whole in the international research community as well as attracting of highly-qualified scientists and researchers at the Academy its events and activities.

**Objective 1.3.:** Continuing to hold international scientific and practical conferences, seminars, discussions and scientific meeting at the Academy, increasing the number of international participants from the partner universities in such events and activities, as well as increasing the participation of the Academy's academic and administrative staff in similar events abroad to improve the international recognition of the Academy, its engagement into regional and international scientific and research community, as well as to attract international researchers and scientists to the Academy.

**Objective 1.4.:** Continuing to provide financial support as fellowships to international and local researchers in cooperation and with support of the Latvian and foreign state institutions and foundations, as well as providing information about the possibility of obtaining such fellowship for representatives of the local and international scientific and research community to increase the

attraction of highly-qualified scientists and researchers to the Academy and engagement of the Academy's scientists and researchers into the regional and international research community, creation of new knowledge and international orientation

The international department of the Academy in cooperation with other Academy's units, departments, representatives of study directions and programmes involved into the implementation of the Academy's Internationalisation Policy conducts an annual review of the Academy's main directions, goals, objectives and measures of internationalisation as well as critical appraisal of received results and makes corrections and changes in the Academy's Internationalisation Policy in case of necessity, based on approval of changes by the Academy's Senate.

### DIAGRAM OF THE CHANGES APPROVAL PROCESS

