



Belgrade, January 31st 2018

No. 6/5

INTERNATIONALISATION STRATEGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARTS

2018-2025

INTRODUCTION

Internationalisation strategy represents an integral part of the *Vision of development of the University of Arts in Belgrade*. The international activity of the University is one of the key aspects of its overall functioning. Art, by its very nature, does not know the boundaries, so openness to the world and international and intercultural orientation are the basic prerequisites for the quality of higher education in the field of art.

At the heart of the Internationalisation strategy is our appreciation of universal values, our commitment to active participation in regional, European and world trends in art and science. We strive to increase global visibility and significance of the University through the creation of constructive academic connections. Our goal is to permanently preserve the position of the leading institution for higher art education and the centre of creativity in the region and at the same time increase the visibility and recognition at the European and global level.

Based on internationalisation platform, the University aims to become a centre of excellence, attracting the best teachers and students and creating new knowledge that can answer the challenges of the modern world.

DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

Our determination to act on the international level implies dedicated and long-term development of international cooperation. In this sense, our strategy is focused on four long-term objectives:

- Strengthening the academic position and international reputation of the University;
- Developing international and intercultural awareness of students and teachers;
- Continuous improvement of study programmes and increasing their relevance for the current artistic moment;
- Intensive exchange of creativity and knowledge through the mobility of students and staff aimed towards a European Education Area.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Academic mobility

In the previous period, the University has achieved a significant increase in academic mobility of students and staff and built institutional capacity for further development in this field. In the coming period, we are determined to intensify mobility through full participation in the Erasmus+ programme and raise the level of bilateral cooperation. Our activities will include both incoming and outgoing mobility. Special attention will be given to intensifying incoming mobility, since the capacities of our faculties are currently insufficiently recognised and used in the international contexts.

The international experience of our students and teachers will influence the increased exchange of knowledge, professional experience and methodology of the teaching process; the continuous presence of guest lecturers, educators, renowned artists and experts from other countries will further increase the rating of our University and create additional possibilities for our students.

2. Joint study programmes

Interdisciplinary joint study programmes represent a significant activity of the University: UNESCO Chair in *Cultural Policy and Management* and Erasmus Mundus programme in *International Performance Research* have gained international recognition. Based on the fifteen-year long experience and achieved results, we are determined to explore opportunities in the forthcoming period for launching new interdisciplinary programmes with partners from abroad. Our goal are innovative and experimental programmes that move the boundaries of traditional disciplines and combine creativity, theory and new artistic tendencies.

The synergy of different institutions is more than a mere collection of experiences, practices, traditions and methodological approaches which is why joint programmes open significantly more space for experimentation and innovation. In a way, the multicultural platform of this kind of study is an academic challenge for an increasing number of students and teachers from the country, region, Europe and the rest of the world.

3. Internationalisation of the curriculum

The interest of students from abroad in the programmes of the University has been steadily increasing, so we will pay special attention to the development of study programmes in English. In this way, we will modernise the academic offer of the University and meet the needs of international students.

Our attention is also focused on short intensive programmes for students, such as Summer Art School and workshops and camps organised by our faculties. The focus of such programmes of international character is to connect students of art schools from the Balkans and Europe, to provide interdisciplinary individual and mentor approach, and introduce them to the culture, tradition and specific features of our environment.

As a prerequisite for the development of internationally oriented studies, high level of language proficiency is required by both students and staff. The University will support the promotion of foreign language teaching at our faculties and encourage the introduction of new forms of language support.

4. Internationalisation of research

The University plans to intensify international activities in the field of research. Participation in European research programmes and improvement of collaboration with institutions from abroad are priorities in the coming period.

We will strive to increase the visibility of our research capacities and the achieved results of research at the international level through: organisation of even greater number of international conferences and seminars in cooperation with partners from the region and abroad; improvement of the unique digital repository of scientific papers; infrastructural support and implementation of the principles of open science.

5. Career guidance in an international context

In order to empower students for future professional life and prepare them for successful international careers we intend to strengthen their participation in international art programmes and events (competitions, concerts, festivals, exhibitions of student artwork) through faculty activities and the support of international networks. The University plans to establish a Career Guidance Centre whose important task would be to enable students to become familiar with the international contexts of artistic professions (the system of international institutions, the art market, communication channels).

Our goal is to empower young artists to start their careers at the international level that will enable them to make a living from their artistic production.

We will additionally work on building transnational links with non-academic institutions in Europe in order to connect young artists with cultural and creative sectors and entrepreneurship.

GEOSTRATEGIC CONNECTION

The University is open to the widest possible cooperation, based on equality and mutual respect. In the choice of partners, it identifies three concentric, strategically important areas:

1. Southeast Europe
 - Higher education institutions in the region of Southeast Europe are natural partners of the University due to a similar geographical and historical context, and because of the fact that we are connected by similar languages and shared cultural and artistic heritage.
2. European context
 - The countries of the European Union and the European continent in a wider sense are important partners of the University because our priorities are integration in European Education Area and current trends in art and culture.
3. Global connection
 - The long-standing bilateral collaboration of the University with art schools in China, Canada and the United States, will enable deepening the existing and creating new relationships with schools in these countries;
 - Our membership in international associations will represent a platform for new partnerships and expansion of collaboration. We intend to initiate additional collaboration with Latin American art schools that are members of the AUF, i.e. with the institutions from Australia we have contacted within the ELIA network.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Aimed at accomplishing strategic goals, international cooperation will focus on the following activities:

1. Participation in projects in the field of higher education, art, culture and science

The University plans to continue and increase its activities within European programmes such as Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Horizon 2020, COST etc. focused on the institutional development, curriculum development as well as the development of research potentials.

2. Cooperation based on bilateral and multilateral inter-university agreements

The University will expand the circle of institutions it cooperates with, taking into account that the signed agreements are the basis for active cooperation, while bilateral cooperation should be raised to the level of strategic partnership, which can result in joint projects, joint study programmes and specific interests of higher education in the field of art.

3. Participation in academic mobility programmes

The University will continue the proactive policy of the exchange of students and staff within Erasmus+, CEEPUS and other mobility programmes supported by the European Union, while maintaining the proportion of incoming and outgoing mobility.

4. Active role in international university networks and associations

- Better use of the capacity of networks and associations the university belongs to (ELIA, AUF, UniAdrion, CILECT, ENCATC);
- Initiative for regional networking of art schools;
- Access to new networks of higher art schools (CUMULUS etc.).

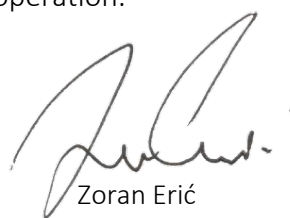
STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES FOR INTERNATIONALISATION

We are determined to take the following measures in order to enable the implementation of the Strategy:

- Empowering the Office for International Cooperation with competent personnel with clearly defined competencies in the implementation of activities;
- Introduction of periodic evaluation of the internationalisation process;
- Sustainability as an imperative of all strategic goals and accompanying activities;
- Introduction of an internet platform for participants in the mobility process;
- Supporting vulnerable social groups;
- Inclusion of student bodies and students in providing the direct support to incoming students (Buddy programme).

INTERNATIONALISATION AUTHORITY

Internationalisation of the University is carried out by the Rector's Board with the operational support of the Office for International Cooperation.



Zoran Erić
Rector