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BALTIC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY



INTERNATIONALISATION STRATEGY 2022 - 2025

THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF APPLIED SCIENCES BALTIC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY (hereinafter - BIA or Academy) INTERNATIONALISATION STRATEGY FOR 2022-2025 (hereinafter - BIAIS2025 or Strategy) is the Academy's mid-term development plan which has been developed based on the Baltic International Academy's Development Strategy for 2022-2025 (BIADS2025), analysis of international performance indicators in the fields of study of the BIA, the achievements of the previous period and the recommendations of the experts of the Accreditation Commission, as well as Latvian and European planning documents for the further development of education:

- Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia 2030 (Latvija2030)
- National Development Plan of Latvia for European Commission 2021-27 (NAP2027)
- Latvia's Education Development Guidelines 2021-2027
- "National concept of Latvia's higher education and higher education institution development for 2021-2030" of the University of the Future 2030
- Good practice in attracting international students and delivering studies
- Renewed EU agenda for higher education
- European Strategy for Universities (ES4U)
- Recommendation of the European Council on building bridges for effective European higher education cooperation
- 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development

BIAIS2025 is aligned with the Academy's mission, scientific strategic specialisation, vision, values, as well as *is fully in line with the fifth strategic goal of BIADS2025*: stabilising and expanding the Academy's international dimension in all areas of activity: development of appropriate offers to attract international students, guest lecturers, scientists and researchers, participation in international organisations, cooperation with international higher education, scientific and research institutions, involvement in international projects.

The Strategy *directly addresses the following strategic objectives of BIADS2025*:

- development of inter-university joint study or articulation programmes in cooperation with international higher education institutions;
- attracting and enrolling international students;
- participation in national, European Union and other international programmes, projects and grants;
- provide the opportunity to obtain the International Certificate from the ECL Certification Consortium of the College's ECL Certification Centre or attend one of the short-term or life-long education/professional development programmes;
- strengthening, expanding, deepening and diversifying international interaction and cooperation;
- diversifying study programmes in English, including short-term programmes such as summer schools, professional development and retraining;
- enhancing the involvement of BIA and partner universities' students and academic staff in inbound and outbound international mobility.

BIAIS2025 *reflects BIADS2025 strategic objective 2.4. and strategic direction 4.5. "Development of International Relations"*.

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 with the local, national, regional, and global educational and scientific community:

- by intensifying the permanent international mobility of students, academic and administrative staff;
- by building new international links and developing partnerships with other higher education institutions, academic and professional organisations, associations, entities and networks worldwide;
- by maintaining, developing, deepening, strengthening and diversifying existing collaborative links;
- by maintaining and enhancing the attraction and enrolment of successful and motivated international students;
- by attracting and employing highly qualified academic staff, guest lecturers, scientists and researchers, as well as integrating them into study and teaching processes, scientific and research activities;
- by developing and strengthening participation in international scientific and educational exhibitions, fairs, seminars, internships and other events and activities;
- by providing and strengthening a friendly and attractive intercultural study, scientific and research environment, developing and improving the international and intercultural competence of students, academic and administrative staff;
- by internationalising fields of study, programmes and curricula through the development, integration and implementation of study programmes, modules, courses, inter-university joint study or articulation programmes;
- by developing and organising international academic and research activities and events;
- by developing and strengthening participation in international educational and research conferences, programmes, projects and grants.

THE ACADEMY'S INTERNATIONALISATION VISION:

to be a sustainably developed, internationally recognised, competitive, engaged in international educational and scientific community higher education institution of the European Union's Baltic region with:

- highly qualified, competitive, internationally oriented students focused on lifelong personal improvement and development, sustainable economic growth, and graduates prepared for the international professional career;
- efficient, internationally oriented and recognised local and international academic and administrative staff, scientists and researchers;
- mutually enriching, knowledge-generating, innovation-driven and sustainable academic, scientific and research collaboration with international and global professional environments, public institutions, higher education institutions and communities for sustainable and responsible economic and social development;
- study programmes, modules, courses, inter-university joint study or articulation programmes, various types of short-term and professional development programmes that enhance the local,

national, regional, international and global competitiveness of students, graduates, academics, scientists and researchers;

- friendly, attractive to all stakeholders and developed international, intercultural study and scientific and research environment;
- regularly organised international academic and scientific research activities and events.

The Baltic International Academy has developed Implementation Plan of the Internationalisation Strategy 2022-2025 and formulated the main lines of action with goals, objectives, activities and responsible persons that contribute to its successful achievement and implementation, taking into account and including two types of internationalisation: “internationalisation abroad” and “internationalisation at home”.

THE ACADEMY’S MAIN DIRECTIONS OF INTERNATIONALISATION:

GOAL 1. INTENSIFYING INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY AND EXPERIENCE OF THE ACADEMY’S STUDENTS AND STAFF

Objective 1.1. Intensifying Academy’s students’ international mobility and experience

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 1.1.1. Number of outgoing students who participated in international study mobility programmes
- 1.1.2. Number of outgoing students who participated in the ERASMUS+ work placement programme
- 1.1.3. Number of the respective year's graduates who participated in international mobility programmes (study and placement)

Objective 1.2. Intensifying the international mobility and experience of the Academy's academic and administrative staff

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 1.2.1. Number of outgoing academic staff participating in the international teaching and training mobility programmes, including ERASMUS+
- 1.2.2. Number of outgoing administrative staff participating in the international teaching and training mobility programmes, including ERASMUS+

GOAL 2. ENSURING AND STRENGTHENING THE ACADEMY'S INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Objective 2.1. Intensifying international mobility of incoming international mobile students, academic and administrative staff

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 2.1.1. Number of incoming international mobile students
- 2.1.2. Number of incoming guest lecturers’ international teaching and training mobility
- 2.1.3. Number of incoming international administrative staff’s international training mobility

Objective 2.2. Sustaining and increasing the number of incoming degree-seeking international students

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 2.2.1. Percentage of international students out of the total number of the Academy’s students

Objective 2.3. Ensuring international students' integration in Latvia and at the Academy through strengthening the intercultural environment

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 2.3.1. Number of events organised by the Academy to promote exchange and other international programmes among students and staff
- 2.3.2. Number of events and activities dedicated to involving international students in the educational process and the Academy's student community
- 2.3.3. Number of international students in the BIA Student Parliament
- 2.3.4. Establishing the International Students Department within the Academy's Student Parliament
- 2.3.5. Launching and popularising the Buddy programme for international students

GOAL 3. ENHANCING INTER-EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL COLLABORATION NETWORKS WITH INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Objective 3.1. Strengthening, deepening and diversifying inter-European and global collaboration networks with international educational and scientific communities, professional organisations and associations

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 3.1.1. Number of bilateral agreements with higher education institutions and organisations from the ERASMUS+ programme and partner countries
- 3.1.2. Number of cooperation agreements with higher education institutions, organisations and associations outside agreements and activities under the ERASMUS+ programme
- 3.1.3. Number of bilateral exchange agreements with higher education institutions outside the ERASMUS+ programme, taking into account the fields of study implemented at the Academy
- 3.1.4. Number of scientific and research cooperation agreements with higher education institutions, organisations and associations
- 3.1.5. Number of countries in which the Academy's partner universities are located

Objective 3.2. Enhancing collaboration and interaction visibility within the network

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 3.2.1. Number of implemented international projects in which the Academy is a grant-holder or partner
- 3.2.2. Number of projects and grants implemented by the Academy, funded by Latvian state institutions and related to the internationalisation of the Academy and its communities
- 3.2.3. Number of international project/grant applications
- 3.2.4. Percentage of international funding in the Academy's annual budget
- 3.2.5. Percentage of state funding in the Academy's annual budget

GOAL 4. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE ACADEMY'S FIELDS OF STUDY AND PROGRAMMES

Objective 4.1. Developing and sustaining the number of degree programmes in English

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 4.1.1. Number of degree programmes in English (in total)

Objective 4.2. Increasing the number of degree programmes with some courses or modules taught in English

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

- 4.2.1. Number of degree programmes with some courses or modules taught in English (in total)

Objective 4.3. Increasing the number of collaborative degree programmes

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

4.3.1. Number of interuniversity degree programmes

Objective 4.4. Investigating the possibilities of virtual internationalisation (Collaborative Online International Learning, Virtual Lecturing, MOOC, etc.) and gradually implementing them in the study process

Objective 4.5. Increasing the percentage of international academic staff involved in degree programme's implementation out of the total academic staff employed

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

4.5.1. Percentage of international academic staff involved in degree programme's implementation out of total academic staff employed

Objective 4.6. Development and implementation of vocational training and other types of short-term programmes, including summer schools

Indicator or tool/action for achieving the objective

4.6.1. Number of vocational training and other short-term programmes

In cooperation with other units, departments, study fields and programmes involved in the development and implementation of the Academy's internationalisation strategy, the main directions, goals, criteria and measures of BIAIS2025 are reviewed, the achieved results are evaluated and, if necessary, corrections and changes to the Strategy are made.

A separate internationalisation analysis is prepared for each study field, evaluating already achieved results and directions of activity.

DIAGRAM OF THE PROCESS FOR APPROVING AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES TO THE INTERNATIONALISATION STRATEGY

