

Policy of Internationalization



#### **Preamble**

The "NEU National Educational University" internationalization policy has been developed in line with the university's mission, vision, and values, and aims to plan joint learning and research, offer foreign-language educational programs, facilitate international exchange of students and staff, create and implement joint programs, organize conferences, and carry out various cultural, sports, and educational activities.

The declared priority of the "NEU - National Educational University" is the implementation of internationalization processes to prepare generations with multicultural and democratic values and to ensure their continuous progression in the global world. The contribution of the university community to the global stage of internationalization is a key factor in the changing digital age.

The internationalization of the education system involves organizing and managing the activities of an educational institution in a way that allows for high-level international relationships.

The university strives to enhance the quality of education in order to offer the best opportunities for both local and international students. The university's goal is for students and graduates to be able to study and work in terms of globalization.

### Coordinated Policy of Internationalization

Georgia, as part of the unified European Higher Education Area (signatory of the Bologna Declaration), strives for close cooperation with European universities. Accordingly, "NEU" is committed to continuously deepening its cooperation with European universities and Also, to enter the international arena..

A significant role in the implementation of the university's internationalization is played by the management, coordinated execution, and resolution of issues aimed at the institutionalization of internationalization. This involves establishing systems and processes that foster and develop international collaborations, exchange and double degree programs, attracting international students, joint scientific research activities, etc. The unified European Higher Education Area is a powerful external factor for the internationalization of higher educational institutions. The goal of this process is to preserve the diversity of national systems while ensuring their compatibility, allowing for mobility and exchanges between higher education institutions in Bologna Process participating countries, which is achieved through the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). The process enables and simplifies the task for universities to send and attract students in exchange programs with the recognition of corresponding credits.

# Main Priorities of Internationalization

For students – Developing exchange programs, creating joint programs, developing English-language programs for the admission of international students, sending Georgian students abroad for studies. The English language component in the educational program is focused on the use of English-language sources in the teaching and learning process and strengthening the element of internationalization. Specifically, it ensures the acquisition of language skills corresponding to the B2 level of English as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, knowledge and updating of language aspects, and development of communication skills.

**For academic staff** – Developing exchange programs, creating joint programs, involving foreign professors in the program, conducting joint research work, and participating in international scientific conferences.

For the organization of the educational process – Planning the student learning process, recognition of acquired knowledge, international recognition of educational documents, issues of quality assessment in education. When developing educational programs, consideration of international standards and recommendations from foreign experts. The organization of the learning process in line with the European model: European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), the model for the distribution of assessment percentages.

**International collaboration and internationalization** – The university collaborates with various foreign higher education institutions to foster the development of internationalization.

# Memoranda include:

- Promoting international student mobility;
- Exchange of academic staff for gaining experience and enhancing qualifications;
- Organizing training sessions;
- Organizing international conferences, seminars, webinars, and symposiums;
- Exchange of information, educational materials, and publications;
- Supporting students in the implementation of exchange and/or joint programs.

#### Mechanisms of International Collaboration and Internationalization and Their Effectiveness Evaluation

The internationalization policy includes student and academic staff mobility, joint educational programs, international collaboration within research projects, and academic aspects.

# Results of the Internationalization Policy:

- Improvement of the quality of teaching/learning and science, and expansion of academic horizons;
- Institutional growth and development, improvement of the institutional profile and status;

• Possibility of aligning teaching and research with international academic standards.

# Indicators for Assessing the Effectiveness of International Collaboration and Internationalization Mechanisms:

- Foreign-language educational programs;
- Joint educational programs;
- Intensity and quality of the increase in the number of international partners;
- Number of students involved in exchange programs;
- Rate of international mobility of the university's academic staff;
- Number of joint international research projects and the academic staff and students involved in them;
- Number of international scientific conferences.

# Activities to be implemented by the university to strengthen internationalization:

- a. Attracting foreign staff for the development of institutional internationalization;
- b. Attracting foreign students for the development of institutional internationalization.

One of the goals of institutional internationalization is to make teaching and learning environment international by attracting foreign staff, for which:

- The university actively collaborates with various partner international universities;
- The university actively collaborates with economic agents;
- The university's International Relations Service is actively involved in systematizing this process;
- The university supports the resolution of technical issues for attracting foreign staff, such as visa procedures, finding accommodation, planning social activities, and other related matters.

One of the goals of institutional internationalization is to increase the number of foreign students. To achieve this goal, the university has developed mechanisms for attracting foreign students, supported by the following factors:

- The university's English-speaking human resources and English delivered educational programs;
- Student support services (assistance with admission procedures, document translation and recognition processes, assistance in submitting documents for visa applications);
- Meetings with foreign students to understand their needs and perspectives;
- Creation of foreign-language courses, modules, and programs, followed by student enrollment and the provision of additional opportunities for them;
- A flexible payment system.

# Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Internationalization Policy

The implementation of the internationalization policy is carried out by the International Relations Service, which conducts an annual assessment and submits a report to the rector. The internationalization policy is fully aligned with the university's strategic and operational plans.