# Free Academy of Tbilisi



Internationalization Policy



# **Preamble**

The internationalization policy of LLC Free Academy of Tbilisi (hereinafter "Academy") has been developed for the purpose of international exchange of students and staff, joint study and research planning, holding conferences, creation and implementation of joint programs, implementation of various cultural, sports, educational activities.

Internationalization of the educational system includes the organization, management and administration of the educational institution, where it will be possible to have high-level relations at the international level.

The Academy strives to develop the quality of education to offer the best opportunities to both local and international students. The goal of the Academy is to enable students and graduates to study and work in the conditions of world globalization. This document describes the general directions of the internationalization policy of the Academy, which is based on the internationalization policy of Georgia.

## Coordinated internationalization policy

Georgia, as a part of the single European educational space (a signatory of the Bologna Declaration), aspires to close cooperation with European universities, therefore the Academy is committed to deepen cooperation with European universities on a permanent basis.

In the implementation of the internationalization of higher education institutions, an important role is played by the management, coordinated management and resolution of such issues, which are aimed at the institutionalization of internationalization and imply the establishment of such systems and processes that will support and develop the infrastructure, exchange and double degree programs, attraction of foreign students, joint research, etc. Georgia, as a part of the single European educational space (a signatory of the Bologna Declaration), aspires to close cooperation with European universities, therefore the Academy is committed to deepen cooperation with European universities on a permanent basis. The single European area of higher education is a powerful positive external influence factor for the internationalization of higher education institutions. The aim of this process is to preserve the diversity of national systems, while ensuring their compatibility in the sense of enabling mobility and exchanges between higher education institutions of the countries participating in the Bologna Process, which is achieved by the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System - ECTS. The system enables and simplifies the task of institutions to send their own and attract exchange students by recognizing the relevant credits.

## Main priorities of internationalization

For students - development of exchange programs, development of joint programs, development of English-language programs for the purpose of accepting foreign students, sending Georgian students to study abroad. The English language component in the educational program is focused on the use of English-language sources in the learning and teaching process and on strengthening the element of internationalization, in particular, it ensures the acquisition of skills corresponding to the B2 level of the English language defined by the Common European Framework of Languages and the knowledge and actualization of language aspects, the development of communication skills.

**For academic staff** - development of exchange programs, development of joint programs, involvement of foreign professors in the program, joint research works and participation in international scientific conferences.

**To guide the learning process** - planning the learning process of students, recognition of acquired knowledge, international recognition of education documents, issues of education quality assessment. Taking into account

international standards and recommendations of foreign experts when developing educational programs. Conducting the educational process taking into account the European model: the European Credit System (ECTS), the percentage distribution model of assessment.

**International cooperation and internationalization** – the Academy cooperates with various foreign higher educational institutions in order to develop internationalization.

#### Memoranda include:

- promotion of international mobility of students;
- exchange of academic personnel for the purpose of acquiring experience and raising qualifications;
- organization of trainings;
- organization of international conferences, seminars, webinars and symposiums;
- mutual exchange of information, educational materials and publications;
- To support students in the implementation of exchange and/or joint programs.

#### Mechanisms of international cooperation and internationalization and evaluation of their effectiveness

Internationalization policy includes student and academic staff mobility; joint educational programs; international cooperation within research projects; academic aspects.

#### Result of internationalization policy:

- Improving the quality of learning/teaching and science and expanding the academic horizon;
- Institutional growth and development, improvement of institutional profile and status;
- Ability to focus on international academic standards in teaching and research.

#### Indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of international cooperation and internationalization mechanisms are:

- Number of international scientific conferences;
- Number of students involved in exchange programs;
- The rate of international mobility of academic staff of the Academy;
- Number of academic staff and students involved in joint international studies;
- Joint educational programs.

