



The Union of Free Evangelical and Baptist Churches of Estonia

Estonian Free Church Theological Seminary

THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONALISATION

The aim of the internationalisation of the Estonian Free Church Theological Seminary is to enrich, diversify and improve the quality of teaching, research and development through international cooperation.

Internationalisation takes place through:

- Organising and participating in international scientific conferences with external partners. Making conference presentations, participating in panel discussions etc;
- Teaching as a visiting lecturer at partner institutions and involving visiting lecturers in our teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level;
- Study visits by administrative and teaching staff to external partners and their study visits to us, with a view to exchanging experience;
- Joint development projects to share best practice and create materials etc. for wider use;
- Joint research projects and/or publications with international partners;
- Hosting foreign students and sending our own students on mobility;
- Organising BIP courses (Erasmus short courses) and sending our students to participate in them.

For internationalisation to take place, we take the following steps:

- We sign cooperation agreements with external partners and keep relations active;
- We contribute to the work of international networks;
- We write projects and participate as participants in projects written by others;
- We organise BIPs and training courses with foreign lecturers;
- We initiate research projects with external partners and participate in them with substantive contributions;
- We attend international conferences and contribute to them with presentations, share information with others about them;
- We organise international scientific conferences.

The persons responsible for internationalisation:

- The Rector leads the process and establishes new international relations. In addition, he/she keeps track of financial opportunities and creates R&D opportunities within the budget;

- The Head of Development, together with the Rector, contributes to all development activities, but especially publications and conferences;
- Together with the Rector, the Director of Studies makes proposals for inviting visiting lecturers;
- the Erasmus coordinator, with his/her assistance, deals with contracts and details of secondments, and promotes study abroad opportunities for students and other opportunities for staff;
- Lead teachers go abroad to teach and participate at conferences, contribute to international research projects where possible.

If choices have to be made between external partners and internationalisation activities, then:

- Preference will be given to free church theology schools and projects;
- Investment will be made in activities that are better aligned with the school's research topics;
- Preference will be given to conferences where young academics can have the opportunity;
- The most economically feasible options will be chosen

Internationalisation will be evaluated at the last Advisory Board meeting of each year, together with an analysis of the progress of the development plan. Specific indicators will come from the development plan indicators.

Adopted by the Advisory Board of the Estonian Free Church Theological Seminary on 13 June 2023.