

Translation from Ukrainian into English

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine
Ternopil Ivan Puluj National Technical University

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Internationalization STRATEGY
Ternopil Ivan Puluj National University
for the period up to 2030

Introduction. The current state of TNTU internationalization

The Strategy of Internationalization of Ternopil Ivan Puluj National Technical University (TNTU), hereinafter referred to as the University, for the period until 2028 is a declaration of the University's commitments to achieve goals and fulfill tasks in the field of international cooperation to improve the quality of the University's educational and scientific activities and bring its level closer to international standards of higher education. The internationalization policy is an integral part of the overall development strategy and a tool to ensure the University's competitiveness in the domestic and international educational and scientific space.

The University attaches particular importance to improving the quality of education through the internationalization of educational programs. Cooperation with universities and institutions worldwide, including Poland, Germany, France, Sweden, Spain, Slovakia, Romania, Lithuania, Croatia, USA, Canada, Türkiye, Great Britain, and other countries, allows the introduction of modern educational practices and technologies. The University actively participates in international academic exchanges, which promotes the mobility of students and faculty, and allows the implementation of the best educational standards and teaching methods.

The University implements bilateral agreements on joint educational programs such as double degrees with Lublin University of Technology and Opole University of Technology (Poland), Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences (Germany), as well as inter-institutional agreements within international academic mobility projects, within the European Erasmus+ program with universities: Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), Lublin University of Technology, Opole University of Technology, Bialystok University of Technology, Wrocław University of Economics, Wrocław University of Technology and Nysa University of Applied Sciences (Poland), University of Salamanca (Spain), Gabrovo Technical University (Bulgaria), Sibenik Polytechnic (Croatia), Tomas More University of Applied Sciences (Belgium), Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences (Germany), University of Petroșani (Romania), University of Huelva (Spain), Iskenderun Technical University (Türkiye), Fırat University (Türkiye), University of Galați (Romania) and Babeș-Bolyai University (Romania), etc.

Currently, the University is implementing agreements with internship bases in Poland, Lithuania, Croatia, Italy, and Germany, which provides opportunities for future specialists to familiarize themselves with high-tech equipment, acquire and improve professional skills. Since 2007, the University has been providing education for foreign citizens at the bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. levels in English. Since 2008, a preparatory department has been functioning.

In the scientific field, the University develops international relations by participating in joint research and projects. An important aspect is participation in international forums, exhibitions, conferences, and seminars, which promotes the exchange of knowledge and experience with leading scientists worldwide. The University is an active member of international associations and consortia, which allows the implementation of joint scientific initiatives and projects.

Within the framework of the signed Cooperation Agreement between our University and the Indo-European Education Foundation (Poland), the Indo-European Center was established at the University (2019), which aims to establish and develop educational, research, production, and cultural ties of the University, as well as other higher education institutions and business entities of Ukraine with Indian partners. The University implements European Union ERASMUS+ projects in the following areas: KA1 "Learning Mobility," KA2 "Capacity Building in Higher Education," KA2, Jean Monnet, Horizon Europe, projects initiated by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Baltic University Programme (BUP). The University is an associated partner in the "European Universities Alliances" projects, Erasmus+ program.

The University has entered the regional part of one of the three most authoritative world rankings, QS World University Rankings: Europe, ranking 32nd among Ukrainian higher education institutions. In the Webometrics ranking of world universities, TNTU ranked 20th among Ukrainian universities in 2024. The University is included in the largest international ranking of educational and scientific institutions in the world, SCImago Institutions Rankings, where it ranks 30th among domestic higher education institutions. According to the results of the "Top 200 Ukraine" ranking of higher education institutions, the University ranks 37th. This year, the University ranked 58th in the ranking of Ukrainian higher education institutions according to the indicators of the Scopus scientometric database.

The internationalization of the University's activities is based on the principles and experience of leading universities worldwide, taking into account its own specifics and preserving national authenticity. The strategy is developed in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education," and is aimed at implementing the tasks provided for by the Strategy for the Development of Higher Education in Ukraine for 2022-2032. TNTU considers international cooperation as a priority in all aspects of the University's activities and recognizes and promotes the implementation of the following European Union documents in the field of higher education:

- Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area;
- Erasmus Charter for Higher Education 2021-2027;
- Erasmus Student Charter.

This strategy also supports the integration of the University into international educational and scientific networks, promoting the development of international academic and scientific relations, which is a key factor for improving the quality of education and research, as well as for strengthening TNTU's position in the international arena.

At the same time, the current problems of internationalization at this stage remain:

- Insufficient foreign language proficiency among staff and higher education students.
- Insufficient internationalization of the content of educational programs and research.
- Insufficient interest of academic staff in active international activities.
- Unstable funding of internationalization from external and internal sources.
- Low level of incoming and outgoing mobility of higher education students, academic and scientific staff in Ukraine.

Main Goals and Key Principles of Internationalization

The strategy is designed to streamline the strategic goals and objectives of international integration, to focus the relevant efforts of the University's staff to strengthen its position and competitiveness in the global educational and scientific space by improving the quality of educational and scientific services in accordance with global criteria, which involves a set of measures aimed at improving the University's international image, the development of science and educational programs. The main goals of TNTU's internationalization are:

- internationalization of the content of education, development of international relations, support of partnership networks;
- multilingual and cross-cultural training of higher education students and academic staff with a high level of language and intercultural competencies, capable of adequately responding to global challenges;
- strengthening academic mobility and improving the quality of educational services through the implementation of best European practices and the introduction of global educational trends;

- internationalization of scientific activity by increasing the awareness and involvement of faculty and staff of all faculties, departments and structural units in international project activities, attracting funds and best global practices to the development of the University's scientific potential;
- creating a positive image of TNTU and its promotion in the international educational and scientific space as a university that provides high-quality education and implements modern scientific research and innovations.

The basic principles of TNTU's internationalization are:

- systematicity, which ensures the expansion of effective cooperation with partner higher education institutions from all regions of the world, the formation of international consortia of University cooperation with partner higher education institutions as a system of mechanisms designed to contribute to the achievement of the strategic goals of the University's development as a whole;
- transparency and information openness, as a necessity for dialogue and quality interaction with foreign partners;
- communicativeness as a central element of internationalization to ensure constant interaction with foreign partners, international organizations, embassies of foreign states on issues of implementing the University's international relations;
- the ability to implement best practices to ensure the University's constant participation in the activities of international organizations, associations and unions.

Successful implementation of the strategy will be facilitated by:

- improving the management structure of international cooperation at all levels;
- integrating higher education students and TNTU staff into the international community through academic mobility;
- forming an environment of English-language adaptation and respect for cross-cultural differences;
- integrating TNTU scientists into the international research community and creating conditions to maximize the impact of international experience on the development of academic staff research work;
- raising TNTU's position in international rankings, forming a positive international image of the University as a university that provides high-quality education and implements modern scientific research and innovations.

Strategic Aims, Tasks and Indicators/Expected Results

Strategic aims, Tasks and indicators/expected results			
No.	Aims	Tasks	Indicators/expected results
1	Internationalization of the content of education	• Monitoring and aligning the content of the University's educational programs with foreign counterparts. Adapting the content of academic disciplines (courses, modules) to the requirements of international (European) standards of higher education, adapting educational programs to international inclusive norms; • Creating massive open online courses.	• European integration of the University in educational programs/courses/modules; • improving the quality of educational programs

2	Multilingual and cross-cultural training of higher education students and scientific-pedagogical workers	· Improving foreign language proficiency among students by integrating modern teaching methods, practical application of language skills, and active use of foreign languages in academic and professional environments; · Organizing summer language schools, language conversation clubs, etc.; · Improving foreign language proficiency among academic staff through systematic enhancement of language competencies, participation in specialized courses and training, and active use of foreign languages in scientific activities, publications, international conferences, and collaboration with foreign partners, contributing to the development of their professional qualifications and international competitiveness.	· Increasing the number of higher education students and academic staff who are proficient in a foreign language at a level not lower than B2, as evidenced by relevant international certificates; · Increasing the number of disciplines taught in foreign languages.
3	Strengthening academic mobility	• intensification of the participation of higher education students, academic staff, and administrative personnel in international academic mobility projects within the Erasmus+ program (KA1), DAAD, Fulbright, etc.; · Updating the procedure for crediting academic achievements of higher education students obtained during study abroad; · Expanding the partner network for higher education students to undertake internships in foreign companies and international organizations; · Expanding the practice of involving foreign academic staff in the educational process at TNTU.	· Increasing the number of higher education students participating in international academic mobility to 3% of their total number, and increasing the number of academic staff participating in international academic mobility to 10% of their total number, with half of them for at least 1 month per calendar year; · An up-to-date system for recognizing learning outcomes abroad for higher education students who are participants in academic mobility programs; · Increasing the number of higher education students who have completed internships in foreign partner organizations; · Bringing the share of academic staff from leading foreign partner organizations or universities in the overall structure of the University's academic staff to 3%.
4	Internationalization of scientific activity	· Expanding international partnerships and research networks with foreign universities, businesses, and other institutions; · Activating participation in international research projects, including within the Horizon Europe program, etc.;	· Increasing the number of TNTU's international partners; · Increasing the number of applications submitted within international project competitions, including Horizon Europe, etc.; · Increasing the number of publications by academic staff in

		· Publishing scientific monographs, other scientific publications, and scientific articles in publications, including those indexed in international scientometric databases (Web of Science, Scopus), in collaboration with foreign partners; · Conducting regular international scientific conferences, forums, and seminars with the participation of foreign attendees.	- publications indexed in scientometric databases Web of Science and Scopus by at least 3% annually, improving h-indexes (Hirsch indexes) of citations of the University's academic staff; · Increasing the number of scientific conferences, forums, and seminars with the participation of foreign attendees.
5	Creating a positive image of TNTU and its promotion in the international educational and scientific space	· Developing a set of measures for branding and marketing the University in the international market of educational and scientific services, improving the English version of the University's official website, and actively using social media and other Internet opportunities for advertising and informational activities; · Identifying a list of priority international university rankings in which TNTU participates, and implementing the necessary activities to improve its positions in these rankings.	· Increasing the number of foreign higher education students; · Improving TNTU's positions in leading international university rankings.

Final Provisions

Changes and additions to this Strategy shall be made upon submission by the Vice-Rector for International Cooperation, approved by the University's Academic Council, and approved by the Rector.