



**GJAKOVA UNIVERSITY
"FEHMI AGANI"**

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**Strategy of the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"
for internationalization in the period 2020-2025**

In fulfillment of its mission, the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani", emphasizes the international cooperation in terms of teaching and research by promoting cooperation with universities and other partners anywhere in the world. The international approach of the university includes and harmonizes various aspects of university life: teaching, research and administration. In this context, UGJFA is committed to giving an international dimension and presence to research conducted at the university, publications which are implemented by the university and by academic staff inside and outside through scientific research, student exchange, academic and administrative staff with partner universities , as well as the establishment and strengthening of international cooperation.

Strategic goal

The strategic goal of the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" is the development and improvement of all forms of international cooperation, in order to mobilize students and staff, continuing with joint study programs of all levels, scientific research and involvement in programs and European projects.

International Cooperation - Institutional Framework

In this strategy, adapted to the new accreditation regulations and self-assessment procedures, an important place was given to international cooperation as a field of special interest in the development and affirmation of the university. In the general strategy of the University until 2020, it is emphasized that: international cooperation is one of the priorities of the University. Following this priority and the Erasmus Policy Declaration, the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani", even though is not part of it, adopted the European Educational Policy elaborated in the part of the Bologna Process and expressed its willingness to make changes that lead to European Higher Education Area - EHEA. In the implementation of the Bologna Process, the challenge in the coming years will be: providing sufficient staff, spaces for education and accommodation in the framework of academic exchanges. Concerning the previous period at the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani", the shortcomings of the administrative staff have been identified and

new recruitments must be continuously designed alongside with the infrastructure solution, with in the establishment of the new University Campus.

Collaborative universities and mobility

Gjakova University "Fehmi Agani" has signed bilateral agreements on international cooperation with 14 foreign universities. Last year, bilateral agreements were signed regulating Erasmus exchanges of students, teachers and administrative staff. Bilateral agreements are the basis for signing the Erasmus bilateral agreements and by the date of completion of this strategy are signed as follows: Poland - one, Croatia - two, Turkey – two. The signed Erasmus Bilateral Agreements testify to the agreed and achievable programs exchange. Mobility of students, teachers and administrative staff at the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" is constantly increasing. It can be said with confidence that the initial reluctance of students and teachers to be included in the mobility program was the result of a lack of knowledge about the opportunities and benefits offered by such programs. Another reason was that student scholarships in some programs did not cover full expenses. However, covering all costs is not the main reason for not getting involved, as the CEEPUS program covers all costs, and unfortunately there is no interest either.

There has been and is good mobility in Erasmus + CBHE projects. We have two completed, one in half and 4 will now start in January 2020 as we are beneficiaries as participants.

All of this is evidence of the willingness to make internationalization a tangible reality at the university, and as the European Commission's strategic objective is from the year 2020, about 20% of students will be able to participate in mobility and that the funds they provide will be shared based on the annual competitions, the University will motivate and inform students and teachers about the benefits of external mobility, because mobility is an important indicator of the quality of the individual and the University. It is generally accepted that quality at all levels, in an attractive place at the University, is the most important element of introductory mobility and we need to arouse international interest at this point. Recognition of mobility periods Exchange and mobility of teachers and students begins even before to sign agreements. In this regard, the University is flexible and cooperative for the individual interest for the period of study spent at the University.

Recognition of mobility periods

The exchange and mobility of teachers and students begins even before the agreements are signed. In this regard, the University is flexible and cooperative for the individual interest related to the period of study spent at the University. The required documents for the recognition of study periods and for the provision of mobility measures (Application Form, Learning Agreement and Registration Transcription) are already used, in English. Their visual content and identity was approved by the Senate. It is planned to establish an office for the recognition of the

international academic period of study where in coordination with the Council for Academic Recognition and Recognition of the International Study Period it will act as an advisory board. Department councils and ECTS coordinators will deal with the recognition of study periods in university units.

University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" - International membership

The University of Gjakova is a member of several university associations: BUA (Association of Balkan Universities), AUF (Alliance of Francophone Universities) and the University is planned to be a signatory of the Magna Charta Universitatum. The university participates in several CEEPUS networks, and has participated in 2 Erasmus projects so far, while 5 others are being developed.

Joint programs

In the field of joint study development, some departments have already gained experience working on projects funded by MEST and the European Union through ERASMUS projects. Work on developing some joint programs are in progress. Previous experience tells us that new programs are implemented if formal and financial conditions are created. It is expected that the best cooperation will be achieved with the countries of the region, because so far it has been very intensive. The university will work to launch new curricula from bachelor's to doctoral level in countries in the region through projects with Erasmus partners in order to build essential teaching in less developed countries so that they become independent in the future.

Human resources in international cooperation

The process of internationalization of the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" is currently in the progress and at various stages. In the future, we will strive to achieve a balanced realization of mobility at all three levels of study. It is assumed that it will take several years for the establishment and balancing of these relationships. Given the current availability of staff working with international exchange programs, primary consideration will be given to student exchange. The most intensive exchange of teachers and administrative staff can only take place when the staff of the International Office has extended. Until then, the individual initiative of the teaching and administrative staff movement will be encouraged. Student organizations need to be more involved in the process of internationalization - for example in organizing Welcome Days for foreign students, sports activities with other universities, etc.

International Cooperation - Institutional Framework					
Nr.	Strategic objectives	Monitoring	Time	Budget	Responsibility
1	Continue international cooperation with countries in the immediate geographical and national environment.	Steering Council	- 2025	50 000.00 euro	Directorate for External Relations and Projects, academic units
2	To continue with the development and execution of joint study programs at the Master and Doctoral level.	Senate	2020-2025	Funded by Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree	Academic units, senior management.
3	Systematically build awareness at the university (through workshops, conferences, promotional materials) on the importance of international cooperation in the quality of teaching and research at the university.	Senate	-2025	10 000.00 euro	Directorate for External Relations and Projects.
Collaborative Universities and Mobility					
4	Approach the planned level of mobility of 10% of students by 2025.	Senate	- 2025	It is funded by various programs such as: ERASMUS +, CEEPUS, VISEGRAD FOUND etc.	Academic units, program leaders, directorate for foreign relations and projects.
5	Increasing student mobility at a height of 15% and incoming student mobility by 10% each year compared to the current situation.	Senate	-2025	It is funded by various programs such as: ERASMUS +, CEEPUS, VISEGRAD FOUND etc.	Academic units, program leaders, directorate for foreign relations and projects.
6	Encourage teachers and administrative staff	Steering Council	-2025	25 000.00 euro	Senior management, management of academic

	by informing, supporting and providing additional financial support.				units.
7	Continuation of the use of all possible mobility programs outside the Erasmus program and application to calls for applications that provide mobility funding.	Senate	-2025	It is funded by various programs such as: ERASMUS +, CEEPUS, VISEGRAD FOUND etc.	Academic units, program leaders, directorate for foreign relations and projects.
8	Signer of future cooperation agreements with universities that are ready and able to sign bilateral agreements, ready to cooperate in research projects and EU-funded programs	Steering Council	-2025	100 000.00 euro	Directorate for External Relations and Projects, Senior Management, Management of Academic Units.
9	It is planned to offer English language courses in any scientific field that contains a total of 30 ECTS in one semester	Senate	-2025	-	Management of academic units, program leaders
10	Strengthening relations with the Albanian scientific Diaspora	Senior management	-2025	20 000.00 euro	Management of academic units, program leaders
11	Awareness of the intercultural component in relations with international partners	Senior management	- 2025	10 000.00 euro	Academic units, program leaders, directorate for foreign relations and projects.
Recognition of mobility periods					
12	To formalize the recognition of the study period, because there is no movement without recognition.	Senate	-2025	-	Academic units, program leaders,
13	To inform teachers, students and staff about the advantages of mobility and the rights and obligations arising from it for all participants.	Senior management	- 2025	-	Academic units, program leaders, foreign relations directorate and projects.

University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" - International membership					
14	To continue membership in new associations, in associations where the University is already a member, to continue to be part of, but at the same time to try to get the University staff to take leading positions in the working bodies of those associations	Steering Council	-2025	15 000.00 euro	Senior management, directorate for foreign relations and projects, management of academic units.
Human resources in international cooperation					
15	In the next five years, continuous increase of human capacity within the directorate for foreign relations and projects in accordance with the needs and general strategy of UGJFA should be planned.	Steering Council	-2025	-	Senior management