

Law Enforcement Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION POLICY

CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The International Cooperation Policy of the Law Enforcement Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter — the Policy) establishes the main directions, principles and implementation mechanisms for organizing, managing and improving international cooperation in the fields of education, research and human resources capacity development of the Law Enforcement Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter — the Academy).

The Academy recognizes internationalization as an important component of institutional development and as a mechanism for improving the quality of education, strengthening research capacity, expanding the network of professional contacts, and integrating international experience into education and training in the field of law enforcement.

2. This Policy has been developed in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Education”, the “Uzbekistan – 2030” Strategy, Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-5847 of 8 October 2019 and No. PF-257 of 28 November 2022, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), the ECTS Users’ Guide on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, on higher education quality assessment, and the Lisbon Convention on the Recognition of Study Periods and Qualifications concerning Higher Education.

3. The Policy is implemented on the basis of the plan for implementing the International Cooperation Policy, approved annually by the Academy.

The plan sets out, in line with the aims and objectives established in the Policy, the measures to be implemented, their deadlines, responsible structural units and officials, expected results, and financial and other necessary resources.

At the end of each year, monitoring and analysis are conducted on the results of implementing the Policy, and priority tasks and indicators for the next year are set.

4. This Policy applies to the Academy's structural units, professors and teachers, research staff and researchers, administrative and managerial staff, as well as students and trainees.

5. The Academy carries out its internationalization activities in cooperation with foreign higher education institutions, educational institutions of law enforcement bodies, research organizations, international organizations, professional networks and other interested organizations.

In developing international cooperation and strengthening ties, particular attention is paid, as a priority, to expanding partnership with educational and scientific organizations and law enforcement bodies of the countries of Central Asia and of the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). In setting this priority, regional needs, the affinity of legal systems, common professional and scientific interests, labor market needs and the goals of developing the international profile of the Academy's educational programs are taken into account.

In selecting partner countries and organizations, their academic and professional capacity, reputation, fit with educational programs, cooperation opportunities and sustainability are assessed. On the basis of a needs analysis, targeted forms of cooperation are defined for joint educational programs, academic mobility, research, professional development and training. Alongside regional cooperation, the Academy develops global cooperation with foreign educational and scientific organizations and international networks in Europe, Asia and other regions, ensuring a balance between regional and global partnerships.

CHAPTER II. KEY TERMS

6. The following key terms are used in this Policy:

internationalization — the process of integrating international approaches, standards and experience into the Academy's education, research, personnel training and other areas of activity, and of systematically developing international cooperation;

incoming mobility — the temporary arrival at the Academy of foreign students, trainees, professors and teachers, researchers and other participants in academic or professional activity for the purpose of study, teaching, or research or professional activity;

outgoing mobility — the temporary participation of the Academy's students, trainees, professors and teachers, researchers and staff in foreign educational and research institutions, organizations and international bodies for the purpose of study, teaching, or research or professional activity;

academic mobility — the visit of learners, professors and teachers, and researchers to another educational or research institution, including a foreign institution, for the purpose of study, teaching, professional development, internship or research activity;

professional mobility — the temporary work of the Academy's staff and other specialists at another organization or institution, including a foreign organization, for the purpose of improving professional knowledge, skills and experience, professional development, internship or professional exchange of experience;

joint educational program — an educational program delivered jointly by the Academy and one or more foreign educational institutions on the basis of an agreed curriculum and program;

double-degree program — an educational program under which a learner who fulfills the requirements established by the Academy and the partner foreign educational institution is awarded the relevant diploma or qualification document by both institutions;

visiting lecturer — a professor, teacher or specialist from a foreign educational or research institution invited to the Academy for a specified period to conduct training sessions, deliver lectures, and take part in research and exchange of experience;

credit recognition — the process of recognizing and accounting for, in the prescribed manner within the relevant educational program at the Academy, learning outcomes and credits earned by a learner at another educational institution, including a foreign one;

foreign student — a learner who is a citizen of a foreign state and is studying at the Academy or is temporarily studying under academic mobility programs;

cooperation project — a set of joint activities, involving the Academy and foreign or international partner organizations, aimed at achieving set goals and results in education, research, innovation, capacity building or other mutually beneficial areas.

Semester academic mobility — study or teaching by learners or professors and teachers at a foreign or partner higher education institution during an academic term with recognition of credits; minimum duration — 1 semester (3–4 months); expected result — completion of the study program (Learning Agreement) and transfer of ECTS credits; reporting evidence — academic certificate / official transcript of records and a final report.

Short-term visit — a visit by teachers or students to a partner organization to deliver or attend intensive lectures, or to take part in workshops or summer/winter schools; minimum duration — from 5 working days to 2 weeks; expected result — delivery of a study module or completion of an intensive course; reporting evidence — certificate of participation/lecturing, the approved program of the visit and a report on implementation of the program.

Internship — undertaking research, pedagogical or professional practice at foreign educational and research centers; minimum duration — from 2 weeks to 3 months; expected result — mastering new research methods and carrying out work on the research topic; reporting evidence — a reference/confirmation letter from the host organization, a detailed internship report and joint scientific publications/materials.

Participation in international conferences — **direct participation, with a presentation, by learners or staff on a business trip in scientific conferences, symposia and forums; duration — the period of the event (1–5 days); expected result — testing research results, publishing materials and establishing scientific contacts; reporting evidence — speaker's certificate, the conference program indicating the presentation topic, and a copy of the published abstract or article.**

Online participation in conferences — presenting or taking part remotely, using videoconferencing, in international scientific conferences, webinars and symposia; duration — the period of the online session (from a few hours to 1–3 days); expected result — testing research results in a remote format and publishing materials; reporting evidence — the participant's/speaker's electronic certificate, the electronic program of the event indicating the presentation topic, and a copy of the published article or abstract.

CHAPTER III. AIM AND KEY OBJECTIVES OF INTERNATIONALIZATION

7. The main aim of the Academy's internationalization policy is to improve the quality of education and research in the field of law enforcement on the basis of international standards and best practices, to expand international cooperation, and to build an effective institutional environment for training specialists with modern professional competencies.

The degree to which this aim is achieved is assessed through key performance indicators such as the share of foreign students, academic mobility indicators, the share of professors and teachers with foreign or international experience, study modules in foreign languages, and the number of joint educational and research projects and international publications.

8. The main tasks of the internationalization policy are to develop mutually beneficial cooperation with foreign educational and research organizations; to develop and implement international agreements, memoranda of understanding and other cooperation documents; to participate in international educational, research and professional development projects; to ensure the academic and professional mobility of students (trainees), professors and teachers, and research staff; to involve foreign experts and practitioners in the educational process; to introduce international approaches into educational programs and research activity; and to enhance the Academy's international reputation.

9. Within the framework of internationalization, the Academy carries out measures to study and apply international experience in the field of law enforcement; to develop international cooperation in anti-corruption, digital transformation, cybersecurity, human rights and other current areas; to implement joint educational and research projects; to participate in international conferences, seminars, trainings and other events; and to attract foreign students and create the necessary organizational conditions for them.

10. This Policy is implemented and coordinated by the Academy's International Cooperation Department in cooperation with the center, departments and other relevant structural units.

11. In carrying out internationalization activities, the Academy gives priority to studying regional and international best practices in the field of law enforcement, integrating them into the educational and research process, and training specialists able to work effectively in the international professional environment.

CHAPTER IV. KEY PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONALIZATION

12. The Academy's activity in the field of internationalization is based on the following key principles:

12.1. Principle of strategic partnership and sustainability

The Academy carries out international cooperation in line with the Academy's strategic aims and objectives.

International cooperation is developed on the basis of mutual benefit, equality, trusted partnership, institutional responsibility and long-term sustainability.

The Academy gives priority to areas of international cooperation that serve to improve the quality of education, develop research capacity, and ensure the professional development of professors, teachers and learners.

12.2. Principle of quality and effectiveness

The Academy carries out international cooperation with the aim of improving the quality of educational and research activity.

International cooperation projects, programs and events are assessed on the basis of their relevance, practical significance, effectiveness and contribution to the Academy's institutional development.

In doing so, along with the number of participants, the following are taken into account: recognized ECTS credits, new materials introduced into study modules, joint scientific publications, growth in participants' competencies, participant satisfaction, the continuity of cooperation and cost-effectiveness indicators.

The results of the assessment are formalized by the responsible structural unit in the established form and on the established scale, and serve as the basis for deciding whether to continue, expand or reconsider further cooperation.

International experience, best practices and international standards are regularly introduced into educational programs, teaching methods and research processes.

International experience, best practices and international standards are analyzed in the annual review of educational programs and modules. The decision to include international content, literature and teaching methods in modules is taken in the prescribed manner, on the proposal of the heads of educational programs and the relevant department, in agreement with the Academy's Education Quality Control Department. Conformity with international standards, relevance, impact on learning outcomes, professional needs and the applicability of best practice are taken into account as criteria.

On the basis of the decisions taken, international content, literature and teaching methods are incorporated into the relevant modules and documented in learning outcomes, module descriptions and educational-methodological materials. The effectiveness of the changes made is assessed in the next annual review, and modules are further improved where necessary.

12.3. Principle of internationalizing education and research

The Academy ensures the integration of international approaches into educational programs and research activity.

Within the framework of internationalization, measures are taken to:
develop cooperation with foreign educational and research organizations;
involve international experts and foreign specialists;
implement joint educational and research projects;
participate in international scientific publications and professional networks;

introduce advanced foreign experience into the educational process.

12.4. Principle of academic and professional mobility

The Academy supports the international academic and professional mobility of learners, professors and teachers, researchers and staff.

Academic mobility is carried out in the forms of international exchange and joint educational programs, academic and research visits, internships, professional development courses, and participation in conferences, seminars and other international events.

Academic mobility serves to develop participants' professional competencies, build intercultural communication skills and exchange international experience.

12.5. Principle of legality, academic integrity and transparency

The Academy's activity in the field of internationalization is carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, international treaties and the principles of academic integrity. In doing so, in accordance with the Academy's internal documents, the requirements on preventing plagiarism, responsible use of artificial intelligence tools, research ethics, conflicts of interest, anti-corruption measures, protection of personal data and cybersecurity are observed. Cases and appeals related to violations of these requirements are considered comprehensively, fully and objectively in the prescribed manner.

The processes of implementing international agreements, projects, programs and events are documented, monitored and assessed in the prescribed manner.

12.6. Principle of institutional responsibility and accountability

The Academy coordinates the activity of the structural units responsible for the results of international cooperation and regularly assesses their effectiveness.

The structural units participating in the internationalization process ensure, within their authority, that the assigned tasks are performed to a high standard and on time.

CHAPTER V. PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

13. The Academy carries out its activity in the field of internationalization on the basis of developing cooperation with foreign higher education institutions, educational institutions of law enforcement bodies, research centers, international organizations and professional networks.

14. International cooperation is developed in the areas of academic exchange, implementation of joint educational programs, organization of professional training and professional development events, research cooperation, exchange of experts and participation in international initiatives.

15. In establishing international cooperation relations, the activity and capacity of the partner organization are assessed and areas of mutually beneficial cooperation are identified. In this, the assessment covers the partner organization's accreditation and reputation, academic and institutional capacity, fit with educational programs, financial and organizational sustainability, sanctions and corruption risks, and compliance with the principles of personal data protection, academic freedom and equality. On the basis of the assessment results, areas of mutually beneficial cooperation are identified, and a decision is taken on signing, developing and agreeing the relevant cooperation documents.

A memorandum on international cooperation and other agreements set out the rights and obligations of the parties, the purpose of cooperation and its significance for the educational program, the activities to be carried out and expected results, quality assurance mechanisms, financial and organizational terms, data protection requirements, and the monitoring and reporting procedure. Implementation of cooperation documents is monitored in the prescribed manner, and decisions on continuing, expanding or reconsidering it are taken on the basis of assessment results.

16. The Academy creates the necessary organizational conditions for developing international educational programs and attracting foreign students (trainees), and ensures an increase in their share. The baseline indicator for admitting foreign students, target countries, the planned number or share for each academic year, and the responsible structural units are set out in the plan for implementing the Policy.

Foreign students are provided, by the International Cooperation Department and the bachelor's and master's faculties, during admission and throughout their studies, with support on information and document formalities, visa and migration matters, accommodation and insurance, orientation and adaptation, academic mentoring, multilingual counseling and, where necessary, language preparation courses. Equal and necessary support measures are also ensured for foreign students with special educational needs.

17. The Academy improves, on the basis of international experience, educational programs in current areas of law enforcement, including anti-corruption, human rights protection, cyber law, investigation, digital transformation and other modern threats and challenges.

18. The Academy ensures the academic and professional mobility of students (trainees), professors and teachers, researchers and staff through cooperation agreements, academic exchange programs, research visits, internships, practical placements and participation in international educational initiatives. For each category, the number and share of academic mobility participants, partner countries and organizations, duration of participation and annual target indicators are set out in the plan for implementing the Policy.

Academic and professional mobility is carried out on the basis of mechanisms for recognizing participants' educational, research and professional results, accounting for ECTS credits or other outcomes, and financial and organizational support. The impact of the knowledge and skills gained after participation on the educational process, research activity or professional development is assessed, and the results are taken into account in improving subsequent cooperation and mobility programs.

19. Within the implementation of academic and professional mobility, measures are carried out to develop participants' professional competencies, build intercultural communication skills, exchange international experience and strengthen the Academy's international academic ties.

20. The Academy continuously improves its educational programs by integrating international perspectives, comparative approaches and global professional practice into the educational process.

21. Internationalization of educational programs is carried out by involving foreign lecturers and practitioners, organizing international seminars, trainings and guest lectures, developing joint teaching materials, and participating in international educational projects and professional networks. Foreign teachers and specialists are engaged on the basis of an assessment of their qualifications and language proficiency, a transparent selection, and assignment to the relevant study module and teaching hours.

Foreign teachers are given the necessary briefing on the Academy's educational process and its pedagogical and online teaching requirements, and their activity is coordinated with the relevant department and head of the educational program. A single register is maintained of foreign teachers, their modules, teaching hours and activity results; educational quality and student satisfaction are regularly assessed, and the assessment results are taken into account in engaging foreign teachers and improving educational programs.

22. The Academy supports professors and teachers in introducing international experience into the educational process and research activity. For this purpose, grants and travel funds for international internships and research visits, foreign-language and pedagogical professional development, and opportunities to participate in international programs and projects are provided. A professor or teacher returning from an international internship or research visit submits a report on the results, gives a presentation to the Academy's staff and also develops relevant materials (a brochure, article, study courses).

The results of using international experience are assessed by updating study modules and materials, improving teaching methods, disseminating best practice to departments and colleagues, and improving students' learning outcomes. The changes made and their results are recorded in the monitoring of the relevant educational program and of the professor's or teacher's activity.

23. To improve the quality of research activity and strengthen academic reputation, the Academy develops international scientific cooperation with foreign scientific organizations and research institutions.

24. International research cooperation is carried out in the forms of implementing joint research projects, participating in international scientific publications, attending international conferences and scientific events, cooperating in research networks, and participating in international grant programs. In carrying out joint research, the requirements of research ethics, obtaining ethical clearance where necessary, protection of personal data and its cross-border transfer, protection of copyright and intellectual property rights, prevention of conflicts of interest and financial accountability are observed.

In using research results, the principles of open science and opportunities for placing scientific data and results in appropriate repositories are ensured. Results of joint research are implemented, alongside scientific publications and other scientific products, in the relevant educational programs, study modules and educational materials, and the results of their use are monitored.

25. The Academy supports researchers' participation in international scientific cooperation, the presentation of research results internationally, and their contribution to global scientific discussions in the field of law enforcement.

CHAPTER VI. GOVERNANCE AND MONITORING

26. This Policy is implemented on the basis of the mutually coordinated activity of the Academy's leadership, the International Cooperation Department, the center, departments and other relevant structural units.

The resources and sources of financial support required for internationalization are approved each year in the first quarter.

To carry out the planned activities on international cooperation, academic mobility and support for foreign students, sufficient and sustainable funds are allocated from the Academy's extra-budgetary funds. Implementation and effectiveness of financial support are regularly monitored, and the results are taken into account in forming the next annual internationalization plan.

The powers and responsibilities of the Academy's structural units in implementing the Policy, as well as the procedure for decision-making, approval and reporting, are set out in the annual plans for implementing the Policy. For each task, the responsible executor, approver, participating and informed parties, and reporting deadlines are indicated.

27. The Academy's leadership and Council exercise strategic governance in the field of internationalization, determine the priority areas of international activity, take the relevant decisions and create the organizational and institutional conditions necessary for developing international cooperation.

28. The International Cooperation Department coordinates the Academy's international activity, organizes contacts with foreign partners, maintains the database of international cooperation (the Register), supports the development and implementation of mutual cooperation documents and participation in international projects, and provides the relevant information to interested structural units. The Register reflects the partner organization, the agreement number and validity period, the responsible person/unit, the educational program or module, planned and implemented activity, participants, budget, results achieved, a link to supporting evidence, existing risks and the subsequent decision.

Register data are continuously updated by the responsible structural units directly carrying out the cooperation, and are checked for accuracy by the International Cooperation Department every quarter. Updated Register data and analytical conclusions are submitted to the leadership every six months, and monitoring results are taken into account in taking decisions on continuing, expanding or reconsidering cooperation.

29. The Academy's structural units carry out measures to define areas of international cooperation, carry out relevant international events, and integrate international experience into educational programs and research activity.

30. The Academy regularly assesses the effectiveness of its internationalization activity and sets measures aimed at increasing its impact.

31. Monitoring of internationalization activity is carried out on the basis of implementation of cooperation agreements, results of participation in international programs and projects, the academic and professional mobility of

students (trainees), professors and teachers, and staff, the effectiveness of events carried out, and the study of feedback from participants, graduates, employers and partner organizations.

Monitoring is conducted on the basis of a table for assessing performance indicators (KPI), developed by the International Cooperation Department and approved by the relevant Deputy Head of the Academy. For each indicator it sets the baseline value, annual target, data source, responsible unit, measurement frequency and necessary corrective measures.

32. Monitoring results are used to improve international cooperation mechanisms, to revisit priority areas, to improve the quality of educational programs and research activity, and to improve the Academy's international development strategy. The monitoring report is prepared annually by the International Cooperation Department and considered by the Academy Council and leadership.

On the basis of monitoring results, the necessary decisions and corrective measures, the responsible executor and deadline for each are set and recorded together with documents confirming execution. Implementation of the measures is verified in the next monitoring, and the results are communicated to students, professors and teachers, and staff through the established information channels and taken into account in subsequent planning.

CHAPTER VII. FINAL PROVISIONS

33. This Policy enters into force on the date of its approval by the Academy Council and is published on the Academy's official website. The website also posts translations of this document into foreign languages, its validity status (in force/no longer in force), the date of last update, the contact details of the responsible unit, links to its previous (archived) versions, and a version in an accessible (adapted) format for users with disabilities.

34. This Policy is fully reviewed at least once every three years. In doing so, the annual results and the plan for implementing the Policy are reviewed as a mandatory step and, where necessary, updated, and target indicators and measures for the next year are set.

The Policy is also reviewed before the three-year period expires if serious risks arise, if national legislation or international standards change, if significant changes occur in international cooperation agreements, or if the results of monitoring and assessment are negative. The results of the review are documented, and the necessary changes are approved in the prescribed manner.

35. In the process of reviewing the Policy, proposals and feedback are systematically collected from students (trainees), professors and teachers, administrative staff, graduates, employers and foreign partner organizations. Feedback is collected annually through surveys, focus groups, interviews and meetings, and during a full review of the Policy through extended consultations.

The proposals received are consolidated by the International Cooperation Department and considered with the relevant structural units and the Education Quality Control Department. The proposals, the decisions taken on them, the

responsible persons and the changes made are documented in the relevant minutes and reports, and the results are communicated to interested parties through the established information channels.