

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO  
INTERNACIONALNI UNIVERZIET U SARAJEVU  
ULUSLARARASI SARAYBOSNA ÜNİVERSİTESİ



# **Research Strategy Policy**

## **2025**

### **AT THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO**

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## Purpose

The International University of Sarajevo (IUS) commits to develop, implement and regularly update a Research Strategy which strengthens institutional research culture, ensures responsible and ethical practices, and advances scientific excellence for societal benefit. Aligned with the IUS Strategic Plan 2022–2026 and its Research-Centric Goals, including academic excellence, purposeful research with societal relevance and strategic partnership with regional and local industries, this Policy establishes the core principles that will guide all future research planning and implementation at IUS.

## Scope

The Research Policy applies to all academic, scientific, or potential commercial inquiries conducted at IUS. “Research” is defined as any effort aimed at generating, enhancing, or developing knowledge in any discipline or across multiple disciplines.

This Policy covers all research activities, including those:

- carried out by IUS employees (permanent, temporary) or students;
- undertaken by affiliates, visiting scholars, or external collaborators who are required by agreement to adhere to IUS regulations;
- conducted within officially recognized IUS bodies such as Research and Development Center and other research-related centers;
- that utilize IUS resources, facilities, or equipment;
- funded by external projects;
- funded in whole or in part by the University;
- involving IUS personnel or students serving as research participants.

## Guiding Principles

IUS upholds academic freedom, fosters a supportive research environment, promotes research excellence, ensures responsible management and protection of research data and intellectual property, guarantees ethical and legal compliance in all research activities, and supports the transparent and responsible dissemination of research outcomes in line with the principles of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

IUS is committed to maintaining and further strengthening robust procedures for research integrity, management of research misconduct, conflict-of-interest processes, and protection of intellectual property, ensuring fairness, confidentiality, and accountability.

Whenever relevant, the priorities outlined in this Policy are designed to support and advance purposeful research that is meaningful, socially relevant, and contribute to addressing local, regional, and global challenges.

## **Research Governance**

Research governance at IUS is overseen by the Board of Trustees, Senate, and Rector, and coordinated by the Vice-Rector for International Cooperation and Research, supported by Deans, Research and Development Center (RDC), Office for Sponsored Projects (OSP), International Relations Office, Research Strategy Committee and the Ethical Committee.

## **Priorities**

### **1. Commitment to Research Strategy Development**

IUS commits to:

- Preparing and adopting a full Research Strategy and a corresponding Research Strategy Action Plan every four years, including the definition of clear targets and predefined key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor progress and measure achievement.
- Conducting annual monitoring of progress, including reporting on key performance indicators, achievement of targets, and any deviations.
- Ensuring that all research planning aligns with institutional development goals, sustainability principles, and international good practices.
- This policy will be reviewed every four years by the Research Strategy Committee to ensure alignment with IUS priorities, evolving institutional needs and international best practices.

### **2. Ethical Responsibility and Intellectual Property**

IUS ensures:

- Full compliance with Ethical Committee procedures ([code of ethics1.pdf](#)) for all research activities.
- Protection and responsible management of intellectual property.

### **3. Support for the Research Community**

The University supports

- Increasing student participation in research through coursework, theses, research projects, and innovation activities.
- Providing capacity-building, training, and professional development opportunities for researchers and teaching staff (lifelong learning).

- Ensuring transparent, fair, and merit-based recruitment and career development aligned with EURAXESS principles.
- Encouraging and supporting post-doctoral research engagement through national and international funding schemes, with future consideration of institutionally co-funded post-doctoral positions in priority research areas.

#### **4. Digital Transformation and AI-Enabled Research**

IUS promotes:

- Research focused on emerging trends, including digital transformation supported by artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), data analytics, and other advanced digital technologies.

#### **5. Sustainability, Green Transition, and Societal Impact**

IUS integrates:

- Sustainability, environmental responsibility, and green transition principles into research priorities across disciplines.
- Research initiatives addressing societal challenges at local, regional, and global levels, contributing to social well-being and inclusive development.

#### **6. Strengthening Research Infrastructure**

The University is committed to:

- Transparent and strategic management of research resources through the Research Development Committee (RDC).
- Continuous investment in laboratories, digital resources, library subscriptions, and research equipment.
- Maintaining a centralized inventory and ensuring sustainability, accessibility, and ongoing upgrading of research infrastructure.

#### **7. Strategic partnerships and National and International Collaboration**

IUS encourages:

- Meaningful cooperation with national institutions, public sector bodies, industry partners, and local communities.
- International partnerships, participation in global research networks, mobility programmes, and joint project applications.
- A transition from broad globalization to sustainable, regionally relevant, and impact-oriented collaboration models.
- Strengthening research capacity through academic exchange, including engagement with national and international experts, visiting academics, and collaborative mentorship initiatives.

## **8. Incentives and Research Recognition**

IUS will:

- Provide incentives and institutional support for IUS staff to develop new competencies, learn emerging research methods, and adopt new technologies and skills relevant to their research and teaching activities.
- Recognize and promote outstanding achievements of academic staff, researchers, students, and project leaders.

**R E C T O R**

**Prof. Dr. Ali Osman Kuşakcı**

