

The Norwegian Defence University College:
Action plan for Internationalisation 2019 - 2023
Education for Freedom



The Armed Forces and the military branch are international at its core. Therefore, internationalisation is one of the main pillars at the NDUC. The international nature of the military can be attributed to several factors, reflecting historical, geopolitical, and practical considerations. Some key reasons why the military is often international at its core:

1. **Global Security Concerns:** Many security threats and challenges are not confined to national borders. Issues such as terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and transnational organized crime require international cooperation to effectively address them.
2. **Alliances and Treaties:** Countries often form military alliances and enter into defense treaties to enhance their collective security. Examples include NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization), and various bilateral defense agreements. These alliances promote mutual defense and cooperation in times of need.
3. **Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Missions:** Military forces are frequently deployed for peacekeeping and humanitarian missions around the world. These operations aim to stabilize conflict zones, provide aid, and support efforts to rebuild and develop war-torn regions. Such missions typically involve contributions from multiple countries under a unified command structure.

4. **Shared Military Infrastructure:** Some countries share military infrastructure, such as bases and facilities, with allies. This helps improve operational efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance interoperability among allied forces.
5. **Deterrence and Balance of Power:** The presence of military forces from different nations in strategic locations contributes to deterrence and helps maintain a balance of power. This can prevent the domination of one nation over a particular region and discourage aggression.
6. **International Arms Trade:** The global arms trade facilitates the exchange of military equipment and technology between countries. Nations often collaborate on defense projects and procure weapons systems from international suppliers.
7. **Global Economy and Interconnectedness:** The interconnected nature of the global economy means that disruptions in one part of the world can have cascading effects on security and stability. As a result, countries may collaborate militarily to address common challenges and protect shared interests.
8. **United Nations and Multinational Forces:** The United Nations (UN) plays a significant role in promoting international peace and security. UN-sanctioned military interventions often involve contributions from multiple nations, forming multinational forces to address conflicts and crises.



The international nature of the military is a pragmatic response to the evolving nature of security threats and the recognition that many challenges are best addressed through collaborative efforts on a global scale.

Military cooperation fosters a sense of shared responsibility for maintaining peace and stability in an interconnected world. And at the NDUC we provide education to all ranks and

services, an education that plays a crucial role in preparing individuals for service in the Armed Forces.

During the four-year period of this action plan, initiatives will be prioritised that are directed towards the following four focus areas:

- **At least 20% of the NDUC students spends a semester abroad as part of their studies.**
- **Continuing being part of Erasmus+ ([hyperlink](#)) and other relevant exchange programmes.**
- **Restructuring of study programmes to better work in an international context and offer more courses in English.**
- **Establish cooperation with international partners in allied counties.**

In accordance with the strategy, the NDUC will focus on increased international collaboration particular on long-term collaborative relationships that promote quality, stimulate academic growth and strengthen interaction between research, education and cooperation. To achieve this the NDUC has committed to the following Action Plan:

1. **Assessment and Planning:**
 - **Gather Data:** Collect data on the current percentage of students participating in international exchange programs.
 - **Needs Assessment:** Identify the current state of study programs, language offerings, and international partnerships.
2. **Promoting Existing Programs:**
 - **Erasmus+ Promotion:** Continue active participation in Erasmus+ and other relevant exchange programs. Promote these programs through various channels, including social media, university websites, and information sessions.
3. **Study Program Restructuring:**
 - **Curriculum Review:** Conduct a thorough review of existing study programs to identify areas for improvement in terms of international relevance.
 - **English Language Courses:** Increase the number of courses offered in English, making it easier for international students to enroll and for the NDUC students to study abroad.
4. **Establishing International Partnerships:**
 - **Research and Identify Partners:** Identify potential partner institutions in allied countries. Consider institutions with strong programs that complement NDUC's offerings.
 - **Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs):** Establish formal agreements through MOUs with selected institutions to facilitate student exchange and collaborative initiatives.
5. **Promotion and Information:**
 - **Information Sessions:** Conduct regular information sessions for students to highlight the benefits of studying abroad and the available programs.

- **Marketing Materials:** Develop marketing materials, such as brochures and posters, to showcase the advantages of international exchange.
6. **Support Systems:**
 - **Advisory Services:** Provide dedicated advisors to guide students through the process of selecting suitable programs and navigating administrative requirements.
 - **Language Support:** Offer language support services for students, both for those going abroad and for incoming international students.
 7. **Financial Assistance:**
 - **Scholarships and Grants:** Establish or expand scholarship and grant programs to financially support students participating in international exchange programs. Equal opportunities for all.
 8. **Monitoring and Evaluation:**
 - **Regular Assessments:** Periodically evaluate the success of the action plan, including the number of students participating in international programs, feedback from participants, and the effectiveness of promotional activities.
 9. **Continuous Improvement:**
 - **Feedback Mechanism:** Establish a feedback mechanism to gather input from students, faculty, and international partners to continually improve the program.
 - **Adaptation:** Be willing to adapt the action plan based on changing circumstances and feedback.
 10. **Documentation and Reporting:**
 - **Record Keeping:** Maintain comprehensive records of student participation, partnerships, and program enhancements.
 - **Annual Reports:** Generate annual reports summarizing the achievements, challenges, and future goals of the internationalization efforts.

By following this action plan, the NDUC will develop a comprehensive strategy (2024 - 2034) to increase the percentage of students and staff participating in international exchange programs, international R&D co-operation, as well as international networks and create a more globally oriented educational environment.

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