



Strategic Internationalisation

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TALLINN UNIVERSITY



Promoter of intelligent lifestyle

Tallinn University is a modern and dynamic research university in Estonia with a leading role in promoting an intelligent lifestyle through **education**, **research**, and a unique **collaboration** across disciplines. We view an intelligent lifestyle as making research-based decisions in order to improve society in general and the well-being of its citizens.



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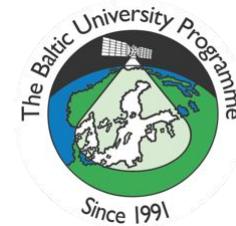
Our Global Neighbourhood

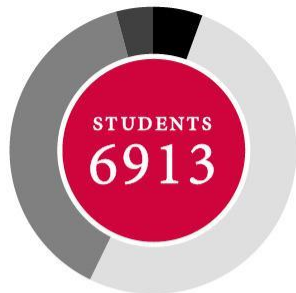
Estonia is a small, cosy and green country located in Northern Europe, on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea.

- **Population:** 1.3 million
- **Area:** 45,339 km²
- **Official language:** Estonian
- **Currency:** EUR
- **Member** of the EU, NATO, OECD, Schengen



International networks





- 385 Professional higher education studies
- 3588 Bachelor's studies
- 2652 Master's studies (incl. BA & MA integrated studies)
- 288 Doctoral studies



- 6 Professional higher education studies
- 39 Bachelor's studies
- 69 Master's studies
- 15 Doctoral studies



- 397 Administrative and support staff
- 519 Academic staff

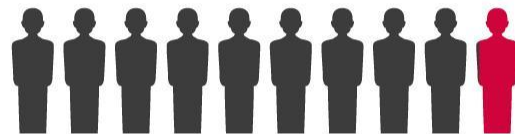


49%
Academic employees
holding a doctorate
(PhD or equivalent)

* equivalent to
full-time employment



International degree
students from
65 countries

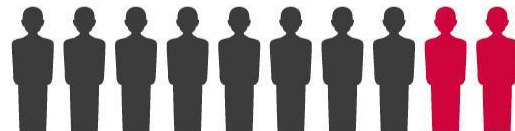


International students **8%**



study programmes
in Estonian

study programmes
in English



International research and teaching staff **19%**

Strategic Internationalisation

Tallinn University's perspective



2010-2020

- **decentralized approach**
- **academics** and academic units as **main drivers** for internationalization
- **mobility-centric**
- mainly focused on **academic cooperation**



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Support units

- Academic Affairs Office
- Administrative Office
- Finance Office
- Information Technology Office
- Knowledge Transfer and Project Support Office
- Marketing and Communication Office
- Personnel Office
- Property Management Office
- Research Administration Office
- Strategy Office

Strategic Internationalisation

Tallinn University's perspective



2020-2030

- **still decentralized approach** with some institutional coordination
- **academics** and academic units **still as main actors** of international cooperation, but now
- **institutional cooperation in focus**
- **mission-driven internationalization** -> integration into research, institutional capabilities, teaching and social engagement
- **bigger alignment with European priorities**
- European funding is an important part of universities' income - mission-driven international cooperation becomes a key enabler

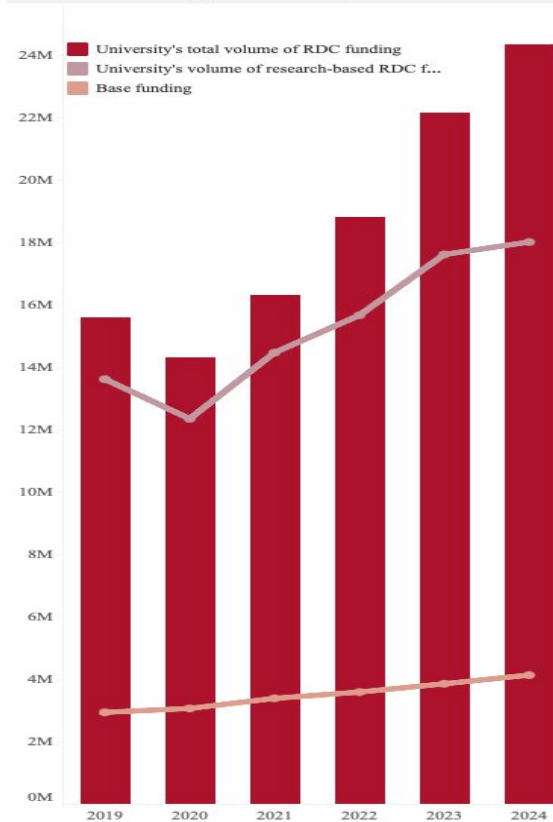


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Research

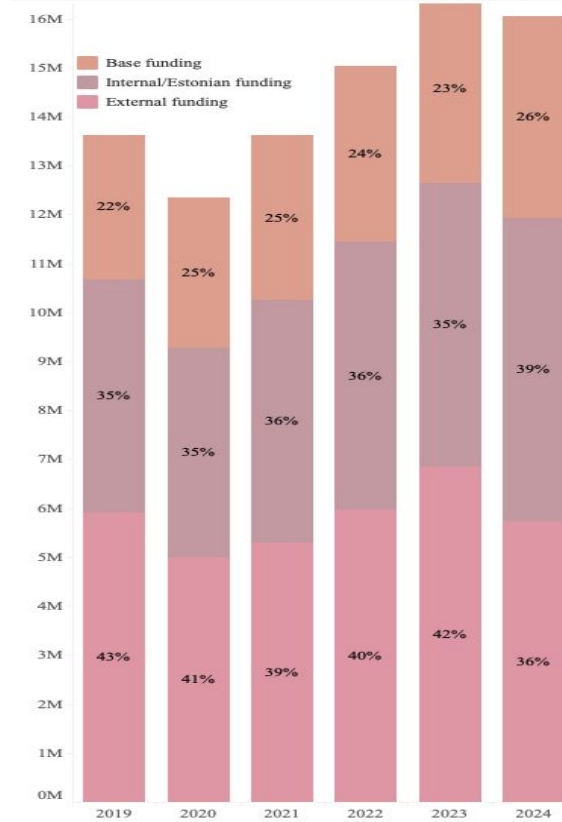
Volume of total RDC funding

Move the cursor over graph to see more information



Volume of research-based RDC funding and breakdown

Change the order of the stacked bar by clicking on the column



Recent research projects we are especially proud of:

AdaptEst - Jaanus Terasmaa: Implementation of national climate change adaptation activities in Estonia (LIFE2021) (1.01.2023-1.03.2032)

Horizon Europe - Coordinator

- **EffectiVe** - Kairit Tammets: Efficiency and Effectiveness of Training for Teachers' Pedagogical Digital Competence (01.12.2023–30.11.2026)

Twinning projects

- A critical relational perspective on peace and security in CEE, Birgit Poopuu (01.09.2024–30.09.2027)
- Sustainable, usable and visible digital cultural heritage, Marek Tamm (01.10.2024–30.09.2027)
- STEAM for Home economics And Research Exchange, Jaana Taar (01.06.2024–31.05.2027)



Recent research projects we are especially proud of:

ERC

- ERC Starting Grant - Eneken Laanes: **Translating Memories**: The Eastern European Past in the Global Arena (01.01.2020–31.12.2024)
- ERC Grant - Liisi Keedus: **“Between the Times”**: Embattled Temporalities and Political Imagination in Interwar Europe (01.06.2018–31.12.2024)

ERA Chairs:

- **Sustain ERA Sustainable Futures**, Kai Pata; Anu Realo (starting 01.01.2025)
- **CUDAN**, Indrek Ibrus; Maximilian Schich: Cultural Data Analytics (1.09.2019–30.08.2024)

European universities alliance:

- **FilmEU** (1.01.2022–31.10.2023) & **FilmEU+** (1.11.2023–31.10.2027)



FilmEU+ (EU Alliance)



Project (chronological order)		€
FilmEU		779 035
FilmEU_RIT		300 075
ETIKETA FilmEU Degree Label		35 001
WIRE - FilmEU		781 313
FilmEU+		1 540 790
C-Accelerate+		120 513
CresCine		571 875
... several project proposals submitted or being prepared		



Why strategic internationalization matters?

- Universities operate within tightening geopolitical, economic, and demographic contexts- internationalization strengthens resilience and autonomy
- Alignment with European priorities: European Education Area, ERA, European University Alliances as structural reform engines etc
- Growing expectation that universities deliver European public value: knowledge security, talent pipelines, evidence-based policy support, innovation ecosystems



What might happen in next 10 years?

1. Integrated European Academic Area
 - a. European University Alliances evolve into **semi-federated institutions** with joint degrees, shared governance, joint digital campuses and mobility-by-default.
 - b. Mutual recognition of qualifications becomes automatic across the EU.
 - c. Micro-credentials form **pan-European lifelong-learning pathways**, enabling students to combine modules from multiple universities.
 - d. Europe becomes a **top global talent destination**, easing visa frameworks and improving retention policies.
 - e. Internationalisation is systemic, predictable and institution-wide.
 - f. Funding becomes more stable: long-term EU envelopes for alliances and mobility.



What might happen in next 10 years?

2. Digital-first, hybrid internationalization

- a. Virtual mobility equals or exceeds physical mobility; 50–60% of students take at least one **AI-personalised cross-border online module**.
- b. Learning journeys integrate **AI tutors**, multilingual real-time translation, and interoperable European wallets for credentials.
- c. Alliances and consortia share cloud infrastructures and “digital campuses”.
- d. Physical mobility becomes more selective and purpose-driven.
- e. Universities differentiate themselves by **digital pedagogical capacity** as much as by academic output.



What might happen in next 10 years?

3. Talent scarcity and the competition scenario
 - a. Europe develops aggressive **talent attraction programmes**, focusing on STEM, teacher education, health, and green-tech sectors.
 - b. Internationalisation policy shifts from “exchange” to **migration and retention**, integrating higher education with labour-market planning.
 - c. Universities form industry-linked global recruitment pipelines.
 - d. International offices become talent offices.
 - e. Universities must support integration, language learning, and career pathways for international graduates.

