

**THE 2017-2021 STRATEGIC PLAN OF INTERNATIONALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FOREIGN
RELATIONS OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX OF THE POLICE OF THE
INTRODUCTION**

The internationalization of the Educational Complex of the Police of the RA (hereinafter the Educational Complex) envisages the provision of international and intercultural orientation in the implementation of educational programs and scientific research. -A number of processes and improvements implemented at international and national levels have promoted the development of internationalization.

International Context: The Bologna Process (1998) has launched with the pan-European reform of the higher education system. Reforms in a number of European countries were aimed at improving the system, and in some countries, especially in post-Soviet countries at the reconstruction. This process and globalization have created conditions contributing to the internationalization of professional educational institutions.

Relevant prerequisites have been developed for educational institutions to identify and solve internationalization issues, to offer compatible educational services at European level, to enhance research quality and to make innovation. In 2009 in "Louvre and Louvain-la-Neuve" communiqué European Ministries responsible for education approved the action lines of the Bologna Process until 2020, which are aimed at ensuring sustainable development, continuous internationalization and global cooperation, are designated to foster the mobility of students, researchers and staff in order to improve the quality of educational programs and research, individual development, and intercultural communication.

It should be noted that in 2016, the communique of the European ministers took place in Yerevan where the above-mentioned policy continued. In the above-mentioned communiqués, the ministers responsible for the education sector of the countries of the Bologna process took the responsibility to provide training or retraining abroad for at least 20% of the graduates of the European Higher Education Area by 2020.

National Context: The Republic of Armenia, joining the Bologna process (2005), gave a new shade to the reform of the Armenian higher education system. The issue of compatibility of educational systems, the mobility of students and faculty and intercultural dialogue has become one of the most important issues of all professional educational institutions (PEIs). Almost all the HEIs in Armenia are doing a lot of work in this direction, that invites foreign students to study in Armenia through different programs. The state plan for the Development of education in Armenia in 2011-2015 defines international and regional cooperation and preservation of the Armenian identity as the principle of the state policy. Systematized international engagement is also highlighted in the context of the solution of the strategic issues of the Educational Complex.

Today, international cooperation has become a pillar for the exchange of ideas, acquiring new knowledge, providing high-quality education and research. It is more important with the facts of its peculiarities for the solution of strategic issues of the Educational Complex. In particular, the Educational Complex aims to integrate into the international educational space and to train respective specialists in Armenia.

The Educational Complex has a unique mission in Armenia: only here is the police professional education provided and are high-quality specialists prepared for various departments of the RA Police. In this regard, the Educational Complex focuses on vocational training and raising the level of knowledge of a foreign language, which is of primary importance in promoting international cooperation.

Overall, statistical data show that the number of foreign students in 2005-2010 has period decreased by about 40%.

The reasons for the small number of foreign students in Armenian universities are different and are conditioned by insufficient marketing arrangements, lack of flexible and insufficient funding mechanisms, absence of flexible and alternative learning options. Taking into account regional peculiarities and similar ways of development of the professional educational system, the programs should be directed, in particular, to attracting students from the EEU countries.

An offer of high quality juridical education can be an interesting offer by the Educational Complex, which is more affordable in financial terms not only compared to similar foreign programs, but also to PEIs in Armenia. The choice of a target group to study in the RA from foreign countries, especially from the post-Soviet countries, is conditioned by the following circumstances:

- Similar social-cultural and historic past, opportunity to apply (Russian) language for mutual communication and understanding,
- Availability of common education area,
- Similar socio-political developments in the region.

Armenian students go to study abroad in the professional education system mainly within the frames of the following programs: education programs funded by the Russian Federation by Russian Science and Cultural Center (RSCC), Erasmus funded by EU, Muskie funded by US State Department, German DAAD and KAAD, in the frames of the programs and inter-state and inter-institutional agreements funded by the Netherlands.

At present, the Educational Complex cooperates with a number of CIS, EEU and European police (MIA) educational institutions. But in the framework of the agreements, publication of joint papers and exchange of academic experience are mainly carried out. The Educational Complex has started a new policy of promoting students' mobility in 2016-2017 and has provided short study visits for a number of students to respective foreign educational institutions (Academy of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia).

The main obstacles for studying abroad are insufficient awareness of students, language problems, lack of certain skills, insufficient funding sources, etc.

The current document defines the general vision, goals, objectives and main activities of the internationalization of the Educational Complex. It stems from the Strategy of the Educational Complex (concept and development plan) (hereinafter strategy). The internationalization policy of the Educational Complex in 2017-2021 implies the provision of international orientation in all spheres of activity of the

Educational Complex, promotion of international cooperation, establishing multicultural environment for students and lecturers and educational services to students.

The main purpose of the internationalization of the Educational Complex is to improve the quality of educational services and research, available education programs, competitiveness at national and international levels, to create a favorable environment for intercultural dialogue and to ensure the demand for graduates, competitiveness at national and international levels.

According to the strategy of the Educational Complex, one of the perspectives of the institution is the prioritization of internationalization and competition and raising international recognition and reputation. In a number of partner countries, with the solution of strategic issues, the Educational Complex will be recognized as a leading institution for preparing police personnel (lawyers).

PRIORITIES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX

Based on its strategic directions and in particular the optimization of the management system of the Educational Complex, the modernization of educational activities, the development of scientific and innovative activities, the transfer of the results of intellectual activity and the dissemination of advanced educational practices, the development of human resources and social collaboration, the Educational Complex will execute its internationalization strategy in the following directions in the upcoming five years:

1. Ensuring international orientation in education programs,
2. Organizing fact-finding visits for foreigners, in particular, for Armenian diaspora,
3. Ensuring mobility of the staff and students of the Educational Complex,
4. internationalization of research,
5. Affiliation to national and international networks,
6. Improvement of management processes of internationalization

The goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan are:

Goal 1. Improve the quality of educational services and research in the Educational Complex

Objective 1.1. Ensuring international orientation in educational programs

1.1.1. Establish appropriate international environment through lectures by visiting professional and experts, as well as through organizing conferences, seminars, workshops.

1.1.2. Develop professional educational programs in Russian and English and offer them to relevant target groups.

1.1.3. Establish a consultancy platform for foreign students.

1.1.4. Develop joint double degree programs with police education institutions in Europe and CIS countries.

1.1.5. Develop appropriate procedures for foreign students.

Objective 1.2. Internationalization of research

1.2.1. Collect and disseminate relevant information on available educational programs, scientific conferences, and opportunities for publication of scientific papers among structural units of the Educational Complex.

1.2.2. Organize dissemination seminars on engagement in international research projects, and publication of papers in international journals.

1.2.3. Organize research in the framework of cooperation agreements with the police educational institutions of CIS and EEU member countries to identify the objectives of common interest, analyze, and apply them in practice.

1.2.4. Assist in the publication of international research results in internationally renowned journals (Scopus, RSCI).

Goal 2. Improving the mobility of learners and lecturers, creating a favorable environment for intercultural communication

Objective 2.1. Ensuring mobility of academic and administrative staff and students

2.1.1. Identify the main trends in educational processes in the international arena, current topics, the strengths of the Educational Complex and to develop relevant programs to engage foreign students, in particular, students of Armenian Diaspora.

2.1.2. Develop appropriate measures to promote and reach the target group based on respective marketing research.

2.1.3. Together with education programs, develop full packages for the accommodation, tuition fees, getting temporary residence in the RA, support and other services for foreign students.

2.1.4. Establish an information digital network to maintain permanent contact with the foreign students of the Educational Complex.

2.1.5. Periodically organize dissemination seminars to illustrate students on internationalization issues and current exchange programs.

2.1.6. To organize foreign language courses for the academic and administrative staff, staff engaged in the educational process and assisting staff.

Goal 3. Expansion of external relations of the Educational Complex

Objective 3.1. Establishing collaboration networks at both national and international levels

3.1.1. Establish close collaborative ties with international organizations operating at the national level.

3.1.2. Increase international joint projects funded by other sources.

3.1.3. Facilitate affiliation and expansion of cooperation with international associations (unions) of police education institutions.

3.1.4. Develop flexible and popular ways of disseminating the results of international collaborative projects.

Goal 4. Improvement of execution of internationalization strategy, monitoring and internationalization processes

Objective 4.1. Assistance to the staff of Educational Complex on involving them in solving internationalization issues

4.1.1. Involve representatives of respective structural divisions in international cooperation project according to their professional experience and relevant skills.

4.1.2. Organize annual consultation meetings, dissemination seminars with the participation of staff involved in the internationalization process.

Objective 4.2. Improvement of the internationalization management process

4.2.1. Summarize the results of the annual internationalization activities and plan directions of international development in the next year.

4.2.2. Organize discussions with respective representatives of structural divisions of the Educational Complex on identifying and finding ways to resolve the issues related to the execution of internationalization strategy.