



International Network of Universities Charter 2023

INU is a global network of universities committed to advancing internationalization. It allows the member universities to provide a richer array of educational and research opportunities than any one university acting alone.

1. Context

As INU Leaders join together from 3-8 August 2023 in Hiroshima for INU Leaders' Summit on 'The role of universities in changing international political and social contexts', this charter is a reflection of our commitment to the role of universities beyond education and research. It addresses the role of the university as a key driver of social change, as promoters of democratic rights and freedom of speech, challenging inequalities and upholding social justice, in often complex political backdrops. Working together as a collective of universities, INU members are ideally placed to bring meaningful change in local, regional and global contexts.

Furthermore, in our coming together as a collective of universities, we renew our commitment to the values of the INU network and invigorate a new drive to work together as a consortium of higher education institutions.

The charter addresses the following:

- 1.1. A joint response from INU member universities in our shared commitment to inclusion, equality and diversity, the integration of education and research for societal benefit, the protection of academic freedom and threats against democracy faced globally.
- 1.2. Re-affirms member universities' commitment to INU as an international network of like-minded institutions who understand that in collaborating across borders and cultures, we offer our students and staff a richer array of opportunities than one institution acting alone.

2. The Charter

We, the undersigned Universities, as members of the International Network of Universities, give our commitment to the following pledges:

A pledge from INU member universities to addressing societal challenges in a global context:

- i. To promote democratic rights both on and off campus and to defend the autonomy of our institutions, to act without influence or interference of political ideology.
- ii. Provide a safe, open environment for academic staff to teach without fear of repression. We commit to giving staff and students freedom to express their opinions without fear from institutional censorship or discipline.
- iii. We commit that our university campuses will remain a place where freedom of speech and inquiry is encouraged, to enable dialogue, critical thinking, academic debate and challenging norms, which forms such an integral part of the higher education landscape.



- iv. To use our position in society as HE institutions to influence decision makers and other policy makers to make socially-just decisions and to further equality and equity within our societies.
- v. To take action within our institutions to break down barriers which prevent social mobility and foster initiatives which ensure equal opportunity for all.
- vi. To realise our role as promoters of peace, locally, regionally and globally - favouring dialogue and mediation above and beyond conflict.
- vii. To be guided by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, and to integrate teaching and research in these areas.
- viii. To give a voice to the under-represented and marginalised groups, ensuring equality in our institutions and championing the values of diversity and inclusion on our own campuses and beyond.

Reaffirmation of members commitment to the INU network mandate:

- i. To commit as a member of the INU network, to share best practises and work collaboratively, for the good of society on a local and global scale.
- ii. **Global Citizenship:** To enable our students and staff to be given equal opportunity to intercultural learning opportunities; empowering students, as global citizens, by giving them the skills and experience to articulate and navigate complex real-world issues.
- iii. **Togetherness:** To work as a collective of international universities, who embrace INU values and mission – developing collaborative projects and initiatives to share expertise and enhance teaching, learning and research.
- iv. **Sustainability:** INU members commit to their role in fulfilling the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; INU members understand the interconnectivity of the SDGs and the complex nature of the societal problems it addresses. We recognize the important role that we as universities play in implementing the UN Agenda.
- v. **Embedding Technology:** To ensure our offer is sustainable, INU commits to embed the use of technology in our global collaborations. Using online platforms as well as international mobility opportunities to deliver our objectives is critical to deliver a balance of face-to-face interaction and experience, alongside a more accessible online offer for global engagement.

We the undersigned pledge to the above commitments and values as outlined in this charter.

Signature of

Prof Eduard Mühle
President
Europa-Universität Viadrina, Germany



EUROPA-
UNIVERSITÄT
VIADRINA
FRANKFURT
(ODER)



**INTERNATIONAL
NETWORK
OF UNIVERSITIES**
25th Anniversary

International Network of Universities Charter 2023

INU Leaders' Summit
August 3-8, 2023
Hiroshima, Japan

Signature of

Prof Mitsuo Ochi
President
Hiroshima University, Japan



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

Signature of

Prof Jonathan Alger
President
James Madison University, USA



**JAMES MADISON
UNIVERSITY.**

Signature of

Prof Rebecka Lettevall
Pro-Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement and Human Rights
Malmö University, Sweden



**MALMÖ
UNIVERSITY**

Signature of

Prof Andrea Lenschow,
VP of Internationalization, Diversity and Academic
Qualification
Osnabrück University, Germany





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August 3-8, 2023
Hiroshima, Japan

Signature of

Prof Tri Basuki Joewono,
Rector
Universitas Katolik Parahyangan, Indonesia



**UNIVERSITAS
KATOLIK
PARAHYANGAN**

Signature of

Prof Josep Pallarès
Rector
Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain



**UNIVERSITAT
ROVIRA i VIRGILI**

Signature of

Prof Wim de Villiers,
Rector and Vice-Chancellor
Stellenbosch University, South Africa



Stellenbosch
UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT

Signature of

Prof Larisa Carrera
Vice Rector
Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Argentina



**UNIVERSIDAD
NACIONAL
DEL LITORAL**

Dated: August 5, 2023