

International Cooperation Principles of the Estonian National Defence College

I General Provisions

1. This document stipulates the purposes, fields, priority activities and execution of international cooperation at the Estonian National Defence College (hereinafter: the College).
2. International cooperation principles are set out in the Strategy for the Internationalization of Estonian Higher Education over the Years 2006-2015, in the Estonian Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020, in the Estonian Research and Development and Innovation Strategy "Knowledge-based Estonia" 2014-2020, and in other educational legislation documents, and are based on the directions of the development of the College.
3. International cooperation principles shall support the achievement of the aims set forth in the development plan of the College, the assurance and improvement of the quality of studies and research activities, and shall form part of the evaluation of the efficiency of the activities of the College.

II Objectives

4. The international cooperation of the College shall be directed at the development of the military field and warfare (including military leadership and tactics) and related fields.
5. The objectives of the international cooperation of the College are as follows:
 - a) To raise the **international interoperability** of the students (including former students as active servicemen) and employees of the College;
 - b) To obtain **new and/or complementary competencies** in the fields of military warfare and thereby raise the academic performance of the College in both its study and research activities.
 - c) To improve the **international visibility** of the College and the international competitiveness of its students and employees through increased student mobility and cooperation in research and development activities.

III Fields, target groups and priority activities

6. Fields of international cooperation:
 - a) Study activities of higher education, vocational education and continuing education;
 - b) Research and development activities.
7. Target groups involved:
 - a) Students of the College;

- b) Teaching and research staff;
 - c) Teaching and research support personnel.
8. The selection of cooperation partners from abroad shall be based on the needs and opportunities of the College to promote military cooperation.
9. The principal foreign partners of the College shall be Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.
10. Activities according to priority:
- a) Exercises and subjects carried out with the participation of foreign students (short-term);
 - b) Mobility of teaching staff to foreign countries with the aim to teach subjects (short-term and long-term);
 - c) Participation of students in joint exercises and subjects abroad (short-term);
 - d) Cooperation in research and development activities within research projects and in the form of (joint) publications (short-term and long-term);
 - e) Mobility of teaching staff of foreign countries to the College with the aim to teach subjects (short-term and long-term);
 - f) Participation of students, and teaching and research staff in professional seminars and conferences abroad (short-term);
 - g) Participation in NATO research groups (short-term);
 - h) Writing final papers of master's theses with a (co-)supervisor of a foreign military academy (short-term and long-term);
 - i) Service-based or branch-based training of students abroad (long-term);
 - j) Preliminary visits and mobility visits of teaching and research staff and support staff to military academies and research and development institutions abroad (short-term);
 - k) Organizing international cadet exchange weeks and participation in cadet exchange weeks organized by foreign military academies.

IV Execution

11. Activities related to international cooperation shall be planned and executed in accordance with the principles set out in this document.
12. The activities shall be funded from the following sources:
- a) Operational costs of the College (planned pursuant to valid regulations of the Estonian Defence Forces);
 - b) Mobility programmes in support of international cooperation funded by the European Cohesion Fund;
 - c) Based on specific project applications from allocated budgetary funds;
 - d) From specific extra-budgetary funds of the College (based on invitations, one-off agreements, etc.).
13. The following aspects shall be ensured:
- a) Equal treatment of foreign students with the students of the College in the study process and when documenting the study process;
 - b) Recognition of a training course or subject passed abroad as part of a curriculum and/or a fixed supplement to it;

- c) Motivation of the employees of the College to carry out the activities in support of international cooperation, and consideration of these activities in evaluation interviews and attestations.
14. The activities, responsible persons, and outcomes with regard to the development perspective of the College shall be set forth in the development plan of the College and further specified in the annual order of the ENDC Commandant.

V Related documents

15. Development Plan of the ENDC 2015-2022;
Research and Development Strategy of the ENDC;
Mobility Guide of the ENDC;
The Erasmus+ Programme Charter;
Grant agreement of the Erasmus+ programme;
Framework regarding the European initiative on the exchange of young officers, modelled on Erasmus known as the Military Erasmus.