

**The strategy of International relations department of  
Yerevan State Academy of Fine Arts (hereinafter YSAFA)**

**1. Mission**

Develop relevant policy for International activities that will enable to provide education in compliance with International HEI thus contributing to the YSAFA acknowledgement and raise of reputation on the International sphere.

**2. Objectives**

1. Actualization of International activities within the frameworks of International inter-institutional contracts, agreements, programmes. The academy must provide student, academic and administrative staff mobility with the aim of enabling them to get use of the educational heritage of European Educational Area including its democratic values that will increase the diversity of educational systems.
2. Provide qualified education in compliance with international HEI in the following ways:
  - Qualification increase of academic staff with the help of actualizing joint research activities with international partners and participation in conferences and symposiums.
  - Academic staff training in partner HEIs.
3. Participation in trainings, courses, conferences and scientific meetings concerning International activities with the aim of improving international department staff activities.
4. Develop and actualize programmes in Armenia and partner countries: Summer schools organization.
5. Prepare both Master and short-term educational programmes for international and PhD students to increase YSAFA reputation. Enhance cooperation with top level international HEIs on art. Develop joint educational programmes and relevant levels of qualification.

### **3. Threats**

6. Coordination of strategy, goals, directions and types of cooperation, elaboration of joint inter-institutional cooperation programmes with International HEIs, foundations and centres.
7. Organisation and coordination of joint International activities of the chairs and faculties.
8. Involvement of International organisations, foundations and grants for the aim of developing the academy material-technical base, creating joint student programmes, organising researches, symposiums, faculty training, student exchange.

### **4. SWOT analysis**

#### **YSAFA strong points:**

1. YSAFA actualizes inter-institutional programmes.
2. YSAFA has bilateral agreements on student and professor exchange, organizing and actualizing joint research, symposiums with HEIs of European and CIS countries.
  1. Reims Design and Art School, France
  2. Marseille Fine Arts School, France
  3. Lyon National School of Fine Arts, France
  4. Limoges-Aubusson National Art School, France
  5. Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Chzech Republic
  6. Stieglitz St. Petersburg State Academy of Art and Industry, Russia
  7. Art Academy of Latvia
  8. Information System Management Institute, Latvia
  9. Tbilisi State Academy of Art, Georgia
  10. Lviv National Academy of Arts, Ukraine
  11. Kiev National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture, Ukraine
  12. Academy of Fine Arts in Florence, Italy
  13. Fine Arts School in Braunschweig, Germany
3. Diaspora Armenian and European students express increased interest in YSAFA. Daily visits to the YSAFA web-site comprise 100-150. The materials in it are in Armenian and in English and its information is constantly updated. YSAFA also has its page on Facebook, RA inter-institutional network and in the English language web-site “Higher Education in Armenia” developed and controlled by the Ministry of

Education and Science of RA. You can find YSAFA page in International educational portal “WISHES” and “Bachelors’ portal” providing informative base of European HEIs.

4. Yerevan State Academy of Fine Arts has been and remains the core institution of the RA /Republic of Armenia/ providing higher education on fine arts, applied arts, design and other branches of culture.
5. YSAFA actualizes TEMPUS projects.

### **YSAFA weak points**

1. Small scale work actualization within the frames of inter-institutional agreements.
2. Language barrier: very small percent from the teaching staff is proficient in English that is the main factor interfering the organization of courses for International students and conducting lectures abroad.
3. Financial dependence of International relations department from the academy budget: Insufficient financial support for actualizing joint symposiums, exhibitions with International partners.

### **Threats**

- Taking into consideration the unstable geographical and political situation of the Republic of Armenia the International foundations and grant providing organizations do not easily award grants to Armenian applicants that interferes the actualization of some International programmes

### **Opportunities**

1. YSAFA has the necessary scientific and educational potential and resources that International relations department tries to coordinate, represent and use to the point.
2. Choice of right strategy
3. The actualization of the following programmes alongside with inter-institutional agreements.

- Providing educational services in International market among them services for Diaspora Armenians.
- Organizing joint scientific-research programmes, symposiums, exhibitions with partner HEIs.
- Obtaining International or national funds for actualizing joint research, developing book materials, educational programmes /curricula/ and their implementation.
- Providing consultation directed to the education on exchange programmes.

## **1. Strategy actualization**

1. Academic staff exchange within the frameworks of inter-institutional programmes. The aim of exchange being the organization of courses, joint scientific-research work and consulting.
2. Involvement of foundations and grant-providers both local and International for organizing language courses to increase the proficiency of foreign languages among the administrative and academic staff.
3. Exchange on PhD level for actualizing research programmes. Publication of joint works, booklets, catalogues, conducts of presentations thus providing dissemination and implementation of research outcomes.
4. Student exchange on Master level. Thematic choice, study and consulting.
5. Involvement of International foundations, grant providers with the aim of actualizing material-technical base update, research activities, publications and the training programmes for professors.
6. Develop internationally the educational programmes at YSAFA to provide its availability and introduction internationally as well as to raise interest among International applicants towards the academy. For this purpose make regular updates of the web-site, publish booklets, organize mutual international visits, etc.
7. Organize free of charge courses for administrative and academic staff with the purpose of enlarging the opportunities for participation in international programmes.

## **2. Cooperation with faculties and chairs**

External strategy is carried out by International relations department with the participation of all academy subdivisions. It functions under the immediate subordination of the YSAFA rector.

- Within the frameworks of international exchange contracts the educational programmes or individual courses for International students are being agreed with the educational department and the dean's office.
- The organization of joint thematic symposiums, lectures and exhibitions correspondingly is being reconciled by the faculties.

# Organigram of International Relations Department of Yerevan State Academy of Fine Arts

