Global Engagement

A leading European university in a dynamic capital

Ranked among the world’s top 100 universities, Stockholm University is one of Europe’s leading centres for higher education and research in human science and science.

Since its foundation in 1878, knowledge, enlightenment and truth-seeking, together with critical thinking, have been the cornerstones of Stockholm University. Today, the university is a prominent research university characterised by both independent basic research and strong applied research.

The university contributes to Agenda 2030 and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through its extensive research, education and collaboration.

In collaboration with others, Stockholm University makes knowledge accessible to all through dialogue, participation in public debate and in societal development.

A long-term plan for international activities

In several areas of research and education, Stockholm University is among the most prominent higher education institutions in the world. The Global Engagement internationalisation plan is based on Stockholm University’s comprehensive strategies and concretises the university’s high ambitions.

The plan presents the central starting points for the international activities of Stockholm University. The university will work to ensure:

- an international academic environment that is imbued with excellence;
- improved conditions for international recruitment, mobility and collaboration;
- increased visibility and presence in the international research and education arenas.

Research

Stockholm University’s researchers are among the most cited in the Nordic countries. Our researchers also engage in government investigations, participate in the media, comment on draft laws and participate in various Nobel Committees and international expert bodies.

The university is home to excellent facilities and innovative tools for research such as environmental observatories, cutting-edge specialised equipment, digitalisation, world-renowned datasets and interdisciplinary research laboratories.

For many years, international recruitment of doctoral students, teachers and researchers, as well as staff mobility and international collaboration, have been increasing within the university. These are cornerstones of excellent research.

Education

The university has around 3,000 international students out of 30,000 students in total and strives towards increased internationalisation by recruiting more international students and creating more contact areas for foreign and local students. Today 65 percent of the courses and programmes at the advanced level are already held in English, and in addition to this, various language courses are offered. Altogether, the university offers courses and programmes in over 30 languages and over 75 study programmes taught in English.

Stockholm University focuses on education in close interaction with outstanding research and has a long tradition of receiving foreign students. Today, the university is aiming to prioritise activities that will further increase students’ international experiences, for example through mobility windows in education programmes, virtual courses and the possibility of short stays abroad.

The university has a high proportion of internationally recruited teachers and researchers who contribute to its international environment. Together with our internationally mixed student groups, this contributes to the natural development of international perspectives in teaching.

International collaboration

As a capital university, Stockholm University, together with Karolinska Institutet and KTH Royal Institute of Technology, plays a central role in developing high-quality research and education. Together the universities form a comprehensive university environment in the Stockholm region.

Sweden has a strong tradition of collaboration both within the Nordic region and with the rest of Europe. Stockholm University will actively contribute to research and education collaborations in the Nordic countries and Europe, while also creating more long-term partnerships outside of Europe. Through its international collaborations in the research fields of environmental, social and economic sustainability, Stockholm University contributes to achieving the objectives of Agenda 2030 tackling the global societal challenges.
Global Engagement
International activities at Stockholm University

Total revenue: SEK 5.14 billion

- 65% Government funding
- 27% Grants (external funding)
- 8% Fees and other contributions

30,000 full-time students incl.
3,000 international students

1,700 Number of courses
190 Number of study programmes

1,500 Number of doctoral students (of which 51% are women)

International co-publications: the highest share of all Swedish universities and ranked 16th in the world (Leiden 2014-2017 Ranking)

Active exchange agreements with universities across 56 countries

 courses and programmes in 30 different languages

Courses and programmes in 30 different languages

- 1,424 first-level courses, of which 41% are in a language other than Swedish
- 851 second-level courses, of which 71% are in a language other than Swedish

Top research funders:
The Swedish Research Council
The Wallenberg Foundations
The European Union

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Number of European Research Council (ERC) grantees at Stockholm University 2007-2018

Data from 2018 Annual Report

Sweden tops the World’s Most Reputable Countries 2018.

Stockholm is ranked 7th in Cities of Opportunity 2016.

Stockholm is second in the World’s Sustainable Cities Index 2018.

Number of European Research Council (ERC) grantees at Stockholm University 2007-2018

Number in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU 2018)

34

International co-publications: the highest share of all Swedish universities and ranked 16th in the world (Leiden 2014-2017 Ranking)

Data from 2018 Annual Report

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