

Cooperational guide: Lund-Ukraine

Introduction

“One risk in wartime is that researchers and teachers in affected countries feel isolated and do not get the peace and input needed for the work they have to do. So, we need platforms and partnerships. We can work bilaterally and multilaterally, in small groups, spontaneously and organised, and as institutions, faculties and universities.”

Jessica Almqvist, Professor of International Law and Human Rights at Lund University, in [a Raoul Wallenberg Institute roundtable discussion about human rights education in Ukraine](#)

Lund University stands in solidarity with the universities of Ukraine since the Russian invasion 24 February 2022. All faculties can provide urgent, targeted support now, and beyond the invasion. Examples of support are research projects, online courses and sharing of libraries and other e-resources.

For productive and long-term cooperation, the support from department and/or faculty administrations plays a vital role. Here is a quick-guide – it is not complete, and delegation rules of Lund University will always apply.

Good to know – some principles

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv is the prioritised partner for Lund University. However, all faculties have – and can make – their own partnership agreements.

Faculties and departments can also enter legal agreements about cooperation.

If your faculty wishes to cooperate with another faculty or university, the contacts should go via your dean or the international office/external relations.

When agreements are needed, a general rule is that the External relations office helps out regarding university wide agreements or agreements that, for any reason, need to be signed centrally on Rectors/Vice-Chancellor level. For faculty or departmental level, the international offices at each faculty can give support with the formalities. The prefect signs documents for his or her institution, the dean for his or her faculty, and the vice-chancellor signs at university level.

If you look for partners within your department or faculty, use channels for internal communication, such as newsletters or intranets.

And if you look for help with administrative tasks or communication/marketing, make sure your department and/or faculty supports your project.

Also remember that you may need a budget, a project plan, and a communication plan. The latter could consist of headings such as Purpose, Audiences (target groups), Channels and Key messages.

Cooperation within education – it can be easy

- In most cases you do not need permission e.g. to give online seminars to students in or from Ukraine. Online seminars are relatively easy to arrange. Via internal newsletters you can gather researchers who wish to give a series of online seminars. It can be a relief for teachers in Ukraine to get “backup” from international partners and colleagues.
- Online or offline Erasmus+ courses, on the other hand, should usually be approved by the departmental board, “institutionsstyrelsen” or other responsible authority, in order for them to generate credits for students who pass and fund related costs, like teachers’ time, traveling expenses, etc.
- The departmental board usually knows who should sign agreements on teacher and departmental level. The departmental board, and the director of studies, will probably have the most accurate information about courses, credits, possibilities for financing and marketing support.

Cooperation within research – building from below

In order to write an article together with a researcher from Ukraine, you do not need any kind of legal permission. The most common ways for establishing contacts with researchers from Ukraine are:

- You can find top universities and departments, or interesting subject areas, via rankings, for example:
 - [QS World University Rankings 2024](#)
 - [U.S. News Best Global Universities Rankings 2022–2023](#)
 - [THE World University Rankings 2023](#)
 - [ARWU 2023](#)
- You can take part in events, seminars, etc where it is possible to meet Ukrainian university colleagues, for example, [the Swedish - Ukrainian Contact Seminar 2023](#) (October, 3–4, 2023).
- You can also contact [the National Erasmus+ office in Ukraine](#) and ask about their recommendations of Ukrainian universities and departments in your subject area.

You can simply write to the Ukrainian researcher via email, describing your research areas and interest for collaboration. If you meet online you can discuss the details of the potential research cooperation.

If there is an interest from both sides, it is time to speak with their home departments and/or faculties respectively about the possible need to clarify formal issues (e.g., documents, agreements for international collaboration, etc).

Capacity building programmes – LUCE will guide you

Capacity building programmes can contribute to supporting organisations, including universities, authorities and companies in Ukraine. Lund University has long been supporting capacity building in many forms, including partnering with universities, sponsoring student and teacher exchanges, and participating in cross-national research collaborations.

The Department of Commissioned Education (LUCE) has vast experience in managing and coordinating contract education programmes, especially with an interdisciplinary approach, and has an alumni network, including many participants from Ukrainian organisations, who can be partners in new programmes.

LUCE also has regular dialogue with funders, such as Sida and the Swedish Institute, to monitor the opportunities for capacity building programmes. Feel free to contact LUCE if you'd like to learn more about our support:

Andreas Bryngelson, Project manager, LUCE: andreas.bryngelson@education.lu.se

Alexandra Hertz, Customer relations manager, LUCE: alexandra.hertz@education.lu.se

<https://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/admissions/professional-education/capacity-building-programmes>

Finding financial support

There are different funds where it is possible to apply for money for the research projects, and the departmental board, or a director of studies, will probably be able to give some advice. For example:

- The Swedish Institute: <https://si.se/en/apply/funding-grants/si-baltic-sea-neighbourhood-programme-special-call-ukraine/>
- Horizon Europe: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en
- L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science: <https://www.forwomeninscience.com/>
- NordForsk: <https://www.nordforsk.org/funding-opportunities>
- The Swedish Research Council: <https://www.vr.se/english.html>

Anything is missing?

If this guide is misleading or you have other questions, please write to: Roman Balandiuk, roman.balandiuk@er.lu.se

Also, if you have questions about the consequences of the war in Ukraine for the University, you can email to: ukraina@er.lu.se

Read more

[Med anledning av kriget i Ukraina | Lunds universitet](#)

[Stöd till forskare från Ukraina - Vetenskapsrådet \(vr.se\)](#)

[scienceforukraine](#)

[#TwinForHope – The UK universities standing with their counterparts to support Ukraine \(universitiesuk.ac.uk\)](#)

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Lund-Ukraine Alliance for Academic Support

LUA | Developing education and research – despite the war

Lund-Ukraine Alliance for Academic Support (LUA) is a network within Lund University that helps academia in Ukraine to endure during and after Russia's full-scale invasion.

The group identifies the real needs and promotes support to academic circles in Ukraine. By building effective collaborations, the network contributes to the development of education and research that will benefit all, also in the long run.

The alliance upholds the values of truthfulness and transparency, and it integrates the core values of Lund University in all its activities. Regardless of background and nationality, the initiative welcomes all members who respect the values and objectives of LUA.