

## **East European University**

### **Sustainable Funding and Donations Policy**

#### **I. Purpose**

1. The purpose of this Policy is to establish a transparent, ethical, and sustainable long-term framework for accepting, managing, and utilizing donations and external funding at East European University.
2. The Policy ensures:
  - protection of academic independence and institutional autonomy;
  - responsible use of financial resources;
  - prevention of reputational, legal, and ethical risks.

#### **II. Scope of Application**

1. The Policy applies to all types of funding received by the University, including:
  - monetary and in-kind donations;
  - grants, sponsorships, and external funding;
  - support for research, education, or infrastructure.
2. The Policy is mandatory for:
  - governing and executive bodies;
  - academic and administrative units;
  - individuals involved in fundraising and fund management.

#### **III. Legal and Standards Basis**

The Policy is based on:

- international principles of good governance and transparency;
- ESG (environmental, social, and governance) and corporate social responsibility principles;
- principles of academic freedom and research independence;
- the University's Charter and internal regulatory acts.

#### IV. Key Definitions

1. **Donation** - financial or material resources transferred for the benefit of the University.
2. **Funding** - targeted or non-targeted financial support received from external sources.
3. **Donor/Funder** - a natural or legal person providing resources.
4. **Undue influence** - any direct or indirect requirement, as a condition of funding, to exert control over academic, research, or governance decisions.

#### V. Core Principles

The University is guided by the following principles when accepting donations and funding:

- protection of academic freedom and institutional independence;
- transparency and accountability;
- ethics and legality;
- sustainability and long-term development;
- prevention of conflicts of interest;
- management of reputational risks.

#### VI. Permissible and Prohibited Funding

1. Funding is permissible if it:
  - aligns with the University's mission, values, and strategic objectives;
  - does not restrict academic freedom or research independence;
  - is obtained lawfully and ethically.
2. Funding is prohibited if it:
  - is associated with corrupt, illegal, or unethical activities;
  - violates human rights or labor standards;
  - involves control over academic or institutional decisions;
  - poses a serious reputational risk to the University.

#### VII. Procedure for Accepting Funding

1. Before accepting external funding:
  - a preliminary assessment (due diligence) of the funding source is conducted;
  - financial, ethical, and reputational risks are evaluated.
2. Funding agreements:
  - must be in writing;
  - must include provisions safeguarding academic independence;
  - are subject to appropriate internal approval.

## **VIII. Management of Conflicts of Interest**

1. Individuals involved in the funding acceptance process are obliged to:
  - declare the existence of any conflict of interest;
  - refrain from participating in decision-making in the event of a conflict.
2. Conflicts of interest are managed in accordance with the relevant internal policy.

## **IX. Transparency and Reporting**

1. The University ensures:
  - documentation of the targeted use of funding;
  - appropriate financial accounting.
2. Aggregated information on funding may be reflected in:
  - annual financial reports;
  - quality assurance and strategic development reports;
  - sustainable development or ESG reports.

## **X. Monitoring and Control**

1. The use of funding is subject to internal monitoring.
2. The Quality Assurance Service:
  - assesses compliance of funding with University policies;
  - participates in risk monitoring.

## **XI. Violations and Response**

1. Violations of the Policy entail responses in accordance with the University's internal rules and applicable legislation.
2. Response measures must be:
  - timely;
  - proportionate;
  - transparent.

## **XII. Policy Review**

1. The Policy is subject to periodic review, but at least once every three years.
2. Amendments are approved by the Representative Council.
3. The updated version is published on the University's website.

## **XIII. Entry into Force**

1. This Policy enters into force on the date of its approval by the Representative Council.