

# Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall strategy)

## Internationalisation strategy, MF Norwegian School of Theology

### Vision:

MF will offer education and perform research of high international quality and strengthen its position as a leading theological institution.

### Main goal:

MF shall be a leading international environment for research and education within its core fields and our competence shall be internationally relevant, visible and wanted.

### Goals for research:

Based on the main goal of being a leading international environment for research we formulate the following partial goals:

- MF shall contribute with research at a high international level and thereby also becomes a wanted international partner.
- International research should be supported by strategic investments, targeted cooperation with other institutions and cooperation on research infrastructure.
- It will be developed good financial structures for internationally related activities and efforts.
- MF will make exchange and international engagement as a natural and integrated part of our research.

### Goals for education:

Based on the main goal of offering education of high quality and with international orientation we formulate the following partial goals:

- Targeted cooperation with foreign institutions shall increase in order to give more relevant education with higher quality.
- All the master programs shall have an international profile where the different programs are connected to specific strategically important higher education institutions.
- MF shall further develop its' international work with focus on increased student mobility and developing international courses, including joint degrees.
- MF shall make exchange and international engagement as a natural and integrated part of education.
- MF shall supply necessary help for international students with special needs.
- MF shall in this period achieve OS- label (Diploma Supplement)

### Goals for dissemination:

Based on the main goal of contributing with competence which is relevant, visible and wanted we formulate the following partial goals for internationally oriented dissemination of our research:

- MF shall be an active participant in questions of internationalization and international affairs internally, nationally and globally.
- Targeted information and recruiting internally, nationally and internationally shall increase MFs attendance in research and study, environments in Europe, Asia, America and Africa.

### Target groups:

We define a target group as a primary group of people that one wants to reach with a message or strategy. For MFs international work the main target groups are the students, teachers and employees at MF. But external recruiting both in Norway and among international groups is also important.

For these reasons we list up the following target groups:

#### 1 - Internal groups:

- Students, teachers, researchers and employees at MF.

#### 2 - External groups:

- Potential students living abroad.
- Potential foreign students living in Norway.
- Students, teachers and employees at partner universities abroad
- Main partner institutions and partner institutions
- Potential partners in Norway

**Geographic areas:**

Cooperation often begins with individual contact between researchers and lead to a formalized cooperation, which may turn into a sustaining cooperation. MF cooperates with universities in Africa, Asia, America and Europe. Within these areas we seek to cooperate both with more partners, and more strongly with selected partners.

**Types of cooperation**

It is an advantage with institutions that are especially close partners at several levels- both within research and education .In addition it is good to have a larger number of institutions with exchange agreements, especially in Europe where Erasmus and Nordplus exchange is possible. All our partners are linked to specific programs at MF.

We find it useful to distinguish between three kinds of institutional cooperation:

**1 - Exchange universities:**

- Employer, teacher and student mobility.
- Erasmus and Nordplus (Europe).

**2 - Partner universities:**

- Close cooperation on research and education.
- Cooperation on joint degrees.
- Cooperation on Erasmus and Nordplus (Europe).
- Joint research or study projects.
- Institutions we want to cooperate with over time.
- A representative from MF following up the relation.
- Universities at a high academic level.

**3 - Institutional networks**

- Big multi-national networks.
- Strategic partnerships.
- Larger EU-projects.
- Other large projects.
- Shared research infrastructure.
- Joint degrees with international partners.

The categories are not mutually exclusive: one can have partner universities that are simultaneously exchange universities and are part of institutional networks.