

Long-Term Development Plan

of the FACULTY OF ARTS
of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University
in Košice
for 2026 – 2031



Mission

The principal mission of the Faculty of Arts of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (hereinafter the “Faculty of Arts”) is

to make a significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the humanities and social sciences and to provide high-quality higher education.

The preparedness of the graduates of the Faculty of Arts is reflected in their ability to respond actively and flexibly to the challenges of contemporary society.





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Vision

For the period 2026–2031, the Faculty of Arts aspires to be

a modern, open, and internationally respected faculty distinguished by excellence in education, research, and societal engagement.

At the regional level, it aims to establish itself as a centre of expertise in the humanities and social sciences and to serve as a trusted partner for the academic, cultural, public, and professional sectors.

The Faculty of Arts also seeks to assume the role of a hub that actively contributes to addressing current cultural and societal challenges.

The Faculty of Arts strives to be an environment characterized by academic excellence, freedom of expression and academic debate, interdisciplinary collaboration, international openness, and mutual respect. At the same time, it makes efforts to strengthen its internal stability, enhance the attractiveness of its study programmes and working environment, and further develop its identity as an institution that combines the traditions of humanistic education with innovative approaches to teaching, research, international cooperation, and governance.

Core Values

Since its establishment in 2007, the Faculty of Arts has been guided by four fundamental values:



Internationalisation

Excellence

Social
Responsibility

Diversity, Equality,
and Inclusion

Strategic Pillars

The Long-Term Development Plan for 2026 – 2031 is built upon the following strategic pillars:



These pillars constitute the key areas of development for the Faculty of Arts. Their implementation will contribute to enhancing the quality of education, research performance, and the Faculty's societal relevance, while strengthening its

internal stability, international standing, and capacity to respond flexibly to the evolving needs of the academic and wider social environment, as well as to anticipate future demands.

STRATEGIC GOAL 1.1

The strategic goal of the Faculty of Arts in the area of education is to provide high-quality, modern, and stimulating higher education that develops professional knowledge, critical thinking, analytical and communication skills, and graduates' comprehensive preparedness for their professional careers.

Strategic priorities of Strategic goal 1.1

1. Maintain and enhance the quality of study programmes in line with current knowledge, accreditation standards, and societal needs.
2. Continuously innovate the curriculum with regard to contemporary cultural, social, and technological developments and innovations.
3. Develop innovative teaching methods, including various forms of digitally supported education.
4. Integrate the principles of academic integrity, equal opportunities, and social responsibility into teaching.
5. Promote interdisciplinary connections among study programmes and foster cooperation between the units of the Faculty of Arts, as well as with other parts of the university.
6. Systematically link theoretical education with practice and labour market needs through internships, professional placements, project-based learning, partnerships with external stakeholders, employer involvement in the design and evaluation of study programmes, and cooperation with alumni (alumni clubs).

7. Develop student-centred education that encourages engagement, independence, creativity, and critical reflection.
8. Strengthen students' language, digital, and transferable skills, including media and information literacy.
9. Improve support for gifted students, students with specific needs, and students from less stimulating or socially disadvantaged backgrounds.
10. Increase student success rates and reduce early study dropout rate through enhanced counselling, mentoring, and timely student support.
11. Advance lifelong learning by offering micro-credentials, microcredits, and other flexible forms of education for the general public and the professional community.
12. Improve the internal education quality assurance system through regular feedback mechanisms and other analytical tools.



STRATEGIC GOAL 1.2

The strategic goal of the Faculty of Arts in the area of continuing professional development of its employees is to support the systematic education and development of employees' teaching, language, digital, and professional competences.

Strategic priorities of Strategic goal 1.2

1. Introduce mechanisms for sharing good teaching practices.
2. Support the enhancement of staff competences through the provision of pedagogical, language, and digital training.
3. Support professional development of employees. The Faculty's educational activities will be directed towards ensuring that both graduates and staff are not only professionally well prepared, but are also able to navigate complex societal processes in an informed and flexible manner, work with information accurately and effectively, engage in dialogue supported by sound arguments, and act responsibly in the public sphere as well as in their professional practice.



2. Science and research

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

The strategic goal of the Faculty of Arts in research is to build a competitive research environment in the humanities and social sciences that adheres to ethical principles and is grounded in research integrity, societal relevance, interdisciplinarity, and systematic support for both early-career and senior researchers.

Strategic priorities of Strategic goal 2

1. Enhance the quality and international visibility of research outputs produced by the individual departments of the Faculty of Arts.
2. Support publishing activities in high-quality domestic and international publishing houses and scholarly journals appropriate to the specific characteristics of individual disciplines.
3. Increase success in securing research funding from national and international grant schemes.
4. Strengthen interdisciplinary research that connects the humanities and social sciences with other fields of knowledge.
5. Promote ethical, open, and responsible research, including the appropriate application of open-access principles to research outputs.
6. Initiate and strengthen research partnerships with domestic and international universities, institutes of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, cultural institutions, regional self-government bodies, and other relevant organisations.



7. Support the establishment of thematic research teams, working groups, and expert platforms building on the Faculty's research strengths.
8. Deepen the integration of research and teaching so that new knowledge is reflected in study programmes and contributes to their relevance and currency.
9. Systematically support doctoral studies as an integral part of the mission of the Faculty of Arts.
10. Create favourable conditions for doctoral candidates, early-career researchers, and postdoctoral researchers, including support for their research projects, publications, and mentoring.

The Faculty of Arts considers the acquisition of the latest scientific knowledge and its transfer into education and practice to be a key component of the work of university teachers. An essential prerequisite for such research is to be successful in applying for domestic and international grants, which typically result in valuable publication outputs and citations. At the same time, the Faculty of Arts supports doctoral education and postdoctoral fellowships at the university level to ensure the high-quality preparation of early-career researchers.



3. International relations

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

The strategic goal of the Faculty of Arts is to further build its international identity, drawing on its regional and national position through mobility, partnerships, the internationalisation of studies and research, and the development of an open academic environment.

Strategic priorities of Strategic goal 3

1. Build the international identity of the Faculty of Arts.
2. Expand and deepen international partnerships in education and research.
3. Develop the intercultural competences of students and staff.
4. Support the international mobility of students and staff and make more effective use of opportunities provided by international programmes.
5. Promote the internationalisation of the curriculum, including increasing the share of teaching delivered in foreign languages and joint educational activities with international partners.
6. Increase the attractiveness of the Faculty of Arts for international students, researchers, and visiting academics.
7. Engage the Faculty of Arts in international networks, projects, consortia, and professional platforms.



The Faculty of Arts perceives internationalisation not only as a matter of international mobility and partnerships, but also as a natural component of the quality of education, research, and the academic environment. Its aim is to prepare students for work in an international context and, at the same time, to strengthen its capacity to engage more broadly in the international academic and societal space.



4. Cooperation with stakeholders

STRATEGIC GOAL 4

The strategic goal of the Faculty of Arts in this area is to develop active, responsible, and mutually beneficial partnerships with the public, educational, cultural, media, civic, and labour sectors, to transfer knowledge into practice, and also to strengthen the role of the Faculty of Arts as a public benefit institution that contributes to the cultural and civic development of society.

Strategic priorities of Strategic goal 4

1. Systematically develop partnerships with schools, cultural institutions, public administration, the non-governmental sector, professional associations, and employers.
2. Increase graduate employability through closer cooperation with practice, mapping labour market needs, and supporting students' professional development.
3. Involve experts from practice in teaching, curriculum development, guest lectures, workshops, and other development activities.
4. Develop professional internships, placements, project-based assignments, and other forms of applied learning in cooperation with external partners.
5. Provide the expertise of the Faculty of Arts for public discussion and for the development of strategies in areas corresponding to the Faculty's academic disciplines.



The Faculty of Arts recognises that the humanities and social sciences have an irreplaceable role in public life and that their mission is not only to generate and disseminate new knowledge, but also to cultivate the public sphere, foster value-based reflection, and contribute to the resilience of democratic society.

6. Build and actively develop the Faculty's alumni network (alumni clubs) as an important part of its social and professional background.
7. Increase the visibility of the Faculty's activities through popularisation and publicly accessible forms of communication.
8. Actively participate in public discourse on key social, cultural, and ethical issues.



5.

Infrastructure

STRATEGIC GOAL 5

The strategic goal of the Faculty of Arts in this area is to ensure a modern, functional, and sustainable infrastructural environment that supports high-quality education, research, governance, and the daily life of the Faculty.

Strategic priorities of Strategic goal 5

1. Modernise classrooms, workplaces, and research facilities in line with the needs of the humanities and social sciences.
2. Improve information systems and management data support.
3. Ensure cybersecurity, data protection, and the reliability of digital infrastructure.
4. Promote operational sustainability, green solutions, and the efficient use of premises and material resources.



