

# International activity

Strategy  
2018-2025



**Norges  
musikkhøgskole**  
Norwegian Academy  
of Music

# Introduction

International activity is increasing at the Norwegian Academy of Music (NMH). This document states priorities and goals for the internationalisation process until 2025.

# Goals and ambitions

## Main goal 2025

Our main goal and vision for 2025 is that the Norwegian Academy of Music will be an international education and research environment developing in close collaboration with a global community of cultural and educational institutions. The school qualifies students for becoming leading agents in an international market, and produces internationally acclaimed results.

## Ambitions 2021

- 1 At least 50 percent of NMH degree students will do an exchange in their period of study, or have other international experience lasting a minimum of one semester.
- 2 NMH will use employee mobility systematically to develop institutional collaborations, skills, and international publicity of the school.
- 3 NMH will work purposefully to benefit from available financial funding for international cooperation activities.
- 4 NMH will participate actively in relevant international networks, and expand collaborations with a few selected partners.
- 5 NMH research centres will define goals for internationalisation, and address these in their annual reports.
- 6 The majority of NMH degree programmes will be available in English.

# Elaboration of our main goal and ambitions

The main goal for internationalisation is to contribute to quality development in education and research.

By 2025, we aim to have created an international education and research environment that is inspired by institutions of culture and education all over the world. Our students will face international working environments both when applying for work in Norway and abroad. It is our goal that NMH students will become leading agents on the international work market, as well as in Norway.

It will be necessary for students to seek employment in the rest of Europe and globally. The education provided at NMH must be of the highest quality so that our candidates can compete in an international market. To meet international standards we must recruit our teachers both nationally and internationally. Research must also meet international standards for each discipline.

## **1. At least 50 percent of NMH degree students will do an exchange in their period of study, or have other international experience lasting a minimum of one semester.**

The Norwegian government encourages students to study abroad. Their goal is that 20 percent of students who take a degree in Norway have completed periods of exchange at institutions abroad. NMH's student body is made up of students who often have international experience that may not be periods of exchange. Many take a bachelor's degree abroad and a master's degree here, or they will complete their bachelor's degree here and a master's abroad. The Academy wishes to set some key performance indicators that are relevant to our students. These indicators will consider all international experience. By 2025, at least 50 percent of NMH degree students should have international experience lasting a minimum of one semester.

To reach this goal, students at the Academy must be met with an expectation of international activity during their period of study. This expectation should be emphasised through

curriculums, recruitment activities and facilitation from teachers and the school administration.

The Academy should also facilitate internationalisation for students who do not have the opportunity to travel abroad. We will create spaces where Norwegian and international students can meet and interact, so as to make good use of the resources international students bring with them to NMH.

Ph.D. candidates at NMH will be encouraged to spend one or more semesters abroad. The Academy will also strive to accommodate international Ph.D. candidates who wish to spend a semester here.

## **2. NMH will use employee mobility systematically to develop institutional collaborations, skills, and international publicity of the school.**

Our goal is to use employee mobility more systematically. We should make more intentional choices of which teachers travel abroad. Which institutions they visit, what they do there and why, should also be intentional choices. Academy teachers should teach disciplines they also teach

at the Academy when they visit other institutions through teacher exchange programmes. We will make sure that experience and impressions gained abroad will benefit the institution as a whole. NMH should also act intentionally when choosing which teachers to invite to the school. Heads of department should be central in this work.

## **3. NMH will work purposefully to benefit from available financial funding for international cooperation activities.**

We aim to improve skills at writing applications and implementing projects, for both academic and administrative staff. The Academy should always have up to date knowledge of political regulations and funding opportunities. The Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU) manages most EU funding programmes and other public funding for internationalisation of higher education in Norway. The programmes they manage are the main sources for funding of larger development projects at NMH. The Academy will not let political regulations guide all our collaboration projects, but where there is good reason for collaboration with institutions in countries covered by specific

funding programmes, we should strive to seize these opportunities.

As a state institution, NMH has social responsibilities. We will strive to use available Norwegian funding towards building institutions in other countries. Collaborations of this kind are beneficial for staff and students at both institutions. NMH should at all times engage in, and coordinate, at least one larger collaboration project with an institution abroad.

#### **4. NMH will participate actively in relevant international networks, and expand collaborations with a few selected partners.**

NMH has partners and networks that are relevant for the institution as a whole, and we will deepen our relations with these partners. Our research centres should identify their most important international partners and strive to benefit from opportunities given by closer collaboration with them. Each department and discipline should select a few partner institutions to which they will develop their cooperation regarding teacher and student mobility.

#### **5. NMH research centres will define goals for internationalisation, and address these in their annual reports.**

Our research centres should explicitly state goals and ambitions for their international activity and give yearly reports of the results. Research centre goals should take into account the goals and ambitions stated in this strategy, as well as the strategy for research and development. Research centre goals should include international dissemination.

#### **6. The majority of NMH degree programmes will be available in English.**

The Academy has many international degree students in the master of performance programme, since this programme is offered in English. By 2025, most bachelor degree programmes should be available in English so that international students may be recruited on all educational levels. Information on the Academy webpage must be available in English so that we can offer administrative support to international applicants and students.

## Background

The main goals and ambitions in this strategy will contribute to achieve some of the principal aims of the Academy's overall strategy *Engaged and engaging*, and the white paper *Quality Culture in Higher Education* from the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research.

### **Engaged and engaging – Strategy 2025**

#### **Students first and foremost**

- Teaching is characterized by outstanding quality and academic renewal.
- Promoting student autonomy and artistic identity through teaching activities.
- Adapting our activity to changes in the music world.

#### **Interplay between art and academia**

- Generating internationally acclaimed results.
- Creating flexible and dynamic environments. We have strong collaborations with national and international colleagues.

#### **Highlighting identity and excellence**

- Our faculty is internationally recognized. We continue to build distinctive and distinguished collegial groups, and actively encourage our staff to present their work in international contexts.

#### **A culture for collaboration**

- Stimulating collaboration and the sharing of knowledge. We strengthen our identity by working together, showing interest in each other's work and sharing knowledge.

#### **Engaging with our surroundings**

- Inviting and initiating collaboration. We continually challenge our assumptions about the world around us, and seek to renew ourselves as an institution. We contribute to cultural exchange and seek new impulses through external contact and collaboration.
- Building networks. We participate in and contribute to the development of national and international networks. We engage with our partners strategically for the mutual benefit of our institutions.

#### **Culture for quality**

In the white paper *Quality Culture in Higher Education* (Kultur for kvalitet i høyere utdanning, Meld. ST 16) the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research identifies four key factors for raising the standards of higher education through internationalisation: more ambitious goals for exchange activity, international students in Norway, prioritised countries and the quality of partnerships with developing countries. These key factors are covered by the *Strategy for International Activity*.