

THE COUNCIL OF VILNIUS UNIVERSITY PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2023

In its activities, the Council of Vilnius University (hereinafter the ‘Council’) is guided by the provisions of the Statute of Vilnius University (hereinafter the ‘University’) and by the competencies and functions delegated to the Council under this law. In its [2022 report](#) (published on 17 March 2023), the Council identified the main priorities for its activities in 2023:

- Further development of the budget model by including measures related to the determination of the necessary costs of study programmes, the assessment of investment in research and its return, and laying down the principles for the strategic allocation of the fund and the use of the University’s financial reserves;
- Monitoring of the implementation of the University’s Strategic Plan for 2021–2025 and the Annual Plan for 2023;
- Provision of infrastructure, organisational and financial measures necessary for the development of pedagogical studies and research in educology at the University, including further assurance of the sustainable development process of VU Šiauliai Academy and the implementation of other infrastructure projects of strategic importance (construction of the Faculty of Medicine Science Centre, development of Vilnius STEAM Centre, improvement of the infrastructure of the Faculty of Chemistry and Geosciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics);
- Increasing the internationalisation and interdisciplinarity of study programmes and research, including monitoring the improvement of infrastructure suitable for attracting international students;
- Monitoring the upgrading and development projects of the University’s information technology infrastructure, including monitoring of technological and administrative measures that ensure substantial changes in the implementation of information technology infrastructure upgrading and development projects;
- Investments in sustainable energy and monitoring of sustainable energy infrastructure development projects;
- Implementation and monitoring of measures to ensure the continuity of the University activities in an environment of increased risk.

The Council, which was established in 2019 for a five-year term, continued its activities. Last year, the student representative on the Council changed: Neda Žutautaitė, the outgoing President of the Vilnius University Students’ Representation, has been replaced in the Council by the new VU SR President (and also an ex-officio member of the Council), Lijana Savickienė. The information on the current composition of the Council is available here: <https://www.vu.lt/en/about-vu/structure/university-council>

In 2023, nine Council meetings and three electronic ballots were held, during which 21 resolutions were adopted. The Council has also provided the University Senate with an opinion on three other occasions, within its remit, on tuition fees approved by the Senate, and has held electronic voting on individual issues. As every year, the Council paid close attention to the planning, consideration and implementation of the University budget (revenue and expenditure estimate), as this document is, from the Council’s point of view, the main instrument for allocating resources to the University’s day-to-day activities and the means of the strategic plan. In this area, the annual reports on the revenue and expenditure estimates and on the management, use and disposal of

Vilnius University's state property in 2022 were also approved, and the challenges posed by the ongoing war in Ukraine and the rise in energy prices were analysed.

The Council considers the development of an adequate remuneration and motivational system for the University's employees to be a very important strategic task in ensuring the attraction and maintenance of academic and non-academic employees and their competitive remuneration. Therefore, the members of the Council were actively involved in the meetings and discussions on the matters of three amendments to the Description of the Remuneration Procedure for Vilnius University Employees both in academic and non-academic units. At its meeting on 20 December last year, the Council approved amendments to the remuneration procedure, which endorsed a significant increase in the salaries of academic employees in 2024, and discussed and included additional benefits and incentives for employees in the University budget.

In 2023, the Council focused on the development of the University and the necessary investments in infrastructure projects to ensure the University's future needs and sustainable growth. The Council approved important decisions related to the ongoing construction of new buildings for the University's units, the infrastructure needed for teacher training activities, and the extension of the boundaries of the University's territory.

The Council listened to presentations and actively engaged in discussions on other issues of great importance to the University in the areas of studies (the situation of teacher training at Vilnius University, international studies, marketing campaign for attracting students), research (the project of Centres of Excellence, internationalisation of research) and the community (the results of the 2022 Vilnius University community survey).

All the resolutions adopted by the Council are available at: <https://www.vu.lt/apiemus/struktura/taryba/tarybos-sprendimai> (in Lithuanian) and <https://www.vu.lt/en/about-vu/structure/university-council/resolutions> (in English).

The Council will consider the following as the main directions of its activities in 2024:

- Monitoring the University's budget performance to ensure strategic investments and a balanced, non-deficit budget in the long term;
- Monitoring of the implementation of the University's Strategic Plan for 2021–2025 and the Annual Plan for 2024;
- Provision of infrastructure, organisational and financial measures necessary for the development of pedagogical studies and research in educology at the University, including further assurance of the sustainable development process of VU Šiauliai Academy and the implementation of other infrastructure projects of strategic importance (construction of the Faculty of Medicine Science Centre, development of Vilnius STEAM Centre, improvement of the infrastructure of the Faculty of Chemistry and Geosciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics);
- Increasing the internationalisation and interdisciplinarity of study programmes and research, including monitoring the improvement of infrastructure suitable for attracting international students;
- Monitoring the upgrading and development projects of the University's information technology infrastructure, including monitoring of technological and administrative measures that ensure substantial changes in the implementation of information technology infrastructure upgrading and development projects;
- Investments in sustainable energy and monitoring of sustainable energy infrastructure development projects;
- Implementation and monitoring of measures to ensure the continuity of the University activities in an environment of increased risk;
- Preparing for the election of the new VU Council and ensuring the continuity of the Council's activity.

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