Collaborative Research and Innovation Strategy

Academician Stepan Demianchuk International University of Economics and Humanities & Bath Spa University

1 January 2024–31 December 2026

Mission

Academician Stepan Demianchuk International University of Economics and Humanities (Ukraine) and Bath Spa University (UK) commit to developing a sustainable and successful research and innovation collaboration for the next three years.

By working together, the two universities will seek to:

- Facilitate research collaborations between their staff and students.
- Develop joint funding bids.
- Organise collaborative training and educational activities.
- Share good practice relating to research, strategy, and governance.
- Promote each other's research opportunities, activities and achievements.

Background

This document outlines the principles, objectives, and actions for sustainable and successful research and innovation collaboration between Academician Stepan Demianchuk International University of Economics and Humanities (Ukraine) and Bath Spa University (UK).

It has been co-written by academic faculty and professional services staff at Academician Stepan Demianchuk International University of Economics (IUEH) and Humanities and Bath Spa University (BSU) as part of the 'I Vote for Peace: Collaboration and Compassion in a Time of War' project (2023), funded by Research England and Innovate UK. Its contents have been informed by the two universities' institutional, research, and internationalisation strategies.

An initial draft was prepared at an in-person collaborative workshop in Poland in June 2023, and was revised over the summer of 2023. It was drafted in English first, and then translated into Ukrainian. The respective versions will be reviewed and adopted by the respective academic committees at the two universities, i.e. the Research and Ethics Committee (Bath Spa University) and the Vice-Rector for Scientific Activity, the Department of Scientific Activity and Postgraduate Studies and International and Project Department (Academician Stepan Demianchuk International University of Economics and Humanities).

The strategy and the accompanying action plan will be reviewed periodically by both universities and, with the consent of both parties, may be revised.

This document has no formal legal standing.

Principles of collaboration

The two universities seek to strengthen their institutional partnership through scholarly interaction, cultural interchange, and co-operative research and other forms of academic collaboration.

The two universities agree that their collaborations should abide by the Concordat to Support Research Integrity (UK, 2023). Specifically, they commit to:

- Upholding the highest standards of rigour and integrity.
- Ensuring that any research collaboration is conducted according to appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards.
- Supporting a research environment that is underpinned by a culture of integrity and based on good governance, best practice, and support for the development of researchers.
- Using transparent, timely, robust and fair processes to deal with allegations of research misconduct should they arise.
- Working together to strengthen the integrity of research and to review progress regularly and openly.

All collaborative activities should be informed by principles of equality, diversity, and inclusion, and where they involve data sharing between the two universities, a data management plan will be agreed to ensure that good data sharing principles and practices are followed.

Shared research strengths

The two universities have identified the following as areas of mutual research interest:

- Pedagogy and education, including curriculum development.
- Economics, business and marketing.
- History, philology, and literature.
- Psychology, mental health and wellbeing.
- Journalism.
- Peace studies.
- Sustainability, geography, and ecology.
- Cybernetics, computing, gaming.
- Tourism and heritage.

Objectives, 2024–26

- BSU and IUEH will facilitate at least three research collaborations per year.
- BSU and IUEH will submit at least one joint funding application per year.
- BSU and IUEH will hold at least three joint workshops, roundtables or conferences per year.
- BSU and IUEH will co-organise at least two research skills workshops per year.
- BSU and IUEH will facilitate relationship-building, networking and sharing good practice through regular meetings, networking events and, where possible, in-person visits.
- ∉ BSU and IUEH will develop a general data sharing framework.
- ∉ BSU and IUEH will develop a mentoring programme to support career development of relevant staff.
- ∉ BSU will support IUEH's academic accreditation activities.
- ∉ BSU will support IUEH's ambitions to gain research degree-award powers.
- ∉ BSU will support IUEH in the development of improved policies and practices relating to research integrity, ethical practice, and equality, diversity and inclusion.
- BSU will support the development of the Museum of Peace.

Action Plan

An action plan has been appended to this document.

Rector of Academician Stepan Demianchuk
International University of Economics and Humanities **Vitalii Demianchuk**
"07" December 2023