



UNIVERSITY OF TARTU

Annual report 2023



Name	Tartu Ülikool (University of Tartu)
Registry code	74001073
Address	Ülikooli 18, 50090 Tartu, Estonia
Phone	+372 737 5100
Fax	+372 737 5440
Email	info@ut.ee
Website	www.ut.ee
Form of ownership	Legal person governed by public law
Main activities	1) academic research 2) provision of higher education based on integrated teaching and research activities 3) provision of teaching- and research-based services to the society
Financial year	01.01.2023–31.12.2023
Auditor	KPMG Baltics OÜ
Council	11 members
Council Chair	Ruth Oltjer
Attached	Report of independent sworn auditor

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Activity report 2023

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE
OPERATING ENVIRONMENT
TEACHING AND STUDIES
RESEARCH
ENTREPRENEURIAL UNIVERSITY
CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY
ORGANISATION

Rector's foreword



In 2023, the university focused its attention on several issues in which Estonian society expects effective solutions: the transition to Estonian-language general education and the new economic model in Ida-Viru County, introduction of artificial intelligence, boosting the growth of research-intensive entrepreneurship, and so on. Besides these major changes, the university is also affected by risks associated with global geopolitical uncertainty.

The University of Tartu and Tallinn University have agreed with the government to double the number of admissions to teacher education and support specialist curricula in the 2023/24 academic year to help cover the need for new teachers, especially in connection with the transition to Estonian-language general education. This places an additional burden on all faculties and institutes involved in teacher education, including Narva College. We have also set up a consortium with Tallinn University of Technology to support the technological and societal transition in Ida-Viru County. Eleven research projects have been initiated at the University of Tartu to this end, and a university representative has started work in Ida-Viru County to enhance cooperation with local businesses.

In 2023, we also gave a new boost to the university's entrepreneurship relations. UniTartu Ventures, the holding company which invests researchers' intellectual property, increased its portfolio and its activities have attracted the interest of other universities. It was also a year of preparing for the launch of the Estonian Multiomics Company, so we could, now with external partners, continue developing the unique biobank built up in Estonia over the past decades and the related knowledge.

At the same time, we need to maintain our staff to carry out all these enormous tasks and ensure the quality of the university's core activities. The increase in activity support enabled us to raise the average salary of university staff by about a tenth in 2023. We hope that the agreement with the government on the increase in funding will hold and we can close the gap in higher education funding that has widened over the years.

Although the university's budget increased by 6.9% compared to 2022, we must admit that in the light of the 9.2% increase in the consumer price index and against the background of the general economic environment, the university's financial position actually worsened. We also see problems with the research funding allocated from the state budget – the money is there, but it does not reach research institutions and companies from the ministries. We will continue working together with other universities to change the proportions of research funding so that the baseline funding for research increases.

Our researchers, however, have maintained research excellence at the University of Tartu: in 2023, the Centre for Personalised Medicine and the Centre for Digital Bioengineering, which received Estonia's largest research funding, started operating. In addition, funding was awarded to six new centres of excellence in research led by the University of Tartu and four centres involving our researchers. Four projects received European Research Council grants.

When ensuring excellence in research and creating good working conditions for the university family, the impact of the physical environment cannot be underestimated. During 2023, working conditions were improved in 30 buildings, and we also decided to construct a new academic and research building in Maarjamõisa field. The environmental impact of the university's activities is no less significant. With €5 million in public funds, we increased the energy efficiency of the university's buildings; for example, by installing solar parks and energy storage equipment and converting several buildings to district cooling and heating.

The university will soon start preparing a new strategic plan. This does not just mean creating a vision document but active involvement of university members, alumni and partners in discussions over the future of Estonia's only universitas and, thus, of higher education. I sincerely hope that as many people as possible will contribute to the strategic planning process.

Toomas Asser
Rector of the University of Tartu

Abbreviations

Universities

EULS	Estonian University of Life Sciences
TLU	Tallinn University
TUT	Tallinn University of Technology
UT	University of Tartu

Fields of study

EDU	Education
HUM	Humanities and arts
ICT	Information and communication technologies
SCI	Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics
AGR	Agriculture
SOC	Social sciences, journalism and information
SER	Services
ENG	Engineering, manufacturing and construction
HEA	Health and welfare
BUS	Business, administration and law

Faculties of the University of Tartu

HV	Faculty of Arts and Humanities
SV	Faculty of Social Sciences
MV	Faculty of Medicine
LT	Faculty of Science and Technology

Other abbreviations

A2025	University of Tartu Strategic Plan for 2021–2025
AI	artificial intelligence
ARWU	Academic Ranking of World Universities by Shanghai Ranking Consultancy
ECTS	Credit point of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
EHIS	Estonian Education Information System
EIT	European Institute of Innovation and Technology
ENLIGHT	European university Network to promote equitable quality of Life, sustainability and Global engagement through Higher education Transformation
ERC	European Research Council
ESERO	European Space Education Resource Office
ESI	Essential Science Indicators
ETIS	Estonian Research Information System
EU	European Union
FTE	full-time equivalent
GDP	gross domestic product
GHG	greenhouse gases
JRC	Joint Research Centre of the European Union
LERU-CE7	Partnership programme of the League of European Research Universities and seven Central European universities
mEUR	million euros
MoER	Estonian Ministry of Education and Research
MOOC	massive open online course
MTÜ	mittetulundusühing (non-profit organisation)
OÜ	osaühing (private limited company)
QS	QS World University Rankings by Quacquarelli Symonds
SIS	University of Tartu Study Information System
RDIE	Estonian Research and Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Strategy 2021–2035
R&D	research and development
THE	Times Higher Education World University Rankings
UTTV	University of Tartu video portal

Key figures

Employee figures are given as at 31 December.

Student figures are given as at 10 November.
The number of students does not include external students, visiting students and resident doctors. The first level of higher education includes professional higher education, bachelor's studies and integrated bachelor's and master's studies.

The number of graduates of a given year refers to students who completed their studies during the period from 1 October of the previous calendar year to 30 September of the given calendar year.

The number of curricula with enrolled students includes curricula in which students were enrolled as at 10 November (including all joint curricula).

The number of publications includes Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) categories 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.5, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 5.1, 6.3, 6.4. High-level publications include ETIS categories 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 3.1. The number of publications includes those authored by persons who had a valid employment contract with the University of Tartu or who were enrolled as regular doctoral students in the corresponding calendar year. The data retrieved from ETIS as at 15 February of the following year.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Employees					
Number of employees	3,635	3,767	3,767	4,141	4,367
Number of employees (FTE)	2,957	3,055	3,166	3,368	3,540
incl. academic staff	51.3%	52.5%	52.1%	54.9%	56.5%
Number of academic staff (FTE)	1,518	1,604	1,650	1,847	2,001
incl. PhD holders	76.3%	74.5%	74.0%	68.4%	63.3%
incl. international academic staff	13.9%	15.5%	17.7%	20.0%	20.8%
Number of professors (FTE)	186	186	209	217	220
incl. female professors	25.9%	26.4%	28.3%	31.1%	32.3%
Students					
Number of students	13,395	13,641	13,909	14,263	14,778
at the first level of higher education	60.6%	60.6%	60.6%	61.6%	63.1%
in master's studies	30.9%	31.1%	31.1%	30.4%	29.2%
in doctoral studies	8.6%	8.3%	8.3%	8.0%	7.7%
Number of international students	1,660	1,678	1,746	1,820	1,614
percentage of all students	12.4%	12.3%	12.6%	12.8%	10.9%
Number of graduates	2,715	2,778	2,961	2,764	2,919
incl. number of PhD graduates	129	118	105	122	129
Curricula					
Number of curricula to which students were admitted	159	159	160	150	141
incl. English-taught curricula at the first and second level of higher education	30	29	31	32	31
Number of curricula with enrolled students	197	188	182	189	188
Research publications					
Number of publications	2,834	2,813	3,037	2,846	2,803
incl. number of high-level publications	1,983	1,995	2,271	2,086	2,009
incl. number of publications of the category 1.1	1,480	1,472	1,758	1,581	1,528
Position in international university rankings					
THE	301–350	251–300	251–300	201–250	301–350
QS	301	285	300	296	358
ARWU	301–400	401–500	401–500	501–600	701–800

More detailed data are available on the UT website statistika.ut.ee.

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

The highest decision-making body of the University of Tartu is the council, who is responsible for the university's economic activities and long-term development, approves the university's statutes and adopts the strategic plan and budget. The council has 11 members: five nominated by the University of Tartu, five by the minister of education and research, and one by the Estonian Academy of Sciences. In 2023, the council comprised:

- Ruth Oltjer (Council Chair), General Manager of AS Chemi-Pharm,
- Arto Aas, Managing Director of the Estonian Employers' Confederation,
- Jaan Eha, UT Professor of Cardiology,
- Heidi Kakko, Chair of the Board of UniTartu Ventures,
- Birute Klaas-Lang, UT Professor of Estonian as a Foreign Language,
- Marja Makarow, member of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters, President of Academia Europaea,
- Mari Moora, UT Professor in Community Ecology (until 31 July),
- Martin Aleksander Noorkõiv, UT doctoral student in Media and Communication,
- Ants Nõmper, Managing Partner of Ellex Raidla Law Firm,
- Tuul Sepp, UT Professor in Animal Ecology (from 12 October),
- Elmer Sterken, Professor of Monetary Economics of the University of Groningen,
- Urmas Varblane, UT Professor of International Business.



Council members (front row from left) Birute Klaas-Lang, Mari Moora, Ruth Oltjer, Heidi Kakko, Marja Makarow, (back row from left) Arto Aas, Ants Nõmper, Jaan Eha, Urmas Varblane

The senate is the university's highest academic decision-making body, responsible for the teaching, research and development activities at the university and ensuring the excellent quality of these activities. The senate comprises 22 members: the rector as chair, four representatives of each faculty, and five student representatives. The senate elections were held on 16 May and the new composition took office on 1 July. In 2023, the senate included:

representatives of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities

- Professor [Aivar Kriiska](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Raili Marling](#),
- Lecturer [Ave Matsin](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Urmas Nõmmik](#) (from 1 July),
- Professor [Renate Pajusalu](#),
- Professor [Pärtel Piirimäe](#) (from 1 July),

representatives of the Faculty of Social Sciences

- Professor [Eiki Berg](#) (from 1 July),
- Professor [Veronika Kalmus](#),
- Professor [Evelyn Kiive](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Marju Luts-Sootak](#),
- Professor [Maaja Vadi](#),

representatives of the Faculty of Medicine

- Professor [Küllli Kingo](#),
- Professor [Maris Laan](#) (from 1 July),
- Associate Professor [Tanel Laisaar](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Pärt Peterson](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Ana Rebane](#) (from 1 July),
- Professor [Mihkel Zilmer](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Anneli Uusküla](#) (from 1 July),

representatives of the Faculty of Science and Technology

- Professor [Peeter Burk](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Krista Fischer](#),
- Professor [Heikki Junninen](#) (from 1 July),
- Professor [Marco Kirm](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Tõnu Meidla](#) (until 30 June),
- Professor [Evelyn Uuemaa](#) (from 1 July),
- Professor [Jaak Vilo](#) (from 1 July),

student representatives (until 30 June)

- [Sven Anderson](#),
- [Joosep Heinsalu](#),
- [Liisa Marie Kerner](#),
- [Katariina Sofia Päts](#),
- [Anna Zobel](#),

student representatives (from 1 July)

- [Karolin Allikas](#),
- [Liisa Marie Kerner](#),
- [Renar Kihho](#),
- [Karl Erik Piirimees](#),
- [Hanna Britt Soots](#).



New senate composition

The **rector** manages the everyday life of the university, following the resolutions of the council and the senate. The rector is responsible for the lawful and expedient use of the university's assets. The election of the rector took place on 20 April, with Professor [Toomas Asser](#) re-elected for a second term. The rector's new term of office started on 1 August.

In addition to the rector, the Rector's Office comprised, until 31 July, Vice Rector for Research [Kristjan Vassil](#), Vice Rector for Academic Affairs [Aune Valk](#), Director of Administration [Kstina Noormets](#), Head of Finance [Kalle Hein](#), Academic Secretary [Tõnis Karki](#), Director of Development [Taivo Raud](#) and deans of faculties.

Professor [Mari Moora](#) took up her post as Vice Rector for Research on 1 August. The post of vice rector for development was re-established, with responsibility for planning the university's development, implementing the strategic plan, sustainable development, the university's business relations, knowledge transfer and protection of intellectual property, and international cooperation. As of 1 August, Vice Rector for Development is Professor [Tõnu Esko](#). The new composition of the Rector's Office retained the current vice rector for academic affairs, director of administration, head of finance, academic secretary and the deans of faculties.

Studies and research are conducted at the University of Tartu in 28 institutes and three colleges of **four faculties**:

- Faculty of Arts and Humanities (HV),
- Faculty of Social Sciences (SV),
- Faculty of Medicine (MV),
- Faculty of Science and Technology (LT).

The faculties are headed by **deans** who, for the term ending in 2023, were

- Professor [Anti Selart](#) at HV,
- Professor [Raul Eamets](#) at SV, Professor [Janno Lahe](#) as Acting Dean from 24 August,
- Professor [Margus Lember](#) at MV,
- Professor [Leho Ainsaar](#) at LT.



The new composition of the Rector's Office since August: (front row from left) [Aune Valk](#), [Mari Moora](#), [Toomas Asser](#), [Kstina Noormets](#), [Margus Lember](#), [Leho Ainsaar](#), [Janno Lahe](#), (back row from left) [Tõnis Karki](#), [Kalle Hein](#), [Tõnu Esko](#)

Dean elections took place on 3 October. The term of office of the elected deans started on 1 January 2024.

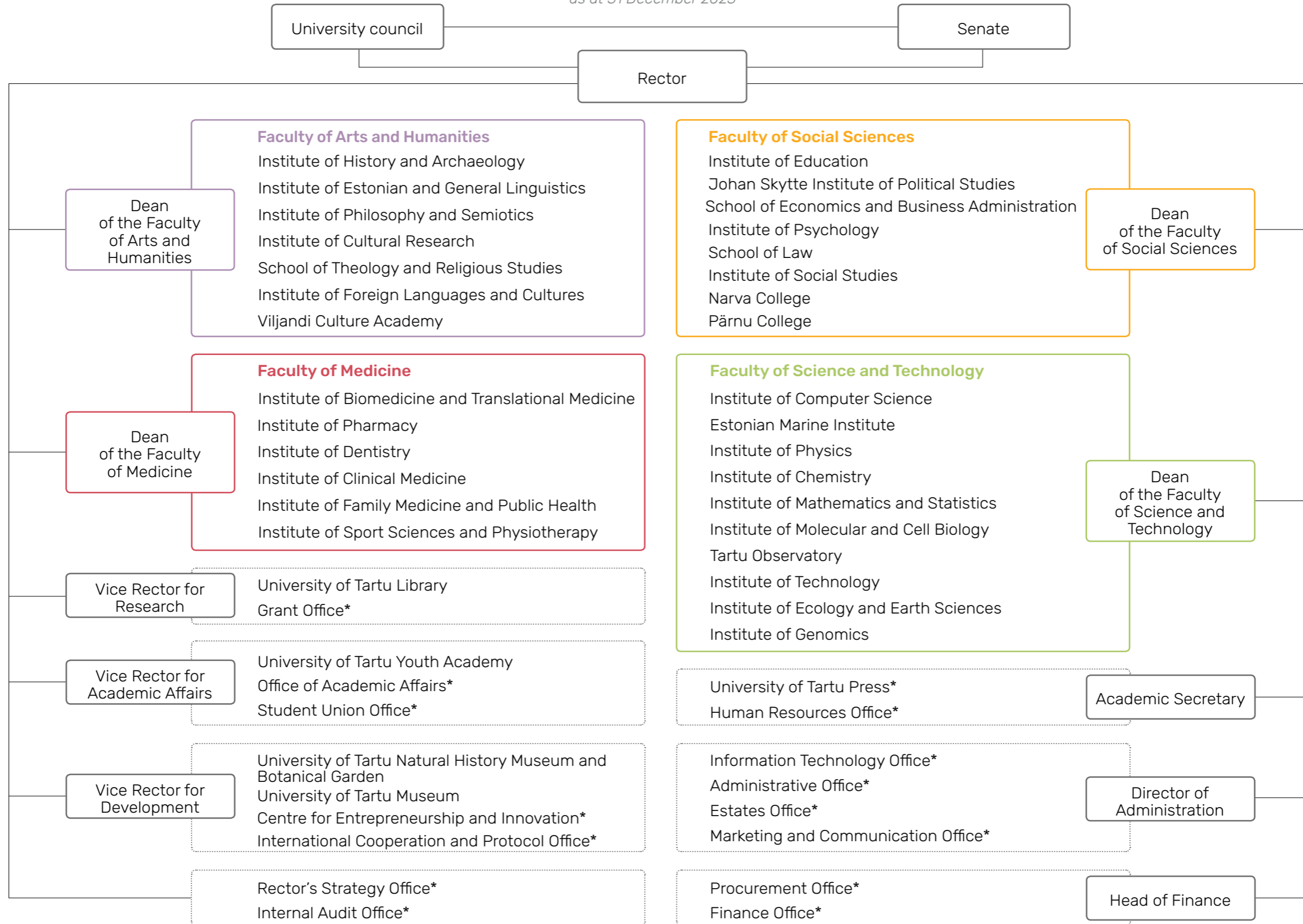
The academic structure also includes four non-faculty **institutions**:

- University of Tartu Museum,
- Natural History Museum and Botanical Garden,
- University of Tartu Library,
- Youth Academy.

The student representative body is the **Student Union** which is governed by a 20-member parliament and a three-member board. Until 30 June, the board comprised [Katariina Sofia Päts](#) (president), [Hanna Britt Soots](#) and [Siret Siim](#), and from 1 July, [Renar Kihho](#) (president), [Teele Kanarbik](#) and [Anette-Mai Pirk-Birk](#).

University structure

as at 31 December 2023



* support units

Strategic plan

In 2023, implementing the **strategic plan for 2021–2025 (A2025)** continued. The strategic plan is specified by other strategy documents: language and internationalisation principles, financial strategy, strategy for the involvement of private funds, and spatial development strategy.

To implement the strategic goals, the Rector's Office compiles an **action plan** each year and agrees on related responsibilities and the use of central development grants. The 2023 action plan linked the development tasks of A2025 and the performance agreements of the members of the Rector's Office and the centrally allocated development grants for achieving them (development fund, strategic development grants for degree studies, performance-based funding for faculties and the rector's reserve fund). In August, when the new composition of the Rector's Office convened, the action plan was slightly updated.

The key topics in the university's 2023 action plan concerned:

- teaching Estonian to international students and staff; substantive development and increase in the volume of teacher education in connection with the country's transition to Estonian-language general education;
- intensifying international cooperation with partner universities and increasing study mobility;
- planning for the future of studies, expanding flexible learning opportunities and implementing the recommendations of internal assessment and institutional accreditation;
- developing doctoral studies, attracting external research funding and participating in the preparation of the structural funds actions for the new period;
- developing support services for business cooperation, developing research-intensive entrepreneurship, and preparing for the just transition in Ida-Viru County;
- strengthening the competitiveness of university staff salaries, promoting sustainable development and the development of the digital university.

The implementation of the strategic plan is assessed on the basis of 19 key indicators and monitored through digital dashboards. Data about the university's core activities and assets are publicly available on the statistics dashboard statistika.ut.ee.

A more detailed overview of the main results in different areas can be found in the following chapters of the report.

A2025 key performance indicators

Key performance indicators concerning staff do not include junior research fellows. The doctoral reform is being implemented gradually, with some doctoral students gaining the status of junior research fellow each year. If they were included, the level of key performance indicators would fluctuate each year due to changes in the number of junior research fellows rather than substantial changes in the measured indicator.

The graphs in the last column show the results for the key performance indicators in 2020–2023 compared to the linear movement from baseline to target (grey dotted line).

In the following chapters, information about the achievement of the key performance indicators of the strategic plan is marked with "A2025".



	Baseline 2020	Result 2023	Target 2025	Trend 2020–2023
International national university				
Number of graduates from teacher-training curricula	276	320	350	
Percentage of international employees taking Estonian language courses	28%	42%	45%	
Percentage of international students taking Estonian language courses	28%	44%	75%	
Percentage of international graduates	15%	17%	13–15%	
Percentage of international academic employees	12.5%	14.5%	15–20%	
Percentage of students participating in learning mobility	12.7%	11%	18%	
Education				
Dropout rate	9.5%	9.6%	< 9%	
Percentage of academic employees who actively participated in teaching-related development activities	41%	48%	50%	
Students' satisfaction with the teaching of courses	86%	89%	95%	
Number of continuing education learners	40,493	58,698	43,000	
Percentage of newly admitted students with outstanding study results	57%	78%	60%	
Efficiency of completing doctoral studies	35%	36%	50%	
Research				
Percentage of publications among the world's top 10% most cited research publications	17.1%	20%	17–20%	
Volume of external research funding in million euros	12.8	27.5	17.8	
Volume of business contracts in million euros	6.83	6.1	8	
Number of new spin-offs of the university per year	3	4	5	
Organisation				
Income per academic employee in euros	124,158	151,399	150,000	
Percentage of units the staff of which are satisfied with their job	66%	60%	70%	
Income from teaching per student in euros	5,662	7,027	6,500	

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

According to the World Economic Forum's **Global Risks Report 2023**, the world faces familiar risks: inflation, trade wars, civil unrest, geopolitical confrontations and the threat of nuclear war. These are compounded by newer changes: unsustainable debt, the onset of the era of slow economic growth, deglobalisation, slowing growth in human development indicators, the rapid and unrestrained development of dual-use technologies, the impact of climate change and the ever shorter time to adapt to climate change.

Around the world, higher education was affected by a number of **important trends**: increased competition for talent, an emphasis on the importance of practical skills and lifelong learning, growth of online higher education, rising education costs and slowing economic growth. Rapidly evolving technologies are transforming learning and teaching, with the European Union's Joint Research Centre (JRC) highlighting data mining and artificial intelligence applications as a particular area of educational innovation. In its report, the JRC stresses the need to ensure the protection of personal data and not to let the commercial interests of individual companies dominate the use of data and IT infrastructure.

Sustainable development is one of the founding principles of the Treaty on European Union (EU) and a key objective of the EU's internal and external policies. Europe's transition to sustainability is based on a three-part pledge: a healthy planet and a viable environment; economic growth decoupled from resource use and environmental degradation; and a commitment that no region will be left behind (including support for a just transition).

At the heart of the European Commission's 2023 Strategic Foresight Report are the main obstacles to Europe's green and digital transition in transforming societies and economies to planetary resilience.

According to the strategic analysis, the major structural trends affecting sustainability are:

- continued geopolitical uncertainty,
- the contradiction between the goal of zero net emissions from industry and consumption and society's aspirations for economic growth and prosperity,
- the need for rapid and adequate additional investment in green and digital transformation and to build resilience to climate change,
- worsening shortage of labour with the knowledge and skills needed for green and digital transition,
- the breakdown of social cohesion in society,
- threats to the democratic model of governance and existing social arrangements for social protection.

In order to achieve the goal of sustainability, the EU wants to take more account of the interlinkages between social well-being, the environment and the economy in its future policy and economic indicators.

The EU's **economic security strategy** draws attention to increased cyberattacks and attacks against critical infrastructure, the spread of disinformation and other interference by authoritarian foreign states, to which universities that value academic freedom, openness and cross-border cooperation may be vulnerable and should plan for precautions. For example, the European Commission has put forward proposals to enhance research security.

EU countries agreed on measures to make **research careers** more attractive and sustainable to improve the working conditions and intersectoral mobility of researchers, so that they are less dependent on where they work and on the source of their funding. The aim of updating the European Charter

for Researchers is to develop a comprehensive framework of competences for research careers, including open science and gender equality.

Designing and implementing societal transitions requires new knowledge and skills, which is why the European Commission declared 2023 the **European Year of Skills**. The wider aim of the European Year of Skills was to draw attention to the need for retraining and further training and to develop a positive attitude towards lifelong learning.

According to the World Economic Forum's **Future of Jobs Report 2023**, the number of jobs requiring the application of big data analytics, cloud computing, environmental management (including climate change), encryption and cybersecurity technologies will increase in the near future. When it comes to recruiting staff, the surveyed employers ranked analytical and creative thinking skills as the highest, followed by self-management skills to help cope with changes in the workplace. Problem-solving skills are also expected to become increasingly important in recruiting new staff.

In 2023, the European Commission adopted a strategy for a fourth-generation internet (Web 4.0) to deliver an open, secure and inclusive digital environment that connects digital objects and environments to the real world and enhances human-machine interaction.

The European Parliament agreed on the aim of the draft **artificial intelligence (AI)** regulation: to ensure that AI systems launched on the European market and used in the EU are safe and respect fundamental human rights and EU values. In regulating AI, the principle of risk management is central: the greater the risk, the stricter the legal provisions. It is the world's first legislative proposal on AI, laying the foundations for a global standard for the regulation of AI.

In spring, Estonia held **elections to the Riigikogu** and formed a new government. In the coalition agreement, the governing parties set a target of investing 1% of gross domestic product (GDP) in research and development (R&D) from public funds and supporting businesses to invest at least 2% of GDP in R&D from the private sector. Another target was to increase the activity support for higher education by 15% over the next three years and extend the opportunities to involve private funding to bring higher education financing to 1.5% of GDP.

Already in 2018, a **social pact** was signed to increase public R&D funding to 1% of GDP, and from 2020 onwards, this has been respected in the adoption of the state budget. Approximately €55.3 million have been planned in the 2023 state budget for baseline research funding and research grants. Over the last five years (2019–2023), both baseline funding and research grants have increased by more than a third. However, the share of external support (which financed studies by e.g. ASTRA, RITA, centres of excellence, surveys on COVID-19, etc.) in R&D funding has decreased in recent years and accounted for only a fifth of the 2023 budget, with nearly €44 million.

In 2023, the **use of the funding from the previous EU budget period** came to an end. In its audit, the National Audit Office of Estonia drew attention to the slow pace of the use of support funding. Commenting on the audit, the ministries cited exceptional circumstances: the COVID-19 and energy crises, the impact of the war in Ukraine, rapid inflation and a change of government as reasons for the slowdown. Fragmentation of funds across a wide range of activities, delays in agreeing the terms of the measures internally and delays in national reforms also slowed the pace of grant absorption. The audit report also highlights weaknesses in public procurement rules and their implementation. According to the Ministry of Finance, there are also problems with the implementation of external support for the new period of 2021–2027, which has already started.

The Government of the Republic of Estonia approved the objectives and principles that will guide Estonia's policymaking and the defence of its interests in the EU in 2023–2025. At the heart of **Estonia's priorities with the EU** are foreign, security and defence policy, enhancing crisis resilience, effective border and migration policy, sustainable development and competitiveness, including green and digital transformation and energy security. The need to create equal opportunities for data sharing across the EU and to develop fair rules for the free flow of data and its potential for data-driven business models and public services are also highlighted as priorities. The use of artificial intelligence and data in teaching and learning, based on ethical guidelines, must be promoted.

In 2023, Estonia was ranked 12th among the EU Member States in the **European Innovation Scoreboard** among Moderate Innovators. Estonia was ranked 16th out of 132 countries in the **Global Innovation Index**, a ranking compiled by the United Nations World Intellectual Property Organization. Estonia's strengths included e-governance, a high share of ICT imports in total trade and the value of venture capital and unicorns as a share of GDP. In terms of revenue from intellectual property transactions, however, Estonia ranks 87th among the countries listed. A survey by the Estonian Patent Office also confirmed that Estonian businesses are innovative (49% of respondents come up with a new product or service at least once a year), but only 24% of respondents protect the intellectual property associated with their product or service.

An analysis by the Estonian Research Council showed that between 2012 and 2022, the number of **researchers with doctoral degrees** in evaluated research institutions in Estonia increased by 33% (the growth calculations include researchers

who were already working in these institutions before obtaining their PhD). The share of female researchers in all fields of research increased over the period, and in 2022, female researchers accounted on average for 46% of the PhD staff in R&D institutions. On the other hand, the share of very young PhD researchers in the evaluated institutions decreased.

While 90% of all researchers with a PhD from institutions evaluated in 2012 published at least one **research publication** between 2010 and 2012, the figure had fallen to 79% in 2022. Researchers active in several fields of research, who accounted for nearly 13% of the Estonian research community in 2022, participated in more projects on average and published more compared to researchers whose work mainly belongs to one field of research. Between 2012 and 2022, the share of researchers without project involvement increased from 17% to 34%.

A survey on **research ethics** commissioned by the Estonian Research Council showed that 89% of the respondents consider research ethics and good research practice to be important or very important. Data fabrication, falsification and plagiarism were considered the most serious cases of misconduct. Based on self-assessment, the level of misconduct in Estonia is comparable to that found in international studies. Among the cases of misconduct surveyed, the least problematic were the deliberate splitting of research between several publications and the inappropriate use of research funding. The availability and accessibility of guides on scientific ethics was generally considered to be good, although at the same time there was a perception of a lack of knowledge.

Estonian employers are expecting a greater supply of higher-skilled labour. The lower supply of medium-skilled

jobs could lead to mismatches in occupations that still require mainly intermediate skills. The result can be both under-qualification, i.e. the use of lower-skilled employees, and over-qualification, i.e. the use of high-skilled employees in medium-skilled occupations.

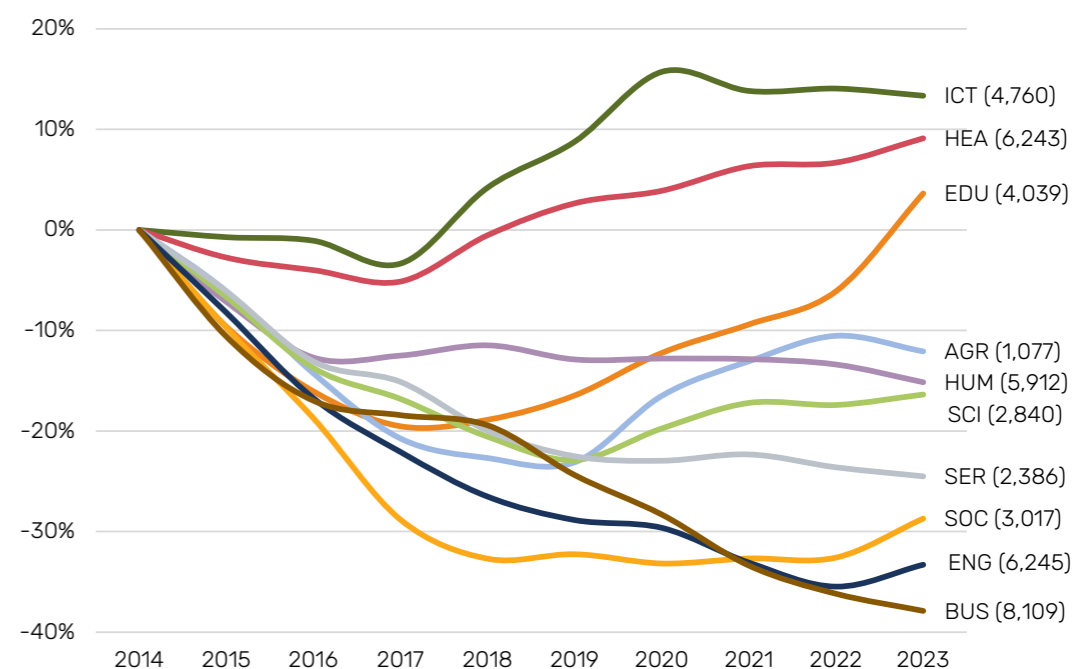
Work has stalled on the amendment of **the Adult Education Act** and the preparation of the new **Act on the Organisation of Research and Development and Innovation**. Universities Estonia remained of the opinion that at least four aspects of the draft act sent in 2023 to the Riigikogu need to be significantly improved: the classification of R&D institutions, the funding instruments and principles applicable to each of them, the evaluation of R&D and the national organisation of research ethics.

A roadmap of the Estonian Research and Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (RDIE) focus area **“Viable Estonian society, language and cultural space”** was completed, which centres on surveys on language learning, multilingualism and language acquisition to support the transition to Estonian-language education. It is also necessary to study the modern Estonian language and different language varieties, such as dialects, Internet slang and youth language. Linguistic technologies are prioritised and the widespread use of linguistic solutions such as machine translation and speech recognition will be promoted. In the field of culture, there is a continuing need for research on holistic conceptions of Estonian culture, the creation, development and use of cultural heritage, as well as the work of memory institutions. The roadmaps are not funding decisions but are used by the Ministry of Education and Research and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications to design support measures.

Funding agreements made with the Ministry of Education and Research enabled the University of Tartu and Tallinn University


to admit over 400 more students in **teacher education**, special education and school psychology in 2023. An additional €8 million was allocated to universities for this purpose. The aim of increasing the number of student places and strengthening teacher education is to support the transition to Estonian-language education starting in 2024. In addition, the state will allocate a total of nearly half a million euros to the University of Tartu and Tallinn University so that they can provide additional support to teacher education students in improving their Estonian language skills.

In 2023, there were 44,628 **higher education students** in Estonia, 84% of them in tuition-waiver student places. In most fields of education, the number of students has decreased over the past decade. Exceptions include ICT, health, wellness and education, where more students were enrolled than ten years ago.



Change in the number of students by field of education in Estonian higher education institutions in 2014–2023. Behind the abbreviation of the field of education in brackets is the number of students in 2023.

Source: EHIS (Estonian Education Information System)



According to the Eurostudent 2023 survey, more attention needs to be paid to the **financial situation of students**, particularly to financially more vulnerable groups such as students with special needs, Russian-language secondary education graduates, students under the age of 19 and first-generation students. The survey found that working students have a very heavy workload, with an average of 59 hours per week of study and paid work. For students, working is partly a means of self-fulfilment, but for a large number of students, and especially for those who have a heavy workload, it is also a necessity to be able to study in higher education. The largest share of living costs accounts for food. Compared to 2019, food costs have increased by 15%, accommodation costs by 6%, loan repayments by more than double and childcare costs by almost five times (nearly 20% of students are parents).

According to a survey, the proportion of students with perceived **mental health problems** has increased nearly five-fold in the last six years. Almost 70% of all students are aware of academic and psychological counselling services for students, but the vast majority have not (yet) used these services.

In 2023, there were 4,873 **international students** from 124 countries studying at Estonian higher education institutions, accounting for 11% of the Estonian student population. The number of international students admitted to Estonian higher education institutions decreased by nearly 20% compared to the previous year. The last time the number of international students admitted was this low was ten years ago. The largest decreases were recorded for students from Russia (-68%), Latvia (-35%) and Azerbaijan (-34%), and increases for students from Ukraine (+222%) and Turkey (+5%). In 2023, 1,313 international students completed their studies in Estonia, accounting for 15% of all graduates, similarly to the year before.

According to Statistics Estonia, international students and international alumni working here during their post-graduation year raised more than €23.5 million in tax revenue for the state in 2023, with 49% working as managers or top professionals. Most of them worked in ICT companies, followed by finance and insurance firms and manufacturing enterprises. The majority of the international alumni remained to work in companies in Harju County. International students are increasingly working in educational institutions, particularly universities. Employment in the service sector has declined year on year. An analysis of the international alumni who graduated between 2018 and 2022 showed that the more time elapses from graduation, the smaller the share of international alumni among graduates living and working here.

TEACHING AND STUDIES

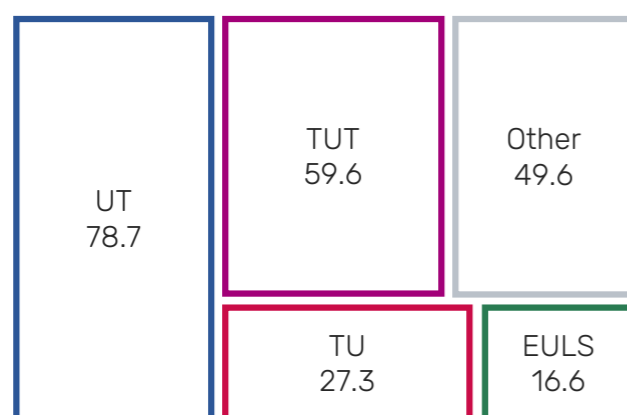
Financing

The Ministry of Education and Research (MoER) uses a higher education funding model in which money for supporting higher education is divided into activity support and targeted grants. In 2023, the MoER allocated €231.8 million to Estonian higher education institutions based on administrative agreements. This included €201.9 million to public universities, incl. €78.7 million to the University of Tartu.

Of the total funding, **activity support** to Estonian public universities was €174 million, of which the University of Tartu received €63.8 million (37%). The amount of activity support allocated to public universities increased by 15% compared to 2022.

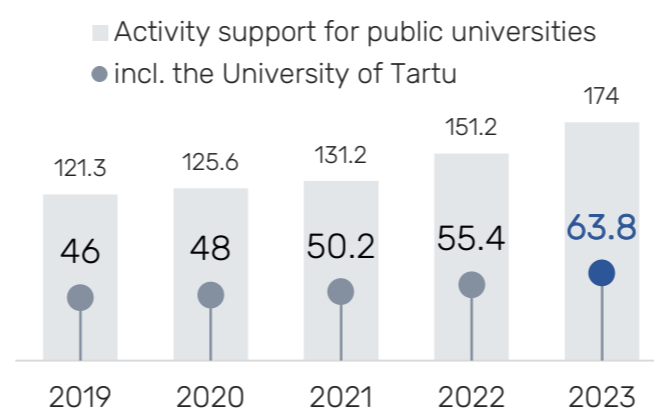


In March, the Student Union distributed to students the money won with the contribution to society award to draw public attention to the underfunding of higher education

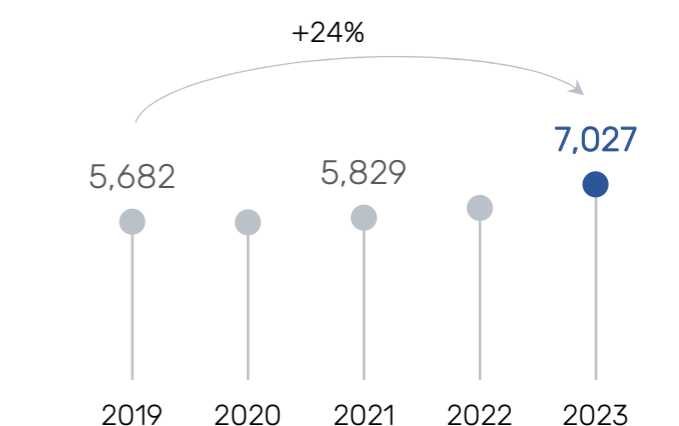


Total support allocated to higher education institutions in 2023 (activity support, doctoral allowance, activity support for the library, and other targeted grants) in million euros.

Source: MoER



Activity support for Estonian public universities, incl. the University of Tartu, in 2019–2023 in million euros. Source: MoER



Income from teaching per student in 2019–2023 in euros (excl. income for medical residency)

A2025

Degree studies

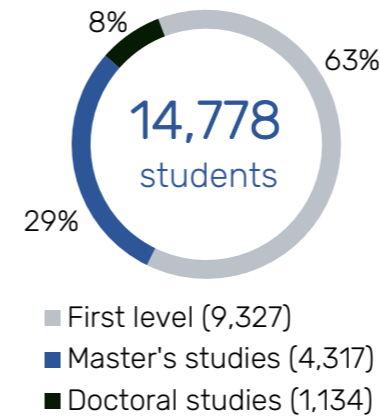
In 2023, there were 14,778 **students** at the University of Tartu, 88% in tuition-waiver student places. Over the last five years, the number of students has gradually grown. The largest percentage of students, 44%, study at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

New students were admitted to study in 133 curricula and 8 doctoral programmes. 4,684 students started their studies – 7% more than in 2022. The number of admitted students grew by 10% at the first level of higher education (professional higher education, bachelor’s studies and integrated studies), 2% at the second level (master’s studies), and 9% at the third level (doctoral studies).

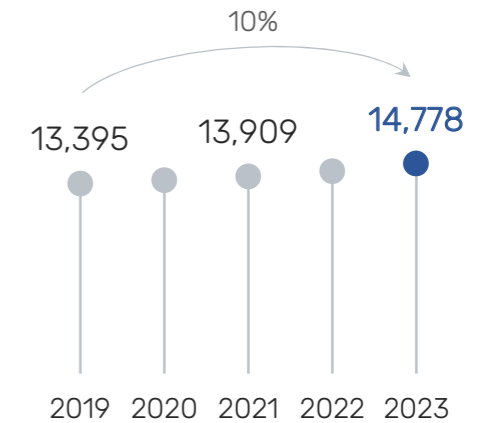
In 2023, 8,376 pupils completed **general secondary education** in Estonia. 4,235 of them (51%) continued studies at a higher education institution in Estonia. 1,566 pupils, or 37% of those who had just left school and applied for a higher education institution, chose the University of Tartu.

The university organises **Open Doors Days** and other information events to support applicants in making informed career choices. Those interested can become a **student shadow** at almost any time of the year to familiarise themselves with the specialisation of interest, attend lectures and seminars and get feedback directly from students of the specialisation. 824 young people participated in student shadowing in 2023. In June, 700 people registered to participate in the online **admission information day**.

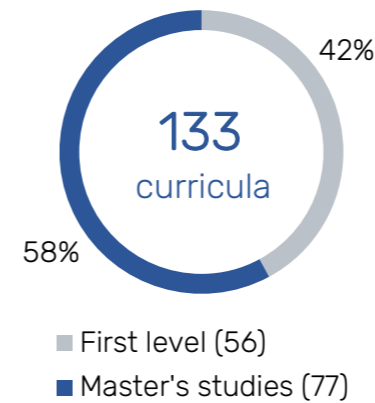
The focus of the 2023 admissions was the new generation of **teachers and support specialists for schools**. In the funding agreement with the MoER, the university committed to increasing the number of admissions to Estonian-language curricula in the field of education by 48% compared to 2021. Additional places were opened in all curricula in the field



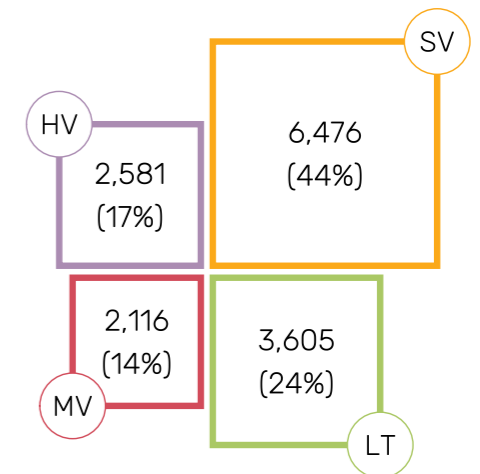
Number and percentage of students by study level in 2023



Number of students in 2019–2023



Number of curricula (incl. joint curricula) to which new students were admitted in 2023



Number of students by four faculties in 2023



Open Doors Day on 1 March

of education, except in the master’s curriculum Special Education and Speech Therapy. Also, a block-mode master’s study group for school psychologists was opened.


To promote and also draw media attention to teacher education, the university organised a bus tour in April called “Estonia is seeking teachers”, which involved meetings with over 1,000 young people in ten schools. Teacher education curricula were also promoted with articles of role-model teachers. From 2023/24, a national stipend of 400 euros is paid to about 60% of learners in teacher education and support specialist programmes.

The funding agreement set 766 student places as a goal, and 761 of them were filled. There was a sufficient number of excellent applicants in most curricula; the intake for only four master’s curricula was lower than planned.

Number of student places and admitted students in teacher and support specialist education in 2023/24

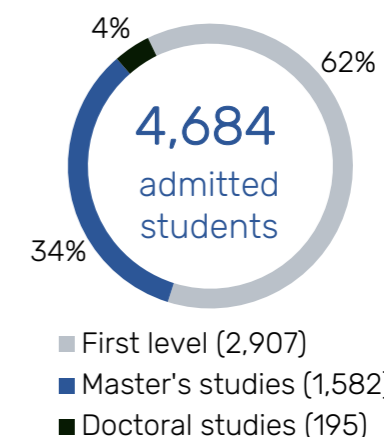
	Number of student places	Number of admitted students as at the beginning of the academic year
Preschool teachers	159	164
incl. at Narva College	69	74
General and vocational education teachers	507	491
incl. at Narva College	110	111
Special education teachers and speech therapists (bachelor’s)	75	77
School psychologists (master’s curriculum Psychology at Pärnu College)	25	29
Total	766	761

Admissions to education curricula in 2023 accounted for 17% of all curricula of the first and second level of study. The number of applications increased by 39% and the number of entrants by 27% compared to the previous year.

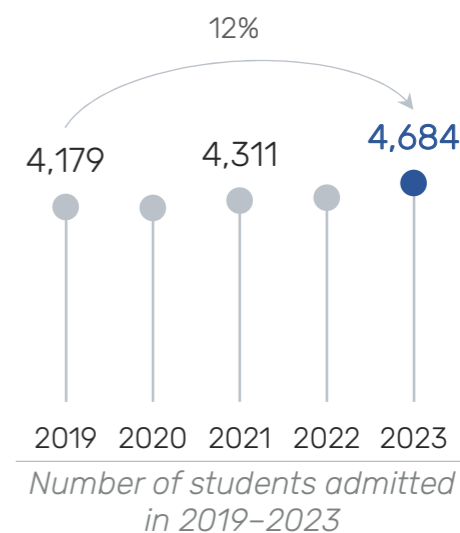
 The university’s objective is to increase the number of teacher education graduates to at least 350 by 2025. In 2023, 320 students graduated from teacher-education curricula.

In 2023, the UT had 1,614 **international students**, accounting for 11% of the total number of students. 50% of them were master’s students and 27% doctoral students. International students came from a total of 104 countries.

Compared to 2022, the number of international students decreased in Estonia by 11%, and the indicator for the UT was the same. Admission of international students decreased by 30%. This is partly due to Russia’s aggression in Ukraine: the proximity of Russia raises insecurity, the admission of students from Russia is restricted, and Estonia’s visa policy has become stricter. Another factor



Number of students admitted in 2023 by study level



Number of students admitted in 2019–2023

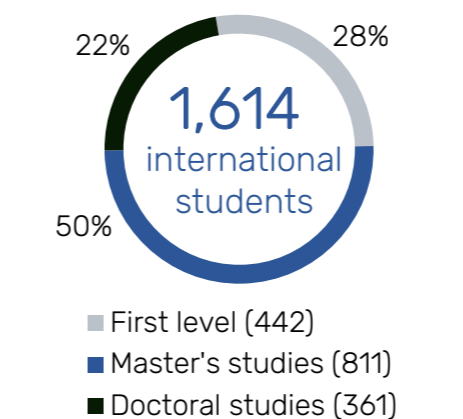
is that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' development cooperation programme no longer grants scholarships for first and second-level students, while the cost of living in Estonia has risen.

To better examine the preparation of international students, entrance tests for first-level English-taught studies have been introduced.

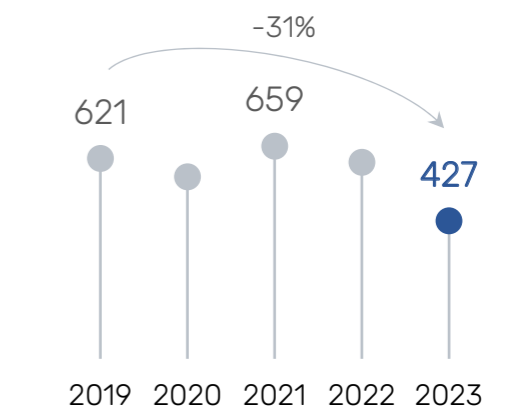
In recent years, the proportion of Estonian citizens among those enrolled in **doctoral studies** has increased: two-thirds of the 2023 intake were from Estonia and one-third from abroad. 22% of admitted international doctoral students had completed their master's studies at the University of Tartu.

From the 2023/24 academic year, international students starting their studies in foreign-language-taught curricula must complete 6 ECTS credits worth of **Estonian language courses**. In 2023, the number of language courses was increased, with new communication and conversation courses and an academic writing course added for international students and students who speak Estonian as a second language. In total, more than 200 international students and about 100 students speaking Estonian as a second language participated in the new or updated courses. Intensive summer courses and a language camp in the autumn were organised for international doctoral students, with nearly 50 participants. In the autumn, new students who speak Estonian as a second language were offered, in addition to the compulsory language test, an opportunity to voluntarily test their Estonian language skills, to be able to, if necessary, improve them in a language course right at the beginning of their studies.

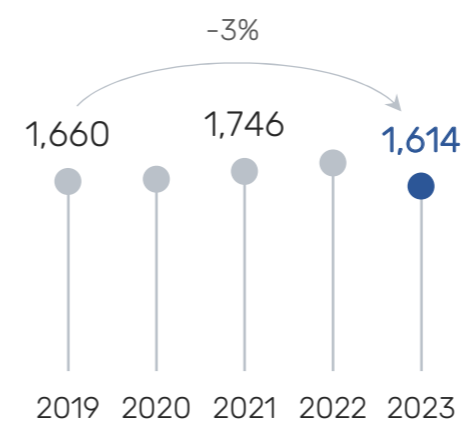
In the autumn semester, a **language advisor** also started work in Tartu and Narva to help students with a mother tongue other than Estonian needing advice in writing academic texts in Estonian. Language counselling was provided to 35 students in a total of 77 times.



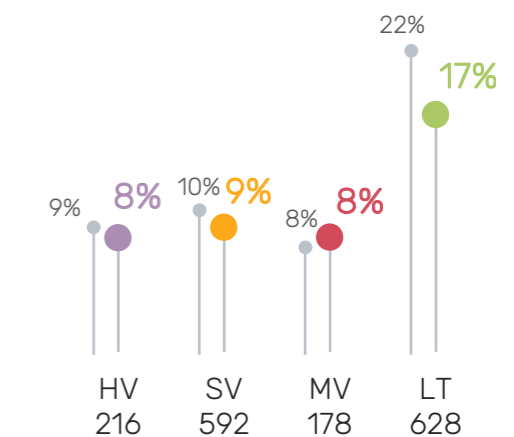
Number of international students by study level in 2023



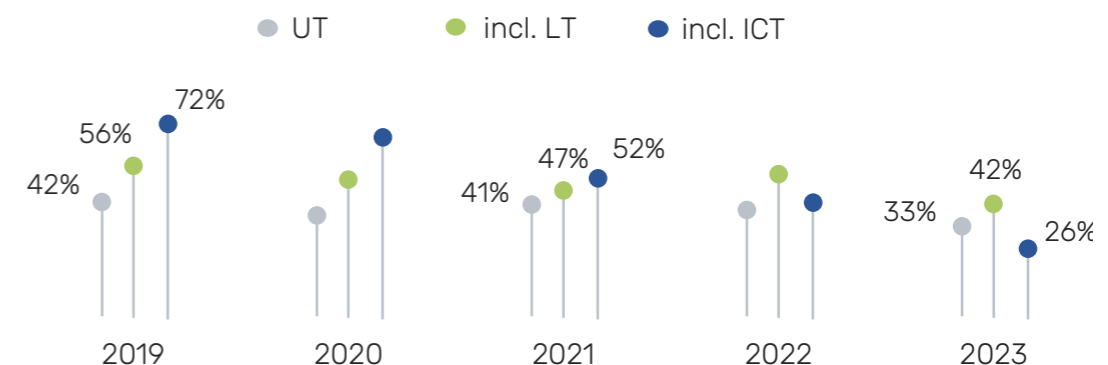
Number of international students admitted in 2019–2023 (incl. to joint curricula)



Number of international students in 2019–2023



Number and percentage of international students by faculties in 2023. For comparison, the percentage of international students in 2019 is shown in grey



Percentage of international doctoral students admitted to doctoral studies, incl. in the Faculty of Science and Technology and in the field of ICT, in 2019–2023

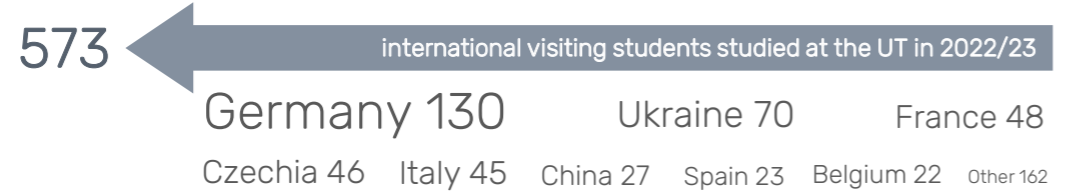


The university has set the goal that at least 18% of its graduates should have international mobility experience. Among the graduates of 2023, 11% had mobility experience.

Compared to the previous academic year, the number grew by 36%. 747 students went abroad as exchange students, a third of them for traineeship. 454 students, i.e. 61% of all students who studied and trained in foreign universities, used the EU Erasmus+ higher education programme.



The number of international visiting students was 573 – 5% fewer than the year before. Under the Erasmus+ programme, a total of 446 exchange students studied at the university.



The current Erasmus+ period focuses on the inclusion of students with fewer opportunities, sustainable study mobility and the use of digital workflows and learning methods. Additional grants and the short-term blended intensive programmes developed with partner universities have helped widen the range of participants.

Development of future skills

In cooperation with centres for doctoral studies, the **doctoral student's self-analysis tools** were developed to support their professional development and career planning skills. The self-analysis is based on two European transferable skills frameworks for early-career researchers (including the

ResearchComp competences framework) and the learning outcomes of doctoral programmes, allowing for well-considered planning of studies and reflection on career choices both at university and beyond. In 2023, career counsellors organised **career planning seminars** for first-year doctoral students for the first time as part of their introductory courses.

The university agreed with the MoER to focus, in both curriculum development and teaching, on developing future skills, including digital competence and entrepreneurship, and student feedback.

In 2023, the university's **future skills framework** was launched, with nine skills selected: self-management, communication and collaboration skills, problem-solving skills, creativity, critical thinking, digital skills, entrepreneurship and sustainable mindset. The framework was developed primarily keeping in mind the students and their need to self-analyse, identify the skills they would need in the future, and seek appropriate opportunities for personal development.

Based on the framework, the university's capacity to offer future skills courses is assessed and promoted. In spring 2023, a competition was organised to work out courses suitable for developing the future skills of students of various disciplines. Seven proposals were selected from the proposals received. The competition focused on creativity, sustainable mindset, critical thinking and digital skills.

The completion of **general skills courses** (entrepreneurship courses, study skills, career planning) is one of the six performance indicators for university curricula. In 2023, students' choices in acquiring entrepreneurship skills were analysed. Over the last five years, a total of 108 entrepreneurship courses have been taught in the university's four faculties, 65% of them in the Faculty of Social Sciences. The highest percentage of students participating in entrepreneurship courses is in professional higher education studies (nearly 35%). In the bachelor's and master's studies, the percentage of participants in entrepreneurship courses has slightly increased over the years, reaching 11%.

Feedback

The university's curricula evaluation system is based on the statistics and feedback on curricula and courses. In the internal evaluation report, programme directors analyse successful developments and the need for change, and this information is shared with the councils of academic units and faculties. The internal evaluation aims to highlight successes, learn from good practice and work together to find solutions to problems.

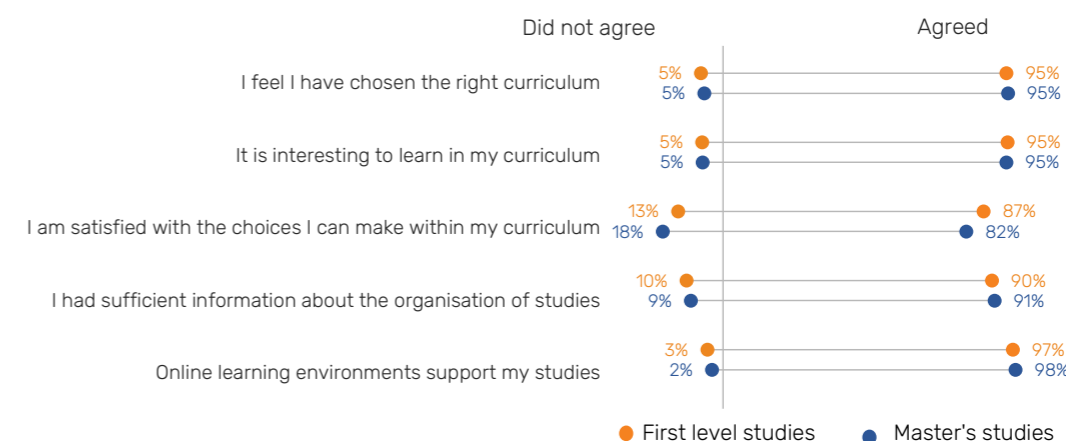
Responding to a **curriculum feedback** questionnaire allows students to analyse their learning experience. The questions concern the coherence and structure of the curriculum, organisation of studies and the learning environment, development of students' skills and the work of support systems. In 2023, 55% of the respondents gave feedback on their curriculum; all in all, 2,872 questionnaires were completed. The share of students who have had the opportunity to study together with fellow students outside lectures and seminars has increased compared to previous years, probably due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

Every semester, all students must give **feedback to** at least four **courses**. In the 2022/23 academic year, students completed and returned 83,078 questionnaires. In total, feedback was given to 4,139 courses. The feedback is analysed annually by the programme directors as part of the internal evaluation of the curriculum.

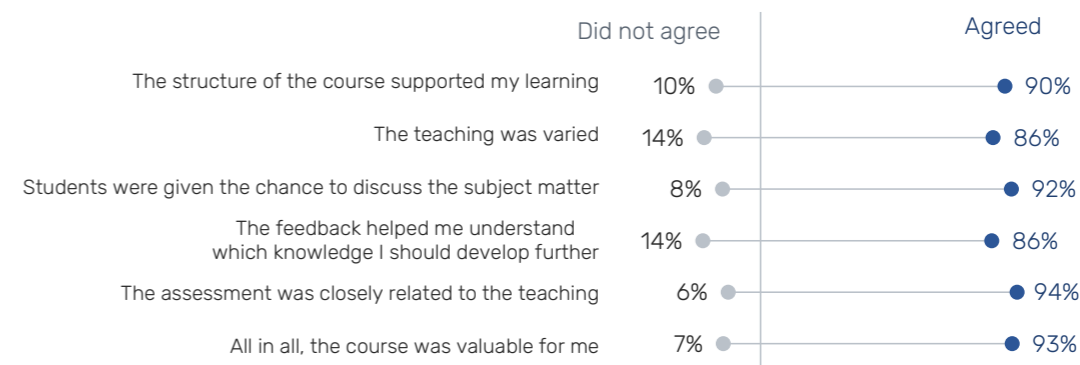


The university aims to achieve high student satisfaction in 95% of courses. In 2023, it was so in 89% of the courses.

In 2022–2023, a national alumni survey was carried out as part of the Eurograduate project. A total of 1,485 UT graduates of the first and second levels of study in 2019–2021 responded to the survey (18% response rate). 93% of them are generally satisfied with their higher education, 92% are satisfied with their choice of curriculum and specialisation, and 84% feel competitive in the labour market.



Results of the 2022/23 curriculum feedback survey (percentage of agreement and disagreement with the statement)



Results of the 2022/23 course feedback survey (percentage of agreement and disagreement with the statement)

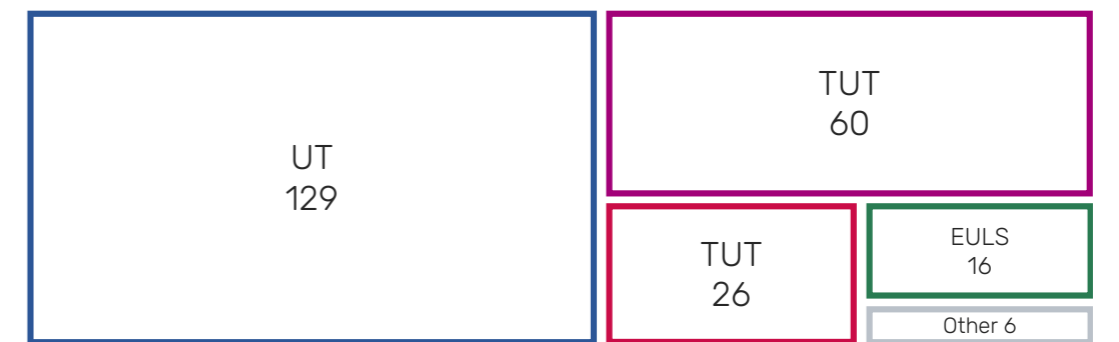
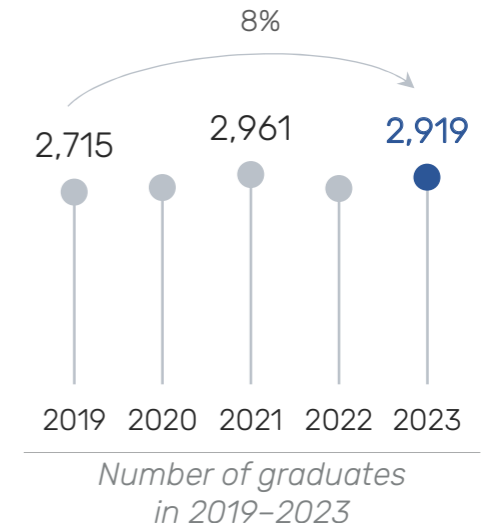
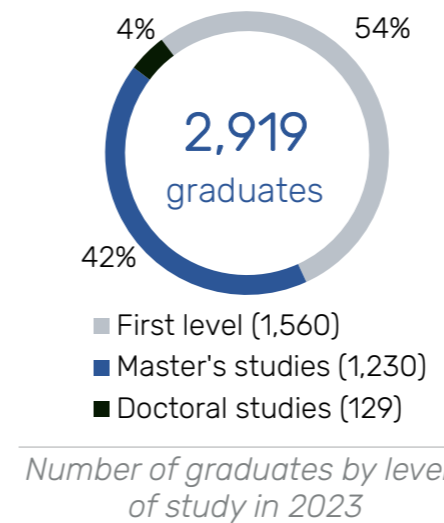
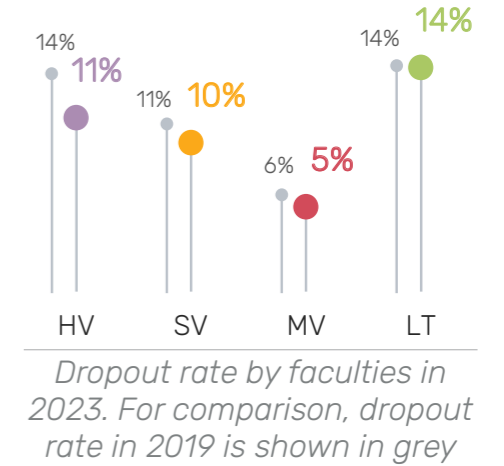
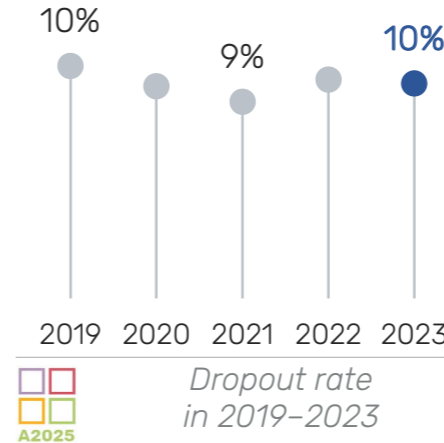
Progress

1,517 students **interrupted** their studies in 2023. The dropout rate was 11% at the first level of higher education, 11% in master's and 9% in doctoral studies. However, part of these students continued their studies at the UT within a year.

Considering the numbers in two consecutive years, 2022 and 2023, the **dropout rate was 9.6% (A2025 target 9% or less)**. The proportion of dropouts was the highest in the Faculty of Science and Technology, but the faculty also had the largest percentage of those who continued studies in another UT curriculum within a year.

2,919 students **graduated** from the University of Tartu. The number of graduates has increased by 8% in five years, with a total of 41% of students graduating from all study levels within the standard period of study (42% in 2019). **The percentage of international graduates in all graduates of 2023 was 17% (A2025 target is 13–15%)**. According to Statistics Estonia, the share of international graduates staying in Estonia to work has decreased over the last five years in all higher education institutions. Of the international students who graduated from the UT in 2022, 53% worked in Estonia in the year after graduation.

In 2023, 237 people in Estonia **defended their doctoral thesis**, incl. 129 at the UT (8% more than in 2022). **36% of doctoral graduates get to defending their thesis within six years (A2025 target is 50%)**. The doctoral graduation rate has not improved to the desired extent, as there are still doctoral students who have not been able to dedicate themselves exclusively to doctoral studies like the doctoral students in the post of junior research fellows admitted after the 2022 doctoral reform.



Number of doctoral graduates in Estonian universities in 2023. Source: EHIS

Support to students

The Counselling Centre offers students of all study levels short courses and advice on the organisation of studies, career counselling and psychological counselling, supports students with special needs in their studies, organises the training of peer tutors and shares study-related information.

Number of students who contacted the Counselling Centre in 2023

Advice regarding the organisation of studies	802
Career counselling	541
Psychological counselling	2,255
Counselling for students with special needs	183

The Counselling Centre organised workshops, training courses and support groups for 238 groups of students.

In 2023, students were assisted by 101 **peer tutors**. Peer tutors are student volunteers who have completed special training and support first-year students or international students in their specialisation at the start of their studies.

The Counselling Centre put more emphasis in 2023 on **supporting mental health and well-being** through preventive activities. To inform the university family about the activities and possibilities to get help, the centre cooperated with the Estonian Psychology Students Association, the Ukraine House and the UT student ambassadors who support international students. Psychology and social work students who got training at the Counselling Centre started supportive conversation groups for students. In 2023, there were seven groups of up to 12 members, incl. one in English, meeting six times during the semester. The Counselling Centre organised five support group meetings during the year: two to deal with learning-related anxiety, and three to support students with ADHD.

Two websites to support **self-management** were launched: a mental health website for all university members and a career portal for students and new entrants. The former provides information and exercises to help oneself and support others, as well as information on events and training to support mental well-being. The career portal brings together topics on studies, traineeships, mobility and work-life planning, as well as future skills.

Student involvement

In June, a **student appreciation event** was held at the Ahhaa Science Centre to bring together and motivate active students involved in volunteering. The theme of the 2023 event was mental health, with a workshop and an improv theatre show offered for students.

Supported by the university's development fund, the Student Union launched a three-year initiative **Operation Catalyst** to support student organisations and students' personal development and networking. Among other things, students are offered seminar and meeting rooms. A project fund is used to support the activities of student organisations that contribute to the objectives of the UT strategic plan. In 2023, funding was given to 18 projects.



Student organisations can organise events in the room given to the use of the Student Union at Ülikooli 17. The room called Tiksula was opened in the spring

Continuing education



58,722 continuing education learners participated in 1,489 courses in 2023. The university also organised 174 internal training courses attended by 3,435 people. There were four continuing education learners per student.

Compared to 2022, the overall number of continuing education learners increased by 27%. The largest increase was in the number of participants in online training. Although there were 9% fewer online learning programmes compared to 2022, the number of learners increased by 36%, accounting for 60% of all continuing education learners. There were 26 massive open online courses (MOOCs), and the number of MOOC learners increased by 32% compared to the previous year. MOOC learners made up a third of all participants in online courses.

Number of continuing education courses and participants in 2023

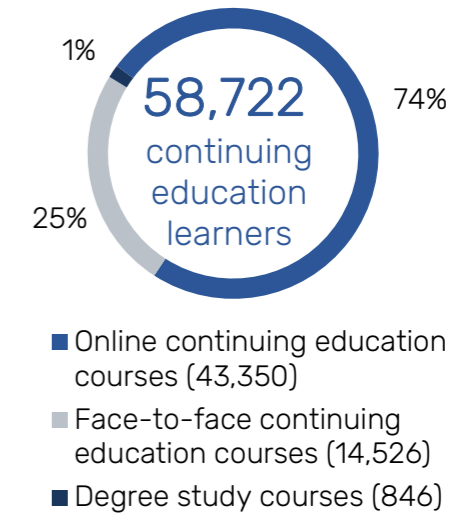
	Number of courses	Number of learners
Continuing education programmes (incl. micro-credential programmes)	1,045	57,876
incl. hybrid or online courses (percentage of all continuing education programmes and participants is shown in brackets)	654 (63%)	43,350 (75%)
incl. MOOCs	26	11,526
Degree study courses	444	846
Continuing education in total	1,489	58,722

Income from continuing education, incl. projects, programmes and targeted financing, was €8.3 million, 14% more than in the previous year.

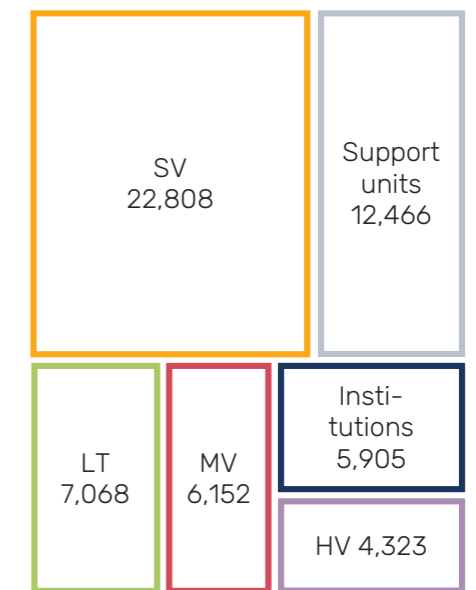
Continuing education was successfully provided also outside Tartu: the highest participation rates were in the counties of Harju, Pärnu, Viljandi and Ida-Viru, i.e. in regions where the university has a college or an office.

The university provides continuing education to both public- and private-sector institutions. Among others, courses were commissioned by the Health Insurance Fund, AI & Robotics Estonia (AIRE), Viru Keemia Grupp, Estonian Police and Border Guard Board, the Supreme Court of Estonia, Swedbank, several ministries, local authorities, and healthcare and educational institutions.

The continuing education programme for teachers, “United by Space”, initiated in 2022 by the Tartu Observatory Visitor Centre, was awarded as the Tartu County education deed of the year in 2023. Over two years, the programme has run 14 courses with 359 participants.



Number of continuing education learners in 2023



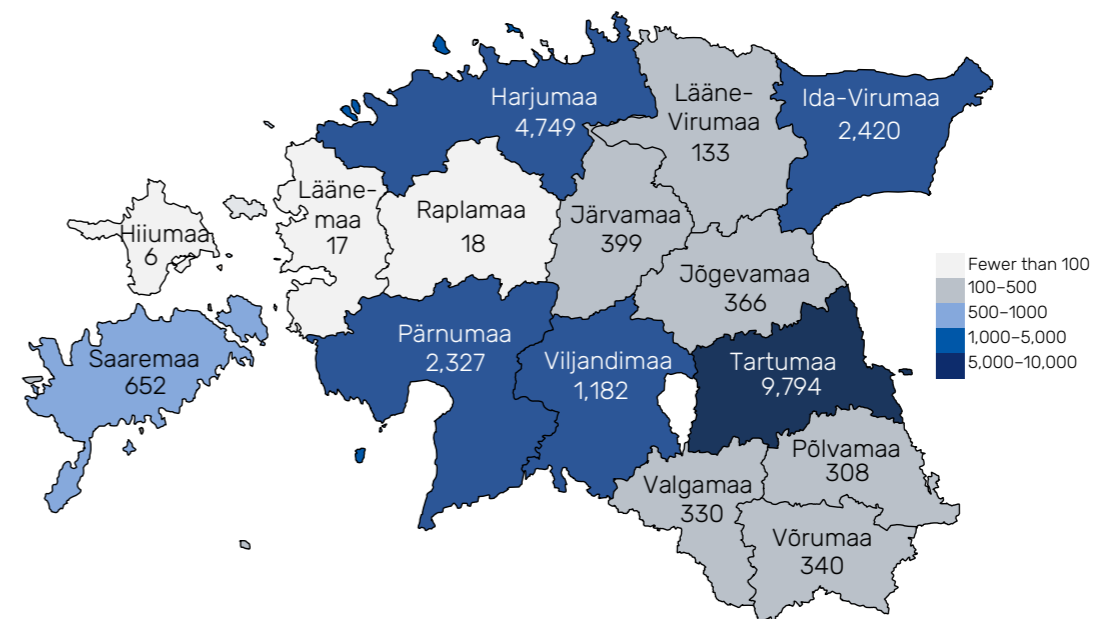
Number of continuing education learners by units who organised the courses in 2023

Commissioned by the Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund, the UT offered two webinar series to all interested in learning: digital skills and emerging technologies seminars had 1,945 and career development seminars 5,594 participants.

Several programmes and projects funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) ended in 2023. Within the “Edu ja Tegu” programme, which is targeted at entrepreneurship and career education teachers and professionals, the university organised 70 training courses with 3,288 participants over eight years. Two MOOCs were worked out to develop students’ entrepreneurial and career skills, with nearly 2,000 participants. In the years 2020–2023, the university organised 73 free training courses for working adults under the ESF programme “Promoting adult learning and expanding the range of learning opportunities”. 2,566 participants completed the course with a certificate.

The university continued to provide **micro-credential programmes** to enable employed people to obtain another specialisation or competence in a narrow field of activity and, if they wish, continue studies in a degree programme in the future. In spring 2023, 380 learners studied in 41 micro-credential programmes, and in the autumn, nearly 490 learners under 47 programmes.

Micro-credential programmes – longer comprehensive continuing education programmes designed to meet labour market needs – have been well received. Of the learners who gave feedback, 98% agreed that the micro-credential programme was valuable to them, and nearly 50% were willing to continue in degree studies. The feedback highlighted the professionalism of the teaching staff and the well-organised online learning, which allowed for remote participation and listening to the lectures at a suitable time.



Number of participants in UT continuing education courses by place of study in 2023 by counties (excl. online courses)

The **University of the Third Age** aims to provide older people with better opportunities for lifelong learning and coping in the changing society. In the spring semester of the 2022/23 academic year, 16 programmes of the University of the Third Age continued in 15 places over Estonia: Tartu, Tallinn (in Estonian and Russian), Pärnu, Viljandi, Narva (in Russian), Elva, Keila, Kuressaare, Põltsamaa, Põlva, Saue, Türi, Valga, Viimsi and Võru County. The number of people participating in the programmes was 3,090, which is 44% more than the year before. In the autumn semester of 2023/24, all programmes started again, and 3,329 people enrolled in the main programmes.

In 2023, the University of the Third Age also ran nine webinars with 455 participants. In addition, they offered workshops, study trips and foreign language and digital skills courses.

RESEARCH

Financing

The university's main budget for 2023 included €124.3 million of research revenue. Compared to 2022, research income fell by 2.5%, caused mainly by a decrease in support from EU structural funds due to the slow start of the new budget period. Significantly more money than planned was received from domestic and international grants.

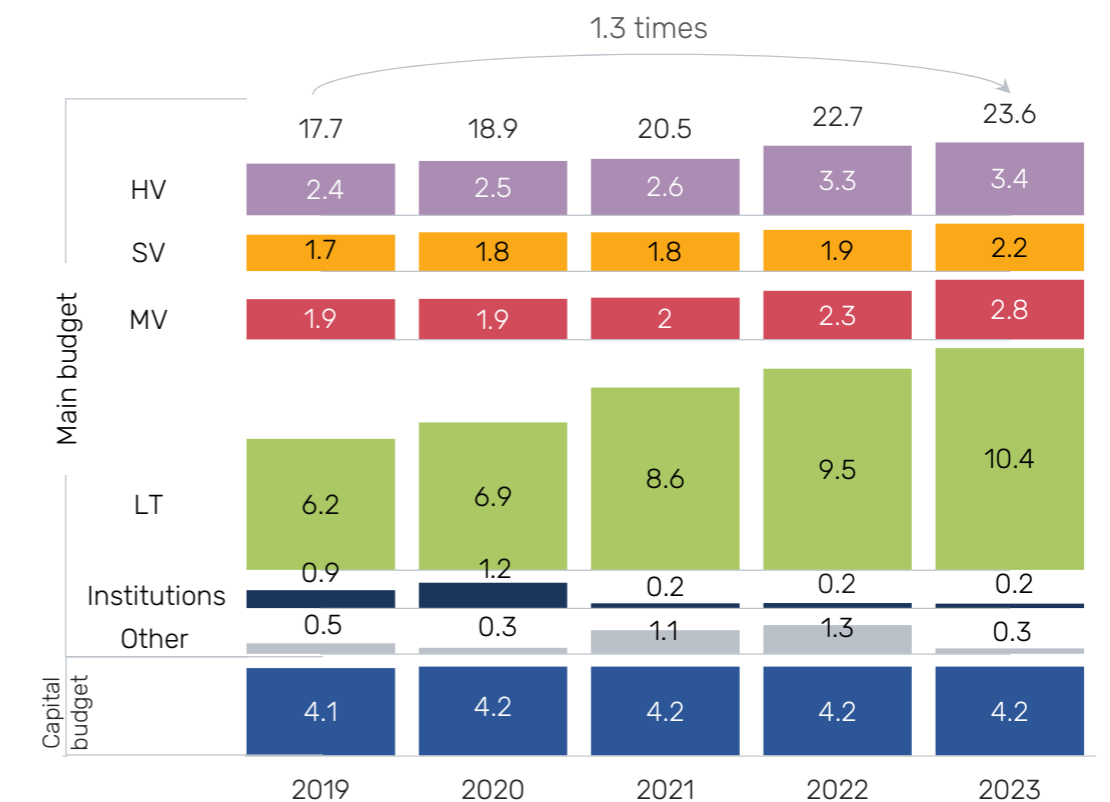
In 2023, the University of Tartu was allocated €23.6 million from the state budget for the **baseline funding** of research. This was approximately 43% of the total amount of baseline funding (€55.3 million) distributed among the 22 positively evaluated research and development institutions in Estonia. The baseline funding allocated to the UT has increased, but its share of the university's research revenue has not in recent years, remaining below 20%. The increase in baseline funding in the state budget is slower than the increase in the number of new positively evaluated private research and development institutions applying for it.

The university council allocated the part of baseline funding designed to support national disciplines (€1.6 million) to the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. 4.2 million euros of the main part of the baseline funding was allocated for investments in academic and research buildings, and the rest was distributed as follows:

- 74% to academic units according to their contribution to earning the university's baseline funding;
- 20% to the UT development fund;
- 6% to the rector for performance-based funding of faculties.

Baseline research funding allocated to R&D institutions for 2019 and 2023, in million euros

R&D institution	2019	2023	Growth
University of Tartu	17.7	23.6	5.9 (1.3 times)
Tallinn University of Technology	9.0	12.3	3.3 (1.4 times)
Tallinn University	2.9	3.8	0.9 (1.3 times)
Estonian University of Life Sciences	2.5	4.3	1.7 (1.7 times)
Other	7.0	11.3	4.3 (1.6 times)
Total	39.1	55.3	16.2 (1.4 times)



Distribution of baseline funding for research in 2019-2023 between the university's main budget and capital budget after distribution of performance-based grants and allocations from the development fund, in million euros

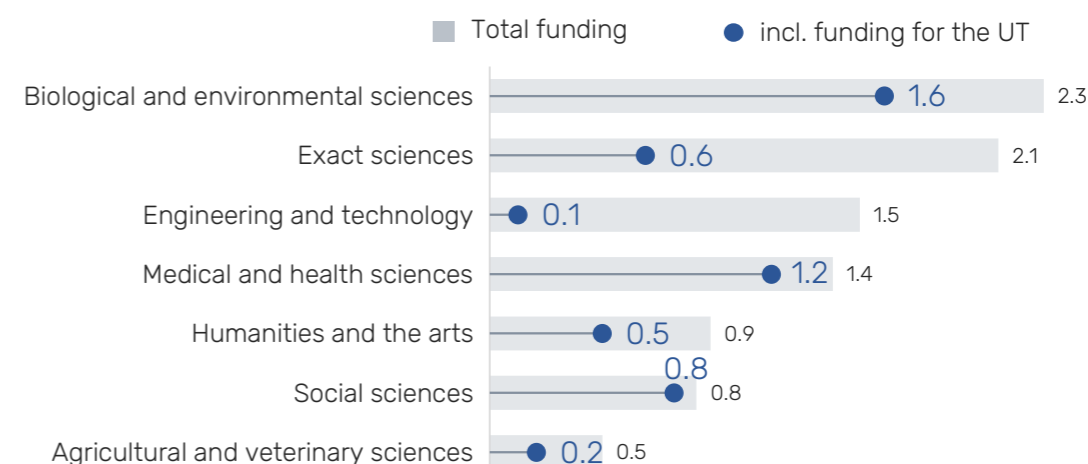
Academic units used their allocations to initiate and co-finance more than one hundred research topics and projects, incl. to support experimental development. Labour costs accounted for nearly 41% (€8.9 million) of the costs made from the financial accounts of baseline funding. This is in line with the objective of the A2025 action plan to direct more funds to strengthen the competitiveness of salaries.

The financial volume and share of **personal research grants** of the Estonian Research Council (postdoctoral, starting and team grants) in the university's research revenue have steadily increased in recent years. In 2023, they were nearly €32 million – 26% of the research revenue. A total of €9.5 million of starting and team grants were allocated for new projects in Estonia in 2023. UT researchers received €4.9 million (52%) of the amount to launch 27 new research projects. Also, 146 existing projects continued and received €26.8 million. In addition, six new postdoctoral projects started in 2023 (€220,750 in total).

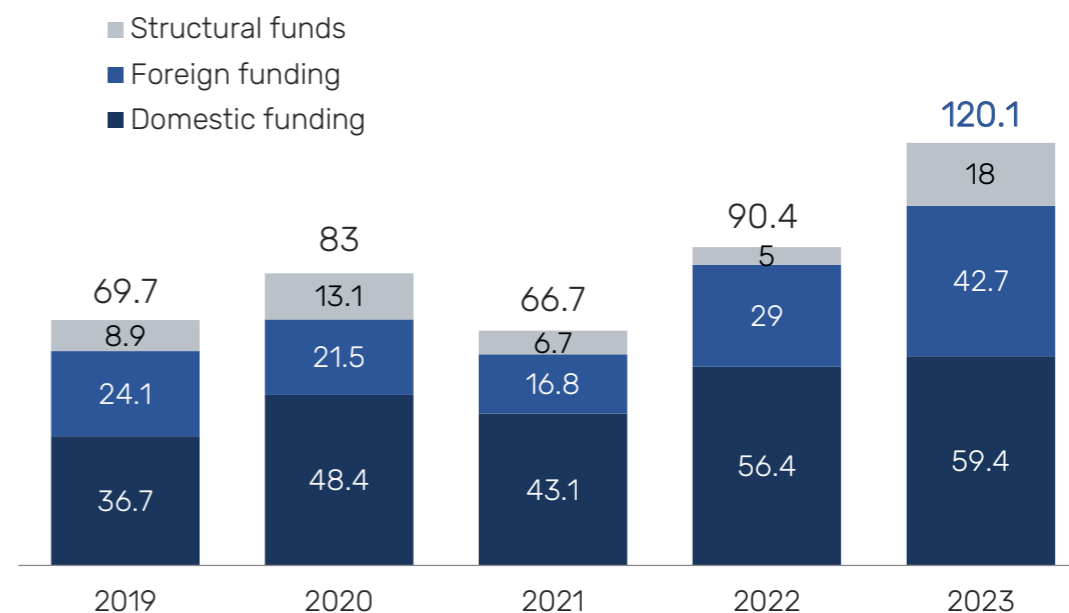
The government decided to finance six new UT-led **centres of excellence** in research in the next seven years:

- Center of Excellence in Sustainable Green Hydrogen and Energy Technologies (led by Professor of Physical Chemistry [Enn Lust](#)),
- Estonian Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence (led by Associate Professor in Machine Learning [Meelis Kull](#)),
- Centre of Excellence for Personalised Medicine (led by Professor of Bioinformatics [Reedik Mägi](#)),
- Estonian Roots: Centre of Excellence for transdisciplinary studies on ethnogenesis and cultural diversity (led by Professor of Archaeogenomics [Kristiina Tambets](#)),
- Estonian Center of Excellence of Well-Being Sciences (led by Professor of Affective Psychology [Andero Uusberg](#)),
- Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Land Use (led by Professor of Geoinformatics [Evelyn Uuemaa](#)).

The university is also a partner in four new centres of excellence.



Funding of starting and team grant projects that started in Estonia in 2023 by field of research, including grants allocated to the University of Tartu, in million euros



The volume (in million euros) of the university's R&D contracts concluded in 2019-2023 (project-based funding, to be supplemented by baseline funding)

In 2023, R&D support measures financed from the **structural funds** were opened, with the Just Transition Fund accounting for the largest share. Activities financed by the fund are described in the chapter “University in regions”.

With the support of **international funders**, €42.7 million worth of R&D contracts were signed at the university in 2023. Forty R&D contracts funded by the EU research and innovation funding programme Horizon Europe were concluded for a total amount of €31 million. Since 2021, the university has received funding from the framework programme for 87 projects in the total amount of €49.8 million. In terms of this indicator, the University of Tartu ranks 56th among European universities and 14th among Nordic universities, and the first among the universities of the member states that joined the EU after 2004 (EU 13) and Estonian universities.

In 2023, the **European Research Council (ERC)** decided to fund four grant proposals from UT researchers:

- Professor of Physical Geography and Landscape Ecology [Ülo Mander](#) received the ERC Advanced Grant to study the N₂O cycle in fens and peatlands, its links to global climate change, and possible land-use practices that could help curb the production of this greenhouse gas;
- Professor of Geoinformatics [Evelyn Uuemaa](#) received the ERC Consolidator Grant to develop remote sensing and machine learning-based models that will enable both farmers and policymakers to plan nature-based solutions to mitigate the negative environmental impact of intensive agriculture;
- Associate Professor of Genetics [Hedvig Tamman](#) received the ERC Starting Grant for the project focusing on the arms race between bacteria and viruses, in which she also seeks solutions to antibiotic resistance;
- Associate Professor of Behavioural Genetics [Uku Vainik](#) was awarded the ERC Starting Grant to study the behavioural and genetic links to obesity and identify possible new interventions to combat obesity.

To encourage and support applicants for high-level ERC grants, the university gave ERC Incentive Grants for the third time: as a result of competition, to 11 researchers.

The university joined a new network of the **European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)** – Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries, and continued participation in the knowledge and innovation communities of Urban Mobility, Added-Value Manufacturing and Health Innovation.

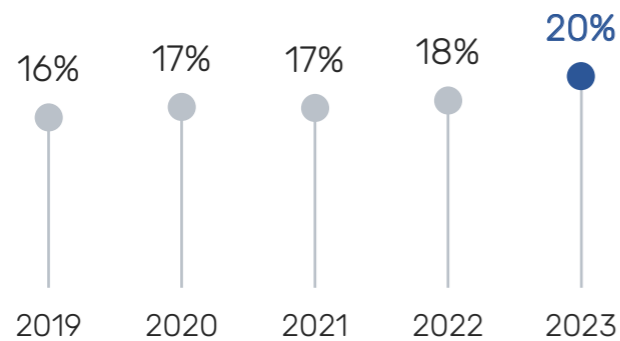
Publications

According to the Estonian Research Information System, UT members published 2,803 **research publications** in 2023, incl. 1,528 classified as high-level. Thus, the average number of high-level publications published per academic staff member (FTE) was 1.0.

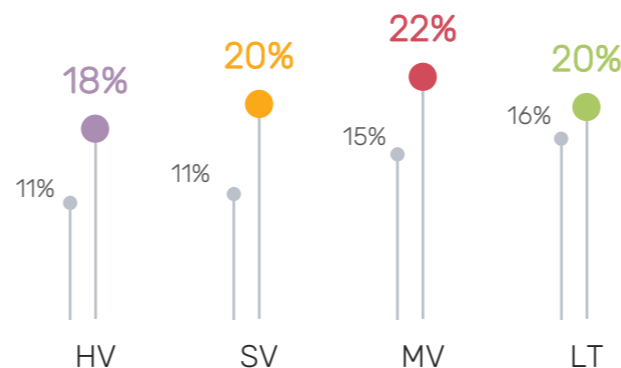
Over the last five years, the percentage of high-level publications has increased in all UT faculties. *As at September 2023, 20% of publications by UT researchers published in the past five years (2018–2022) and indexed in the Web of Science database had reached the top 10% most cited publications in their field (17.7% in 2022, A2025 target 17–20%).*



According to the Essential Science Indicators (ESI) database, 81 researchers affiliated with the University of Tartu ranked among the 1% most cited researchers in their field. Four of them – [Mohammad Bahram](#), [Elin Org](#), [Leho Tedersoo](#) and [Frank Witlox](#) – have been included for their research impact in the “Highly Cited Researchers 2023” report by Clarivate Analytics, which is based on ESI data and lists the world’s 6,000 most influential researchers.



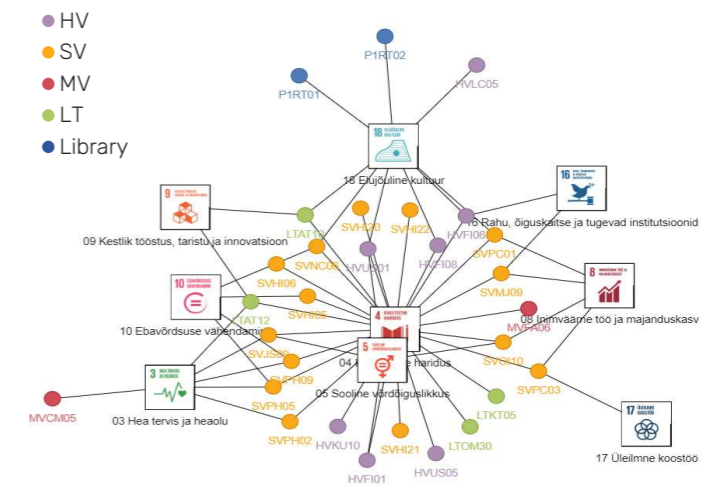
Percentage of publications ranking in the world's top 10% by citations for their field of all UT publications in 2019–2023



Percentage of publications ranking in the world's top 10% by citations for their field of all publications in 2023 For comparison, the percentage in 2019 is shown in grey

Overview of research directions

A new interactive dashboard gives an overview of the research done at the university. The dashboard makes it easier to contact experts and find funding and collaboration opportunities. By the end of 2023, UT academic staff had described more than 400 research directions, with links to researchers' data in ETIS. The dashboard also shows the research directions' links to UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Example from the research dashboard: research directions with education-related keywords (indicated with dots) and the associated UN Sustainable Development Goals (indicated with squares)

ENTREPRENEURIAL UNIVERSITY

Supporting researchers in entrepreneurship



The total volume of R&D service contracts with the private and public sectors in 2023 was €10.9 million, of which €6.1 million accounted for **direct contracts with the private sector**.

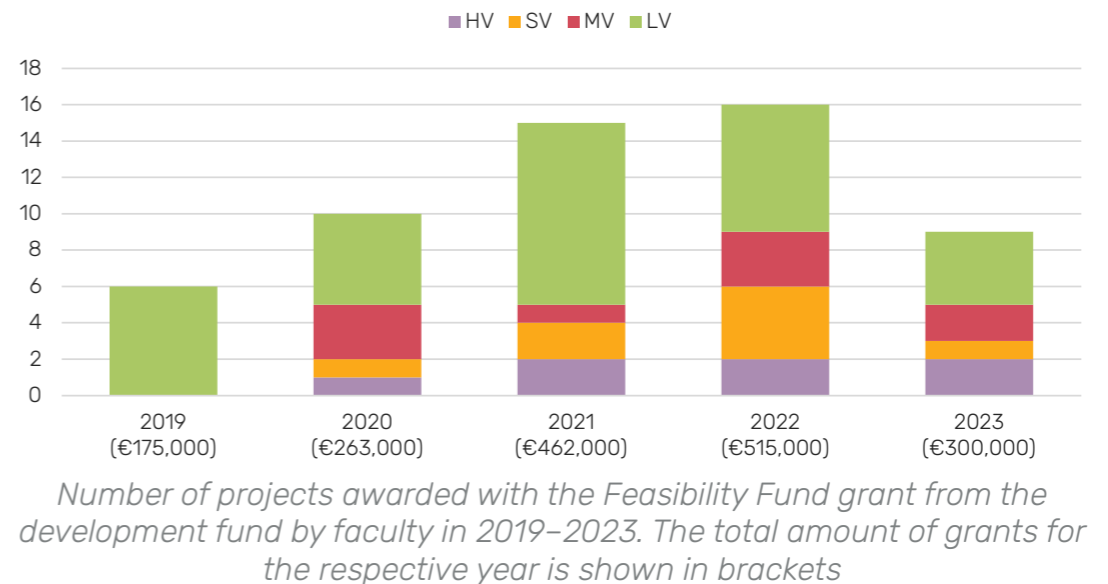
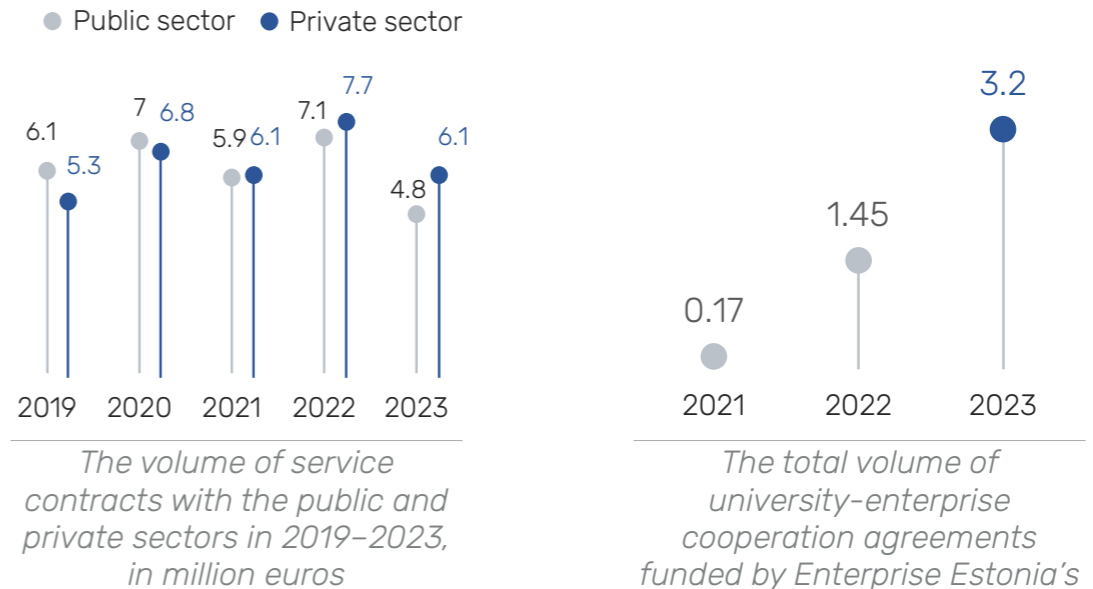
The total volume of university-enterprise cooperation agreements funded by Enterprise Estonia's applied research programme more than doubled over the year, reaching €3.2 million. In 2022, the volume of university cooperation agreements funded under this programme amounted to €1.45 million, and in 2021, to €169,000.



Four new companies were added to the list of university spin-offs. Since 1998, 64 companies have been started from the university. The spin-offs attracted a total of €4.5 million of investment in 2023.

The **Feasibility Fund grant** was once again provided from the university's development fund, speeding up the delivery of research solutions to the economy and society, and reducing funder risk at the development stage. In 2023, research into the development of a fluoride-free ski wax, the development of software to assess the impact of voluntarily traded carbon credits on biodiversity, and the creation of a tool for pre-processing and analysis of textual data, among others, were supported.

As at the end of the year, the university had protected 31 inventions with 185 **patent applications**, 29 protected **patents** and seven protected trademarks. The 2023 licence fees received by the university amounted to €82,746. The ME-3 bacterium patent continues to be the most successful in terms of licensing revenue.



We actively search for opportunities to cooperate with businesses. We value cooperation projects between academic staff and businesses.

As part of the reorganisation of the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, the preincubation programme was upgraded and a dedicated work management software was introduced to process contracts with the Grant Office.

UniTartu Ventures OÜ, in cooperation with the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, has worked out a process to help develop research-intensive ideas from concept to investment-readiness and application of the research results. Gearbox Biosciences, a company developing protein production technology, was added in 2023 to UniTartu Ventures' portfolio, which already included the company UP Catalyst. UniTartu Ventures' experience has also attracted interest from other Estonian universities, and there is a plan to set up a joint university asset management company based on a similar model.

In 2023, preparations were made for the establishment of the **Estonian Multiomics Company (EMC)**, a subsidiary of the university, and negotiations were held with stakeholders both in and outside the university. The EMC aims to harness Estonia's digital healthcare strengths and experience to create a new international hub for healthcare innovation. The EMC brings together technology companies that want to develop innovative healthcare services and products by analysing people's health data, and individuals who want to contribute to healthcare innovation.

Development of entrepreneurship

In 2023, **entrepreneurship education** was systematically developed. Students also had the opportunity to receive support from international teams and mentors. In the 2022/23 academic year, 1,184 students from all study levels took courses offered by the Chair of Entrepreneurship. Competitive entrepreneurial presentations, where students could pitch their business ideas and listen to feedback from investors, mentors and entrepreneurs, took place at Startup Day, the Delta X competition and the business idea pitch Mõõduvõtt.

Entrepreneurship education also included international cooperation. For example, the Interreg Innovating Social Entrepreneurship Education (iSEE) project held a winter school in January, where 40 students from Estonia, Latvia, Sweden and Finland developed social entrepreneurship ideas. Together with partners from Spain and Germany, the Open Innovation Academy training concept was launched.



Students at the Delta X competition



President Alar Karis visiting sTARTUp Day

A **business preincubation programme** for students was launched to further develop business ideas that have emerged from courses on entrepreneurship. A total of nine teams participated, developing ideas ranging from language learning programmes and digital marketing training to personalised medicine solutions.

In addition, the idea hackathon allowed students to test their business ideas, develop them into business models and create prototypes of products and services. **Startup Lab** organised 14 workshops to develop entrepreneurial skills for around 600 students in upper secondary schools across Estonia.

Through the university's traineeship and placement environment **Futulab**, 15 traineeship projects were implemented, involving 84 students from 22 curricula. One of the projects resulted in creating the virtual event UT CareerRave to support students' career choices, with nearly 2,000 participants.

In the field of entrepreneurship, the Innovation and Creative Entrepreneurship micro-credential programmes continued to be offered and two new ones were launched: the Technology Entrepreneurship and Start-up micro-credential programmes.

The university is actively increasing **knowledge transfer in doctoral studies**. Its main aim is to prepare top professionals and R&D staff to work outside academia and to foster closer cooperation between universities, businesses and the public

sector, including by stimulating academic staff mobility between institutions and businesses. Twelve cooperation agreements were signed in 2023.

With the support of the Estonian Centre for International Development, a cooperation project was implemented to increase the innovation capacity and entrepreneurial competence of Ukrainian universities. Almost 900 people learned about university-business cooperation.

The University of Tartu is a partner in the international business accelerator programme **Creative Destruction Lab (CDL)**, which aims to create opportunities for research-based companies to successfully internationalise and grow, and to develop entrepreneurship education. In 2023, 17 companies graduated from the programme, including 12 from Estonia, and 22 started the programme, of which five were from Estonia. CDL also offered entrepreneurship courses for students and girls in upper secondary schools. The programme is funded by private investors and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications.

More than 3,200 visitors attended the **sTARTUp day**, the biggest business festival in the Baltics, organised by the University of Tartu and the business community in Tartu. The programme included 150 high-level speakers, there were 300 start-ups present in the demo area and 200 investors explored the local opportunities for start-up business.



CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY

Estonia's national university

The **professorship of liberal arts**, established for the many-sided intellectual and creative development of the university's members, celebrated its 30th anniversary. Prominent cultural figures who have held the post and the university family marked the anniversary with a public talk, an anniversary exhibition and publication. In the spring semester of 2023, the fashion, theatre and film designer [Reet Aus](#) completed her professorship with the course "How to Improve the World by Creation. Trash to Trend". [Peeter Jalakas](#), theatre director, manager and innovator, took over from her with the lecture series "The Art of Perception and the Perception of Art in Sigismund von Krahl's Theory of Reality". Lectures by liberal arts professors are open to all and popular among students.

Professor [Annela Anger-Kraavi](#), Senior Research Associate and Director of the Climate Change Policy Group at the Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge, and [Mart Kuldkepp](#), Associate Professor of Scandinavian History and Politics and Head of the Department of European and International Social and Political Studies at University College London, were elected **expatriate Estonian visiting professors** for the 2023/24 academic year. During the visiting professorship, Annela Anger-Kraavi will develop students' environmental and climate change economics competency, particularly at the School of Economics and Business Administration and the Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies. Mart Kuldkepp gives the lecture course "The Birth of Estonia's Independence" in the spring semester. The visiting professorship enabled Kuldkepp to cooperate even more closely with historians at the University of Tartu, including preparing a monograph on the Estonians' experience of war in the 20th century and studying issues related to Estonian national self-determination. His monograph "Nordic Estonia. The Birth of a Nation" was published in Estonian at the beginning of 2024.

On 14 March, **Mother Tongue Day**, Professor of Estonian as Foreign Language [Birute Klaas-Lang](#) and Research Fellow in Language Policy [Kerttu Rozentalde](#) gave the lecture "How to achieve inclusive language policy at the University of Tartu?". [Tomáš Pavelka](#), Programme Director of the master's



Cultural figures who have held the post of professor of liberal arts at the University of Tartu over the last 30 years met at the anniversary events of the professorship



The book on the first 100 years of the Estonian-language university in Tartu by [Erki Tammiksaar](#) (on the left) was published. The author was interviewed at the book presentation by [Taavi Pae](#)

curriculum Wellness and Spa Service Design and Management, spoke about his language studies, Estonians and the Estonian language in his presentation “õäöü vs. žščŗđň”.

A project was launched to support and diversify the Estonian language learning opportunities of international staff, international students and students who speak Estonian as a second language, and thus help them better integrate into Estonian society and the University of Tartu.

The seventh annual **terminology day**, “Terminology creation. Past, present and future”, organised in cooperation with the Estonian University of Life Sciences, the Estonian Military Academy, and the University of Tartu, focused on the history and development of Estonian specialised and professional language. More than 130 lecturers, terminologists, members of terminology committees, translators, language editors and other terminology enthusiasts participated on-site or online.

In the autumn, the university was involved in organising the first-ever Wikipedia terminology competition aiming to broaden and disseminate Estonian terminology, promote high-quality term creation and speed up the introduction of modern terminology into Wikipedia. Active participation showed that a lot of specialist terms from different fields are still missing from the online encyclopaedia. The largest number of contributions came from students of Tallinn University and the University of Tartu.

The university in regions

The impact of the university’s colleges in Narva, Pärnu and Viljandi reaches far beyond the organisation of studies. From 2021, the MoER has also allocated activity support to colleges for their societal functions.

The development of Ida-Viru County will be influenced in the coming years by nationwide reforms: the transition to Estonian-language general education and a more sustainable economic model. **Narva College** has a significant role in preparing and

implementing both. The college admitted almost twice as many students to teacher education curricula as two years ago. The college organised several continuing education programmes relevant to the reforms, such as a retraining programme for primary school teachers who start teaching in Estonian and training for professionals working with young people with at-risk behaviour and high need of support.

The **Just Transition Fund**, a consortium of Tallinn University of Technology and the University of Tartu, involves 22 research teams whose research will help develop technology and monitor social transition in Ida-Viru County over the next six years. The consortium’s research fields are related to four major thematic areas: transition to renewable energy and distributed energy solutions, digitalisation of industry and use of big data, critical raw materials and their valorisation by chemical processes, and the monitoring of societal transition processes and analysis of management models in the Ida-Viru region. As part of the fund’s research action, Narva College will focus on research into big data and machine learning applications and advancing data acquisition and analysis in manufacturing enterprises. With the support of the fund’s educational action, the college will develop entrepreneurship and IT curricula, and a new master’s programme “Practical Data Science and Machine Learning” is pending. In collaboration with the Virumaa College of Tallinn University of Technology, a joint curriculum for science teachers in the region’s schools is prepared and elective courses are offered to state upper secondary schools.

In 2023, the university opened the position of its representative in Ida-Viru County to support entrepreneurs in implementing research-intensive solutions and further strengthen ties with the local community in the face of the major changes in the region. Besides Narva College, other university units are involved in planning the activities.

The college building is a popular community centre; for example, the University of the Third Age lectures and literary club meetings

attract numerous attendees. Narva Jazz Club has been active at the college for ten years. In spring, students organised the first Ida-Viru Student Days.

Viljandi Culture Academy, the Estonian Fashion Festival and the Integration Foundation's Estonian Language House in Narva organised the programme "Fashion Revolution 2023" in Ida-Viru County, combining fashion design with the learning of Estonian. Over three months, 40 fashion designers, sewists, designers and cultural managers of the county gained new knowledge about creative entrepreneurship and the opportunity to learn and practise the Estonian vocabulary of the fashion industry and entrepreneurship.

Viljandi Culture Academy, in cooperation with the Estonian Traditional Music Centre, organises a public lecture series "Own Culture" to introduce and develop Estonian cultural thought. The theme in the 2022/23 academic year was "The familiar and the unfamiliar", with nine lectures covering various topics from genetics to the music industry.

The Culture Academy's traditional heritage technology conference was dedicated to sustainable fashion. It aimed to draw attention to today's clothing and fashion industry as one of the biggest CO₂ emitters and the need to find sustainable solutions to the accumulation of textile waste.

In June, the first class of the Viljandi County Folk Costume-making School graduated from the Culture Academy. During the two-year course, all interested could make a folk costume of a Viljandi County parish under the guidance of experienced masters.

Pärnu College continued to develop the multiversitas together with Pärnu County Development Centre. Based on the employers' interests, an engineering network has now grown out of this cooperation, preparing an updated training cycle for spring 2024 to teach specialisations in local demand. To ensure a more flexible traineeship arrangement and better meet the interests of Pärnu County employers, the services of 20 organisations were developed within the traineeship courses.

The college organised a development programme for private and public sector managers in the county, and a project management masterclass for civil servants and representatives of non-profit organisations and schools. The college also continued to offer elective courses to the county's upper secondary schools. The Design Thinking Lab focused on integrating studies with traineeship host enterprises and developing services for the public and private sectors.



"Fashion Revolution 2023" combined fashion design with learning Estonian



The first graduates of the Viljandi County Folk Costume-making School

In collaboration with state authorities, we create a motivating environment for researchers to find solutions to societal problems by involving experts from different fields.

Knowledge sharing

The UT **Library** had more than 38,000 readers and 209,552 visits by the end of 2023, up from nearly 35,500 readers and 156,373 visits a year earlier. The number of virtual visits was 3.8 million. The amount of digitised materials increased. A major project for digitising Estonian scientific and educational literature was completed, with 2 million pages of scientific and academic literature digitised, 81% of which came from the university library collections. The digital archive DSpace was upgraded to contain 90,611 items (up 10% year on year). Site visits to DSpace grew by 9% year on year to more than 1.5 million.

Besides the traditional Night Library, the Morning Library was organised for the first time, with library doors opening to visitors at six in the morning. Together with other units of the university, a series of events “Order and Chaos” was launched to strengthen links between science and art. The opening event of the series was an art exhibition by Kaljo Põllu, which traced the history of Estonians’ ancestry and evolution.

In the 2022/2023 academic year, 2,243 pupils from 243 Estonian and 14 international schools studied in the 52 online courses of the **Youth Academy**. In spring, 514 pupils from 37 schools received certificates for participating in mobile workshops in biology, chemistry, physics and information technology. In autumn, 776 pupils started in workshops. The Uurimislabor programmes attracted 1,969 participants during the year.

The final rounds of olympiads were held in 16 subjects, with 853 pupils participating. Before international olympiads, eight selection competitions and 16 training camps were organised for Estonian pupils, with 339 participants. Estonia was represented by 102 pupils in 22 international olympiads, bringing home two gold, six silver and 26 bronze medals.

To mark the 70th anniversary of the Estonian olympiads, a comprehensive online publication was published, the youth forum “Talents for the Future” and a creative competition was held, to which 185 entries were sent from 23 schools.

The Youth Academy organised open competitions in astronomy, mathematics, computer science, chemistry and physics, in which 1,438 pupils participated. E-quizzes or competitions were organised in 11 subjects, and 54,979 pupils across Estonia took part in them. The mathematics contest Känguru was the most popular, with 22,581 participants. There were also many participants in the history quiz Mammut (3,375) and the quiz “Kissing Tartu” in personal, social and health studies (3,891).

The Youth Academy coordinates the programme “Talents to Tartu”, which in 2023 accepted 66 students, offering them a wider range of learning opportunities than usual. 40 students chose the research track, 13 entrepreneurship and 13 the young teacher project.

The UT **Museum** had 55,852 visitors in 2023, incl. 11,185 children who participated in educational programmes or activities. The museum includes 230,969 artefacts, most of which can be found in the MuIS information system of Estonian museums.

The UT Museum’s work was recognised at the Estonian Museum Association’s annual awards gala: the project “New Life of Blackboards” won the conservation work award, and Director [Mariann Raisma](#) won the Museum Employee of the Year title.

In April, the book “Tales of the Lock-up at the University of Tartu” by the museum’s Curator [Ken Ird](#) and [Kristiina Tiideberg](#) was presented. The Crazy Scientist’s research competition “Delicious Taste” came to a festive end at the Student Science Festival. In October, the exhibition “Art or Science” was opened in the university’s museum and art museum in cooperation with the Art Museum of Estonia and the Estonian Academy of Arts, displaying the university’s research collections and also scientific illustrations from other memory institutions.

The **Natural History Museum and Botanical Garden**

had 149,526 visits in 2023 and organised 373 educational programmes for 7,296 learners. There were 397,728 users of eBiodiversity, PlutoF and UNITE, the natural science databases developed by the museum. The Botanical Garden celebrated its 220th anniversary, and inspired by that, the Nature Festival was titled “Garden of Life”. More than 3,000 people participated in the Nature Festival, part of the European Capital of Culture Tartu 2024 programme. The festival was held all over Estonia, as usual, and for the first time, the nature observation marathon was international: besides Estonia, observations were also made in Latvia and Lithuania. The nature observation marathon had 958 participants, and 7,724 entries were made in the eBiodiversity database over 24 hours.

A laboratory for molecular identification of species started work at the Natural History Museum, laying the foundations for a DNA barcoding centre. The centre plans to provide DNA extraction, species identification and other services to nature research collections in Estonia and to national institutions, research teams, amateurs and businesses.

By the end of 2023, 212,200 gene donors had joined the **Estonian Biobank**, enabling vital research to understand health and evolutionary processes better. For example, a clinical trial of the university that involved biobank participants identified entirely new gene variants linked to the effects and side effects of drugs. In 2023, it was possible for the first time to link specific gene variants inherited from Neanderthals to a severe course of COVID-19. In addition, the biobank is developing its portal MinuGeenivaramu to gradually start providing gene donors with research-based information on their genetic predisposition and origin. A national personalised medicine project was also finalised, with the completion of IT infrastructure for personalised medicine and the training of more than 500 health professionals in medical genomics.

Feedback from society

The recognition of the university in society is reflected in the general feedback from the Estonian population: 86% of respondents to Kantar Emor’s university reputation survey spontaneously remembered the University of Tartu as the first among all higher education institutions. The figure was even higher, 97%, for respondents aged 15-24. The reputation of the University of Tartu is considered excellent or very good by 84% of respondents.

In 2023, the national **lifetime achievement award for research** was granted to UT Professor of Medical Biochemistry [Mihkel Zilmer](#). The recipients of national **research awards** were, in medicine: [Irja Lutsar](#), Professor of Medical Microbiology, and [Tuuli Metsvaht](#), Professor of Paediatric Intensive Care and Pharmacotherapy; in geology and biology: [Tuul Sepp](#), Professor in Animal Ecology; in exact sciences: [Tomi Sebastian Koivisto](#), Associate Professor in Theoretical Physics, and [Luca Marzola](#), Research Fellow at the National Institute of Chemical Physics and Biophysics; and in the humanities: [Enn Küng](#), Associate Professor of Estonian History (Early Modern and Modern History).

The recipient of the national **lifetime achievement award for culture** was [Priit Pärn](#), UT Professor of Liberal Arts in 2020/21. The annual **award of the Cultural Endowment** was granted to Professor of Cultural Semiotics [Peeter Torop](#), Professor emeritus [Ants Nurmekivi](#), and laureate of the “Contribution to Estonian National Identity” award 2013 and current member of the award committee, [Anu Raud](#).

President Alar Karis bestowed Estonian state decorations on several UT staff members. The **Order of the White Star, 4th class** was awarded to Professor of Botany [Meelis Pärtel](#); the **Order of the White Star, 5th class** to [Jana Ratas](#), Technician at the Institute of History and Archaeology and leader of the NGO Aitan Kaitsta, and [Hanna Kanep](#), Visiting Research Fellow at the

School of Economics and Business Administration; the **Order of the White Star, 5th class** to Head of the Centre for School Physics [Kaido Reivelt](#); the **Order of the Estonian Red Cross, 3rd class** to Junior Research Fellow in Infectious Diseases [Anne Kallaste](#) and Lecturer in Infectious Diseases [Pilleriin Soodla](#). His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf granted Rector [Toomas Asser](#) the **Royal Order of the Polar Star Commander First Class** and Professor [Raul Eamets](#) the **Royal Order of the Polar Star Commander**.

In March, 45 UT alumni were elected to the **Riigikogu**, several of them are also employees of the university: [Margit Sutrop](#), [Irja Lutsar](#), [Siim Kallas](#) and [Jaak Valge](#).

The Estonian Academy of Sciences elected three new members. [Pärt Peterson](#), UT Professor of Molecular Immunology, became a **member of the academy in biomedicine**. The Estonian Academy of Sciences elected Professor in Environmental Physics [Heikki Junninen](#) as **academy research professor in Arctic studies**, Professor of Regional Political Studies [Andrey Makarychev](#) as **academy research professor in Russian studies** and Professor of Estonian as Foreign Language [Birute Klaas-Lang](#) as **academy research professor of Estonian language and teaching**. The Estonian Academy of Sciences awarded the **Wilhelm Ostwald Medal** to Professor of Physical Chemistry [Enn Lust](#) and the **Alma Tomingas Medal** to Vice Rector for Research, Professor in Community Ecology [Mari Moora](#). The **Mihhail Bronštein Award in economics** was granted to [Anneli Kaasa](#), Professor of Social and Cultural Studies in Economics.

Professor of Church History [Riho Altnurme](#) and Specialist of Aerosol Physics [Madis Noppel](#) were elected **honorary doctors of the University of Helsinki**.

The endowment of the L'Oréal-UNESCO For **Women in Science** Baltics programme went to [Triin Laisk](#), Associate Professor of Genomics and Reproductive Genetics at the Institute

of Genomics, and [Kertu Liis Krigul](#), Junior Research Fellow in Microbiomics at the same institute. Research Fellow in Semiotics [Pauline Delahaye](#) won the second prize of the **Young Researcher Award from Jane Goodall Institute France** for her work in zoosemiotics. Professor of German Studies [Reet Bender](#), with her long-time colleague [Anne Arold](#) and Latvian researchers [Ineta Balode](#) and [Dzintra Lele-Rozentale](#), received the **cultural award of the Baltic German Society** for compiling the Baltic German dictionary and their research of the Baltic German language.

All awards of the President of the Republic's Cultural Foundation were granted to UT members. The **Young Scientist award** was given to Research Fellow in Orthopaedics [Kaspar Tootsi](#), who explores innovative solutions for the treatment of orthopaedic diseases, in particular osteoarthritis. The **Young Environmental Scientist award** went to Associate Professor in Ecotechnology [Kuno Kasak](#), whose research focus is carbon-cycle processes in restored wetlands. The laureate of the **Young IT Scientist award**, Lecturer in Artificial Intelligence [Dmytro Fishman](#), focuses on training AI models to analyse biomedical imaging data. The **Young Educational Figure award** was granted to the Project Manager for values-based education, [Mari-Liis Nummert](#), and the **Special Physical Sciences award** to the Teacher in Primary Mathematics, [Leesi Peedumäe](#).

At the national Teacher of the Year Gala, the University of Tartu professors emeriti [Marju Lauristin](#) and [Rein Taagepera](#) received **lifetime achievement awards for educators**. At the recognition ceremony for educators of the city and county of Tartu, one of the five **teachers' lifetime achievement awards** was presented to [Enno Akkel](#), long-time coach of the University of Tartu Academic Sports Club. The Association of Estonian Adult Educators Andras gave the **special education award in Tartu County** to "United by Space", the UT Tartu Observatory and ESERO Estonia's continuing education course for teachers.

The **Annual Award of Estonian Folkloristics**, issued by the Academic Folklore Society and the Endowment for Folk Culture of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia, was given to [Anastasiya Astapova](#), Associate Professor of Folkloristics, for her work in expanding the boundaries of folkloristics in Estonia and globally.

The **Kristjan Raud Prize**, the oldest and most prestigious art prize in Estonia, was granted to Professor emeritus [Juhan Maiste](#) for the collection “Eesti mõisad ja lossid. Aadlikultuuri seitse aastasada” (Estonian manors and castles. Seven centuries of noble culture).

Professor of Botany [Meelis Pärtel](#) and Associate Professor in Macroecology [Tsipe Aavik](#) received the **silver badge of the Ministry of Climate** for nature conservation.

Seven UT staff members were awarded at the national research communication awards competition. The first prize for **science and technology communication via audio-visual and electronic media** went to [Tiiu Rööp](#), Junior Research Fellow in Medical Microbiology, who has edited and hosted over 455 radio programmes promoting science within nine years. The first prize for **science and technology communication via printed media** was given to the book “Viguriga kaardid – Eesti kujutatuna kaartidel”, compiled by [Taavi Pae](#), Associate Professor in Estonian Geography. The authors of the university textbook “Rakubioloogia”, University of Tartu Vivarium Manager [Sulev Kuuse](#) and Professor of Cell Biology [Toivo Maimets](#), were recognised for **developing Estonian scientific terminology**. The first prize for **best science and technology communication** was awarded to [Tuul Sepp](#), Professor in Animal Ecology, for her various research communication activities. The first prize for the **best new science and technology communication initiative** went to Praktikal Education, a comprehensive solution for teaching science, co-founded by [Kaido Reivelt](#), Head of the Centre for School Physics. The Estonian Association of Science Journalists recognised [Marko Mägi](#), Research Fellow in Bird Ecology, with **Ökul Prize as the friend of science journalism**.

In the Book of the Year competition, launched by Rahva Raamat, the winner in the **best-translated reference book** category was “Reisimuljeid vanadest Baltimaadest” by [Seppo Zetterberg](#), honorary doctor of the University of Tartu.

In the **national contest for university students**, one of the first prizes went to doctoral student [Tõnis Laasfeld](#) for his “Integrating Image Analysis and Quantitative Modeling for a Holistic View of GPCR Ligand Binding Dynamics”. The national awards were given for the best research papers written by students of the three levels of higher education and in six fields of research, and several special awards. University of Tartu students won 63 of the total 93 awards.

The annual student research award competition of the National Archives of Estonia has been organised since 1996 to find the **best student papers written about archives or based on archival materials**. The first prize for bachelor’s theses was granted to University of Tartu student [Helena Eglit](#). A student of the UT Pärnu College, [Triin Jõgeva](#), was recognised with the **“Teenäitaja” award from the NGO Estonian Association of Large Families**.

Statistics Estonia presented the **young statistician’s prize** to [Artur Tuttar](#) for his master’s thesis, in which he studied the use of machine learning models in the insurance sector.

Estonian National Museum gave the **Ilmari Manninen scholarship** to [Inger Pürjema](#), a student of Estonian Native Craft at the UT Viljandi Culture Academy, who studies the dresses of the second half of the 19th century.

Tallinn City Council’s scholarship was awarded to [Elina Maarja Suitso](#), a doctoral student of Human Geography at the University of Tartu.

UT students were also successful in international competitions. Students of Science and Technology and Bioengineering of the Institute of Technology developed a method to make bees immune to deformed wing virus. The project BeeYeast brought the team the grand prize at the **iGEM** (International Genetically Engineered Machine) competition. Our students are members of the Estonian solar car team **Solaride** who won third place in the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge in Australia at the end of October and received the special prize for the best result in the technical inspection. Fifty UT students have participated in developing the solar car.

At the “Tähelend 2023” appreciation event of young talents, awards were given to Computer Engineering student [Emil Eensaar](#) and Physiotherapy student [Jürgen Joonas](#) who won medals at high-level **international orienteering competitions**.

Tartu student organisations’ collaborative network “Ole rohkem” granted the 2023 **student organisation award** to the University of Tartu Biology Students Association. The network gave the **Student Friend of the Year** title to Rector [Toomas Asser](#) and the **Cooperation Partner of the Year** to the Institute of Computer Science.

At the Estonian Enterprise Awards, the UT spin-off Icosagen won the titles **Company of the Year** and **Innovator of the Year**. The Ministry of Defence recognised the University of Tartu with the honorary title **Supporter of National Defence**. Recognition was also given to the university’s academic units: Narva College received the **Golden Apple higher education award** from Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps for the project “Developing Teachers’ Skills to Educate Pre-School Children with and Through Digital Technologies”. The initiative “Schools in Motion” of the Move Lab of the Institute of Sports Sciences and Physiotherapy won the **Health-Promoting Schools Award** at the International Sport and Culture Association’s annual MOVE Congress.



Team Solaride in Australia



Kertu Liis Krigul, Junior Research Fellow in Microbiomics, was a laureate in the “Science in 3 Minutes” competition for her presentation “Antibiotics – a Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing?”

Culture and sport



Tartu Academic Male Choir sang the national anthem to nearly 12,000 spectators and hundreds of thousands of TV viewers at A. Le Coq Arena on 20 June, opening the European Football Championship qualifier between Estonia and Belgium



The academic brass orchestra Popsid went on a concert tour in Poland and Germany



University of Tartu rowers were crowned champions in the men's eight at the European Universities Championship in Poland



University of Tartu Folk Art Ensemble organised a gala concert for folk dance ensembles in Vanemuine Concert Hall

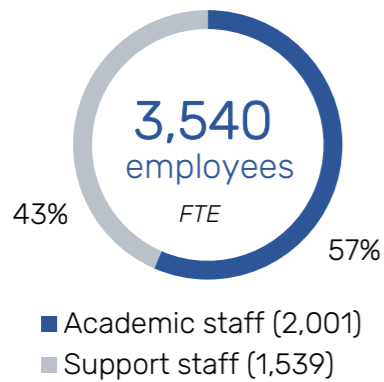


University of Tartu Symphony Orchestra, Academic Women's Choir of the University of Tartu and Tartu Academic Male Choir gave a Christmas concert in Tartu St. Paul's church

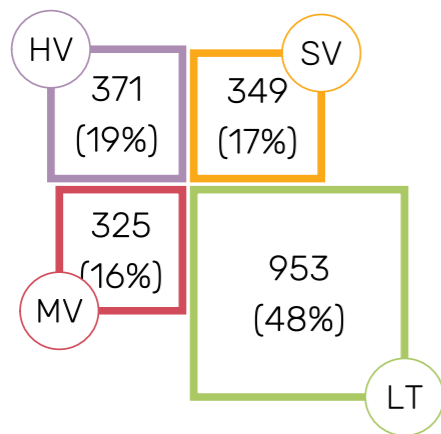


Spring Run of the University of Tartu attracted more than 200 participants

We provide students with an integrated university experience, giving them the possibility to participate in student organisations, cultural activities, sports organisations, professional societies and representative bodies.



Number of employees (FTE) in 2023



Number of academic staff members (FTE) and their division by faculties in 2023. The figure does not include the academic staff of UT institutions



International FTE employees accounted for 14.5% of the total number of UT academic staff (A2025 target is 15–20%).

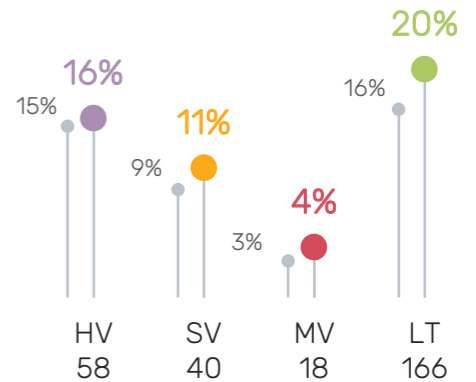
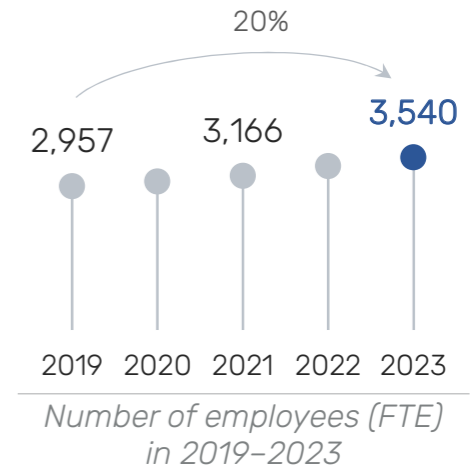
ORGANISATION

Employees

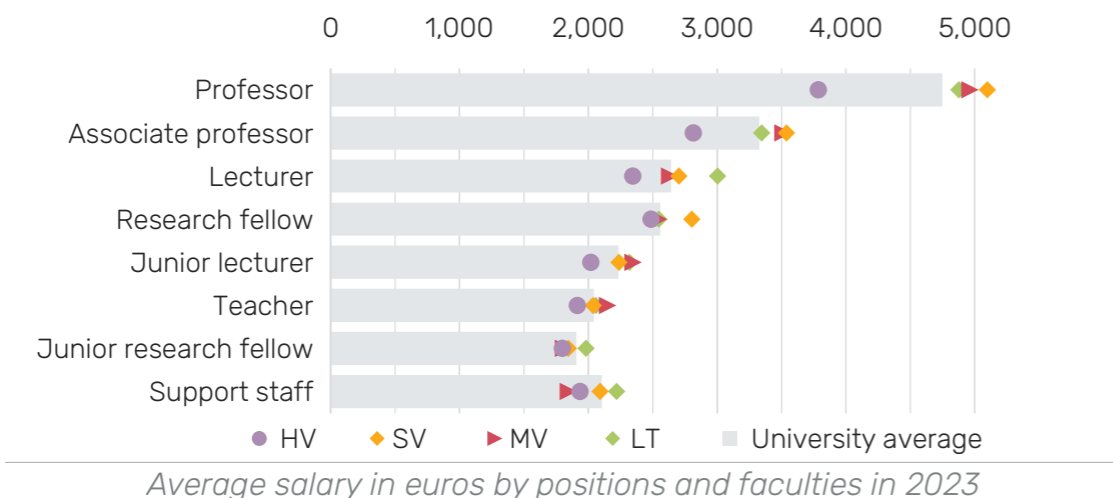
At the end of 2023, a total of 4,367 people worked at the University of Tartu either full-time or part-time. The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees was 3,540. There were 2,532 people in academic positions, incl. 258 professors, 82 of whom (32%) were women.

1,545 academic staff members held a PhD (61%). The requirement to hold a PhD or an equivalent qualification applies to professors, associate professors, lecturers and research fellows.

The university's staff included 609 foreign nationals from 76 countries; 508 of them held an academic position. Most of them were junior research fellows (228) or research fellows (122). 44 foreign nationals worked as professors and 60 as associate professors.



Number of international academic staff and their percentage by faculties in 2023 (excl. junior research fellows). For comparison, the percentage of international staff in 2019 is shown in grey



The **average gross monthly salary** of UT employees was €2,483. It increased by 10.5% over the year: 7.4% for academic staff and 13.3% for support staff. The average salary increase was the biggest for junior lecturers (15.1%), lecturers (13%) and teachers (10.7%). Professors' average salary grew by 9.3%. The lower increase in the average total salary of academic staff results from the growth in the number of junior research fellows. Since 2022/23, most doctoral student places are junior research fellow positions and are supported by the state. In 2023, the number of junior research fellows at the university grew by 180.

In 2023, the **gender pay gap survey** of academic staff was conducted at the university. Its results showed that the pay gap at the university in hourly rates was similar to Statistics Estonia's data for all Estonian employees. On average, the gender gap in hourly wages was 20.3% in Estonia and 19.3% at the UT in 2012–2021. There is no difference between men's and women's salaries in the same position at the university, but fewer women are employed in higher-paid jobs and more in lower-paid jobs. Women are employed in jobs with higher teaching load, but teaching is lower remunerated than research in the UT pay system. An equal number of men and women work in the post of associate professor, which requires a PhD, but predominantly, men progress from there to the post of professor. Women's academic mobility, both in degree studies and later academic careers, is lower than men's, and women's scholarly productivity in research also remains lower than men's.

Without controlling for position, the characteristics of demographics, education and academic productivity can explain most of the gender gap in salaries, narrowing the gender gap to 3.1%. Thus, the gender pay gap mainly results from these differences, and it cannot be concluded that promotion to higher positions is gender discriminatory.

In 2023, a **survey of the language attitudes** of international staff was completed at the university. According to the survey, more than half of the respondents rarely or never use the Estonian language. Also, the motivation among international staff to learn Estonian was low for various reasons.

The university has set a target that at least 45% of international staff should have participated in an Estonian language course in the past five years. In 2023, the indicator was 42%.



The UT supports the Estonian language learning of its **international staff** at language courses, camps and cafés, and in tandem learning. During the year, 160 international employees and their 25 family members learned Estonian. The university organises various adaptation-supporting events for international staff and their families. For example, in 2023, they were offered a guided tour in Karlova, a curator tour at an art exhibition, and a walk in Valgesoo bog. A total of 236 people participated in the seven events.

In 2023, the language learning hub was launched – a website with information about Estonian language courses and opportunities to improve one's proficiency in Estonian at the university. During the year, the website had more than 1,000 users. It shows that many people are interested in learning Estonian, and the website has become a standard tool for finding courses.

The Live Positive Club series held eight meetings with 123 participants during the year. The events are in English and open to all university staff. Each meeting is dedicated to a different topic: for example, thankfulness, belonging, resting, meaningful moments, and coping with negative events have been discussed.

We provide international staff with high-quality support services to ensure that they quickly adapt to the working and living environment.

We systematically support the self-development of our staff through diverse training programmes.

To develop **staff's professional knowledge and skills**, the UT offers various training courses supporting the development of teaching and leadership skills, a good working environment, maintaining mental health, and language skills.



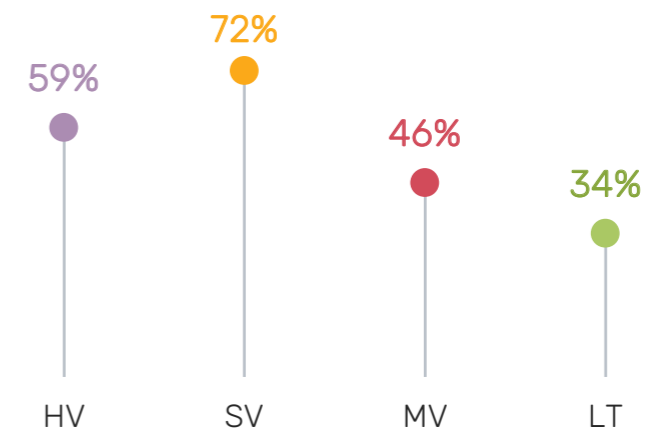
48% of academic staff have actively participated in academic development in the past five years (A2025 target is 50%).

The university supports the development of the **teaching and supervising skills** of academic staff by offering training courses, counselling, collegial feedback communities, the scholarship of teaching and learning, and teaching and learning conferences. All teaching staff members can get support to develop their teaching skills from their faculty's academic developers and instructional designers. In 2023, there were 70 training courses and seminars on the development of teaching skills, with more than 1,600 participants. For a second year now, academic staff members with an employment contract for an unspecified term must undergo teaching skills training of at least 6 ECTS within the first five years of employment.

The university allocated eight **team grants** to teaching staff to systematically develop and research their teaching skills. Together with earlier grant recipients, 100 teaching staff members have now received the grant to research and develop their teaching and share the results with others.

To support **good leadership**, the university offers training and workshops on problem-solving, giving feedback, instructional conversations, leading an inclusive discussion, giving recognition, financial skills and more. In 2023, 21 training courses were organised, with 279 participants. Twenty-two heads of units and team leaders completed the managers' development programme. The programme aims to develop the skills and knowledge good managers most often need in their everyday work at the university, offer support to novice managers and help them build a supportive network. The managers' development programme was launched in 2018, and 82 managers have completed it.

The training programme for peer group counselling leaders continued. Over four years, 53 employees have completed the programme. In the masterclasses held in 2023, peer group counselling leaders could gain new knowledge and exchange experiences. In peer group counselling, participants get support, inspiration and solutions to work-related problem situations from their colleagues.



Percentage of academic employees who actively participated in academic development activities by faculties in 2023



The annual conference "From Lecturer to Lecturer" was dedicated to the beauty of uncertainty in teaching. In the workshops, participants shared experiences on how to use games and entertainment in teaching, support close reading of texts and apply virtual mobility in teaching. The conference attracted nearly 200 participants

We create the opportunity for collegial feedback.

We ensure the next generation of executives and support their development into leaders who set an example for other university members.

Work environment

Fairness, equality, valuing diversity, respectful attitude and communication, preventing bullying and intervening in problem situations directly impact the way how people feel at work. To foster equal treatment, a website promoting the university's equal treatment policies and providing information on best practices was launched in 2023. An information material, "Equal Treatment at the University of Tartu", and three videos were produced on equal treatment principles, bullying cases and how to deal with them.

In 2023, four **"ABC of Equal Treatment"** training courses were organised, with 45 participants. Also, the 26-hour training for equal treatment support persons started, with 35 participants. Nineteen people were acting as equal treatment support persons in 2023/24. The Estonian Human Rights Centre highlighted the university's network of equal treatment support persons as an excellent example in its 2023 annual report.

The University of Tartu participates in the working group of The Guild network of European research-intensive universities, where information and experience are exchanged on equal treatment and promoting diversity.

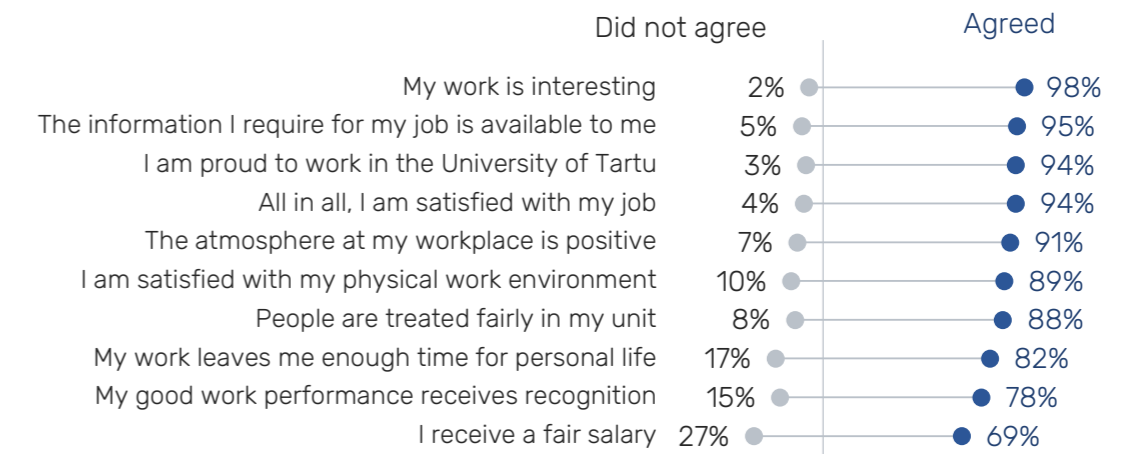
An academic staff **time-use survey** was conducted at the university. Its results show that the varied nature of academic work leads to excessive workload and stress. Also, the interplay of contradicting expectations is problematic: a person is expected to be successful in both teaching and research and, additionally, participate in management. Academic work is flexible in terms of content and working time, which blurs the boundaries between tasks and between working time and rest. The younger generation has a growing disapproval of overworking, as they place more emphasis on time and days off work and holidays. The employees expect an inclusive and supportive organisational culture that would also value the employees' well-being and personal time.

The fourth **mental health and well-being conference** was titled "The Power of Word" and had 995 registered participants, incl. 120 from the University of Tartu. The solution-focused online conference discussed how words can do more good than harm, the principles of good conversation, whether words can heal and how words can help us explore our feelings and thoughts. By the end of 2023, the conference had been viewed more than 4,400 times on UTTV.

The results of the university's **job satisfaction survey** in 2023 show that the UT is a stable organisation where it is possible to do interesting and high-impact work. The university's strengths include collegial support, good working facilities and a positive working atmosphere, as well as clarity of tasks and good accessibility of job-related information. Overall, 94% of the 1,551 employees who responded to the survey are satisfied with their jobs (34%). Considering the A2025 key indicator for job satisfaction, there is still room for improvement in the overall satisfaction level. **The aim is that at least 3/4 of staff in 70% of the units are entirely or generally satisfied with their jobs. In 2023, the indicator was 60%.**



Like in previous years, the most problematic issue was salary fairness. Compared to the last survey, the respondents found it more complicated to cope with work stress. The results of the annual survey highlight the strengths of the university's work environment, point out issues that need to be addressed and provide background information to keep each unit on a good development track.



Job satisfaction in 2023
(percentage of agreement and disagreement with the statement)

Recognition

The UT annually presents the **“Contribution to Estonian National Identity” award** to recognise individuals whose creative work has made an outstanding contribution to promoting the national identity of Estonians and Estonia. In 2023, the “Contribution to Estonian National Identity” award was granted to theatre director [Merle Karusoo](#).

The senate appointed **honorary doctors**:

- Professor [Rolf Harald Baayen](#) of the University of Tübingen, in Linguistics,
- Professor [Li Bennich-Björkman](#) of Uppsala University, in Political Science,
- Professor [José Alejandro Madrigal Fernández](#) of University College London, in Medicine,
- Professor [Alexei Kornyshev](#) of Imperial College London, in Science.

The **Johan Skytte medal** was awarded to Professor [Margit Sutrop](#), a member of the Riigikogu, who has contributed significantly to the development of the university and promoted higher education in Estonia.

The senate decided to award the **University of Tartu Grand Medal** for services of particular value to [Kristjan Vassil](#), Associate Professor of Technology Research, and [Jaak Vilo](#), Professor of Bioinformatics. The university awarded seven Stars of Appreciation, ten Medals, 61 Badges of Distinction, and 15 decorations “100 Semesters at the University of Tartu”.

The University of Tartu **research award** 2023 was for a comprehensive approach to processes that have influenced and continue to influence the Estonian people’s cultural, linguistic and genetic development. The award recipients were Associate Professor of Archaeology [Mari Tõrv](#), Professor of Archaeology [Valter Lang](#), Professor of Archaeogenomics [Kristiina Tambets](#), Professor of History and Dialects of Estonian Language [Karl Pajusalu](#), Junior Research Fellow in Archaeology [Silvia-Kristiin Kask](#), and Project Manager [Sandra Sammler](#).

The **contribution to society award** 2023 was for “Fashion Revolution”, a project combining Estonian language learning with sustainable fashion and entrepreneurship studies. The awardees are from Viljandi Culture Academy: Project Manager [Lembe Lahtmaa](#), Junior Lecturer in Materials Studies [Diana Tuulik](#) and Director [Juko-Mart Kõlar](#).

The **language award** 2023 was for the Estonian-language university textbook “Rakubioloogia” (Cell Biology). The laureates are Vivarium Manager [Sulev Kuuse](#) and Professor of Cell Biology [Toivo Maimets](#).

The **best teaching staff of the year awards** were granted to

- [Jane Klavan](#), Associate Professor of English Language, from the Faculty of Arts and Humanities,
- [Valter Parve](#), Teacher of Social Work, from the Faculty of Social Sciences,
- [Helen Zirnask](#), Lecturer in Human Anatomy, from the Faculty of Medicine,
- [Edith Viirlaid](#), Lecturer in Colloidal and Environmental Chemistry, from the Faculty of Science and Technology.

The **teaching quality award** for systematic work over the past three years went to the Institute of Chemistry. Teaching methods were changed, and more active learning methods were used to develop students’ future skills. Joint seminars were organised for teaching staff to develop their teaching skills, and the courses’ content was changed to make them more compatible. The courses were developed based on student feedback and the online support to studies was reviewed.

The University of Tartu **teaching awards** 2023 were given for

- organising writing retreats for bachelor’s and master’s students of the Institute of Foreign Languages and Cultures to provide a supportive environment for academic writing and the opportunity to discuss the writing process with other participants. Leaders: [Jane Klavan](#), [Antonina Kostina](#), [Djuddah Leijen](#), [Hella Liira](#), [Liina Tammekänd](#) and [Ülle Türk](#);
- opening the school psychology master’s studies in Pärnu to alleviate Estonia’s shortage of school psychologists. Leaders: [Kairi Kreegipuu](#), [Kariina Laas](#), [Triin Liin](#), [Garri Raagmaa](#), [Signe Reppo](#), [Urve Tammann](#), [Marju Tammiste](#), [Kristel Teearu](#) and [Ada Urm](#);
- reform of physical education and sports curricula, and integrating movement education into the curriculum to prevent health problems among children and young people. Leaders: [Kristjan Kais](#), [Maret Pihu](#) and [Priit Kaasik](#).

International cooperation

Tensions in international political and economic relations in recent years have also affected academic cooperation and inter-university activities. In a changed security context, the concept of **responsible internationalisation** is increasingly being used and taken up by European universities as a strategy for creating conditions conducive to international cooperation and emphasising the responsibility of those involved to reduce and manage risks. Responsible internationalisation was in the spotlight in the European Commission and European university cooperation networks in 2023. In a joint statement adopted in November, members of The Guild network of European research-intensive universities stressed the need to balance risk management and developing global cooperation.

The university continues to help **Ukraine**. To better coordinate the activities of the university and its partners in supporting Ukraine, the University of Tartu Ukraine Centre was founded in 2023. The centre offers an elective course “Ukraine: A Nation at the Frontier” and organises practical training for Ukrainian public sector professionals in cooperation with other UT units. The centre can conduct policy analyses and provide advice to the Estonian government, EU institutions and international organisations. The centre aims to raise awareness of Ukraine in society to continue the targeted and effective assistance to Ukraine and war refugees. The UT Scholarship Fund for Ukrainian Students, established by the University of Tartu Foundation in 2022, paid out €33,000 in total to 103 students in 2023, supported by donations from companies, individuals and expatriate communities in Canada and the USA.

In January, a delegation of representatives of the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science and universities visited the University of Tartu to learn about the teaching and research opportunities here. The meeting with Vice Rector for Academic Affairs [Aune Valk](#) focused on assistance to Ukrainian students and cooperation between the University of Tartu and Ukrainian universities. Among other topics, the discussion focused on how to offer a form of study similar to our micro-credential programmes in Ukraine.

The number of cooperation agreements between the university and Ukrainian partners increased. In 2023, 16 new Erasmus+ partnership agreements were signed with Ukrainian universities, mainly for student and staff mobility. Thanks to the flexibility of the Erasmus+ programme, 69 Ukrainians studied at the University of Tartu as international visiting students. In 2023, the European Commission highlighted 15 Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps projects in support of Ukraine, including an initiative by the University of Tartu that enabled Ukrainian medical students to continue their studies in Tartu after a year of intensive Estonian language training.

In 2023, Erasmus+ designated the UT as an Erasmus Without Paper Champion for the digitisation of mobility administration processes, which is a recognition, an opportunity to have a say in planning future digital developments and a commitment to share our experience with other European universities. Cooperation with the Erasmus Student Network was reorganised to better promote mobility opportunities by involving members of the network.

The university is actively involved in **international networks**: The Guild, LERU-CE7 and the Coimbra Group have enabled the university to enhance its international visibility and participate in shaping European research and higher education policies. Under the auspices of The Guild, the university had the opportunity during the year to participate in high-level debates on European research and higher education policies, including responsible internationalisation, and make recommendations to the European Commission on how to improve the Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe programmes. The Europaeum network, initiated by the University of Oxford, places particular emphasis on diversifying educational opportunities for doctoral students.

The UT continues its strategic partnership with the ten-member **ENLIGHT** network of European universities. During ENLIGHT’s first funding period (2020–2023), the volume of student exchanges within the network increased fivefold: in the 2020/21 academic year, 16 UT students studied at ENLIGHT universities, and by 2022/23,

their number had grown to 80. The UT hosted about 50 exchange students from other ENLIGHT universities both in 2021/22 and 2022/23. In addition, 35 UT staff members and students participated in ENLIGHT conferences in Bilbao, Bordeaux, Galway and Uppsala in 2023. Teaching staff from Tartu taught as visiting lecturers at other universities of the network. Bilateral cooperation meetings were held with colleagues at the universities in Galway, Ghent and Uppsala. Top managers of the network universities took part in a training programme, one module of which was held in Tartu. In 2023, it was decided that ENLIGHT will continue to be funded by Erasmus+ for the next four years (until 2027). At the same time, UT researchers' cooperation with other ENLIGHT universities continues within the ENLIGHT Rise project.

During a state visit in May, **King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden** and **Queen Silvia** visited the university. The university members greeted them in front of the main building and at the statue of Gustav II Adolf. During a ceremony in the assembly hall, the royal couple signed an entry in the book of honour. Rector **Toomas Asser** and Director of the Nordic Museum **Sanne Houby-Nielsen** signed a statement of intent aiming to bring the rector's sceptres, robe, and seals of the faculties of theology and philosophy of the Swedish era from Stockholm temporarily to an exhibition in Tartu to mark the university's 400th anniversary. King Carl XVI Gustaf also visited the Delta centre. The royal couple was accompanied by the Swedish business delegation interested in health technologies.

In September, **His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew** visited the university, delivered the public lecture "Environmental awareness and the role of education" in the assembly hall, and talked to Rector **Toomas Asser**, teaching staff and students.

The university also hosted visits by the **Minister of Education and Culture of Moldova Dan Perciun** and the **Minister of Education of Saxony Christian Piwarz**. The **ambassadors** of Austria, Indonesia, Canada, Greece, Malaysia, Mongolia, Norway, France, Finland, Thailand, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, the USA and Vietnam paid their traditional introductory visits to the university.

Representatives of the university participated in the 28th **UN Climate Change Conference (COP28)** in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, where world leaders and climate experts discussed the strategies for adapting to climate change. UT researchers introduced research on the development of sustainable cities, biodiversity, and climate measures and their ways of application in the Estonian pavilion.



King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden (at the centre) in the university assembly hall



His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew at the University of Tartu

Reducing environmental impact

Science and technology are seen as a lifeline in climate change, which helps solve the complex problems that arise. However, also the creation of knowledge has an environmental impact. In November, the university organised the conference **“Sustainable Science – What is the Environmental Footprint of Scientific Knowledge Creation?”**, which looked at the environmental impact of research itself and discussed ways to reduce it.

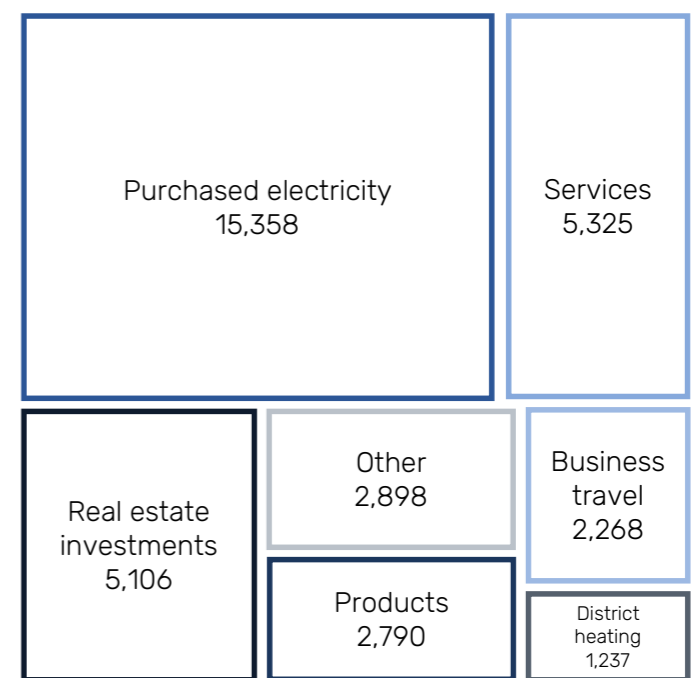
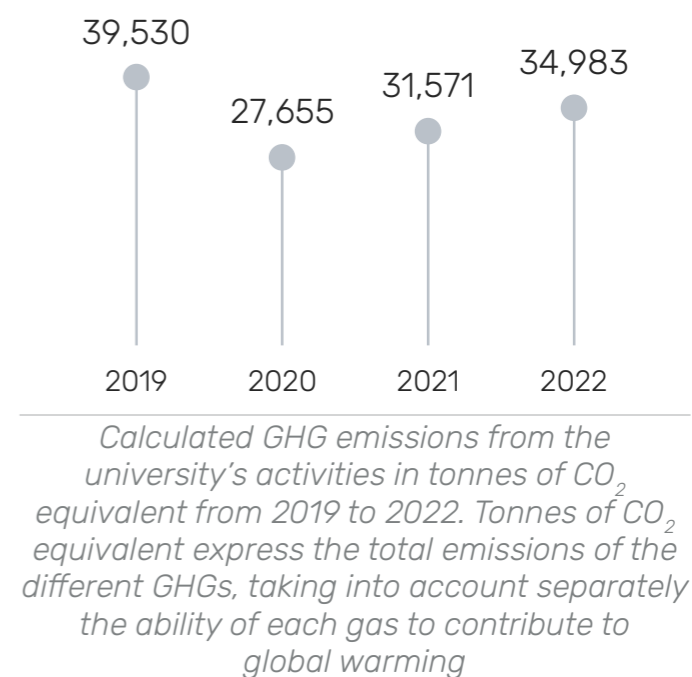
The independent Green Museum certificate was awarded to the university’s museums for greening their activities. The museums also participated in developing an environmental management system considering the specifics of museums, and organised respective training courses. In the library, a sustainability agreement was implemented to make day-to-day operations more sustainable.

The university continued to make its activities more environmentally friendly. Among other things, the **greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** from the university’s activities for the years 2019–2022 were estimated using the GHG Protocol (an internationally recognised standard for calculating and reporting GHG emissions) and a calculation model developed by the Stockholm Environment Institute Tallinn office, which includes Estonia-specific emission factors.

The university’s estimated GHG emissions for 2022 were 34,983 CO₂-equivalent tonnes, in which the university’s electricity consumption has the most considerable environmental impact, including climate impact, accounting for 44% of the GHG emissions. In terms of emissions, investments in real estate (15% of GHG emissions), consumption of purchased services and products (15% and 8%, respectively), business travel and commuting of university members (6% and 2%, respectively) and district heating of buildings (4%) followed.

Calculations of the GHG emissions indicated that it is necessary to increase the energy efficiency of buildings and to switch to electricity from renewable energy sources to reduce the environmental, including climate impact of the university.

From 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2023, the university invested €5.7 million in **improving energy efficiency**, of which the smart investment grant from the MoER covered €5 million. Solar parks were installed on the university buildings, energy storage systems were bought, heating, cooling and ventilation systems were upgraded, and lighting fixtures were replaced to reduce energy consumption. For example, solar panels were installed on the library and the buildings at Lossi 3 and Lai 38, which more than doubled the university’s electricity production capacity. The university’s earlier decisions, such as the decision to stop using natural gas, to switch to district heating and join the



GHG emissions from the university’s activities in 2022 in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent by major fields of activity

district cooling system using water from the river Emajõgi, also contribute to lower GHG emissions. As a result of these actions, the university's electricity costs have decreased by 12–14% per month. At the end of 2023, the university decided to start purchasing electricity from renewable sources only.

As daily mobility also has a significant environmental impact, the Mobility Lab and the Research Group of Physical Activity for Health carried out the **mobility survey of the university members**. It aimed to gain insight into the mobility needs and behaviours, expectations, preferences and barriers to mobility of the university members. The survey results showed that 67% of students and 52% of staff predominantly (at least three days a week) use sustainable modes of transport to travel between home and study buildings: walking, cycling or public transport. 14% of students and 31% of employees commute to work by car at least three days a week. The choice of the mode of mobility is influenced by the location of university buildings and the mobility infrastructure. Among car users, 43% of students and 30% of staff drive to Maarjamõisa, 20% of students and 39% of staff to the city centre, 10% of students and 14% of staff to the academic buildings on Vanemuise and Riia streets, 9% of students and 4% of staff to the academic buildings on Näituse street, and 19% of students and 14% of staff to the academic buildings in the Ülejõe district.

Environmentally sound procurement aims to reduce the negative environmental impacts caused by the production, use and disposal of products and the provision of services. The university has applied sustainability criteria in the procurement of furniture, cleaning products and services and office IT equipment. In 2023, ten such procurements were carried out. In addition to the sustainability requirements set by the Minister of the Environment, the university has defined conditions for caterers to minimise environmental damage (e.g. food produced from local raw materials, by a local producer, based on local traditions or with ingredients from producers with sustainability labels).

Digital development

One of the key trends in digital development in 2023 was the widespread adoption of **artificial intelligence**. The university developed the principles and guidelines for using chatbots in teaching and studies. The university encourages the use of chatbots to support teaching and develop students' learning and working skills. Lecturers can decide whether and how to use the chatbots or restrict their use in the context of their course. In the case of written papers, the use of a chatbot must be appropriately described and referenced. The university is responsible for ensuring that staff and students have safe and equal access to chatbots. To this end, Microsoft's Azure OpenAI artificial intelligence service and the Copilot chatbot were taken into use at the university at the end of the year.

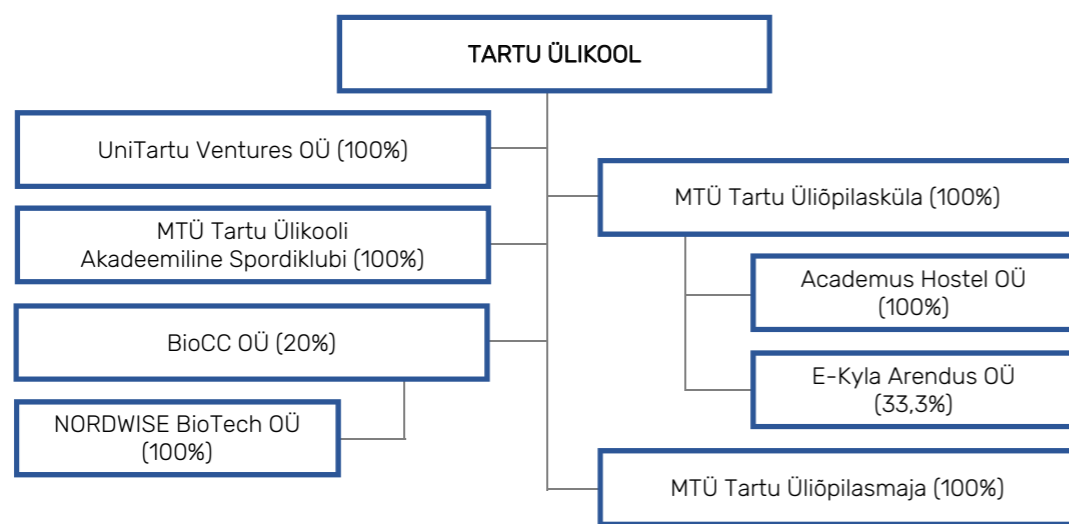
Work continued on developing the **SIS2 Study Information System**, and all teaching staff switched to SIS2 from 20 February. The development of the website, the learner's dashboard and other information systems continued, and the development of the TEEK study path application for doctoral students and resident doctors started. Preparations for launching the **information security** management system also continued. The university has the obligation to implement adequate cybersecurity measures and pass the compliance audit by 2025 at the latest.

The five-year action plan for the **development of basic information systems infrastructure** was finalised, focusing on reducing technological debt and eliminating security risks to ensure the sustainability and interoperability of central information systems, mitigate security risks and automate daily tasks. During the year, IT infrastructure was upgraded in 16 university buildings.

The grant application round for the modernisation of the **teaching and learning infrastructure** was held in 2023. Its goal is to upgrade outdated teaching aids, improve the relevance of teaching and learning infrastructure to modern needs, and find opportunities for shared use. All faculties received the grant for modernising their lecture rooms and upgrading specialised teaching equipment.

Finances

At the end of 2023, the consolidation group of the University of Tartu consisted of the university and eight other legal entities. The group's operating revenue in the 2023 fiscal year was €277.6 million, growing 11.3% over the year.



The university's financial strategy supports the implementation of the strategic plan through effective budgeting at all levels of the university. The financial strategy aims to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the university and all faculties, and increase the efficiency of the university's activities in all fields of study and research and the service of society.

In 2023, the university met the **general goals set in the financial strategy**:

- cash flows from economic activities are positive; result: +22 million euros;
- the university's net assets form at least 75% of the balance; result: 75%;
- loan burden does not exceed 25% of the annual revenue; result: 5%.

Key indicators of the field and volume of activity of the legal entities in the consolidation group in 2023 in thousand euros

Legal person	Field of activity	Operating revenue	Net gain	Balance sheet total	Net assets
University of Tartu	Higher education, research	270,903	3,869	361,267	271,285
NORDWISE BioTech OÜ	Research and development, and sales of BioCC products	127	49.	2,857	2,732
Academus Hostel OÜ	Accommodation	0	0	25	25
E-Kyla Arendus OÜ	Software development for student residences	19	1	51	47
BioCC OÜ	Research in natural sciences	1,298	7	1,117	568
MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasküla/Student Village	Student accommodation	5,086	498	2,414	1,577
UniTartu Ventures OÜ	Intellectual property investment in enterprises	0	61	530	514
MTÜ Tartu Ülikooli Akadeemiline Spordiklubi	Students' sports activities	4,083	215	770	442
MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasmaja	Students' cultural activities	825	9	351	230
University of Tartu group		277,559	4,532	364,632	273,393

Main indicators (consolidated)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Financial indicators in thousand euros					
Operating revenue	204,793	204,140	233,947	249,323	277,559
Operating expenses	193,421	200,611	224,724	249,128	274,669
Financial revenue and expenses	-135	-83	-1	92	1,642
Annual total net gain	11,207	3,425	9,222	287	4,532
Balance sheet total	323,664	338,201	351,579	352,473	364,632
Current assets	64,596	82,036	95,688	102,716	117,457
Fixed assets	259,068	256,165	255,891	249,757	247,175
Current liabilities	44,156	58,922	66,127	69,784	81,188
Long-term liabilities	23,581	19,927	16,878	13,828	10,051
Net assets	255,927	259,352	268,574	268,861	273,393
Loans from banks	27,662	23,574	19,926	16,878	12,400
Ratios in percentages					
Operating expenses / operating revenue	94	98	96	100	99
Loans / operating revenue	14	12	9	7	4
Current assets / current liabilities	146	139	145	147	145
Fixed assets / balance sheet total	80	76	73	71	68
Loans / balance sheet total	9	7	6	5	3
Net assets / balance sheet total	79	77	76	76	75

Major investments in 2023 with total project costs:

- the grant for smart investments allocated by MoER to research and development institutions was used to carry out works improving energy efficiency: solar parks and systems for connection to district cooling were built; energy storage devices, ventilation automation and LED lighting were installed (€5 million);
- the right wing of the main building was renovated (€2 million);
- extension to the Estonian Maritime Institute building at Vana-Sauga 28 in Pärnu was completed (€0.5 million).

Major investments in 2024 with an estimated cost:

- renovation of the Old Anatomical Theatre for the Information Technology Office, Youth Academy and Institute of Genomics (€3.2 million);
- completing the renovation of the Nooruse 7 student residence (€7.8 million);
- renovation of the Struve building at Uppsala 6 for the Human Resources Office (€2.2 million);
- renovation of the building at Lai 40 for the Natural History Museum and Botanical Garden (€2 million);
- starting the renovation of the buildings at Ülikooli 18a and Ülikooli 16 (€5.4 and €4.1 million, respectively);
- design of the reconstruction of the building of the Faculty of Law in Tallinn, Kaarli pst 3 (construction in 2025–2026, total cost €9.2 million);
- starting the designing of the new building (incl. a parking building) for four institutes in Maarjavälja (design 2024–2025, construction 2026–2028, total cost €95.2 million).

Consolidated financial statements

2023

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Note	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	83,596	70,512
Receivables and prepayments	4	33,540	31,911
Inventories	6	321	293
Total current assets		117,457	102,716
Non-current assets			
Investments in associates	7	120	119
Other investments	8	345	2
Receivables and prepayments	9	1,587	2,004
Investment property	10	6,366	6,590
Property, plant and equipment	11	230,812	232,939
Intangible assets	12	7,945	8,103
Total non-current assets		247,175	249,757
TOTAL ASSETS		364,632	352,473
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Borrowings	13	2,417	3,160
Payables and deferred income	16	78,771	66,624
Total current liabilities		81,188	69,784
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	13	10,051	13,828
Total non-current liabilities		10,051	13,828
Total liabilities		91,239	83,612
Net assets			
Capital of the university		144,182	144,182
Accumulated surpluses (prior periods)		124,679	124,392
Surplus for the period		4,532	287
Total net assets		273,393	268,861
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		364,632	352,473

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

The notes on pages 62 to 96 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

	Note	2023	2022
Revenue			
Revenue from sale of goods and provision of services	18	35,698	32,272
State budget funding for education activities	19	106,977	89,656
State budget funding for research activities	20	31,628	28,823
Grants related to assets	21	8,348	2,309
Grants related to income	22	94,382	93,654
Other income	23	526	2,609
Total revenue		277,559	249,323
Expenses			
Goods, materials and services used	24	-29,392	-23,931
Operating expenses	25	-58,809	-58,659
Scholarships and study grants		-12,199	-13,752
Staff costs	26	-153,816	-131,836
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment losses	27	-18,333	-17,331
Significant write-downs of current assets		-91	-48
Other expenses	29	-2,029	-3,571
Total expenses		-274,669	-249,128
Surplus on operating activities		2,890	195
Share of profit of associates	7	1	9
Income on other investments		0	5
Interest income		2,134	151
Interest expense		-569	-158
Other finance income		76	85
Surplus for the period		4,532	287

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

The notes on pages 62 to 96 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Note	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities			
Surplus on operating activities		2,890	195
Adjustments for			
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment losses	27	18,333	17,331
Transfer from assets under construction and prepayments to expenses	11	311	0
Transfer from acquisitions in stages to expenses	12	29	0
Other non-cash transactions with non-current assets		-343	0
Gains and losses on sale of non-current assets	23	-5	1,299
Receipt of non-monetary grants related to assets	21	-39	0
Grants related to assets received	21	-8,309	-2,309
Grants related to assets passed on		377	54
Change in receivables and prepayments		-1,003	2,709
Change in inventories	6	-28	-90
Change in payables and deferred income		11,005	3,979
Interest paid		-566	-153
Net cash from operating activities		22,652	23,015

	Note	2023	2022
Cash flows from investing activities			
Paid for acquisition of property, plant and equipment		-5,649	-3,928
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		5	941
Paid for assets under construction		-9,085	-9,393
Prepayments made for property, plant and equipment	11	-44	-3
Paid for acquisition of intangible assets		-211	-376
Government grants related to assets paid (partners)		-192	-214
Government grants related to assets received		7,561	3,028
Dividend income on other investments		0	5
Settlement of a non-current receivable		5	5
Interest received		2,562	193
Net cash used in investing activities		-5,048	-9,742
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayments of loans received	13, 15	-4,478	-3,048
Payments of finance lease principal	13, 14	-42	-1
Net cash used in financing activities		-4,520	-3,049
Net cash flow		13,084	10,224
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	3	70,512	60,288
Increase in cash and cash equivalents		13,084	10,224
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	3	83,596	70,512

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

The notes on pages 62 to 96 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Capital of the university	Accumulated surpluses	Surplus for the period	Total
At 31 December 2021	144,182	115,170	9,222	268,574
Transfer of surplus	0	9,222	-9,222	0
Surplus for the period	0	0	287	287
At 31 December 2022	144,182	124,392	287	268,861
Transfer of surplus	0	287	-287	0
Surplus for the period	0	0	4,532	4,532
At 31 December 2023	144,182	124,679	4,532	273,393

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

The notes on pages 62 to 96 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The consolidated financial statements of the University of Tartu as at and for the year ended 31 December 2023 (the financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Estonian Financial Reporting Standard (EFRS), which is a set of requirements for general purpose financial statements that is based on internationally recognised accounting and reporting principles. The main requirements of EFRS are set out in the Estonian Accounting Act and additional guidance is provided in the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines.

The financial statements have been prepared using the going concern basis of accounting, i.e. assuming that the University of Tartu and its subsidiaries and associates (the group) are going concerns. The financial year began on 1 January 2023 and ended on 31 December 2023. The financial statements are presented in thousands of euros.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis unless stated otherwise in these accounting policies.

The consolidated statement of financial performance has been prepared using Income Statement Format 1 in Annex 2 to the Estonian Accounting Act. Certain account titles in the statements of financial performance and changes in net assets as well as the structure of the statements have been modified to represent the nature of the group's operations more faithfully.

In the consolidated statement of cash flows, cash flows from operating activities have been reported using the indirect method. Cash flows from investing and financing activities have been reported using the direct method.

1.2. Preparation of consolidated financial statements

1.2.1. Basis of consolidation

In preparing consolidated financial statements, the financial statements of the parent and all the subsidiaries under its control are combined line by line. Intragroup balances and transactions and any resulting unrealised profits are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the costs cannot be recovered. Where necessary, the accounting policies of the subsidiaries are adjusted to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the group.

These financial statements comprise the financial information of the University of Tartu (the parent), its subsidiaries UniTartu Ventures OÜ, Academus Hostel OÜ, MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasküla, MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasmaja and MTÜ Tartu Ülikooli Akadeemiline Spordiklubi, and its associates E-Kyla Arendus OÜ and BioCC OÜ and the latter's subsidiary NORDWISE BioTech OÜ.

1.2.2. Subsidiaries

A subsidiary of the University of Tartu is an entity controlled by the University of Tartu. Control is presumed to exist when the parent holds, directly or indirectly, over 50% of the voting power of an entity or has the power to govern an entity's operating and financial policies by some other means.

The term 'subsidiary' also covers foundations and non-profit associations. The existence of control of foundations and non-profit associations is determined considering, among other factors, whether the assets of the entity will transfer to the parent when the entity is liquidated. When the parent has control of a foundation or a non-profit association (generally over 50% of the voting power), the investment is accounted for as a wholly-held investment.

Information about subsidiaries is disclosed in note 2.

1.2.3. Associates

An associate of the University of Tartu is an entity over which the University of Tartu or its subsidiary has significant influence but not control. Significant influence is presumed to exist when the University of Tartu or its subsidiary holds 20 to 50% of the voting power of an entity.

When the University of Tartu or its subsidiary has significant influence (generally 20 to 50% of the voting power) in a foundation or non-profit association, neither an investment in an associate nor other investment is recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position. Contributions to the investee's capital are recognised as an expense (a transfer made).

Investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method. Under the equity method, an investment is initially recognised at cost and its carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to recognise the investor's share of changes in the investee's net assets (both changes in the investee's profit or loss and other items of net assets), and the elimination or amortisation of the difference identified in the purchase price allocation between the fair value and carrying amount of the investee's assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities.

The group assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that the recoverable amount of an investment may have decreased below its carrying amount. If such indication exists, the investment is tested for impairment. The recoverable amounts of investments are estimated as described in subsection 1.11. Impairment of assets.

Information about associates is disclosed in note 7.

1.2.4. Interests in foundations

The University of Tartu is a founding member in the following foundations:

- Tartu University Hospital Foundation
- Science Centre AHHA Foundation
- Tartu Science Park Foundation
- University of Tartu Foundation
- Estonian Agrenska Foundation
- Viljandi Centre for Creative Industries Foundation
- Iuridicum Foundation.

The following table provides an overview of foundations under the significant influence of the University of Tartu.

	Domicile	Net assets At 31 December		Representation of the university in terms of council members
		2023	2022	
Tartu University Hospital Foundation	Estonia	194,993	180,625	3 members of 8
Science Centre AHHA Foundation	Estonia	8,879	8,240	2 members of 6
Tartu Science Park Foundation	Estonia	4,085	3,999	1 member of 5
University of Tartu Foundation	Estonia	3,530	2,943	2 members of 8
Estonian Agrenska Foundation	Estonia	2,634	2,795	1.5 members of 6
Viljandi Centre for Creative Industries Foundation	Estonia	-128	-121	1 member of 5
Iuridicum Foundation	Estonia	2	9	2 members of 6

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

1.2.5. Other investments

Other investments, i.e. current and non-current investments in shares and other equity instruments (except for investments in subsidiaries and associates) whose fair value cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less any impairment losses.

Further information about other investments is disclosed in note 8.

1.2.6. Parent's separate primary financial statements presented in the notes

The notes to the consolidated financial statements include the separate primary financial statements of the group's parent (the consolidating entity): the statements of financial position, financial performance, cash flows and changes in net assets. The parent's primary financial statements are prepared using the same accounting policies as those applied in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements. In the parent's primary financial statements, investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at deemed cost less any impairment losses. If the deemed cost of an investment recognised in the parent's financial statements exceeds the interest in the investee's net assets which have decreased due to a dividend distribution, a loss incurred, or some other reason, the deemed cost of the investment is written down to the interest in the investee's net assets. When the interest in the investee's net assets subsequently increases, the write-down is reversed and the carrying amount is increased to the lower of deemed cost and the interest in the investee's net assets.

1.3. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, balances on current accounts (excl. overdrafts), term deposits with a short maturity (up to three months) and card payments in transit. In the consolidated statement of financial position, overdrafts are classified as current borrowings.

1.4. Receivables and prepayments

Trade receivables, accrued income and other current and non-current receivables (incl. loans provided and deposits) are measured at amortised cost. The amortised cost of current receivables is generally equal to their nominal value (less any write-down for impairment). Therefore, current receivables are measured at the amount that is expected to be collectible.

Non-current receivables are recognised initially at the fair value of the consideration receivable. After initial recognition, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Non-current receivables that do not bear interest are measured at their present value by applying a discount rate of 4% per year.

The collectibility of receivables is estimated using the approximation technique, which is based on historical experience. On the application of the approximation technique, receivables which are 90 to 180 days past due are written down by 50% and receivables which are more than 180 days past due are written down in full (100%). Doubtful receivables are carried within 'Trade receivables' until they are collected or considered uncollectible and written off the statement of financial position.

When it appears that the collection of a receivable is impracticable, the item is considered uncollectible and written off the statement of financial position. A receivable is considered uncollectible when the group has no means of collecting it (the debtor has been liquidated or gone bankrupt and the assets in the bankrupt's estate are insufficient for settling the debt, etc.) or when the costs of collecting the receivable would exceed the estimated income from its collection.

When a doubtful receivable is subsequently collected, the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed by reducing expenses from impairment of receivables in the period in which the item is collected.

1.5. Impairment of financial assets

The group assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that a financial asset or a group of financial assets measured using the amortised cost or the cost method may be impaired. If such indication exists, financial assets measured at amortised cost are written down to the present value of their expected future cash flows (discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate) and financial assets measured at cost are written down to the amount that could reasonably be

expected to be collected if the financial asset were sold at the reporting date. An impairment loss is recognised as an expense in the consolidated statement of financial performance.

1.6. Inventories

Inventories are assets: held for sale in the ordinary course of economic activity; in the process of production for such sale; or in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed in the production process or the rendering of services. Inventories comprise goods purchased for sale, materials, work in progress and finished goods as well as equipment and properties (real estate) held for resale and capitalised expenses directly attributable to the provision of services for which revenue cannot yet be recognised using the stage of completion method.

Inventories are initially measured at cost, which comprises all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. Expenditure on fuel excise duty incurred on the acquisition of inventories is capitalised and included in the cost of the inventories.

Borrowing costs are not included in the cost of inventories. In accordance with the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines, non-recoverable levies and taxes paid on the acquisition of inventories are recognised as an expense.

The cost of goods is assigned using the FIFO formula. In the consolidated statement of financial position, inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1.7. Investment property

Investment property is property (land or a building or a part of a building) that the group leases out to a non-public sector entity to earn rentals or holds for capital appreciation and which is not used in the operating activity of any public sector entity. Buildings and premises that are used by public sector entities

are recognised as items of property, plant and equipment.

An investment property is measured initially at its cost, which includes any expenditure directly attributable to the acquisition of the property (e.g. notary's fees, stamp duties, legal and advisory fees, and other expenditures without which the transaction would probably not have occurred). Borrowing costs are not included in the cost of investment property. In accordance with the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines, non-recoverable levies and taxes incurred on the acquisition of investment property are recognised as an expense and, after initial recognition, investment property is measured at cost less any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is charged using the straight-line method. Each investment property is assigned a depreciation rate that corresponds to its useful life. Where an investment property consists of significant parts that have different useful lives, the parts are accounted for separately and assigned depreciation rates that correspond to their useful lives. In 2023, the depreciation rates assigned to the group's investment properties ranged from 3 to 4% per year. Exceptions included properties without buildings (plots of land), which are not depreciated.

Subsequent costs on an investment property are added to the carrying amount of the property when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the costs will flow to the group and the costs can be measured reliably. The costs of day-to-day maintenance and repair of investment properties are recognised as an expense as incurred. When a part of an investment property is replaced, the cost of the new part is added to the carrying amount of the property if it meets the definition of investment property and the recognition criteria and the carrying amount of the replaced part is written off the consolidated statement of financial position.

An investment property is derecognised on disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Gains and losses arising from derecognition of investment property are recognised in the period in which the property is derecognised in the consolidated statement of financial performance within 'Other income' and 'Other expenses', respectively.

When the purpose of use of an investment property changes, the property is reclassified. From the date of reclassification, the investment property is accounted for using the accounting policies applied to the class of assets the property was transferred to.

1.8. Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are assets with a cost of at least €10,000 (31 December 2022: €5,000) that the group uses to fulfil its statutory responsibilities, to provide services or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used for a period exceeding one year.

As an exception, land, assets acquired for library collections (see subsection 1.9), assets belonging to museum collections (museum objects) and assets belonging to and in the possession of the group that have been entered in the national register of cultural property are recognised as items of property, plant and equipment regardless of cost.

Assets acquired for museum collections are reported as items of property, plant and equipment in an aggregated amount. Accounts in unit and title terms are kept in the museums' information systems. Items of artistic value that are not recognised as assets of museum collections or assets entered in the national register of cultural property are recognised as items of property, plant and equipment, provided their cost exceeds the threshold for recognition as items of property, plant and equipment, and they are depreciated over their estimated useful lives.

Assets whose useful lives exceed a year but cost is less than €10,000 are recognised as an expense on implementation. Items of immaterial value that have a cost of €2,000 to €9,999.99 (31 December 2022: €2,000 to €4,999.99) are accounted for off the statement of financial position.

An item of property, plant and equipment is initially recognised at cost, which comprises the purchase price and any costs directly attributable to bringing the item to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the intended manner. Costs not included in the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment include the costs of opening a new facility, the costs of introducing a new product or service (incl. the costs of advertising activities), the costs of conducting business in a new location or with a new class of customer (incl. staff training expenses), administration and other general overhead costs and borrowing costs. In accordance with the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines, non-recoverable levies and taxes are not capitalised as part of the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment. In the consolidated statement of financial position, items of property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Assets held under finance leases are accounted for similarly to assets that have been purchased.

Subsequent costs on an item of property, plant and equipment are capitalised and added to the carrying amount of the item if they meet the definition of property, plant and equipment and the recognition criteria (incl. it being probable that they will participate in the generation of future economic benefits) and their cost exceeds the threshold for recognising assets as items of property, plant and equipment (€10,000). Other repair and maintenance costs are recognised as an expense as incurred.

Depreciation is charged using the straight-line method. Each item of property, plant and equipment is assigned a depreciation rate that corresponds to its useful life. In the case

of assets with significant residual value, only the depreciable amount (cost less residual value) is depreciated over the useful life of the asset. When an asset's residual value increases to an amount greater than the asset's carrying amount, depreciation of the asset is discontinued.

Where an item of property, plant and equipment consists of significant parts that have different useful lives, the parts are accounted for separately and assigned depreciation rates that correspond to their useful lives.

In 2023, the group assigned classes of property, plant and equipment the following annual depreciation rates:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| • Land | 0% |
| • Buildings | 2–40% |
| • Equipment and vehicles | 7–50% |
| • Library collections | 0% |
| • Other items of property, plant and equipment | 2–50%. |

Assets with an unlimited useful life (land, assets entered in the national register of cultural property, assets belonging to museum collections and items belonging to library collections) are not depreciated. Assets acquired for decor and design that do not have permanent value and assets transferred to auxiliary museum collections which are replaced after certain periods are depreciated over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation of an asset begins when it is available for use (i.e. in the location and condition necessary for it to be operating in the intended manner). Depreciation of an asset ceases when the asset's depreciable amount has been fully depreciated or the asset is permanently retired from use. Depreciation rates and methods and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date.

As a public sector entity that applies the Estonian Financial Reporting Standard, the group does not conduct impairment tests or recognise impairment losses for items of property, plant

and equipment that are required for rendering public service unless the value of such an item has declined due to damage or the item has been partly or fully retired from use due to some other reason. Other items of property, plant and equipment are tested for impairment whenever there is any indication or reason to believe that the value of the asset has decreased. When the recoverable amount of an item of property, plant and equipment (i.e. the higher of its net selling price and value in use) has decreased below its carrying amount, the item is written down to its recoverable amount (see also subsection 1.11).

When there is indication that the useful life or residual value of an asset has changed significantly, depreciation accounting is adjusted prospectively.

The carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised on disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Gains and losses from derecognition of items of property, plant and equipment are recognised in the consolidated statement of financial performance in the period of derecognition.

1.9. Library collections

Clause 41(2)2), of the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines provides that public libraries whose principal activity is the storage and lending of library items may, by way of exception, recognise library items as items of property, plant and equipment regardless of cost. In accordance with the provision, the group's statement of financial position includes items acquired for the library collections of the University of Tartu since January 2004. Items acquired for library collections are reported as items of property, plant and equipment in an aggregated amount. Accounts in unit and title terms are kept in the library's information system. In the consolidated statement of financial position, library collections are measured at cost.

The following collections of the library of the University of Tartu have been recognised as items of property, plant and equipment in the group's statement of financial position:

- Library items that the University of Tartu has acquired since 2004
- Library items received from other libraries by means of exchange (measured at cost in the library's exchange collection)
- Library items acquired for the University of Tartu that have been paid for by the Estonian Library Network Consortium (recognised as income from non-monetary grants related to assets).

The following library collection items whose cost is unknown and fair value cannot be measured reliably are accounted for in unit terms off the statement of financial position:

- Library items acquired before 2004
- Library items received through donations
- Legal deposit copies sent to the library of the University of Tartu by Estonian publishing houses in accordance with the Legal Deposit Copy Act.

Library collections recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position are not depreciated. Library items are recognised as an expense in full when they are retired from use or it is determined that they have been lost.

1.10. Intangible assets

An intangible asset is an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance that is expected to be used for more than one year and has a cost that exceeds the threshold for recognition as a non-current asset. An intangible asset (software, a right of use or another intangible asset) is recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position when the group controls the asset, it is probable that future economic benefits attributable to the asset will flow to the

group, the cost of the asset can be measured reliably and the asset did not result from internal expenditures on research and development. Research and development expenditures are recognised as an expense as incurred. An intangible asset is measured initially at cost, which comprises its purchase price and other directly attributable costs of acquisition. After initial recognition, an intangible asset is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses.

The group's intangible assets include the biomaterial databases of the Institute of Genomics, software, rights and licences, and other intangible assets. Detailed accounts of the biomaterial databases are kept in the information system of the Institute of Genomics.

All of the group's intangible assets are assumed to have finite useful lives. Intangible assets are amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. Each intangible asset is assigned an amortisation rate that corresponds to its useful life. When the useful life of an intangible asset cannot be estimated reliably, it is assumed that the useful life is up to ten years. Amortisation rates and methods are reviewed at each reporting date.

In 2023, the group applied the following annual amortisation rates:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| • Biomaterial databases and DNA bank | 2–5% |
| • Software | 20–25% |
| • Other intangible assets | 20%. |

When there is indication that the useful life or residual value of an asset has changed significantly, amortisation accounting is adjusted prospectively (see also subsection 1.11).

1.11. Impairment of assets

As a public sector entity that applies the Estonian Financial Reporting Standard, the group does not conduct impairment

tests or recognise impairment losses for non-current assets required for rendering public service unless the value of an asset has declined due to damage or the asset has been partly or fully retired from use due to some other reason. In the case of other non-current assets, items of property, plant and equipment with unlimited useful lives (land, assets entered in the national register of cultural property, assets belonging to museum collections and items belonging to library collections) are remeasured at each reporting date and depreciable and amortisable assets are assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. When there is indication of impairment, the group estimates the asset's recoverable amount and compares it to the asset's carrying amount.

An impairment loss is recognised in an amount by which an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. The recoverable amount is determined for an individual asset or the smallest group of assets that generates largely independent cash flows. An impairment loss is recognised as an expense in the period in which it is incurred.

The group assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is any indication that the recoverable amount of an asset written down in an earlier period may have increased (except for goodwill whose impairment losses are not reversed). If an impairment test indicates that the recoverable amount of an asset or a group of assets (a cash-generating unit) has risen above its carrying amount, the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed and the asset's carrying amount is increased to an amount that would have been determined (net of amortisation or depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognised in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the consolidated statement of financial performance by reducing expenses from impairment losses.

The revised version of the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines issued by the Minister of Finance, which took effect on 1 January 2023 increased the threshold for recognising assets as items of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets from €5,000 to €10,000 (cost excl. VAT). As a result, assets with a cost of less than €10,000 were reclassified from property plant and equipment and intangible assets to assets of immaterial value. The carrying amounts of the assets derecognised in 2023 were charged to depreciation and amortisation expenses and reported within 'Depreciation, amortisation and impairment losses' in the consolidated statement of financial performance for 2023.

1.12. Financial liabilities

At initial recognition, financial liabilities (trade payables, borrowings, accrued expenses, and other current and non-current payables) except for derivative financial instruments with a negative fair value are measured at cost which includes any directly attributable transaction costs. After initial recognition, financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost. Derivative financial instruments are measured at fair value. Derivative financial instruments with a negative fair value are recognised as financial liabilities.

The amortised cost of current financial liabilities is generally equal to their nominal value. Therefore, current financial liabilities are measured at the amount payable. Non-current financial liabilities are recognised initially at the fair value of the consideration received (less any transaction costs). Thereafter, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Interest expense on financial liabilities is recognised on an accrual basis within 'Interest expense' in the consolidated statement of financial performance.

A financial liability is classified as current when it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting date or the group does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for

at least 12 months after the reporting date. Liabilities which become payable on demand at the reporting date due to a breach of the provisions of a loan contract are also classified as current. A financial liability is derecognised when it is discharged or cancelled or expires.

1.13. Leases

A finance lease is a lease that transfers all significant risks and rewards of ownership of an asset to the lessee. In accordance with the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines, a lease is also classified as a finance lease when the leased asset cannot be easily replaced with another asset. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

1.13.1. The group as a lessee

The group recognises finance leases as assets and liabilities in the consolidated statement of financial position at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. Lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge (interest expense) and the reduction of the outstanding liability. Interest expense on a finance lease is recognised in the period in which it is incurred within 'Interest expense' in the consolidated statement of financial performance. The finance lease liability (net of the finance charge) is classified into current and non-current borrowings.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated similarly to assets that are owned, over the shorter of their estimated useful life and lease term. Depreciation expense is recognised within 'Depreciation, amortisation and impairment losses' in the consolidated statement of financial performance.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on an accrual basis over the lease term.

1.13.2. The group as a lessor

Assets leased out under operating leases are presented in the group's statement of financial position according to their nature, i.e. similarly to other assets recognised in the group's statement of financial position. Assets leased out under operating leases are depreciated using a depreciation policy consistent with the group's normal depreciation policy for similar assets. Operating lease payments received are recognised as income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

1.14. Deferred income

Deferred income comprises prepaid grants and co-financing, advances under research and development contracts and other deferred income received by the group that has not been recognised as income of the reporting period.

When a grant or co-financing has been received but has not yet been used to incur expenses or acquire assets, it is recognised as deferred income (see subsection 1.15).

1.15. Grants

Grants comprise resources (grants) received through non-exchange transactions, i.e. without directly giving goods or services in exchange, and resources transferred (grants provided or passed on) through non-exchange transactions, i.e. without directly receiving goods or services in exchange. Grants are accounted for in accordance with the principles outlined in the Public Sector Financial Accounting and Reporting Guidelines.

Grants comprise:

- Government grants (hereafter 'grants') – grants received and provided on a project basis for particular purposes that have a specified goal along with milestones for monitoring the achievement of the goal, a timeframe, and a monetary budget and where the provider of the grant (the donor) requires from the recipient (the beneficiary) detailed reporting on the use of funds received and any surplus funds have to be returned to the provider of the grant.
- Operational funding grants (hereafter 'operational funding') – funding received and provided based on the functions and tasks outlined in the statutes and the goals outlined in the development documents of the recipient.

Grants are also divided into:

- Domestic grants
- International grants.

A grant is recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position when cash has been transferred or received or on the date when the receivables, liabilities, income and expenses associated with the grant are recognised. Grants are classified into grants related to income and grants related to assets. The main condition for grants related to assets is that the group as the grant recipient has to purchase, build or otherwise acquire a certain asset. A grant is recognised as income in the period in which the operating costs are incurred or the non-current asset is acquired unless the conditions of the grant involve the risk that the grant may be reclaimed or may not be received. Under a simplified approach, a grant received may be recognised as income on a cash basis if the contractual amount is less than twice the capitalisation threshold. The simplified approach is applied when the provider or intermediary of the grant is a public sector entity and the parties agree to it.

Operational funding is recognised as income when the cash has been received.

When a grant provider or intermediary provides a grant using simplified reimbursement of expenditures (standardised unit costs, payments of specific amounts, reimbursements of indirect expenditures compensated at a uniform rate) without requiring expense documents, grant income is recognised in the period in which the grant is provided.

On recognising grants in the consolidated statement of financial performance, the group differentiates between grants received and grants passed on (as an intermediary). Grants passed on are grants received for passing on to another party, not for covering the group's own operating expenses or acquiring assets. When the group acts as a grant intermediary, income from grants received for passing on equals expenses from grants passed on.

Non-monetary grants are measured at the fair value of the goods and services received. Assets received from other public sector entities by way of non-monetary grants are measured at fair value or, if this cannot be determined, at their carrying amount in the transferor's financial statements.

When it appears that some conditions attaching to a grant have not been met and the group, as the grant intermediary or recipient, is liable to the grant provider for the recipient's compliance with the conditions attaching to the grant and for the use of the funds for their designated purpose, the group recognises a receivable from the grant recipient and/or a liability to the grant provider at the time the breach of contract is identified and reduces income from grants received and/or expenses from grants provided.

1.16. Provisions and contingent liabilities

A provision is recognised when the group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past obligating event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. A provision is recognised in the consolidated statement of financial

position in an amount which is management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the underlying obligation at the end of the reporting period. When it is probable that the provision will be used within more than 12 months after the reporting date, it is measured at its discounted value unless the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Other possible or present obligations whose realisation is not probable or amount cannot be measured sufficiently reliably are disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements as contingent liabilities.

1.17. Revenue and expenses (excl. grants)

Revenue and expenses are recognised on an accrual basis.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods or rendering of services in the ordinary course of the group's activities, taking into account any discounts and rebates allowed.

Revenue from the rendering of education services comprises tuition fees collected and to be collected from students, participants in continuing education programmes, etc. Relevant revenue is recognised in the same period in which the service is rendered.

Revenue from the rendering of other services is recognised when the service has been rendered or, if the service is rendered over an extended period, using the stage of completion method. Revenue from services rendered over an extended period is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the service at the end of the reporting period, assuming that the outcome of the transaction (i.e. the revenue and costs associated with the transaction) can be estimated reliably and it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the group. When the outcome of a contract or project involving the rendering of services cannot be estimated reliably but it is probable that the group will at least recover the costs incurred, revenue is recognised to the extent of costs incurred.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when all significant risks of ownership of the goods have been transferred to the buyer, the amount of revenue and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably and it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the group.

Interest income is recognised when it is probable that it will be received and its amount can be measured reliably.

1.18. Corporate income tax

Under the Estonian Income Tax Act, corporate earnings are not subject to tax. Instead, income tax is levied on dividend distributions, fringe benefits, gifts, donations, entertainment expenses, expenses not related to the taxpayer's business and transfer price adjustments. The tax rate for dividend distributions is 20% (the amount of tax payable is calculated as 20/80 of the amount of the net dividend). The income tax payable on a dividend distribution is recognised as a liability and an expense in the period in which the dividend is declared regardless of the period for which the dividend is declared or the period in which the dividend is actually distributed. The obligation to pay income tax arises on the 10th day of the month following the disbursement of the dividend.

From 2019, dividend distributions may be taxed at the rate of 14% (the amount of tax payable is calculated as 14/86 of the net distribution). The more favourable rate may be applied to the portion of a dividend distribution which amounts to up to three preceding financial years' average dividend distribution.

1.19. Foreign currency transactions

The functional currency of all group entities is the euro. The consolidated financial statements are presented in euros.

A transaction in a foreign currency is recorded by applying to the foreign currency amount the exchange rate of the European Central Bank at the date of the transaction. At the

reporting date, foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates of the European Central Bank ruling at that date.

Exchange gains and losses arising on translation are recognised in the consolidated statement of financial performance in the period in which they arise. Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates of the European Central Bank quoted at the date the fair value was determined. Non-monetary foreign currency assets and liabilities that are not measured at fair value are not translated at the reporting date but are continuously measured using the exchange rates of the European Central Bank quoted at the dates of the transactions.

1.20. Events after the reporting period

The financial statements reflect all adjusting events that occurred between the reporting date and the date on which the financial statements were authorised for issue. The effects of material non-adjusting events after the reporting period are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTE 2. SUBSIDIARIES OF THE GROUP

	Domicile	Ownership interest (%)	
		31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
UniTartu Ventures OÜ	Estonia	100	100
Academus Hostel OÜ	Estonia	100	100
MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasküla	Estonia	100	100
MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasmaja	Estonia	100	100
MTÜ Tartu Ülikooli Akadeemiline Spordiklubi	Estonia	100	100

The group has control of (holds over 50% of voting power in) all subsidiaries that are non-profit associations (MTÜs). Accordingly, the non-profit associations are fully consolidated.

NOTE 3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Cash on hand	25	27
Current accounts and overnight deposits	24,252	23,065
Term deposits with a short maturity	59,319	47,420
Total	83,596	70,512

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Interest income on current accounts and term deposits with a short maturity amounted to €2.13 million in 2023 (2022: €0.15 million). The interest rates of the term deposits and current accounts ranged from 0 to 5% in the reporting period (2022: from 0.01 to 2.4%).

NOTE 4. RECEIVABLES AND PREPAYMENTS

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Trade receivables	3,455	3,593
Accounts receivable	3,508	3,659
Allowance for impairment	-53	-66
Grants receivable (note 5)	11,873	12,811
Other receivables	888	431
Prepayments	16,464	10,354
Prepaid grants	15,528	9,368
Prepayments to suppliers	906	963
Prepayments to staff	30	23
Prepaid and refundable taxes	860	4,722
Total	33,540	31,911

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Prepaid grants include the grants the University of Tartu as the recipient and lead partner has received and passed on (prepaid) to project partners.

NOTE 5. GRANTS RECEIVABLE

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
EU framework programmes for research and innovation Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe	3,627	1,840
Grant for the education of resident doctors (Estonian Health Insurance Fund)	2,313	1,831
International aid projects	2,134	1,827
Projects of sub-measure for upgrading research infrastructure of national importance (Ministry of Education and Research)	1,053	636
Grants from the European Economic Area and Norway (Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Climate)	809	325
Projects of the European Territorial Cooperation Programme	365	333
Projects funded by the Environmental Investment Centre	349	354
Programme for applied research (Estonian Business and Innovation Agency)	237	35
Projects funded by the Estonian Health Insurance Fund	229	112
Centre of Excellence for Personalised Medicine project (Ministry of Education and Research)	227	0
Mobilitas 3.0 mobility grants (Estonian Research Council)	135	0
Projects funded by the Education and Youth Board	123	569
Programme for systematic development of entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial education at all levels of education (Ministry of Education and Research)	59	341
Activities supporting the activity 'Institutional development programme for R&D and higher education institutions' (ASTRA) (Ministry of Education and Research)	33	472
Projects funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (Agricultural Registers and Information Board)	20	543
Projects of the Just Transition Fund research measure (Education and Youth Board)	19	0
Centres of excellence projects (Ministry of Education and Research)	0	1,946
Mobilitas Pluss mobility grants (Estonian Research Council)	0	563
Programme for implementing personalised medicine in Estonia (National Institute for Health Development)	0	243
Projects of measures for education activities administered by the Ministry of Education and Research	0	229
Research and development grants for valorisation of resources (ResTA) (Estonian Research Council)	0	181
Grant for the development activities of the University of Tartu Pärnu College (Pärnu City Government)	0	180
Dora Pluss programme (Education and Youth Board)	0	50
Estonian Research and Education Literature Project (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications)	0	38
Other	141	163
Total	11,873	12,811

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 6. INVENTORIES

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Goods purchased for resale	198	183
Finished goods	113	97
Materials	10	13
Total	321	293

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

There were no inventory write-downs due to a decrease in net realisable value below cost and no reversals of inventory write-downs in 2023 and 2022. Unusable goods purchased for resale and finished goods recognised as an expense in 2023 amounted to €1,448 (2022: €1,657).

NOTE 7. INVESTMENTS IN ASSOCIATES

	BioCC OÜ	E-Kyla Arendus OÜ	Total
Carrying amount at 31 December 2021	94	16	110
Cost at 31 December 2021	1	15	16
The group's share of profit for 2022	9	0	9
Carrying amount at 31 December 2022	103	16	119
Cost at 31 December 2022	1	15	16
The group's share of profit for 2023	1	0	1
Carrying amount at 31 December 2023	104	16	120
Cost at 31 December 2023	1	15	16
The group's ownership interest			
At 31 December 2022	20%	33.33%	
At 31 December 2023	20%	33.33%	

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Both associates operate in Estonia. Neither associate is a listed company.

BioCC OÜ has a wholly-held subsidiary, NORDWISE Biotech OÜ. BioCC OÜ's consolidated result for 2023 under the cost method was a profit of €3,011, which increased the value of the investment of the University of Tartu by €602. E-Kyla Arendus OÜ ended the financial year with a profit of €365, which increased the value of the investment of the University of Tartu by €455.

The table below provides an overview of movements in the associates' equity.

	BioCC OÜ	E-Kyla Arendus OÜ	Total
At 31 December 2022			
Share capital	6	5	11
Share premium	0	41	41
Statutory capital reserve	1	0	1
Retained earnings (prior periods)	465	0	465
Profit for the period	45	0	45
Total equity	517	46	563
The group's share of equity	103	16	119
The group's ownership interest	20%	33.33%	
At 31 December 2023			
Share capital	6	5	11
Share premium	0	41	41
Statutory capital reserve	1	0	1
Retained earnings (prior periods)	510	0	510
Profit for the period	3	1	4
Total equity	520	47	567
The group's share of equity	104	16	120
The group's ownership interest	20%	33.33%	

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 8. OTHER INVESTMENTS

	Domicile	Ownership interest, %	
		31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Tervisetehnoloogiate Arenduskeskus AS	Estonia	7.69	7.69
UP Catalyst OÜ	Estonia	1.42	0
OÜ Gearbox Biosciences	Estonia	5.75	0

At 31 December 2023, the total cost of the group's other investments was €344,951 (31 December 2022: €1,981). In 2023, the group acquired ownership interests in UP Catalyst OÜ and OÜ Gearbox Biosciences by making non-monetary contributions and investing intellectual property through UniTartu Ventures OÜ. See note 9.

NOTE 9. NON-CURRENT RECEIVABLES

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Receivable for investing in non-current assets	1,582	1,809
Long-term receivable (loan provided) related to investing activities	0	185
Other non-current receivables	5	10
Total	1,587	2,004

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

In accordance with an agreement signed between the University of Tartu and MAX IV Laboratory (Lund University, Sweden) on 23 September 2013, during the period 2014–2015 the University of Tartu invested in the equipment of the MAX IV Laboratory: FinEstBeAMS (the Finnish – Estonian Beamline for Materials Science). FinEstBeAMS is an integral part of the laboratory infrastructure of MAX IV Laboratory. On 24 September 2021, the parties signed Collaboration Agreement No. 8499 by which title to the equipment transferred to Lund University and the University of Tartu gained the right of access to the equipment of MAX IV Laboratory until 31 December 2030 in exchange for the investment made. The value of the investment transferred was €3.03 million. At 31 December 2023, the current portion of the receivable of the University of Tartu was €0.3 million (31 December 2022: €0.3 million) and the present value of the non-current portion, calculated at a 4% discount rate, was €1.58 million (31 December 2022: €1.81 million). See note 4.

In 2022, UniTartu Ventures OÜ signed an investment agreement with the start-up UP Catalyst OÜ, which entitled the university to acquire an ownership interest in the entity in exchange for the transfer of intellectual property. UniTartu Ventures OÜ transferred the intellectual property to the start-up, acquiring a long-term receivable (a loan provided), which at 31 December 2022 had a present value of €0.19 million. In 2023, UniTartu Ventures OÜ acquired an ownership interest in UP Catalyst OÜ, reported within 'Other investments', by making a non-monetary contribution consisting of the long-term loan and accrued interest. See note 8.

NOTE 10. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

	Narva mnt 18/20, Tartu	Ülikooli 20, Tartu	Riia 191, Tartu	Teaduspargi 1, Tartu	Teaduspargi 3, Tartu	Ravila 14d, Tartu	Total
Cost							
At 31 December 2021	5,830	1,953	35	6	52	0	7,876
Transfer from property, plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	0	21	21
Rental income for 2022	492	25	0	0	0	24	541
Property management expenses for 2022	94	55	0	0	0	0	149
Of which expenses re-invoiced to tenants	92	10	0	0	0	0	102
At 31 December 2022	5,830	1,953	35	6	52	21	7,897
Rental income for 2023	549	30	0	0	0	27	606
Property management expenses for 2023	86	35	0	0	0	0	121
Of which expenses re-invoiced to tenants	78	18	0	0	0	0	96
At 31 December 2023	5,830	1,953	35	6	52	21	7,897
Depreciation							
At 31 December 2021	350	732	0	0	0	0	1,082
Depreciation for the period (note 27)	176	49	0	0	0	0	225
At 31 December 2022	526	781	0	0	0	0	1,307
Depreciation for the period (note 27)	175	49	0	0	0	0	224
At 31 December 2023	701	830	0	0	0	0	1,531
Carrying amount							
At 31 December 2021	5,480	1,221	35	6	52	0	6,794
At 31 December 2022	5,304	1,172	35	6	52	21	6,590
At 31 December 2023	5,129	1,123	35	6	52	21	6,366

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 11. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Land	Buildings	Equipment and vehicles	Library collections	Other items	Assets under construction	Prepayments for property, plant and equipment	Total
Cost								
At 31 December 2021	2,486	300,707	99,563	11,246	4,916	1,851	6	420,775
Additions	6	33	3,655	286	271	8,836	3	13,090
Addition through non-monetary transactions	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	68
Reclassifications	0	9,342	321	0	0	-9,663	0	0
Reclassification to investment property	-21	0	0	0	0	0	0	-21
Sales and write-off	-19	-8,416	-852	-111	-36	-16	0	-9,450
At 31 December 2022	2,452	301,666	102,755	11,421	5,151	1,008	9	424,462
Additions	0	37	5,110	333	55	10,335	44	15,914
Addition through non-monetary transactions	0	0	198	0	0	0	0	198
Reclassifications	0	2,808	600	0	10	-3,418	0	0
Recognition as an expense	0	0	0	0	0	-302	-9	-311
Sales and write-off	-12	-962	-16,912	-16	-1,349	0	0	-19,251
At 31 December 2023	2,440	303,549	91,751	11,738	3,867	7,623	44	421,012
Depreciation								
At 31 December 2021	0	100,414	78,454	0	3,025	0	0	181,893
Depreciation for the period (note 27)	0	9,226	5,775	0	247	0	0	15,248
Addition through non-monetary transactions		0	68	0	0	0	0	68
Depreciation of items sold and written off	0	-4,828	-822	0	-36	0	0	-5,686
At 31 December 2022	0	104,812	83,475	0	3,236	0	0	191,523
Depreciation for the period (note 27)	0	9,478	7,289	0	542	0	0	17,309
Addition through non-monetary transactions	0	0	159	0	0	0	0	159
Depreciation of items sold and written off	0	-540	-16,902	0	-1,349	0	0	-18,791
At 31 December 2023	0	113,750	74,021	0	2,429	0	0	190,200
Carrying amount								
At 31 December 2021	2,486	200,293	21,109	11,246	1,891	1,851	6	238,882
At 31 December 2022	2,452	196,854	19,280	11,421	1,915	1,008	9	232,939
At 31 December 2023	2,440	189,799	17,730	11,738	1,438	7,623	44	230,812

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 12. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Biomaterial databases	Software	Other intangible assets	Acquisitions in stages	Total
Cost					
At 31 December 2021	9,981	1,561	183	0	11,725
Additions	0	30	0	346	376
Reclassifications	332	0	0	-332	0
Write-off	0	-14	0	0	-14
At 31 December 2022	10,313	1,577	183	14	12,087
Additions	0	0	0	211	211
Reclassifications	176	20	0	-196	0
Recognition as an expense	0	0	0	-29	-29
Write-off	0	-323	0	0	-323
At 31 December 2023	10,489	1,274	183	0	11,946
Amortisation					
At 31 December 2021	2,502	985	177	0	3,664
Amortisation for the period (note 27)	173	159	2	0	334
Amortisation of assets written off	0	-14	0	0	-14
At 31 December 2022	2,675	1,130	179	0	3,984
Amortisation for the period (note 27)	181	156	3	0	340
Amortisation of assets written off	0	-323	0	0	-323
At 31 December 2023	2,856	963	182	0	4,001
Carrying amount					
At 31 December 2021	7,479	576	6	0	8,061
At 31 December 2022	7,638	447	4	14	8,103
At 31 December 2023	7,633	311	1	0	7,945

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 13. BORROWINGS

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Current borrowings		
Finance lease liabilities (note 14)	17	42
Current portion of non-current loans (note 15)	2,400	3,118
Total	2,417	3,160
Non-current borrowings		
Finance lease liabilities (note 14)	51	68
Loans (note 15)	10,000	13,760
Total	10,051	13,828

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 14. FINANCE AND OPERATING LEASES

Finance leases – the group as a lessee

	Equipment and vehicles
At 31 December 2022	
Cost at 31 December 2022	129
Accumulated depreciation at 31 December 2022	-21
Of which depreciation for 2022	-9
Carrying amount at 31 December 2022	108
Principal payments made in 2022	1
At 31 December 2023	
Cost at 31 December 2023	110
Accumulated depreciation at 31 December 2023	-28
Of which depreciation for 2023	-22
Carrying amount at 31 December 2023	82
Principal payments made in 2023	42
Interest payments made in 2023	5
Finance lease liabilities at 31 December 2022	110
Finance lease liabilities at 31 December 2023	68
Payments due not later than 1 year	17
Payments due later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	51
Interest rates	5.5%
Maturity date	2027
Base currency	€

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Finance lease interest paid in 2023 amounted to €5,138 (2022: €3). At 31 December 2023, assets held under finance leases comprised Technogym gym equipment with a cost of €109,900 purchased for MTÜ Tartu Ülikooli Akadeemiline Spordiklubi (a non-profit subsidiary operating a sports club). The finance lease of a Škoda Superb with a cost of €18,784 by MTÜ Tartu Ülikooli Akadeemiline Spordiklubi expired in 2022.

Operating leases – the group as a lessor

	Buildings and structures	
	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Operating lease income for the reporting period	797	732
Rental income due not later than 1 year	584	586
Rental income due later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,181	1,377
Rental income due later than 5 years	579	600
Cost of assets leased out	9,660	10,176
Carrying amount of assets leased out	6,579	7,144

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Operating lease income includes rental income on both investment property and property, plant and equipment. Where part of an asset has been leased out under an operating lease, the cost and carrying amount of the asset are included in the cost and carrying amount of assets leased out based on the proportion of the area that has been leased out.

Under the Creation of Usufruct and Real Right Contract No. 716, signed between the University of Tartu and Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation on 22 March 2012, a 50-year usufruct was created on the Kääriku property for the benefit of Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation from 1 April 2012. According to the contract, the usufruct was without charge until 31 December 2021. From 1 January 2022, the University of Tartu may charge a usufruct fee.

Operating leases – the group as a lessee

	Buildings and structures	Equipment and vehicles
At 31 December 2022		
Operating lease payments made in 2022	221	20
Payments due not later than 1 year	73	23
Payments due later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	123	64
Payments due later than 5 years	3	1
At 31 December 2023		
Operating lease payments made in 2023	239	28
Payments due not later than 1 year	162	21
Payments due later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	342	55

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 15. LOANS AND COLLATERAL

The group uses bank loans to finance long-term investments and the construction and renovation of buildings. The loans in the tables below have been taken by the University of Tartu. Other members of the group have not taken loans.

The group did not take any new loans in 2023.

	Balance at 31 Dec 2023	Repayable			Maturity date	Base currency interest rate ¹
		Within 12 months	Between 1 and 5 years	In over 5 years		
OP Corporate Bank plc Estonian branch (1)	12,400	2,400	10,000	0	20 May 2028	EUR3 ² + 0.52%
Total	12,400	2,400	10,000	0		

	Balance at 31 Dec 2022	Repayable			Maturity date	Base currency interest rate ¹
		Within 12 months	Between 1 and 5 years	In over 5 years		
OP Corporate Bank plc Estonian branch (1)	14,800	2,400	9,600	2,800	20 May 2028	EUR3 ² + 0.52%
OP Corporate Bank plc Estonian branch (2)	238	238	0	0	22 May 2024	EUR3 ² + 0.82%
Luminor Bank AS (3)	1,840	480	1,360	0	20 Oct 2026	EUR3 ² + 0.64%
Total	16,878	3,118	10,960	2,800		

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

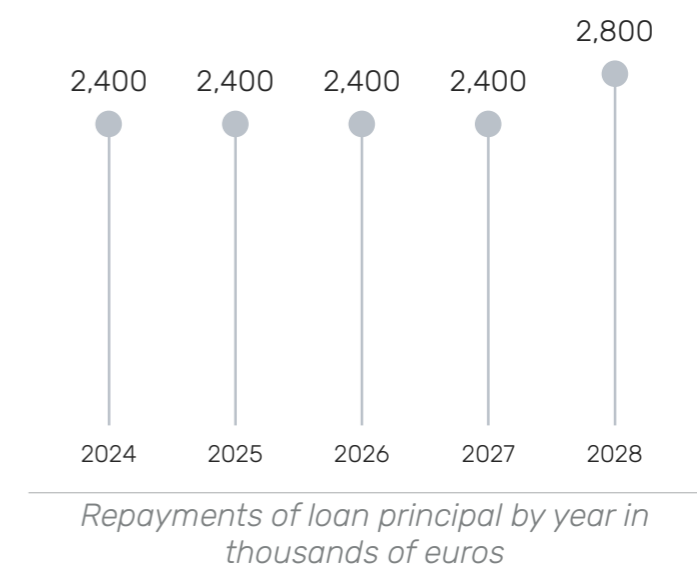
¹ The contractual interest rates of all loans are equal to their effective interest rates.

² Euribor® – European commercial banks' 3 month average money market loan interest rate.

In 2023, the university repaid early the long-term loan taken from OP Corporate Bank plc Estonian branch (2) and the long-term loan taken from Luminor Bank AS (3).

The loan from OP Corporate Bank plc Estonian branch (1) is secured with a mortgage of two immovable properties. The first is a property with a building located at Raatuse 22, Tartu. The mortgage amounts to €4.32 million. At 31 December 2023, the carrying amount of the property was €3.46 million (31 December 2022: €3.61 million). The second is a property with a building located at Lossi 36, Tartu. The mortgage amounts to €5.94 million. At 31 December 2023, the carrying amount of the property was €4.10 million (31 December 2022: €4.32 million).

The loan agreements include covenants that require the University of Tartu to maintain certain financial ratios at certain levels. If the University of Tartu breaches a loan covenant, the bank may immediately call in the loan. At 31 December 2023, the university's financial indicators were in compliance with all loan covenants.



NOTE 16. PAYABLES AND DEFERRED INCOME

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Security deposit liabilities	657	603
Trade payables	6,405	4,938
Payables to staff	5,609	5,087
Taxes payable	6,967	6,346
Social security tax	3,820	3,390
Personal income tax	2,156	1,893
Value added tax	511	632
Unemployment insurance contributions	257	227
Funded pension contributions	167	145
Corporate income tax	56	59
Other payables	1,787	1,247
Grants payable by the group as an intermediary	1,709	1,137
Scholarships, study grants and national education allowances	50	76
Miscellaneous payables	28	34
Deferred income	57,346	48,403
Deferred grant income (note 17)	56,640	47,769
Prepaid tuition fees	636	576
Other deferred income	70	58
Total	78,771	66,624

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 17. DEFERRED GRANT INCOME

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Deferred income from Estonian residents	15,964	17,630
Estonian Research Council	9,239	9,813
Education and Youth Board	2,794	3,171
Ministry of Education and Research	592	1,689
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	376	324
Taavet+Sten Tulevikufond MTÜ	271	74
Tartu City Government	254	24
Estonian Health Insurance Fund	251	153
Estonian Centre for International Development	247	181
Institute of the Estonian Language	228	112
Ministry of Climate	163	56
Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	152	146
Postimehe Fond Foundation	129	214
Estonian Defence Forces	111	194
Ministry of Culture	109	80
Ministry of Social Affairs	87	386
Tartu 2024 Foundation	74	56
Swedbank AS	39	39
Other domestic grants	848	918
Deferred income from non-residents	40,676	30,139
EU framework programmes for research and innovation Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe	32,395	23,148
Other international grants	8,281	6,991
Total	56,640	47,769

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 18. REVENUE FROM SALE OF GOODS AND PROVISION OF SERVICES

	2023	2022
Research and development activities	15,077	14,035
Lease and rental activities	7,187	6,570
Revenue from degree studies for a tuition fee	6,365	5,847
Revenue from continuing education	4,296	3,351
Sale of goods	312	442
Other services	2,461	2,027
Total	35,698	32,272

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Revenue from sale of goods and provision of services by geographical area:

	2023	2022
Estonia	31,713	29,363
Other countries of the European Union	3,143	2,106
Other countries	842	803
Total	35,698	32,272

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 19. STATE BUDGET FUNDING FOR EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
Funding for higher education	79,562	66,732
Funding for the education of resident doctors	27,328	22,294
Other state budget funding	87	630
Total	106,977	89,656

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 20. STATE BUDGET FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
Baseline funding for research institutions	23,551	22,741
Funding for remuneration of junior research fellows	6,033	4,059
State budget funding for research information for the library	936	923
Funding for research collections	428	428
Operational funding for combined research institutions	350	350
Other funding for research activities	330	322
Total	31,628	28,823

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 21. GRANTS RELATED TO ASSETS

	2023	2022
Funding for investment in the energy efficiency of buildings (Ministry of Education and Research)	5,006	0
Acquisition of non-current assets in projects of sub-measure for upgrading research infrastructure of national importance (Ministry of Education and Research)	1,676	488
Acquisition of non-current assets in projects of EU framework programmes for research and innovation Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe	407	624
Acquisition of non-current assets in the framework of the ASTRA programme activity for the acquisition and upgrade of education and research infrastructure (Ministry of Education and Research)	235	365
Acquisition of non-current assets in Centre of Excellence for Personalised Medicine project (Ministry of Education and Research)	227	0
Storage of the database data and tissue samples of the Estonian Genome Centre (Ministry of Social Affairs)	211	254
Compensation of ineligible VAT paid on the acquisition of non-current assets (Ministry of Education and Research)	182	71
Creation of a lighting solution for Tartu Cathedral (Tartu City Government)	137	0
Acquisition of non-current assets in projects of the European Territorial Cooperation Programmes	47	0
Acquisition of research equipment for centres of excellence (Ministry of Education and Research)	12	255
Other domestic grants related to assets	169	182
Other international grants related to assets	39	70
Total	8,348	2,309

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 22. GRANTS RELATED TO INCOME

	2023	2022
Domestic grants related to income	52,508	44,663
Including		
Grants from the Estonian Research Council	38,112	30,973
Of which personal research grants	33,924	27,555
Grants from the Ministry of Education and Research	4,266	5,055
Grants from the Ministry of Social Affairs	1,582	1,164
Grants from the Estonian Health Insurance Fund	1,282	1,358
Grants from the Ministry of Climate	704	201
Grants from the Education and Youth Board	665	602
Grants from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	538	231
Grants from the Ministry of Justice	500	498
Grants from the Environmental Investment Centre	293	375
Grants from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	264	279
International grants related to income	41,874	48,991
Including		
Grants from the European Union and its institutions	25,168	20,522
Grants passed on by the Education and Youth Board	5,297	5,751
Grants passed on by the Ministry of Education and Research	4,131	10,314
Grants passed on by the Estonian Research Council	944	3,817
Total	94,382	93,654

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Due to recovery claims received, the University of Tartu as a recipient and intermediary of grants reduced revenue from grants related to income by €31,937 in 2023 (2022: €116,158). The reduction was recognised within revenue from grants related to income.

NOTE 23. OTHER INCOME

	2023	2022
Income from investment of intellectual property	150	0
Insurance compensation	94	5
Income from land granted into the use of other persons	90	80
Membership fees	70	65
Donations from individuals and legal persons	48	2,272
Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment	5	0
Income from a consortium agreement	0	139
Miscellaneous income	69	48
Total	526	2,609

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

The price of items of property, plant and equipment sold in 2023 was €5,108 (2022: €941,117).

NOTE 24. GOODS, MATERIALS AND SERVICES USED

	2023	2022
Expenses on the supervision of resident doctors	25,911	21,080
Services purchased	3,137	2,515
Goods purchased	197	182
Materials purchased	147	154
Total	29,392	23,931

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 25. OPERATING EXPENSES

	2023	2022
Expenses on education and research activities	12,096	13,748
Grants and funding passed on to partners	9,194	6,950
VAT expense	7,506	7,714
Work-related travel expenses	4,955	4,072
Office equipment maintenance and software expenses	3,514	3,189
Utilities and maintenance expenses (excl. heating and electricity)	3,274	2,846
Electricity expenses	2,740	5,105
Heating expenses	2,000	1,761
Office expenses and expenses on fixtures and fittings	1,964	2,456
Expenses on purchase of assets of immaterial value	1,530	946
Repair expenses	1,231	1,169
Transport expenses	1,201	1,171
Expenses on research equipment maintenance and supplies	1,193	1,428
Lease and rental expenses	1,173	1,283
Expenses on professional publications and literature	937	720
Advertising expenses	648	715
Telecommunications and postal expenses	149	128
Miscellaneous operating expenses	3,504	3,258
Total	58,809	58,659

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 26. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
Remuneration expenses	114,433	98,166
Other pay and benefits	916	765
Taxes on staff costs	38,467	32,905
Total	153,816	131,836
Average number of staff converted to full-time equivalent	3,537	3,348

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 27. DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT LOSSES

	2023	2022
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (note 11)	17,309	15,248
Loss on write-off of property, plant and equipment (note 28)	432	1,397
Amortisation of intangible assets (note 12)	340	334
Depreciation of investment property (note 10)	224	225
Write-off of items of library collections (note 11)	16	111
Non-current assets transferred (note 11)	12	16
Total	18,333	17,331

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Due to the change in the threshold for recognising assets as items of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets on 1 January 2023, assets with a cost of less than €10,000 were derecognised and reclassified to assets of immaterial value. The cost of derecognised items of property, plant and equipment was €12.97 million and their carrying amount at the date of derecognition was €2.53 million. The carrying amount of assets derecognised in 2023 was charged to depreciation expense. Due to the change in the capitalisation threshold, the group also derecognised software with a cost of €0.25 million that is not accounted for off the statement of financial position. The carrying amount of the software of €1,103 was charged to amortisation expense.

NOTE 28. LOSS ON WRITE-OFF OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2023	Reason for write-off
Buildings and structures	422	
Ülikooli 18, Tartu	290	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Lossi 25, Tartu	65	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Näituse 2, Tartu	57	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Structure – Rõhu, Tartu County	4	Write-off of an asset destroyed
Vana-Sauga 28, Pärnu	3	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Lai 38, Tartu	2	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Building – Praaga village, Tartu County	1	Write-off of an asset destroyed in a fire
Equipment and vehicles	10	
Equipment and vehicles	10	Write-off of obsolete equipment and vehicles
Total	432	

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

	2022	Reason for write-off
Buildings	1,383	
Struve 1, Tartu	381	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Lossi 3, Tartu	312	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Ülikooli 18, Tartu	245	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Lossi 25, Tartu	179	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Näituse 20, Tartu	102	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Näituse 2, Tartu	81	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Ravila 19, Tartu	37	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Turu 7, Viljandi	21	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Jakobsoni 14, Viljandi	14	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Posti 1, Viljandi	10	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Lai 38, Tartu	1	Write-off of parts replaced during renovation
Equipment and vehicles	14	
Equipment and vehicles	14	Write-off of obsolete equipment and vehicles
Total	1,397	

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 29. OTHER EXPENSES

	2023	2022
Entertainment and official occasion expenses	1,224	1,291
Membership fees	524	698
Awards and gifts	225	223
Loss on sale of non-current assets	0	1,299
Miscellaneous expenses	56	60
Total	2,029	3,571

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

NOTE 30. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

For the purposes of these financial statements, related parties include:

- the group's associates;
- non-profit associations that are not part of the group but are under the group's significant influence;
- foundations in which the group is a founder;
- members of the executive and higher management of the University of Tartu (members of the council, the rector, vice rectors, deans, and heads of functions) and foundations, non-profit associations and companies under their control or significant influence;
- members of the management (supervisory and management boards) of the subsidiaries of the University of Tartu and foundations, non-profit associations and companies under their control or significant influence;
- close family members of the members of the executive or higher management of the University of Tartu and the members of the management of the subsidiaries including spouses, domestic partners and children, and foundations, non-profit associations and companies under their control or significant influence.

The group has disclosed all transactions with related parties in these financial statements.

In 2023, there were no transactions that did not comply with the law or the group's internal regulations or were not conducted on market terms. No receivables from related parties were written down in 2023 or 2022.

	Sales or other income		Purchases	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Services	501	512	11,323	9,401
Associates	9	14	5	4
Legal persons in public law	11	12	0	0
Non-profit associations	25	30	120	94
Foundations	453	390	11,071	9,247
Companies	1	62	127	56
Individuals	2	4	0	0
Goods	1	0	9	11
Associates	1	0	0	0
Foundations	0	0	3	10
Companies	0	0	5	1
Individuals	0	0	1	0
Other income	90	81	0	0
Foundations	90	80	0	0
Individuals	0	1	0	0
Total	592	593	11,332	9,412

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

In the consolidated statement of financial performance, sales of goods and services to related parties are included in 'Revenue from sale of goods and provision of services' and 'Other income' and purchases from related parties are included in 'Goods, materials and services used' and 'Operating expenses'.

	Receivables		Liabilities	
	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Associates	0	6	0	0
Legal persons in public law	0	7	0	0
Non-profit associations	0	13	1	1
Foundations	28	53	1 117	805
Companies	0	1	0	0
Total	28	80	1 118	806

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

In the consolidated statement of financial position, receivables from related parties are included in 'Receivables and prepayments' and liabilities to related parties are included in 'Payables and deferred income'.

	Grants related to income	
	2023	2022
Non-profit associations	18	12
Foundations	47	103
Companies	67	0
Total	132	115

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

In the consolidated statement of financial performance, grant income from related parties is included in 'Grants related to income'.

	Receivables associated with grants		Liabilities associated with grants		Deferred grant income	
	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Foundations	0	0	23	18	39	50
Companies	9	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	0	23	18	39	50

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

Receivables associated with grants arising from transactions with related parties are included in 'Receivables and prepayments' and liabilities associated with grants and deferred grant income arising from transactions with related parties are included in 'Payables and deferred income' in the statement of financial position.

Remuneration provided to the executive and higher management of the University of Tartu and the members of the management the subsidiaries breaks down as follows:

	2023	2022
University of Tartu	1,044	886
MTÜ Tartu Ülikooli Akadeemiline Spordiklubi	138	137
MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasküla	51	48
MTÜ Tartu Üliõpilasmaja	34	32
UniTartu Ventures OÜ	23	58
Total	1,290	1,161

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

The University of Tartu has no obligation to provide severance benefits to the members of its executive and higher management. The members of the management of the subsidiaries are entitled to severance benefits in accordance with the terms and conditions of their service contracts. Contingent severance benefits payable to members of group entities' executive and higher management at 31 December 2023 totalled €73,418 (31 December 2022: €82,790).

NOTE 31. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

31.1. Possible liabilities from tax audits

The tax authorities may audit the group's tax accounting within five years after the deadline for the submission of a tax return. On the detection of a misstatement or omission, the tax authorities may charge additional tax, late payment interest and penalty payments. The group's management is not aware of any circumstances that might cause the tax authorities to assess a significant amount of additional tax to be paid by the group.

31.2. Mortgages

The group has created two mortgages for the benefit of Swedbank AS on its properties at Vanemuise 46 and Pepleri 14 in Tartu. The mortgage on Vanemuise 46 amounts to €1.60 million and collateral claims may total €0.16 million. The mortgage on Pepleri 14 amounts to €0.32 million and collateral claims may total €0.03 million. The group has also created two mortgages for the benefit of AS SEB Pank. The mortgage on the property at Nooruse 1 in Tartu amounts to €4.79 million. The mortgage on the property with three buildings with the addresses Ülikooli 16, Jakobi 2 and Lossi 3 in Tartu amounts to €4.79 million

and collateral claims may total €0.48 million.

At the end of 2023, the University of Tartu did not have any outstanding contractual obligations that were secured by the above mortgages.

31.3. Other contingent liabilities

In accordance with the Creation of Usufruct and Real Right Contract No. 716, signed between the University of Tartu and Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation on 22 March 2012, a 50-year usufruct was created on the Kääriku property for the benefit of Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation from 1 April 2012. Under the agreement, on the expiry of the usufruct the university has to compensate Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation for all capital investments that have been agreed with the university in writing. The investments will be depreciated using contractual and agreed depreciation rates. Investments that have not been agreed with the university need not be compensated on the expiry of the usufruct. Nor is there any obligation to pay compensation for investments or expenditures financed with non-refundable support provided by the EU structural funds or other donors. The university has agreed with Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation capital investments of €15.82 million. The compensation payable by the university on the expiry of the usufruct will be determined by depreciating the investments at the agreed rates from the month of their implementation. At 31 December 2023, the carrying amount of investments qualifying for contingent compensation was €13.66 million (31 December 2022: €14.19 million) but the realisation of the compensation obligation is unlikely. Phase VIII of investments in Tehvandi Sports Centre Foundation was completed in 2023 and agreed on 7 March 2024. The agreed cost of the investments made in phase VIII is €3.03 million and their carrying amount at 31 December 2023 was €2.88 million.

NOTE 32. ASSETS ACCOUNTED FOR OFF THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets with a cost of €2,000 to €9,999.99 were accounted for off the statement of financial position in 2023. At the reporting date, the total cost of such assets was €24.85 million (31 December 2022: €11.47 million).

The library items of the library of the University of Tartu are accounted for in detail in the library information system ESTER. At 31 December 2023, the estimated total value of the library's collections was €60.36 million (31 December 2022: €55.75 million), of which €11.74 million (31 December 2022: €11.42 million) was recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position. See note 11.

At the reporting date, the collection of the University of Tartu Botanical Gardens included 14,399 taxonomic units (species and varieties) of trees, bushes and other plants (31 December 2022: 13,891 taxonomic units).

Detailed accounts of items stored in museum collections are kept by the museums. From 2011, the assets included in museum collections are recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position in an aggregated amount.

At the reporting date, the total carrying value of the museum collections was €0.16 million (31 December 2022: €0.16 million). The museums had a total of 1,546,346 storage items (31 December 2022: 1,516,043 storage items): the History Museum had 191,707 storage items (31 December 2022: 184,053 storage items), the Art Museum had 34,342 storage items (31 December 2022: 34,307 storage items), the Natural History Museum had 1,320,244 storage items (31 December 2022: 1,297,630 storage items), the library had 30 storage items (31 December 2022: 30) and the faculty of medicine had 23 storage items (31 December 2022: 23).

NOTE 33. IMPACT OF CRISES ON THE GROUP'S ACTIVITIES

Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine, launched in 2022, will have a long-term impact on the performance of the university and its subsidiaries. The restrictions imposed as a result of the war are disrupting business and economic activity. The war has triggered high inflation, which has been accompanied by a sharp rise in wages. As a result, the group's staff costs increased by 16.8% in 2023, while revenue grew by 11.3%.

The war has reduced international students' interest in studying in Estonia, but in 2024 the number of their admission applications grew by almost 10%, suggesting that the downturn may be over. At the same time, study and work restrictions remain in place for Russian and Belarusian citizens. The university has been supporting the staff and students of Ukrainian citizenship since the start of the war.

The overall economic environment has largely recovered from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic that broke out in 2020. At the same time, the working and learning habits that emerged during the pandemic, i.e. working remotely and using hybrid forms of learning, have persisted. The recovery was undermined by economic decisions made during the pandemic, such as job cuts, which could not be quickly reversed. After the end of the pandemic, the university's financial performance was affected by rapid growth in study and work-related travel expenses, a trend that continued in 2023. For example, work-related travel expenses increased by 21.5%.

The payment behaviour of the university's counterparties has not deteriorated and the level of past due receivables has

not substantially increased. The revenues of the university's subsidiaries have increased.

The group treats the effects of the crises as non-adjusting events. While it is not possible to provide quantitative estimates of the potential impact of the crises on the university's financial results for 2024 and subsequent periods, the university's management currently expects that the impact on the results for 2024 will remain limited.

NOTE 34. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

The university's expenses will be affected by the increase in the VAT rate to 22% from 2024. As the university deducts input VAT using the method combining direct calculation and proportional input VAT deduction (the proportion applied in 2023 was 8%), VAT expenses will increase by almost €1 million.

At the beginning of 2024, UniTartu Ventures OÜ established a new wholly-owned company, Estonian Multiomics Company OÜ, with a share capital of €100,000. The company's main activity is the establishment of a biobank and the development of related research-intensive products and services. The company's intends to leverage the advantages and experience of Estonia's digital healthcare to create a new international centre for healthcare innovation.

In addition, UniTartu Ventures OÜ acquired an investment in Vectiopep OÜ (classified as other investments) in spring 2024 through a non-monetary contribution consisting of intellectual property (the cost of the investment was €120,068).

NOTE 35. PRIMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PARENT

University of Tartu statement of financial position

	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	80,727	68,285
Receivables and prepayments	33,348	31,807
Inventories	282	252
Total current assets	114,357	100,344
Non-current assets		
Investments in subsidiaries and associates	781	531
Other investments	2	2
Receivables and prepayments	1,587	1,819
Investment property	6,366	6,590
Property, plant and equipment	230,229	232,304
Intangible assets	7,945	8,103
Total non-current assets	246,910	249,349
TOTAL ASSETS	361,267	349,693
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Borrowings	2,400	3,118
Payables and deferred income	77,582	65,399
Total current liabilities	79,982	68,517
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	10,000	13,760
Total non-current liabilities	10,000	13,760
Total liabilities	89,982	82,277
Net assets		
Capital of the university	144,182	144,182
Accumulated surpluses (prior periods)	123,234	122,809
Surplus for the period	3,869	425
Total net assets	271,285	267,416
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	361,267	349,693

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

University of Tartu statement of financial performance

	2023	2022
Revenue		
Revenue from sale of goods and provision of services	30,142	27,932
State budget funding for education activities	106,977	89,656
State budget funding for research activities	31,628	28,823
Grants related to assets	8,348	2,309
Grants related to income	93,367	92,822
Other income	441	2,688
Total revenue	270,903	244,230
Expenses		
Goods, materials and services used	-26,806	-21,912
Operating expenses	-57,089	-57,076
Scholarships and study grants	-11,874	-13,455
Staff costs	-150,900	-129,156
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment losses	-18,183	-17,240
Significant write-downs of current assets	-89	-43
Other expenses	-3,702	-4,998
Total expenses	-268,643	-243,880
Surplus on operating activities	2,260	350
Income on other investments	0	5
Interest income	2,097	143
Interest expense	-564	-158
Other finance income	76	85
Surplus for the period	3,869	425

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

University of Tartu statement of cash flows

	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus on operating activities	2,260	350
Adjustments for		
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment losses	18,183	17,240
Transfer from assets under construction and prepayments to expenses	311	0
Transfer from acquisitions in stages to expenses	29	0
Gains and losses on sale of non-current assets	-5	1,299
Non-monetary contribution to a subsidiary's equity	-150	-180
Receipt of non-monetary grants related to assets	-39	0
Grants related to assets received	-8,309	-2,309
Grants related to assets passed on	377	54
Change in receivables and prepayments	-1,098	2,971
Change in inventories	-30	-80
Change in payables and deferred income	11,042	3,788
Interest paid	-561	-153
Net cash from operating activities	22,010	22,980

	2023	2022
Cash flows from investing activities		
Paid for acquisition of property, plant and equipment	-5,552	-3,893
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	5	941
Paid for assets under construction	-9,085	-9,393
Prepayments made for property, plant and equipment	-44	-3
Paid for acquisition of intangible assets	-211	-376
Government grants related to assets paid (partners)	-192	-214
Government grants related to assets received	7,561	3,028
Transfer to the capital reserve of a subsidiary	-100	-200
Dividend income on other investments	0	5
Settlement of a non-current receivable	5	5
Interest received	2,523	184
Net cash used in investing activities	-5,090	-9,916
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayments of loans received	-4,478	-3,048
Net cash used in financing activities	-4,478	-3,048
Net cash flow	12,442	10,016
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	68,285	58,269
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	12,442	10,016
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	80,727	68,285

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

University of Tartu statement of changes in net assets

	Capital of the university	Accumulated surpluses	Surplus for the period	Total
At 31 December 2021	144,182	113,698	9,111	266,991
Transfer of surplus	0	9,111	-9,111	0
Surplus for the period	0	0	425	425
At 31 December 2022	144,182	122,809	425	267,416
Transfer of surplus	0	425	-425	0
Surplus for the period	0	0	3,869	3,869
At 31 December 2023	144,182	123,234	3,869	271,285

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.

University of Tartu adjusted unconsolidated net assets

	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Unconsolidated net assets of the University of Tartu	271,285	267,416
Less: carrying amount of investments in subsidiaries and associates	-781	-531
Plus: value of investments in subsidiaries and associates under the equity method	2,889	1,976
Total	273,393	268,861

The amounts in the table are in thousands of euros.



KPMG Baltics OÜ
Narva mnt 5
Tallinn 10117
Estonia

Telephone +372 6 268 700
Fax +372 6 268 777
Internet www.kpmg.ee

SÕLTUMATU VANDEAUDIITORI ARUANNE

Tartu Ülikooli nõukogule

Arvamus

Oleme auditeerinud Tartu Ülikooli ja tema tütarettevõtjate (kontsern) konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruannet, mis sisaldab konsolideeritud bilanssi seisuga 31. detsember 2023, konsolideeritud tulemiaruanne, konsolideeritud rahavoogude aruannet ja konsolideeritud netovara muutuste aruannet eeltoodud kuupäeval lõppenud aasta kohta ja konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande lisasid, mis sisaldavad oluliste arvestuspõhimõtete kokkuvõtet ning muud selgitavat informatsiooni.

Meie arvates kajastab lehekülgedel 57 kuni 96 esitatud konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruanne kõigis olulistes osades õiglaselt kontserni konsolideeritud finantsseisundit seisuga 31. detsember 2023 ning sellel kuupäeval lõppenud majandusaasta konsolideeritud finantstulemust ja konsolideeritud rahavoogusid kooskõlas Eesti finantsaruandluse standardiga.

Arvamuse alus

Viisime auditi läbi kooskõlas rahvusvaheliste auditeerimise standarditega (Eesti). Meie kohustusi vastavalt nendele standarditele kirjeldatakse täiendavalt meie aruande osas „Vandeauditori kohustused seoses konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande auditiga”. Me oleme kontsernist sõltumatud kooskõlas kutseliste arvestusekspertide eetikakoodeksiga (Eesti) (sh sõltumatuse standardid), ja oleme täitnud oma muud eetikaalased kohustused vastavalt nendele nõuetele. Me usume, et auditi tõendusmaterjal, mille oleme hankinud, on piisav ja asjakohane aluse andmiseks meie arvamusele.

Muu informatsioon

Juhtkond vastutab muu informatsiooni eest. Muu informatsioon sisaldab tegevusaruannet, kuid ei sisalda konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruannet ega meie vandeauditori aruannet.

Meie arvamus konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande kohta ei hõlma muud informatsiooni ja me ei esita selle kohta mitte mingis vormis kindlustandvat järeldust.



Seoses konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande auditiga on meil kohustus lugeda muud informatsiooni ja kaaluda seejuures, kas see lahkneb oluliselt konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruandest või teadmistest, mille auditi käigus omandasime, või kas see näib olevat muul viisil oluliselt väärkajastatud. Kui me teeme oma töö alusel järelduse, et muu informatsioon on oluliselt väärkajastatud, siis oleme kohustatud sellest asjaolust teavitama. Meil ei ole sellega seoses millestki teavitada.

Juhtkonna ja nende, kelle ülesandeks on valitsemine, kohustused seoses konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruandega

Juhtkond vastutab konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande koostamise ja õiglase esitamise eest kooskõlas Eesti finantsaruandluse standardiga, ja sellise sisekontrolli eest, mida juhtkond peab vajalikuks, et oleks võimalik koostada pettusest või veast tuleneva olulise väärkajastamiseta konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruanne.

Konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande koostamisel on juhtkond kohustatud hindama, kas kontsern suudab oma tegevust jätkata, esitama infot tegevuse jätkuvusega seotud asjaolude kohta, kui see on asjakohane, ja kasutama arvestuses tegevuse jätkuvuse alusprintsipi, välja arvatud juhul, kui juhtkond kavatses kontserni likvideerida või selle tegevuse lõpetada või kui tal puudub sellele realistlik alternatiiv.

Need, kelle ülesandeks on valitsemine, vastutavad kontserni finantsaruandlusprotsessi järelevalve eest.

Vandeauditi kohustused seoses konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande auditiga

Meie eesmärk on saada põhjendatud kindlus selle kohta, kas konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruanne tervikuna on pettusest või veast tuleneva olulise väärkajastamiseta ja anda välja vandeauditi aruanne, mis sisaldab meie arvamust. Põhjendatud kindlus on kõrgetasemeline kindlus, kuid see ei taga, et olulise väärkajastamise esinemisel see kooskõlas rahvusvaheliste auditeerimise standarditega (Eesti) teostatud auditi käigus alati avastatakse. Väärkajastamised võivad tuleneda pettusest või veast ja neid peetakse oluliseks siis, kui võib põhjendatult eeldada, et need võivad üksikult või koos mõjutada majanduslikke otsuseid, mida kasutajad konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande alusel teevad.

Rahvusvaheliste auditeerimise standardite (Eesti) kohase auditi käigus kasutame kutsealast otsustust ja säilitame kutsealase skeptitsismi kogu auditi vältel. Lisaks:

- teeme kindlaks konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande pettusest või veast tuleneva olulise väärkajastamise riskid ja hindame neid, kavandame riskidele vastavad auditiprotseduurid ja teostame neid ning hangime piisava ja asjakohase auditi tõendusmaterjali, mis on aluseks meie arvamusel. Pettusest tuleneva olulise väärkajastamise mitteamastamise risk on suurem kui veast tuleneva väärkajastamise puhul, sest pettus võib tähendada salakokkulepet, võltsimist, informatsiooni tahtlikku esitamata jätmist või vääresitust või sisekontrolli eiramist;
- omandame arusaamise auditi jaoks asjakohasest sisekontrollist, et kavandada antud tingimustes asjakohaseid auditiprotseduure, kuid mitte selleks, et avaldada arvamust kontserni sisekontrolli tulemuslikkuse kohta;
- hindame kasutatud arvestuspõhimõtete asjakohasust ning juhtkonna raamatupidamishinnangute ja nende kohta avalikustatud informatsiooni põhjendatust;



- teeme järelduse selle kohta, kas arvestuses tegevuse jätkuvuse alusprintsipi kasutamine juhtkonna poolt on asjakohane ja kas hangitud auditi tõendusmaterjali põhjal esineb sündmustest või tingimustest tulenevat olulist ebakindlust, mis võib tekitada märkimisväärset kahtlust kontserni jätkuva tegutsemise suhtes. Kui järeldame, et eksisteerib oluline ebakindlus, siis oleme kohustatud juhtima vandeaudiitori aruandes tähelepanu konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruandes selle kohta avalikustatud informatsioonile või kui avalikustatud informatsioon on ebapiisav, siis modifitseerima oma arvamust. Meie järeldused põhinevad kuni vandeaudiitori aruande kuupäevani hangitud auditi tõendusmaterjalil. Tulevased sündmused või tingimused võivad põhjustada seda, et kontsern ei jätku oma tegevust;
- hindame konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande üldist esitusviisi, struktuuri ja sisu, sealhulgas avalikustatud informatsiooni, ning seda, kas konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruanne esitab selle aluseks olevaid tehinguid ja sündmusi õiglasel viisil.
- hangime kontserni majandusüksuste või äritegevuse finantsinformatsiooni kohta piisavalt asjakohast tõendusmaterjali, et avaldada arvamust kontserni konsolideeritud raamatupidamise aastaaruande kohta. Vastutame kontserni auditi juhtimise, järelevalve ja teostamise eest. Oleme ainuvastutavad oma auditiarvamuse eest.

Vahetame informatsiooni nendega, kelle ülesandeks on valitsemine, muuhulgas auditi planeeritud ulatuse ja ajastuse ning märkimisväärsete auditi tähelepanekute, kaasa arvatud auditi käigus tuvastatud märkimisväärsete sisekontrolli puuduste kohta.

/allkirjastatud digitaalselt/

Andris Jegers

Vandeaudiitori number 171

/allkirjastatud digitaalselt/

Siim Külasepp

Vandeaudiitori number 698

KPMG Baltics OÜ

Auditoorettevõtja tegevusloa number 17

Narva mnt 5, 10117 Tallinn

8. mai 2024

SIGNATURES TO ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The annual report of the University of Tartu for the year ended 31 December 2023 consists of an activity report and consolidated financial statements.

The management of the University of Tartu has prepared the activity report and the consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements are accompanied by the independent auditors' report. The rector of the University of Tartu has reviewed the annual report and approved its presentation to the council of the university.

(signed digitally)

Toomas Asser
Rector, Professor

(signed digitally)

Kalle Hein
Head of Finance

(signed digitally)

Signe Vösoberg-Pastik
Chief Accountant

ACTIVITY REPORT

Editors Kristi Kerge, Martin Meitern, Katrin Pajuste-Kuul, Mari-Liis Pintson, Taivo Raud, Helina Riisalu, Mari-Liis Štrik-Ott, Saima Tiirmaa-Oras

The report was compiled with the assistance of Maret Ahonen, Krista Aru, Jaanika Haljasmäe, Kalle Hein, Ingrid Jaggo, Merike Kala-Sikk, Tuuli Kaldma, Gea Kammer, Kaja Karo, Ülle Kesli, Karoliina Kruusmaa, Urmas Kõljalg, Imre Lall, Kalmer Lauk, Kristina Lillemets, Anneli Lorenz, Roberta Lupp, Kristel Lään-Saarik, Kadri-Ann Mägi, Reet Mägi, Kstina Noormets, Karin Org, Lehti Pilt, Kärt Puura, Mariann Raisma, Lauri Randveer, Mervi Raudsaar, Tiia Ristolainen, Kersti Roosimäe, Siret Rutiku, Katrin Tamm, Dorel Tamm-Klaos, Monika Tasa, Piret Tatunts, Ülle Tensing, Annika Tina, Ana Valdmann, Aune Valk, Raivo Valk, Ene Voolaid, Signe Võsoberg-Pastik and many others

Photos by Olga Einasto, Hope Goode, Jelizaveta Gross, Hannah Kaarma, Reti Kokk (Estonian Academy of Sciences), Karoli Luige, Uku Peterson, Olari Pilnik, Priit Purge, Erki Pärnaku (Õhtuleht), Reio Rada, Mirjam Savioja, Solaride, Andres Tennus, Sandra Urvak

Translation Ann Kuslap, Karit Jäärats

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Editors Kaie Aia, Kalle Hein, Kristina Kurakina, Kadi Külm, Signe Võsoberg-Pastik

Translation Inga Aarpuu (KPMG Baltics OÜ)

Design Helina Riisalu

Front cover photos:

- At the ceremony of the 104th anniversary of Estonia's national university, the "Contribution to Estonian National Identity" award was presented to director [Merle Karusoo](#)
- On 28 November, the book "Eestikeelse Tartu ülikooli esimene aastasada" (The first 100 years of the Estonian-language University of Tartu) by [Erki Tammiksaar](#) was presented in the university museum's White Hall
- Mascot Tiksu at the university's Open Doors Day
- Participants of the Startup Lab's Starter programme preparing for pitching
- The University of Tartu and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre initiated the joint concert series "Harmonia Universitatis". The first concert in the university assembly hall featured the trio Poll-Varema-Poll. The photo shows cellist [Henry-David Varema](#)
- On 25 August, the inauguration of Rector [Toomas Asser](#) took place in the university assembly hall. President [Alar Karis](#) presented the rector's chain of office
- Main building of the university on the eve of the 105th anniversary of the Republic of Estonia
- In January, reading dogs from the Estonian Association of Assistance and Therapy Dogs visited the Night Library in the university library

Ülikooli 18

50090 Tartu

Email info@ut.ee

Website www.ut.ee

Twitter www.twitter.com/tartuuniversity

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