



Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

www.tsu.edu.ge

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU) is the first national university in Georgia and the first higher education institution in the South Caucasus region. It established formal education in the country, created the local intellectual workforce and paved the way for human development and democracy. For over 100 years TSU has granted degrees to men and women and promoted the ideals of equality, justice and progress.

The University was founded on February 08, 1918 as a comprehensive European-style higher education institution. Majority of its 12 founders had received higher education in the European countries and brought their knowledge, experience and contacts to TSU, thus establishing the Georgian higher education system on truly Western values. Being a national university, TSU has always delivered schooling in Georgian language making it the only institution of higher education to do so in the former Russian empire. The Centennial anniversary of Tbilisi State University, celebrated nationwide, was an event organized under the auspices of UNESCO.

Initially, TSU started with the Faculty of Philosophy, which included some fields of study from humanities as well as natural sciences and mathematics. Today, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University is a research-intensive higher education institution focusing on four core pillars of performance - teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook.

The **mission** of Tbilisi State University is:

- To establish comprehensive national and international academic values and to support intellectual, cultural and socio-economic development of the society;
- To produce and further new knowledge;
- To sustain and further on research capacity and innovation tradition;
- Train competitive staff;
- To have an exemplary offer of student-centred, fuller, longer and further education;
- To maintain an honourable and distinguished position in international Higher Education Community.



TSU shares the ideals promoted by the Magna Charta of the European Universities and its values are based on critical, creative and progressive thinking, the principles of academic freedom and academic ethics; open, dynamic and transparent relations.

Nowadays, there are 7 Faculties and an international school at TSU with over 200 accredited academic programs in various disciplines serving almost 22,000 students:

- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Humanities
- Faculty of Business and Economics
- Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences
- Faculty of Social and Political Sciences
- Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences
- International School of Economics at TSU

Tbilisi State University resources include 8 million book volumes, 22 million patented works, 13 buildings in Tbilisi and Kutaisi housing 85 laboratories, several Smart Labs (SMART AtmoSim, SMART|EDM_Lab, SMART|SmR_lab), Knowledge Transfer and Innovation Centre and a Fabrication Laboratory.

Tbilisi State University is a student-centred institution putting particular emphasis on:

- Providing in-depth knowledge of a major field of study,
- Nurturing broad understanding of the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and the arts,
- Developing skills in communication and in critical thinking,
- Cultivating global perspectives gained through intellectual and social exchange of its academics and staff through professional and study programs,
- Encouraging responsible citizenship and understanding of ethical norms

TSU strives to become a higher educational and research center with European values and international significance by 2024 that will ensure:

- Harmonization of educational programs with public sector and labor market requirements
- Increased number of basic and applied research
- Internationalization of educational, research, management and administrative processes.



TSU is an active member of prestigious international networks, including:

- European University Association (EUA)
- Black Sea University Network (BSU)
- Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)
- International Association of Universities
- Magna Charta Observatory

TSU, home of 16 research institutes itself, has close scientific and educational contacts with hundreds of universities and research centres around the world and the oldest institutional partnership with Friedrich Schiller University of Jena dates back to 1966. TSU researchers regularly participate in scientific projects of world magnitude including (but not limited to):

- ATLAS experiment carried out on the Large Hadron Collider at CERN (Switzerland),
- Experimental research at the COSY accelerator of the Jülich Research Center (Germany),
- the COMET experiment at the Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex (J-PARC),
- KM3NeT experiment launched in the Mediterranean Sea,
- International accelerator facility FAIR (Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research), one of the largest research projects worldwide, being built in Darmstadt, Germany.

Academia Europaea, a European non-governmental association uniting 3,800 members and acting as an academy to promote learning, education and research from 1988 opened its 5th regional hub at Tbilisi State University following Barcelona, Bergen, Cardiff and Wroclaw. This makes Georgia the first non-EU member state, where a regional Academia Europaea hub has been established.

Tbilisi State University is an outstanding performer in the region across a wide range of areas. This is evidenced by various global university rankings:

- TSU is the only university from the South Caucasus, [ranked](#) by the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* five years in a row from 2017;
- According to the *U.S. News&World Report* 2019 edition, Tbilisi State University is [ranked](#) among the best 2% of the universities worldwide out of 1250 universities surveyed in 75 countries;
- According to the Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities, TSU Physics Department is ranked N151-200, being N1 in the region;



- According to the QS Top University Ranking Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Tbilisi State University is ranked as 86th and thus occupies leading position in the Caucasus region;
- According to the Round University Rankings 2020, TSU is ranked as N1 in the country and as N612 in the world.

International outlook is a high priority for TSU. The university puts special emphasis on joint projects and on the international mobility of its students and staff. Between the years of 1995 and 2016, TSU has been the leader in the Post-Soviet region with the number of EU funded projects - TSU has been part of 35 TEMPUS programs and a member of 7 Erasmus Mundus consortia.

TSU is a leader in the country with the number of Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility projects (ICM); it is proud partner of 256 projects with 106 higher education institutions in 26 program countries (EACEA) within 2015-2019.

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