

ISU Norway Work Plan 2017-2018

The Work Plan is the organization's guidelines for prioritization of work in the coming period. The action plan will outline what issues are relevant and important during the period, in line with the political context and the internal processes of the organization.

ISU Priorities for 2017-2018

Below are the points that will be prioritized by the national administration for ISU Norway 2017/2018.

Financial Independence

Today ISU Norway has two sources of income. The national office budget comes from the Ministry of Education (KD) and the local branch finances come from LNU Frifond. All finances have to be done according to ISU Norway's constitutional interests.

- Continue to apply to LNU Frifond for new national initiatives for ISU Norway.
- Find other long term sources of funding for ISU Norway.
- Find funding solutions for full-time positions in national leadership
- Look for individual event support from companies, unions, etc.

Career development

It is important for international students to start to develop their career in Norway to be a future working resource in Norwegian society.

- Free Norwegian classes for international students as a part of their study in Norway.
- Allocate 1 day of either LM1 or LM2 to career development workshops for international student leaders.
- Approach companies to create a collaboration so that they can give internships to international students.

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- Continue to cooperate with Embassies in Norway to offer internship opportunities for international students.

Quality in Education

- Equal opportunities in education ISU considers equal rights and equal opportunities in education regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability and socio-economic background as a natural part of all the points in the action plan.
- ISU shall work to spread internationalization at home and equal opportunities in education in Norway through cooperation with other national student organizations.
- ISU should work to present the benefits of international students at Norwegian higher education institutions.

Local Branches

ISU should be a dynamic organization that mobilizes wide support. ISU's objective of the organization is to engage and mobilize members throughout the organization, regardless of the cause and time.

- Work to organize a Kick. Off weekend for new members in autumn.
- Continue to develop and promote the ISU continuity handbook.
- Establish regional cooperation among local branches.
- Support local branch activity towards action plans and inclusion strategies.
- Ensure that the local branches are active, and included in ISU Norway National Office activities.

Establishing and strengthening relationships with stakeholders

- ISU Norway will continue to strengthen and establish relationships with the Embassies in Norway in order to promote the welfare and inclusion of international students per the ISU Embassy Initiative guidelines.
- ISU Norway will continue to strengthen relationships and collaborate with its partners on areas of common interest.
- ISU Norway will work actively to implement the partnership agreements established with other organizations in Norway-

Visibility

- ISU Norway will work towards increasing its visibility on social platforms.
- ISU Norway will continue to cooperate with Norwegian media to publish articles of interest for international students, and their stories in Norway.
- ISU Norway will work towards organize in autumn 2017 an information campaign (following and improving last year's campaign "Icebreaker"), to support inclusion of international students in Norway.

Student Permit Issues

- ISU will work to improve the immigration process for international students.
- ISU will work in cooperation with UDI to increase the 20 hours' maximum students from outside EU/EEA are allowed to work during their studies in Norway.
- ISU will work to reduce or eliminate the study VISA renewal fees

Inclusion

- ISU will continuously work towards creating inclusion projects through LNU initiatives.
- ISU will continue to work with partner organizations to support inclusion of international students in Norway.
- ISU will work active to support ISU Alumni network, and the inclusion of former ISU members that can help with their experience in ISU Norway activities and projects.

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Political Work

The political work of ISU should focus on:

- Keeping the principle of free education with no tuition fees.
- Working to protect international students' rights through active political work with ISU Norway's partner organizations and official institutions.
- Working to establish a funding scheme for full-degree opportunities for students from developing countries.
- ISU Norway shall keep an open line of communication to Norwegian political parties in a non-partisan way in order to further ISU's political priorities.
- Work with the Norwegian political parties to create a plan on how it is possible to bridge the gap for new international students caused by the discontinuation of the Quota scheme program.

Solidarity

- Work with stakeholders to ensure the continuity of Students At Risk
- Work to support refugees' inclusion in academia in Norway
- Work to obtain financial support for those who come to Norway as self-financed students.