



Pontifical Catholic University
of Rio Grande do Sul

INSTITUTIONAL PLAN OF INTERNATIONALIZATION

2018-2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Plan of *Internationalization* of Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS) has been designed as a response to the contemporary challenges of a globalized and multicultural world, and mirrors the institutional guidelines laid in the 2016-2022 Strategic Plan. The plan is an attempt to expand the University's international and intercultural dimensions in teaching, research, innovation and extension.

Over the course of its history, PUCRS has been achieving higher levels of excellence in teaching as well as in the scientific, technological and social relevance of the research carried out in its premises. It enjoys an enviable position among the best universities in Latin America, as shown in the most important international rankings. It is worth mentioning that according to the Brazilian Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Higher Education (CAPES), PUCRS has climbed atop the public and private higher education institutions by virtue of the excellence of its graduate programs (2013-2016). The aforementioned agency evaluates colleges and universities every four years. Additionally, the undergraduate programs of PUCRS are among the best ones in the country, as per the Ministry of Education. This is the fruit of successful policies of internationalization that have been developed at the University.

In this sense, PUCRS aims to reach even higher in order to become a world-class university with relevance at the local, national and international spheres. The concept of “*Comprehensive Internationalization*” will be implemented in an effort to materialize that idea, since it will permeate our actions for international collaborations and the initiatives of our academic community in line with the Strategic Plan and the strategic areas stated in the University's Plan of *Internationalization*. The top priorities to be addressed by the plan of the internationalization of PUCRS from 2018-2022 are as follows:

- Health in Human Development
- The World in Motion: Individuals and Society
- Humanism, Education and Culture in the Age of Interconnectivity
- Technology and Biodiversity: Sustainability, Energy and the Environment
- Technological Innovations for a Dynamic and Interconnected World

This Plan of *Internationalization* is anchored in the combination of different strategies, as follows:

- The establishment of the legal and institutional framework for internationalization of the University. The planning actions of PUCRS and the observation to the existing national and international policies will be guided by the policy of internationalization;
- Development of a world-class global culture that conceives of internationalization in every aspect possible and in all realms of university life, thus leading to a concept of an International Campus of PUCRS in Porto Alegre;
- Attraction of a larger number of international students at PUCRS either through formal international academic mobility programs or international degree-seeking students at the undergraduate and graduate levels from all over the world, or even at the university's ecosystem of innovation, involving partner companies from Brazil and abroad;
- Expansion and consolidation of international cooperation in the areas of research and innovation with international researchers working on research and innovation projects at PUCRS' Schools and TECNOPUC;
- Offer of undergraduate and graduate-level programs in transnational partnerships, with partner universities, involving double-degree programs and other programs in collaboration with high-level international partners.

PUCRS intends to maximize the opportunities of continued international experiences, which includes the consolidation of collaborations that can contribute to diversity, quality and international relevance of knowledge production. In this context, this plan seeks to offer comprehensive and international development for the benefit of the entire academic community.

Thus, we hope that the Plan of *Internationalization* can produce positive results in our quest for academic excellence for relevance in society. This will contribute to the development of citizens in line with the perspectives and demands of a multicultural and interconnected world.