

Regulations of the Interdisciplinary Research Centre

Article 1. General rules

1. The Interdisciplinary Research Center (IRC) (hereinafter referred to as the Center) is a scientific-research structural unit of Shota Meskhia Zugdidi State University (hereinafter referred to as the University).
2. The Center conducts its activities based on these regulations, which are approved by the Academic Council of the University.
3. Amendments and additions to the Center's regulations are made by a resolution of the Academic Council of the University.
4. The Center brings together professors from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Health at the University, who conduct interdisciplinary or comparative research.

Article 2. Goals of the Centre

1. The goals of the Center are:
 - a) To develop and implement research projects based on an interdisciplinary approach;
 - b) To generalize research results and create a scientific-research space for interdisciplinary scientific-research discourse, in the form of conferences, symposiums, summer/winter schools, and other public discussions and activities;
 - c) To contribute to the internationalization of the University's scientific-research activities.

Article 3. Directions of the Centre's activities

1. The main directions of the Center's activities are:
 - a) Implementing interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research projects, both based on university and external funding;
 - b) Ensuring the equal involvement of both young and experienced researchers in research activities;
 - c) Broad dissemination and accessibility of research results for both university students and other stakeholders;
 - d) Reflection and introduction of research results into academic disciplines;
 - e) Inviting the international and local experts to improve scientific research activities and involve them in the Center's projects.

Article 4. Areas of Center Activity

1. To achieve the goals specified in Article 2 of these regulations, the Center:
 - a) Cooperates with local and foreign educational and research institutions;
 - b) Collaborates with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, international

organizations, and institutions;

c) Participates in national and international projects or implements them using its own resources. The Center periodically organizes international and national conferences, seminars, and working meetings to showcase the results of the Centre's research;

d) Conducts research within the framework of thematic research projects.

Article 5. Structure of the Center

1. The Center is led by the Head of the Center. Within the Center, sectoral research groups may be established, each led by a sectoral group leader.

2. The scientific activities of the Center are determined by the Center's Scientific Council, the composition of which is defined by a resolution of the Academic Council.

Article 6. Head of the Center

1. The Head of the Center is appointed and dismissed by the Rector of the University.

2. The Head of the Center may be given remuneration. The amount and conditions of the remuneration are defined by the contract signed by the Head of the Centre.

3. The Head of the Center:

a) Provides organizational management of the Center's activities and supervises the Center's scientific activities together with the Center's Scientific Council;

b) Presents the main scientific directions for approval to the Scientific Council;

c) Organizes funding for scientific projects and ensures material and technical support;

d) Facilitates the development of the Center's scientific contacts with scientific and educational institutions in Georgia and abroad, as well as other types of organizations;

e) Organizes the publication of scientific research;

f) Represents the Center both locally and internationally, based on appropriate authorization.

Article 7. Head of the Sectoral Research Group of the Center

1. The Center may have a head of a sectoral research group with appropriate qualifications, for various sectoral directions.

2. The head of the sectoral research group:

a) supervises the work of the research team in the relevant sector;

b) Develops new research initiatives and presents them to the Head of the Center and the Center's Scientific Council for consideration;

c) Presents the sectoral research group's views during interdisciplinary work;

d) Ensures the involvement of new scientific staff in research conducted within the Center.

Article 8. Scientific Staff of the Center

To achieve the goals of these regulations, the scientific staff of the Center include the University's academic staff as well as researchers who do not hold an academic position at the University.

Article 9. Scientific Council of the Center

1. The composition of the Scientific Council is approved by the University's Academic Council upon the Rector's submission, and may include the Head of the Center and the heads of the Center's sectoral research groups. The Scientific Council may also include academic staff and/or researchers from other scientific and educational institutions.
2. The activities of the Center's Scientific Council are managed by the Head of the Center.
3. The Scientific Council reviews and makes decisions on issues related to the scientific management and development of the Center, specifically:
 - a) Reviews and approves the plans for scientific and research activities;
 - b) Reviews issues related to collaboration with other scientific institutions and various organizations;
 - c) Receives and reviews reports on the activities of individual researchers;
 - d) Reviews issues related to the Centre's international scientific cooperation and the progress of joint projects with scientific institutions in foreign countries;
 - e) Receives and reviews reports from Centre staff on scientific trips abroad;
 - f) Determines the appropriateness of integrating research results into the educational process;
 - g) Is authorized to make decisions on all matters concerning the Center's scientific activities
4. The Head of the Center chairs the meetings of the Scientific Council.
5. The Scientific Council is deemed eligible when a majority of its members are present. A decision is deemed adopted if it is supported by more than half of the members present at the meeting. The Council makes decisions through open voting, unless a secret ballot is required.
6. During the Scientific Council meeting, minutes are recorded and signed by the meeting's Chair and the Secretary.

Article 10. Centre Researcher

1. A center researcher may be either academic or invited staff who participate in the implementation of projects outlined in the Center's plan. The center researcher has an academic and scientific freedom. They have the right to:
 - a) Independently determine the content, methods, and means of scientific research;
 - b) Participate in grant competitions and other events to obtain funding;
 - c) Conduct any type of activity that is relevant to achieving the Center's objectives.

Article 11. Termination of the Center's Activities

The center's activities can be terminated by a decision of the Academic Council.

Article 12. Procedure for Amending and Adding to the Regulation

Amendments and additions to the regulation are made by a resolution of the Academic Council in accordance with the procedures established by law.