

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURE FOR GRANTING THE STATUS OF AN ASSOCIATE RESEARCHER OF VILNIUS UNIVERSITY

I. General provisions

1. The status of an associate researcher of Vilnius University (hereinafter the 'University's associate researcher') may be granted to a researcher at the University if they meet all of the following requirements:
 - 1.1. the University researcher intends to temporarily do research under an employment contract elsewhere, in Lithuania or abroad;
 - 1.2. the University researcher intends to terminate employment relationship with the University;
 - 1.3. the University researcher intends to actively maintain research relationship with the University.
2. The maintenance of research relationship is understood as support for the University in organising, initiating, and helping to conduct research cooperation with other institutions; scientific publications in affiliation with Vilnius University; initiation and implementation of joint research projects with the University, etc.;
3. Granted a status of the University's associate researcher grants, a person is provided with:
 - 3.1. with the consent of the Senate, a right to resume their previous position without participating in a competition and hold it until the expiry of the terminated term of office. Periods of working elsewhere are included in the term of office;
 - 3.2. a possibility to indicate the University in the affiliation of scientific publications.
4. The Senate may object to the University's associate researcher's resumption of a previously held position in the case of circumstances provided for in Items 15(1) to 15(2) of these provisions.

II. Granting the status of the University's associate researcher

5. The status of the University's associate researcher may be granted for a fixed term which shall not be longer than 3 months until the expiry of a researcher's terminated term of office at the University.
6. The status of the University's associate researcher is granted by the Senate.
7. A core unit shall submit an application for granting the status of the University's associate researcher to the Senate before the University researcher terminates their employment relationship with the University.
8. The application consists of:
 - 8.1. a request of the council of a core unit to the Senate specifying the expected term of validity of the status of the University's associate researcher, the company, institution or organisation where a researcher intends to hold a temporary position and means or forms of maintaining the expected research relationship;
 - 8.2. a reasoned University researcher's request for granting the status of the University's associate researcher, specifying a date until which the requested status is to be granted;
 - 8.3. details concerning the employment elsewhere, as planned by the University (employee);
 - 8.4. a draft agreement between the University and the researcher provided for in Item 12 of this description;
 - 8.5. other useful information and documents.
9. The Research Affairs Committee shall consider the application. The conclusion of the Research

Affairs Committee on granting the status of the University's associate researcher is submitted to the Senate.

10. The status of the University's associate researcher takes effect upon signing an agreement between the researcher and the University, provided for in Item 13 of this description, and upon receipt of the certified copies of the documents certifying the researcher's employment elsewhere.
11. Under the decision of the Senate, the term of validity of the status of the University's associate researcher may be extended if all of the following requirements are met:
 - 11.1. a reasoned request of the researcher is submitted;
 - 11.2. at least three months remain until the expiry of the terminated term of office of the researcher which they held before the status of the University's associate researcher was granted to them;
 - 11.3. the approval from the council of a core unit and the conclusions of the Research Affairs Committee have been obtained.
12. Information and documents concerning the granting, extension, etc. of the title of the University's associate researcher are submitted, collected, and stored in the Personnel Directorate.

III. Agreement between the University and the researcher on the status of the University's associate researcher

13. A written agreement (hereinafter the 'agreement') is concluded with the researcher on the basis of the decision of the Senate granting the status of University's associate researcher, where:
 - 13.1. The University and the researcher agree to terminate employment relationship by agreement of the parties (Article 125 of the Republic of Lithuania Labour Code);
 - 13.2. The University undertakes, upon the University's associate researcher request and with the consent of the Senate, to conclude an employment contract with them for their previous position until the expiry of the terminated term of office without a competition, if the requirement provided in Item 5 of this description of the procedure is satisfied;
 - 13.3. the researcher assumes specific obligations to maintain research relationship with the University;
 - 13.4. the procedure for refusal of the status of the University's associate researcher and termination of this agreement and liability of the parties if they fail to fulfil assumed obligations is specified;
 - 13.5. entry into force is established of the agreement from the day the certified document copies are submitted to the University according to the procedure established at the company, institution or organisation where the researcher is employed;
 - 13.6. agreement is made to terminate this agreement unilaterally, upon the initiative of the University's associate researcher or upon the decision of the Senate in the case of circumstances provided for in Items 15(1) to 15(2) of this Description;
 - 13.7. other important provisions in compliance with the laws of the Republic of Lithuania and the University's internal legislation are established.
14. If the agreement is breached, the losses incurred when sanctions are imposed to the University are compensated from the funds of a respective core unit.

IV. Withdrawal of the status of the University's associate researcher

15. The status of the University's associate researcher granted to a person upon the decision of the Senate may be withdrawn if:
 - 15.1. a person's conduct fails to comply with academic ethical norms;
 - 15.2. a person breaches terms of the agreement;
 - 15.3. upon person's request.