

To support open, transparent, fair, safe, secure, and sustainable internationalization of education and research (statement)

The Japan Association of National Universities

The Japan Association of National Universities creates a conducive environment for achieving high-quality results through a wide range of activities related to education, research, and social contribution that are conducted by each national university. It aims to contribute to the increasing development of national universities as well as to the improvement and balanced progression of higher education and academic research in Japan. The Association is engaged in activities to support open, transparent, fair, safe, secure, and sustainable internationalization of education and research, with the greatest respect to the spirit of academic freedom, freedom of expression, and the autonomy of researchers and institutions.

The Association concludes partnership agreements with higher education institutions in other countries and cooperates with them to support and promote internationalization of education and research.

Based on a profound understanding of the importance of open science and the value of international research cooperation, the Association conducts diverse activities to promote international student exchanges and global research collaboration in partnership with institutions worldwide. At the same time, it recognizes that internationalization of education and research may carry risk, which may lead to unintended national security concerns.

Therefore, the Association, together with all national universities, is committed to resolving various risks so as to support open, transparent, fair, safe, secure, and sustainable internationalization of education and research.

The Association, in collaboration with the relevant domestic and overseas organizations to share issues and best practices for a better understanding of how to address the above-mentioned concerns, sincerely endeavors to support the internationalization of national universities.

The Japan Association of National Universities is engaged in the following activities:

- 1) Prospectively advocating the need for open, transparent, fair, safe, secure, and sustainable internationalization in higher education. Such internationalization brings the best value to higher education and research at national universities.

- a) Sending a message to society about the value and importance of open, transparent, fair, safe, secure, and sustainable internationalization.
 - b) Discussing and clarifying the potential challenges and concerns as well as the necessary measures that national universities can take to address them in the course of internationalization.
 - c) Providing advice on open, transparent, fair, safe, secure, and sustainable internationalization to the Japanese government, funding agencies, and other interested parties as needed.
- 2) Sharing experiences and insights among the Association, national universities, and overseas institutions with which the Association has partnership agreements to help develop policies and practices for the internationalization of higher education.
- a) Holding regular meetings within the Association.
 - b) Using internet facilities to disseminate information on the related guidance and regulations.
 - c) Organizing meetings and events for national universities to deepen their knowledge and to share their experiences on research integrity and research security.
 - d) Facilitating the exchange of expertise, experience, and good practices with overseas organizations with which the Association has partnership agreements.
- 3) Supporting the promotion of open, transparent, fair, safe, secure, and sustainable internationalization of research at national universities.
- a) Playing an active and constructive role to create a regulatory and operational environment that cultivates research integrity and research security.
 - b) Engaging in active and constant dialogue with the Japanese government and funding agencies to help national universities better understand essential and emerging issues.
 - c) Providing information, advice, and guidance on issues of interest to national universities.
 - d) Hosting fora for national universities to support the exchange of acquired knowledge and information, and best practices.
- 4) Actively seeking opportunities to strengthen research and educational collaboration with overseas institutions with which the Association has partnership agreements.

- a) Exploring the possibility of joint initiatives, including the development of common policies and principles in areas of mutual interest.
- b) Engaging in multilateral efforts to address research integrity and research security in promoting the internationalization of national universities.