

A world-leading university in the fields of  
defence, crisis management and security

---

The Swedish Defence University Vision 2020-2030





Styrdokument	
<b>Rubrik</b>	FHS vision, övergripande mål och strategier
<b>Klassificering</b>	Vision och strategi
<b>Diarienummer</b>	Ö 134/2020
<b>Beslutsfattare</b>	Styrelsen
<b>Dokumentansvarig</b>	Rektor
<b>Senaste beslutsdatum</b>	2020-04-22
<b>Giltighetstid</b>	Tillsvidare, bör dock ses över senast 2025
<b>Dokument som ersätts</b>	Ö 611/2018, Ö 317/2015 och Ö 612/ 2017
<b>Antal bilagor</b>	Visionen, målen och strategierna konkretiseras i FHS verksamhetsplan och organisatoriska handlingsplaner.
<b>Kortare sammanfattning</b>	I dokumentet framkommer FHS vision samt övergripande utvecklingsinriktning, mål och strategier.

# The Swedish Defence University – a world-leading university in the fields of defence, crisis management and security

The Swedish Defence University Vision 2020-2030

The Board of the Swedish Defence University april 22 2020

# INTRODUCTION

## **Introducing the Swedish Defence University**

The Swedish Defence University is unique in many respects. As a specialised university we educate officers and civilian leaders as well as experts in the fields of defence, crisis management and security. The Swedish Defence University conducts research and education for a safer world by contributing to the advancement of knowledge and professional growth within the defence and security sector.

Our students will understand, protect, manage and take action both in current and future conflicts and crises, and help create sustainable societal development. An understanding of national and international security, crisis and war in historical, current and future perspectives is combined with a focus on leadership and management, strategy, military operations and tactics, specialising in legal aspects and developments in technology.

Our strength lies in personal contact between leading researchers and teachers combined with methods of education that are applicable and closely related to the profession. Our quality and specialised focus creates an attractive educational institution for the most outstanding students, researchers and teachers from all backgrounds worldwide.

## **Focus on benefits to society**

The raison d'être of the Swedish Defence University lies in our unique contribution to the defence and security sector's advancement of knowledge and professional growth. Our research and education contribute to Swedish defence capability, a more secure world and the sustainable development of society. The essence of all our activities is to benefit society, through collaboration and service.

## **The academic home of the military profession**

The Swedish Defence University educates Sweden's officers and is responsible for the academic development of the military profession. Through an internationally ranked officer education and a strong professional research environment we enhance the quality of the officer corps and the Armed Forces' capability development.

## **A central meeting place**

The Swedish Defence University is a central meeting place for the defence and security sector. In our research, education and collaboration civilians and military personnel meet each other in both theoretical and practical contexts. Conditions for the creative advancement of knowledge are created in the meeting of people with different points of view and backgrounds.

## **Leadership, responsibility and ethics**

The Swedish Defence University educates officers and civilian leaders as well as experts in the defence and security sector. Commanding the organised use of armed force and coordinating society's security and crisis management entails a special responsibility and unique challenges. Therefore, professionalism, effective leadership and an ethical approach based on the principles of the rule of law permeate all our activities.

## **An open and inclusive workplace and university**

The Swedish Defence University is an attractive, open and inclusive university. We work for diversity and equality of opportunity in an environment characterised by developmental leadership, inquisitiveness, trust, security and mutual respect.

## **THE SWEDISH DEFENCE UNIVERSITY VISION 2030**

The Swedish Defence University - a world-leading university in the fields of defence, crisis management and security.

## **THE SWEDISH DEFENCE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Swedish Defence University is to generate and disseminate knowledge in the areas of defence, crisis management and security. Through research, education and collaboration the Swedish Defence University contributes to Sweden's defence capability, total defence, national and international security and sustainable democratic societies.

# UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

## OVERALL OBJECTIVES

**The Swedish Defence University's education is of the highest quality nationally and internationally and is an attractive choice for the most motivated and qualified students. The University is the defence and security sector's first choice when it comes to professional growth and lifelong learning.**

## STRATEGY

To make the Swedish Defence University's education attractive for students, the Armed Forces and other fields of employment, the focus will be on professionally-targeted education and lifelong learning, developed in collaboration with the defence and security sector. Increased internationalisation is an important tool in the University's efforts to achieve the highest quality and educational relevance. This will involve enrolling more international students, increased opportunities for teacher and student exchanges, and the recruitment of international teaching staff.

### **Pedagogical excellence and a highly competent teaching staff**

The teaching staff at the Swedish Defence University will have a high level of scientific and professional competence as well as considerable pedagogical ability. We will recruit and reward teaching staff who are conducting leading-edge research and are passionate about education. We will recruit the most qualified officers and other professionals with the relevant competence for our education. The teaching staff will be given ample opportunities to continually develop their pedagogical and scientific skills. The Swedish Defence University will strive for pedagogical excellence and innovation and have an infrastructure that supports good physical and virtual learning environments. Therefore, we will further improve our applied pedagogy methods with games and exercises, and develop our methods and platforms for flexible learning formats.

### **A meeting place to generate quality and knowledge**

Education at the Swedish Defence University will mainly be profession-oriented and developed in collaboration with the defence and security sector to foster its professional growth and advancement of knowledge. Our education will enable contact between the civilian and the military, between the practical and theoretical aspects, and between academia and those who work in different professions within the sector. As a central meeting place, the Swedish Defence University will be further strengthened by allowing room for freedom of choice where students can access different areas of the University and its courses. To provide more opportunities for lifelong learning, it will be possible to attend programme-based courses as stand-alone and commissioned courses, subject to availability.

# RESEARCH AND POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

## OVERALL OBJECTIVES

**The Swedish Defence University is a leading national and international research environment with highly productive research of outstanding quality and relevance in the fields of defence, crisis management and security. Research provides the defence and security sector and the scientific community with new knowledge, and contributes to education at the Swedish Defence University being founded on research.**

## STRATEGY

The Swedish Defence University's research will increase both in quantity and quality to gain national and international recognition. We will attract and retain the most qualified researchers and teaching staff in our field, which means that recruitment to academic positions will be done through international competition. Increased internationalisation will develop our nationally unique research environment. This will be achieved through increased international researcher and teacher exchanges, participation in international seminars and conferences, international recruitment as well as international co-publications. The Swedish Defence University will also seek funding from a larger number of research financiers and strengthen our relationships with our research-funded partners.

### **Improved conditions for research**

The Swedish Defence University will prioritise academic leadership of research and provide incentives for academic qualifications. Support for interdisciplinary research will make external research applications more competitive. Researchers at the University will be encouraged to apply for external research funding for long-term research projects, both in terms of grants and commissioned research funds. The Swedish Defence University will promote a culture in which research is considered to be an important and necessary activity in its own right, and a prerequisite for the quality of our education and its foundation in research.

### **Postgraduate studies as a strategic motor**

Postgraduate study will be prioritised as strategically fundamental for the development of current and future research environments. In addition, it is an important contribution to providing people holding postgraduate qualifications to the sector. Therefore, the Swedish Defence University will endeavour to ensure that our postgraduate education covers all our subjects encompassing the areas of defence, crisis management and security. The Swedish Defence University will strive to increase the number of officers in postgraduate studies and support career paths for officers with doctorates, both internally and in cooperation with the Armed Forces.

# **COLLABORATION AND SERVICE**

## **OVERALL OBJECTIVES**

**The Swedish Defence University is a university with a fundamental aim of service to society. Collaboration permeates all aspects of activities. Our research and education are renowned in the defence and security sector. We are the collaboration partner of choice for the public, private and voluntary sectors for the advancement of knowledge and the provision of professional growth in the areas of defence, crisis management and security.**

## **STRATEGY**

The Swedish Defence University will be the leading centre for knowledge in the areas of defence, crisis management and security by exploiting our research and education to enhance society's knowledge and capabilities in this area. Greater benefits to society will be achieved by improved and systematic collaboration with the sector. Collaboration and mutually beneficial activities will result in valuable and lasting effects for both the client and the Swedish Defence University.

### **Specialised contract education**

The Swedish Defence University will provide specialised contract education, commissioned postgraduate studies, analysis and evaluation, as well as exercises and games for actors in the defence and security sector. Specialised activities will be based on scientific foundations and conducted within the framework of the Swedish Defence University's quality assurance system.

### **Increased collaboration**

The Swedish Defence University will increase collaboration with seats of higher education and other institutions, both civilian and military, to mutually contribute to the development of the sector. We will support defence colleges and academies undergoing academic reforms in order to foster a stronger international academic environment for officer education and defence research.



# AN EFFECTIVE UNIVERSITY DRIVEN BY QUALITY

## OVERALL OBJECTIVES

**The Swedish Defence University prioritises knowledge and learning to create quality-driven, effective research, education and collaboration. Through transparent internal processes and working methods we are able to be a university, an employer and a public agency that enjoys great trust among students, employees, clients and supervising agencies.**

## STRATEGY

The Swedish Defence University will be an attractive university and workplace where an inclusive culture promoting safety, trust, gender equality, equal opportunity and mutual respect enables high quality research and education.

### **Increased efforts for equality and sustainable development**

The Swedish Defence University will actively work for the integration of an equality perspective in its education and research to attain equality policy goals. We will strive for the sustainable and democratic development of society, accomplishment of Agenda 2030 and the Climate Framework for universities and colleges. These objectives will be pursued while focussing on the University's own field of security, crisis management and security.

### **Quality assurance**

The Swedish Defence University will have structures and systematic working methods, promoting quality, effectiveness and development. The systematic development of quality assurance is a natural component of education, research and other activities. We will also exploit the opportunities that developments in technology and digitalisation provide for a creative knowledge environment, and for effective, accessible support functions. Our structures will support the essential subjects that are the foundation of the University's quality assurance system, and which generate the long-term advancement of knowledge. The subjects represented at the Swedish Defence University will have a clear strategic concept of the subject's professional and academic focus and development, and will fit into a greater national or international research environment. In principle, our subjects should be taught at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

