

**ESTONIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES:
MEETING THE CHALLENGES FOR 2000–2004
Framework of activities**

1. Preamble

This Framework determines the activities of the Estonian Academy of Sciences as a public scientific organization for the years 2000–2004. The overall objective of the Framework is to enhance the Academy's role and responsibilities in the analysis of and assistance in organizing the advancement of science and technology, in the process of shaping the research and development strategy of Estonia, in the promotion of international scientific co-operation with other states and the European Union.

2. Objectives

2.1. To support the movement of society towards a knowledge-based Estonia.

2.2. To mould the science policy, wherein the development of new research areas is linked with the needs of society and follows from the continuity of research.

2.3. To participate in the activity directed at economic, technological, social, and cultural progress of Estonia and preservation of the environment.

3. Principles of activities

3.1. The Academy emphasizes the significant role of knowledge-based society in sustaining and developing the country and the nation.

3.2. The Academy directs its intellectual power to the advancement of research and its applications, associated with the needs of the State and international tendencies, in the framework of the European Union and worldwide co-operation.

3.3. The Academy attaches great significance to R&D, supporting the dialogue between the Riigikogu (Parliament) and the Government as representatives of society, and the scientific community.

4. The Academy and society

4.1. The Academy, jointly with other competent assemblies, contributes to the activities of the Government in devising and implementing science and technology policy.

4.2. The Academy participates, relying on the scientific community, in solving vital public problems via short- and long-term projects.

4.3. The Academy provides expert assessments to projects, programmes, and decisions related to the development of the State.

4.4. The Academy disseminates the knowledge and brings the scientific achievements to the notice of society.

5. The Academy and the scientific community

5.1. The Academy deems it vitally important to involve more widely the scientific community in projecting its development and in the realization of its goals.

5.2. The Academy, together with the scientific community:

- is active in raising the efficiency of scientific research, in promotion of the infrastructure of science and technological innovation;

- is actively involved in analysis of research areas and directions and in setting down new trends, basing on modern scientific achievements and the public needs;

- analyses the funding of R&D, supports the establishment of centres of excellency and their incorporation into the international network.

5.3. The Academy promotes international co-operation, in view of accession to the European Union.

5.4. The Academy supports and stimulates publication of research results.

6. The Academy and the universities

6.1. The Academy considers the universities as its main co-operation partners in the realization of its aims.

6.2. In co-operation with the universities, the Academy deems it expedient to maintain the educational function of science, to support postgraduate studies and thereby the continuity in scientific research.

The General Framework of Activities, approved by the General Assembly of the Estonian Academy of Sciences on 15 June 2000, opens these ideas in detail.