

Strategic Planning Unit

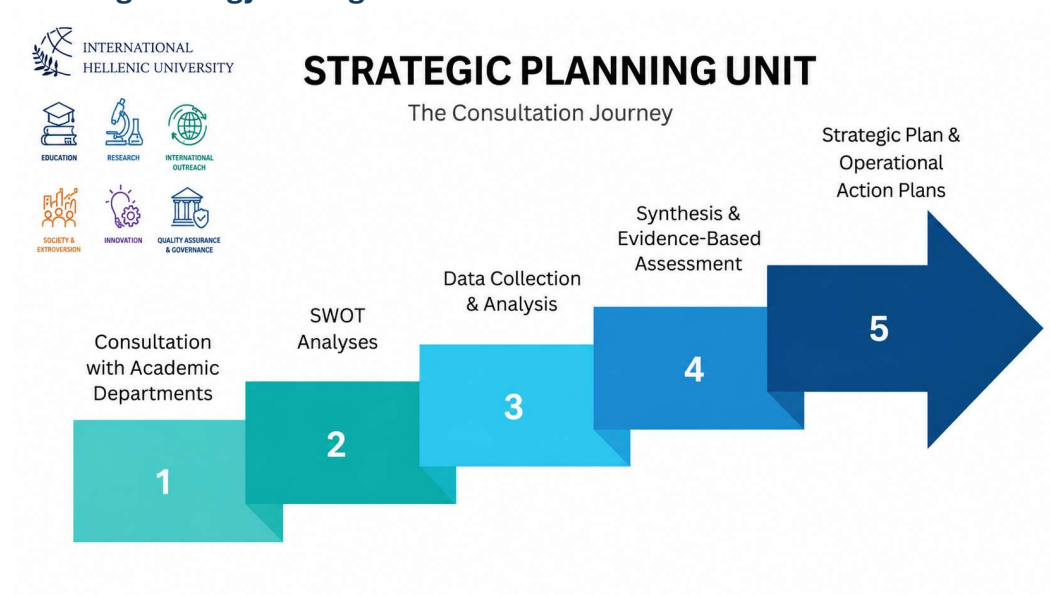
Newsletter | Issue 01 | 22 July 2026

Shaping the Strategic Future of IHU through Dialogue, Participation and Collaboration

What does it take to shape the future of a University with 25 academic departments, five campuses across Greece and one in Belgium?

For the Strategic Planning Unit, the answer was clear from the outset: a Strategic Plan cannot emerge from a closed administrative process. It must be shaped through dialogue, broad participation and evidence-based decision-making.

Building Strategy Through Consultation



Within this framework, the Strategic Planning Unit designed and coordinated one of the most extensive strategic consultation processes ever implemented at the International Hellenic University. As part of this process, 22 meetings have already been held with academic departments, involving the participation of more than 200 faculty members, while all 25 departments of the University have actively contributed to the formulation of the new Strategic Plan by participating in SWOT analyses and the online consultation process (web form).



Yet the meetings were much more than an opportunity to exchange views.

Each meeting provided a comprehensive strategic assessment of the respective academic department. Discussions covered a broad range of topics, including infrastructure, academic and administrative staffing, study programmes, accreditation, research activities, laboratory facilities, international partnerships, participation in externally funded projects, lifelong learning initiatives, Erasmus+ mobility, engagement with the labour market, as well as the specific needs, opportunities and development prospects of each academic unit.

At the same time, the Strategic Planning Unit drew on the 25 Internal Evaluation Reports, SWOT analyses, and a wide range of quantitative and qualitative data to develop, for the first time, a comprehensive and evidence-informed picture of the University's educational, research and development potential. This systematic assessment provided the foundation for defining the strategic priorities and key actions of the new Strategic Plan.



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The process, however, also acquired a second important dimension. The same series of meetings provided an opportunity for the academic departments to become more familiar with the University's Internal Quality Assurance System, engage in meaningful discussions with the members of the Internal Evaluation Groups (OMEA), and contribute valuable feedback and recommendations on quality assurance, evaluation and strategic target setting. In this way, strategic planning was meaningfully integrated with the University's quality assurance framework, establishing a common foundation for institutional planning, performance monitoring and continuous improvement.

The most significant outcome of this initiative was not merely the development of the new Strategic Plan. It was the establishment of a lasting mechanism for dialogue between the University's leadership and its academic community, enabling the needs, strengths and development priorities of the academic departments to be translated into well-founded strategic decisions.

The new IHU Strategic Plan is therefore far more than an administrative document. It is the outcome of a genuinely collaborative process that transformed the experience, expertise and insights of the University community into a shared vision for the Institution's future.

Highlights from the strategic consultation meetings with IHU's academic departments during the development of the new Strategic Plan.



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