

Catholic University in Ružomberok



STATUTE OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN RUŽOMBEROK

2022

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P r e a m b u l a

The Catholic University in Ružomberok subscribes to the tradition of Catholic universities around the world, striving to preserve the essential features common to other higher education institutions, while developing the distinctive features of education in a Catholic spirit in the light of the mission of universities, which is to discover and communicate truth in all areas of human knowledge; to awaken a love of science through research and education; to protect and promote human dignity and the cultural heritage acquired from the ancestors; to respond to problems and challenges of today for the sake of the general welfare and progress, thereby benefiting the whole of society on the basis of Christian principles by which individuals are formed into mature and responsible personalities in the realization of their vocation, capable of bringing the Gospel message into existing social structures, into emerging opinions and attitudes.

PART ONE

Basic provisions

Article 1

(1) The Catholic University in Ružomberok was established by the Charter of the Conference of Bishops of Slovakia (hereinafter referred to as "CBC") of 5 July 2000, issued in accordance with Article 3, § 1 of the Apostolic Constitution of John Paul II. *Ex corde Ecclesiae* of 15 August 1990 (hereinafter referred to as "*Ex corde Ecclesiae*" or "ECE") and the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 167/2000 Coll. on the establishment of the Catholic University in Ružomberok.

(2) The name of the university is the Catholic University of Ružomberok and its official abbreviation is KU. The Latin name of the university is *Universitas catholica Rosenbergensis*.

(3) The seat of the Catholic University in Ružomberok is Ružomberok.

(4) With the entry into force of Act No. 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education and on Amendments and Additions to Certain Acts (hereinafter referred to as the "Higher Education Act"), the Catholic University in Ružomberok became a confessional public university as of 1 April 2002, due to which certain provisions of the Higher Education Act apply to the Catholic University in Ružomberok only accordingly.

(5) On the basis of the provisions of Article IV (1) of the Agreement between the Slovak Republic and the Holy See on Catholic Education of 13 May 2004, the Catholic University in Ružomberok is a public higher education institution established according to the legal order of the Slovak Republic and according to the norms of canon law. It has the same status as other public universities in the Slovak Republic.

Article 2

(1) KU is a legal person and acts as a single entity in its legal relations. The faculties shall have the right to make decisions and act on behalf of KU to the extent determined by the Higher Education Act and these Statutes.

(2) KU may establish faculties, scientific, research and other workplaces throughout the territory of the Slovak Republic and abroad in accordance with the laws of the respective state.

PART TWO

The mission of the KU

Article 3

Nature and objectives of KU

(1) KU fulfils the mission of a higher education institution as set out in Section 1 of the Higher Education Act.

- (2) KU also represents the presence of the Catholic Church in society, following the Apostolic Constitution *Ex corde Ecclesiae* in the following ways:
- a) by respecting Catholic doctrine, faith and morals, he wants to inspire not only individuals but also the entire university community;
 - b) research, which contributes to the growing wealth of human knowledge and which must be constantly reflected upon in the light of the Catholic faith;
 - c) by creating the institutional preconditions so that the service of God's people and of human society proceeds along a path that leads to the transcendent goal of man.
- (3) KU is organised, staffed and developed in collaboration with other universities, with the pastoral work of the Catholic Church and on a dialogical relationship with all people of good will.
- (4) KU educates an educated and moral professional, capable of orienting himself correctly in the Christian message according to the teachings of the Catholic Church, who respects the dignity of the human person and has a sense of the ideal of the Christian way of life.
- (5) KU contributes to the dialogue between religions and cultures, between faith and science. It does not lose sight of ethical values and theological perspectives.
- (6) In its scientific and educational activities, KU aims to:
- a) Deepen cooperation with recognised scientific authorities at home and abroad;
 - b) to actively participate in international cooperation, especially in federations of Catholic universities;
 - c) to provide a scientific service in the form of analyses and expert recommendations primarily for the needs of the founder.

Article 4

Academic rights and academic freedoms

- (1) The academic rights and academic freedoms referred to in Section 4 of the Higher Education Act are guaranteed insofar as they do not conflict with the confessional character of KU.
- (2) In exercising academic rights and freedoms, it must be assumed that the source of the unity of the university is the spirit of Christ and a commitment to the truth and dignity of the human person in conformity with Catholic purposes, principles, and morals. In this sense, the members of the academic community are guaranteed freedom and frank and open dialogue, mutual respect, and a fair approach to the defense of the rights of each person.
- (3) The KU campus consists of the space defined by the immovable property owned, managed, leased, or leased by KU, or where the mission and main tasks of KU are carried out.
- (4) Political parties and political movements may not carry out their activities or establish their organisations on the KU campus.

(5) The sanctity of the campus is guaranteed except in the event of a threat to life, health, property, or in the event of a natural disaster. Law enforcement access to the campus shall be authorized by the Rector of KU.

Article 5

The Mission of Catholic Theology at KU

(1) KU is a place where scientists, by the method inherent in every academic discipline, explore the depth of the truth of things and contribute to the treasure of human knowledge. Research at KU involves the pursuit of the integration of knowledge, dialogue between faith and reason, ethical responsibility, and a theological perspective.

(2) KU provides science, research and education in Catholic theology in the spirit of cultural, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, primarily at the Faculty of Theology of KU. The academic and professional education of all students is provided in accordance with formation according to moral and religious principles and with knowledge of the social doctrine of the Church in the sense of *Ex corde Ecclesiae*.

(3) The status of the Faculty of Theology of the KU and of the seminaries is governed by law, the relevant documents of the Holy See and ecclesiastical regulations.

PART THREE

Structure of KU

Article 6

(1) KU is divided into:

- a) Catholic University in Ružomberok, Faculty of Education (abbreviation PF KU);
- b) Catholic University in Ružomberok, Faculty of Arts (abbreviation FF KU);
- c) Catholic University in Ružomberok, Faculty of Health Sciences (abbreviation FZ KU);
- d) Catholic University in Ružomberok, Faculty of Theology (abbreviation TF KU)

- Specialized workplace of TF KU - St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
Košice;

e) Scientific-pedagogical and formative workplace - the Priestly Seminary of Bishop Ján Vojtaššák KU (abbreviation KS KU) and the Theological Institute of KU affiliated to the Theological Faculty of KU (abbreviation TI KU) in Spišské Podhradí;

f) other components, which are:

- I. KU Rectorate,
- II. Accommodation and catering facilities of KU.

(2) Faculties are self-governing parts of the KU (unless otherwise specified in these Statutes) and are intra-organisational units of the KU legal entity. The organisation and internal legislation of the Faculty shall be determined by the Academic Senate of the Faculty and

shall be set out in its Statutes, which shall be approved by the Academic Senate of KU with the approval of the Grand Chancellor of KU. In the case of establishment, merger, amalgamation, division and dissolution, a change of name or a change of seat of a KU component shall require the approval of the KU Academic Senate prior to a meeting of the KU Board of Trustees and with the prior written consent of the KU Grand Chancellor. The Academic Senates of the faculties concerned shall only express their views on mergers, amalgamations, divisions and dissolutions.

(3) The Rector of KU approves the Rector's Organisational Regulations of the Rector's Office. The Rector shall inform the AS KU of the proposal before it enters into force. The statutes and organisational regulations of other KU units that are not faculties shall be approved by the KU Academic Senate on the proposal of the KU Rector.

(4) The faculties, the Scientific-Pedagogical and Formation Department (KS KU and TI KU affiliated to TF KU) and other KU components have defined competences and responsibilities for the management of allocated budget funds in accordance with the law, the KU Statute, the relevant statutes of the faculties or other KU components and other internal KU regulations.

(5) The number of posts at the faculties and other units of KU is governed by the following rules:

- a) the numbers of university teachers and other staff for the teaching process are based on the number of students and the pedagogical complexity of the study programmes taught by the faculty or its part;
- b) the structure of university teacher posts is based on the necessary qualification requirements of the fields of study and study programmes, which is further determined by the relevant internal regulations of the KU;
- c) the structure of posts for administration, operations, student residences and canteens and other non-teaching activities of KU, faculties and their units is determined by the relevant internal regulations of KU.

PART FOUR

Article 7 KU

governance

The administration and management of the KU is governed by the legal order of the Slovak Republic, in particular the Higher Education Act and the relevant regulations of canon law.

Article 8

Responsibility of the Catholic Church for KU

The CCC, as well as the diocesan bishops entrusted with the dioceses in whose territory the seat of the KU, the faculties or other components of the KU and the faculties are located,

support the KU, participate in its activities and are responsible for the KU according to the norms of *the Code of Canon Law* (hereinafter referred to as "CCL"). The CCC also participates in the activities of the KU within the meaning of the relevant provisions of the Law on Higher Education.

Article 9

Spiritual Care at KU

- (1) The KU promotes the spiritual care of the members of the academic community and the improvement of the human and professional education of these members by means of religious values in the light of Catholic teaching (Ex corde Ecclesiae II, art. 6, §1).
- (2) The spiritual care of the members of the academic community is carried out by the priests entrusted by the respective diocesan bishop (canon 813 of the CCC) in collaboration with other staff members in the University Pastoral Centre in accordance with Ex corde Ecclesiae and the Principles of Catholic Formation at KU.

Article 10

KU Grand Chancellor

- (1) The Grand Chancellor of the KU represents the KBS at the KU and the KU before the Holy See. He/she shall see to it that Catholic doctrine of faith and morals is upheld.
- (2) The Grand Chancellor of KU is the Metropolitan Archbishop of Košice according to the decision of the KBS and confirmation by the Congregation for Catholic Education. The CCC may decide that another person from among the bishops may also become the Grand Chancellor. If the office of the Grand Chancellor of the KU is vacant or disliked, the KBS shall decide on a temporary replacement for the Grand Chancellor.
- (3) The competences of the Grand Chancellor of the KU are determined by the norms of canon law and by these Statutes in accordance with Section 34 (1) and (2) of the Higher Education Act. The Grand Chancellor of KU:
 - a) confirms the candidate for Rector of KU elected by the Academic Senate of KU and the candidate for Dean elected by the respective Academic Senate of the Faculty;
 - b) receives the confession of faith from the Rector of KU (cf. canon 833, point 7 of the CCC);
 - c) has the right to submit to the Academic Senate of KU a proposal for the removal of the Rector of KU from office and to the relevant Academic Senate of the Faculty a proposal for the removal of the Dean from office, stating the reasons for the proposed removal;
 - d) gives consent to the proposal of the Academic Senate of KU to remove the Rector of KU from office and consent to the relevant Academic Senate of the Faculty to remove the Dean from office;

- e) has the right to attend meetings of all self-governing and governing bodies of the KU and faculties, the KU Board of Trustees and the scientific councils of the KU and faculties;
- f) expresses its opinion on the proposals of the Rector of KU and the Deans for the appointment and dismissal of members
KU Scientific Council and faculties;
- g) for the valid appointment of teachers teaching theological disciplines, he secures the mandate of the competent ecclesiastical hierarchy; if necessary, he petitions the same hierarchy for the withdrawal of the mandate (canon 812 of the CCC);
- h) may make a proposal to the diocesan bishop for the appointment of the person entrusted with the spiritual care of the KU (cf. canon 813 of the CCC);
- i) consents to the award of the *honoris causa* doctorate;
- j) has the right to request the Rector of KU to admonish KU teachers and researchers in violation of the regulations of Canon 810, Sections 1 and 2 of the CCC;
- k) Gives written admonition to KU teachers and researchers for violation of the principles set forth in Canon 810, Sections 1 and 2 of the CCC;
- l) supervises the teaching of theological disciplines;
- m) according to § 34 of the Higher Education Act, gives prior written consent to the internal regulations of KU before their approval by the Academic Senate of KU until 15 days after receipt of a written request for a statement;
- n) pursuant to Section 34 of the Higher Education Act, gives prior written consent to the internal regulations of individual faculties before their approval by the respective academic senates within 15 days of receipt of a written request for a statement;
- o) comments on the long-term plans of KU and the faculties before they are discussed in the KU Scientific Council or in the Scientific Council of the respective faculty;
- p) has the right to ask the self-governing bodies of KU and the faculties for explanations;
- q) other powers of the Grand Chancellor of the KU shall be derived from other provisions of these Statutes.

Article 11

KU Board of Trustees

(1) The KU Governing Board supports the strengthening of the KU-society link. It implements and promotes the public interest and the interest of the founder, in particular in the use of the property and finances entrusted to the administration of KU by the State and the Catholic Church.

(2) The Board of Directors of the KU has seven members. One member of the Board of Trustees of a public university shall be elected and removed by secret ballot by the other members of the KU Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the "Member elected by the Board of Trustees"); if the members of the KU Board of Trustees do not elect him/her within six

months of the vacancy of the respective member, he/she shall be appointed and removed by the Minister of Education on the proposal of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. Any member of the Board of Trustees shall have the right to nominate a candidate for a Member elected by the Board of Trustees; however, such a candidate must meet the conditions for candidates pursuant to Section 40(3) and (4) of the Higher Education Act. The more detailed conditions and procedure for the election of a Member elected by the Board of Trustees shall be laid down in the Statutes of the Board of Trustees. Three members of the KU Board of Trustees shall be elected and dismissed by the KU Academic Senate, of whom one member of the KU Board of Trustees shall be elected and dismissed only by the student section of the KU Academic Senate. The other half of the other members of the KU Board of Trustees shall be appointed and dismissed by the Minister of Education.

(3) At the request of the KU Rector, the KU Grand Chancellor, or at least one-third of all members of the KU Board of Trustees, the KU Board of Trustees Chairperson shall convene a meeting of the KU Board of Trustees to be held no later than 30 days from the date of receipt of the request in question.

Article 12

Competence of the KU Board of Trustees

- (1) The KU Board of Trustees shall give prior written approval to proposals by the KU Rector for legal acts intended by KU:
- a) to acquire immovable property whose price is higher than three hundred times the amount from which things are considered tangible property according to a special regulation (Act No. 595/2003 Coll. on Income Tax as amended), or to make a transfer thereof;
 - b) to acquire a movable item whose price is higher than three hundred times the amount from which the items are considered as tangible property according to a special regulation (Act No. 595/2003 Coll. on Income Tax, as amended), or to make its transfer;
 - c) establish an easement or right of first refusal over KU property for a period of more than five years;
 - d) to establish a right of first refusal over KU property the value of which is more than twenty times the amount from which things are deemed to be tangible property under a special regulation;
 - e) establish another legal entity or make a monetary or non-monetary contribution to it or to other legal entities;
 - f) conclude a contract for the drawing of the loan; the KU Board of Trustees shall not grant its consent if the purpose of the use of the funds obtained from the loan is not in accordance with the KU Long-Term Plan or if the repayment of the loan may, in its opinion, jeopardise the security of the KU's core business.

- (2) The KU Board of Trustees approves the proposal of the Rector after prior approval by the KU Academic Senate:
- a) KU's long-term goal;
 - b) a merger, amalgamation, dissolution, division, change of name or change of seat of KU;
 - c) the establishment, merger, amalgamation, dissolution, division, change of name or change of seat of a KU component.
- (3) The KU Board of Trustees approves the budget of the Catholic University in Ružomberok and the methodology for the distribution of the state budget subsidy from the chapter of the Ministry of Education according to § 89 to the KU components on the proposal of the Rector after approval by the KU Academic Senate.
- (4) The KU Board of Trustees approves the allocation of the state budget subsidy from the chapter of the Ministry of Education according to § 89 to the KU components on the proposal of the Rector after the opinion of the KU Academic Senate.
- (5) The approval of a legal act referred to in clauses (1), (2), (3) and (4) of this Article 12 shall require the consent of a supermajority of all members of the KU Board of Directors.
- (6) The KU Board of Trustees determines the KU Rector's salary in accordance with a special regulation (Act No. 553/2003 Coll. on the remuneration of certain employees in the performance of public work and on amending and supplementing certain acts, as amended). The rector may be remunerated according to a special regulation only on account of the fulfilment of measurable indicators and objectives agreed in advance between the governing board of the public university and the rector. The agreed objectives and measurable indicators and an evaluation of their fulfilment as at 31 December of the year in question shall be published annually on the university's website by 31 January of the following year.
- (7) The KU Board of Trustees gives suggestions and opinions on the activities of KU within the meaning of the Higher Education Act.

Article 13

Academic community of KU

- (1) The academic community of KU consists of university teachers and researchers who are employed by KU for a fixed weekly working time and KU students.

Article 14

Academic Senate of KU

- (1) The Academic Senate of KU is the supreme body of KU academic self-government. (2) Each faculty is represented in the KU Academic Senate by six members of the faculty's academic community, two of whom are students and four of whom are university teachers or KU researchers.

- (3) The function of a member of the Academic Senate of KU is incompatible with the function of the Rector of KU, Vice-Rector of KU, Dean, Vice-Dean, Bursar and Head of a component of a public university according to Section 21 (1) (b) and (c) of the Act on Higher Education.
- (4) The performance of the function of a member of the Academic Senate of KU is honorary and irreplaceable. A member of the Academic Senate of KU representing the faculty shall exercise the interests of KU as a whole. A member of the Academic Senate of KU shall be guided in his/her decision-making by his/her conscience and by the character and objectives of KU.
- (5) The basic rights of a member of the Academic Senate are in particular:
- a) submit proposals to the KU Academic Senate;
 - b) to speak on all matters within the competence of the KU Academic Senate, to ask questions and seek explanations from the Rector at meetings of the KU Academic Senate KU, KU vice-rectors, deans and bursars in matters falling within their competence;
 - c) to vote and to vote, unless the Rules of Procedure of the Academic Senate of KU provide otherwise;
 - d) to resign as a member of the KU Academic Senate.
- (6) The basic duty of a member of the KU Academic Senate is to participate in the work of the KU Academic Senate and in the work of its committees.
- (7) KU, its faculties and other parts are obliged to allow the exercise of the functions of a member of the Academic Senate of KU.
- (8) The term of office of the members of the Academic Senate of the KU shall be four years unless it expires before the expiry of this term according to this Statute or the Higher Education Act.
- (9) The Academic Senate of the KU elects its President, two Vice-Presidents and a Secretary by secret ballot. One of the vice-chairs shall be a student representative. They shall form the Bureau of the KU Academic Senate (hereinafter referred to as 'the Bureau').
- (10) The Academic Senate of the KU shall establish committees as its advisory bodies. Their members may also be non-members of the Academic Senate of the KU who are part of the academic community or employees of the KU.
- (11) In the time between the meetings of the Academic Senate of the KU, its work is managed by the Bureau. The members of the Bureau and the chairpersons of the committees shall have the right to request from the KU Rector, KU Vice-Rectors, KU Deans, the Bursar and all employees of the Rector's Office and the Dean's Offices and other KU units the necessary documents for their work, as well as the right to request explanations on matters falling within their competence.
- (12) The Presidency of the Academic Senate of KU shall inform the Academic Senate of KU about its activities.

(13) The administrative operation of the KU Academic Senate is provided by an employee of the Rector's Office appointed by the KU Rector with the approval of the KU Academic Senate Presidency. The President and the Secretary of the KU Academic Senate shall direct the performance of this work.

(14) Elections of members of the KU Academic Senate are governed by the KU Academic Senate Election Principles.

(15) Membership in the Academic Senate of the KU ceases according to Section 8(6) of the Higher Education Act:

- a) at the end of the member's term of office;
- b) by appointment of a member to any of the offices referred to in Article 14, paragraph (3) of these Statutes;
- c) by termination of membership in the staff section of the KU academic community or by termination of membership in the staff section of the academic community of the faculty concerned, if the member is elected as a faculty representative;
- d) interruption of the studies of a member of the student section of the Academic Senate of KU;
- e) the end of the student member's studies in the KU Academic Senate, unless he/she has requested suspension from the KU Academic Senate pursuant to paragraph 19;
- f) by failing to enrol no later than the last day set for the enrolment of admitted applicants for the academic year in question, in the case of a suspended member; in the case of a suspended member who has been elected as part of the KU, by failing to enrol in studies at that part of the KU;
- g) on the expiry of six months from the date of suspension; this shall not apply if the reinstatement of membership has taken place within that period;
- h) by resigning as a member;
- i) removal of a member from office by the relevant part of the KU academic community;
- j) death of a member;
- (k) the dissolution or merger of a part of the KU whose academic community elected the member.

(16) The Academic Senate of KU in particular:

- a) prior to the meeting of the KU Board of Trustees, approve the KU Rector's proposal for a merger, amalgamation, division, dissolution, name change or change of the seat of KU and the faculties with the prior written approval of the KU Grand Chancellor;
- b) Approves, on the proposal of the Rector of KU, the Statutes of KU pursuant to Section 9 of the Higher Education Act with the prior written consent of the Grand Chancellor of KU;
- c) proposes the dismissal of the Rector of KU; d) authorises a person to perform the functions of the Rector pursuant to Section 10 (11) of the Higher Education Act;

- e) comments on the KU Rector's proposal for the appointment and dismissal of KU Vice-Rectors;
- f) approves, on the proposal of the Rector of the KU before the meeting of the KU Board of Trustees, the methodology for the allocation of the state budget subsidy and the KU budget and controls the management of the KU funds;
- g) expresses its opinion on the distribution of additional funds and approves the KU Annual Activity Report and the KU Annual Management Report submitted by the Rector of KU after the prior opinion of the KU Board of Trustees;
- h) approves the proposal of the Rector of KU for the appointment and dismissal of the members of the KU Scientific Council;
- i) approves, on the proposal of the Rector, the KU Code of Ethics with the prior written consent of the Rector
KU Grand Chancellor;
- j) approves the KU Long Term Plan submitted by the KU Rector after discussion in the KU Scientific Council before the KU Board of Trustees meeting;
- k) approves, on the proposal of the dean of the faculty, the statute of the faculty, the study and working regulations of the faculty;
- l) elects and dismisses members of the KU Board of Trustees pursuant to Section 40(2) of the Higher Education Act;
- m) approves the conditions of admission to studies submitted by the Rector of KU, unless their approval falls within the competence of the Academic Senate of the Faculty;
- n) approves the establishment, merger, amalgamation, division, dissolution, change of name or change of seat of KU units other than faculties on the proposal of the Rector before the meeting of the KU Board of Trustees;
- o) Approves, on the proposal of the President of the Academic Senate of KU, the Principles of Elections to the Academic Senate of KU and the Rules of Procedure of the Academic Senate of KU;
- p) performs, to the extent necessary and for the necessary period of time, the functions of the Academic Senate of the Faculty, if the Academic Senate of the Faculty acts in contravention of laws, other generally binding legal regulations or internal regulations of the KU or the Faculty, or if the Academic Senate of the Faculty performs its functions in a composite form, which is contrary to the Higher Education Act or the internal regulations of the faculty, or if the composition of the Academic Senate of the faculty cannot, for objective reasons, be brought into line with the Higher Education Act or the internal regulations of the faculty, to the extent and under the conditions referred to in Section 9, Paragraph 9, Par. 3 of the Higher Education Act;
- q) Approves the Principles of Catholic Formation at KU with the prior written approval of the Grand Chancellor of KU, on the proposal of the Rector of KU;
- r) asks the KU Grand Chancellor for clarification;

- s) Approves the principles of elections to the Student Council of Universities of the Slovak Republic for KU.
- (17) The Academic Senate of the KU shall submit a report on its activities to the KU academic community at least once a year.
- (18) The Academic Senate of the KU works in the form of meetings which are open to the public.
- (19) A member of the student section of the Academic Senate of KU who is not a student of a doctoral study programme may, before the regular end of his/her studies, request in writing to KU to suspend his/her membership in the Academic Senate of KU. Membership shall be suspended as from the day following the day on which the student duly completes his/her studies. Membership shall be restored on the date on which he or she rejoins the student section of the KU academic staff for which he or she was elected. A member whose membership has been suspended shall be deemed to be absent from a meeting of the KU Academic Senate.

Article 15

Election of a candidate for Rector of KU

- (1) The candidate for Rector of KU is elected by the Electoral Assembly, whose members are all members of the Academic Senate of KU and all members of the Board of Trustees of KU, by an absolute majority of all members of the Electoral Assembly. The Electoral Assembly shall be convened and chaired by the President of the Academic Senate of the public university.
- (2) The election of a candidate for Rector shall be announced by the KU on its website, on the website of the Ministry of Education and through web applications, social media and social networks or other innovative means of communication no later than 270 days before the expiry of the Rector's term of office. The KU shall set a deadline of at least 90 days and no more than 120 days for the submission of nominations for the rector's candidature and an election date no later than 30 days after the expiry of that deadline. Members of the academic community shall have the right to nominate candidates for the election of a candidate for Rector.
- (3) At the Electoral Assembly meeting, a public hearing shall be held for candidates for Rector. The public hearing shall ascertain the candidates' management experience, their relationship to higher education, science and technology and their relationship to the mission and field of activity of the university concerned. At the same time, the candidate shall present a proposal for a strategy for the development of the college concerned and, if the electoral assembly so decides, the candidate may also be asked to provide further information.
- (4) The nomination of a candidate for Rector of KU is made by election. If no candidate is successful in the election, a re-election shall be called within 30 days of the conclusion of

the previous election. If the KU does not have a rector and no election of a candidate for rector is called or if no election is held, the election of a candidate for rector shall be called within 30 days of that fact. The election of a candidate for Rector shall be announced in Slovak and English.

(5) The President of the Academic Senate, as the representative of the Electoral Assembly, proposes the elected candidate for Rector of KU to the Grand Chancellor of KU for confirmation. If the KU Grand Chancellor does not comment in writing on the proposal within 14 days of the date of receipt of the written proposal, this shall be deemed to be acceptance of the proposal. If the KU Grand Chancellor does not confirm the elected candidate in writing within 14 days, the election shall be deemed unsuccessful and the election of the candidate for KU Chancellor shall be repeated in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph (4) of this Statute. If the KU Grand Chancellor does not confirm the elected candidate in his written statement, he shall also state in that statement the reasons for his non-confirmation. After the election of the candidate for Rector of KU and the confirmation of the candidate by the Grand Chancellor of KU, the procedure under Section 10(2) of the Higher Education Act shall be followed.

(6) The term of office of the Rector of KU is four years. The office of Rector of KU may be held for a maximum of two consecutive terms. In the event of the termination of the office of Rector of KU before the expiry of the term of office, an election of a candidate for Rector of KU shall be held without delay, the provisions of paragraph (2) of this Article 15 being applied *mutatis mutandis* to such election.

Article 16

Rector of KU

(1) The Rector of the KU is the statutory body of the KU, manages it, acts on its behalf and represents it externally.

(2) The KU Rector is accountable for his/her activities to the KU Academic Senate, the KU Board of Trustees and, within the scope of the CCP and these Statutes, to the KU Grand Chancellor.

(3) The competences of the Rector of KU are determined by the Higher Education Act and other generally binding legal regulations. In particular, the Rector of KU shall:

- a) proposes a merger, amalgamation, dissolution, division, change of name or change of seat of the KU; proposes the establishment, merger, amalgamation, dissolution, division, change of name or change of seat of a part of the KU; does so with the prior written consent of the KU Grand Chancellor and after approval by the KU Academic Senate and the KU Board of Trustees;
- b) appoints and dismisses KU Vice-Rectors after the opinion of the KU Academic Senate;
- c) submits to the KU Board of Trustees for its opinion the Annual Report on KU activities and the Annual Report on KU management, submits to it for approval the draft

- methodology for the distribution of the state budget subsidy and the KU budget after approval by the KU Academic Senate;
- d) grants, on the basis of a decision of the relevant scientific board, the scientific-pedagogical title or the artistic-pedagogical title of associate professor;
- e) submits to the Minister proposals for the appointment of professors approved by the President of the Slovak Republic by the Scientific Council of KU;
- f) decides on the recognition of documents of education or other documents of higher education studies or examinations issued by a foreign university for the purpose of continuing studies, except for the recognition of documents on the basis of international treaties pursuant to Section 39 of Act No.422/2015 Coll. on the recognition of documents of education and on the recognition of professional qualifications and on the amendment and supplementation of certain acts;
- g) convenes the academic community of KU;
- h) convene a meeting of the Academic Senate of the KU if the President of the Academic Senate of the KU has not convened it within 14 days or if the Academic Senate of the KU has met less than twice in the previous academic year;
- (4) The advisory bodies of the KU Rector are the KU Rector's College, the KU Management and the Quality Steering Committee. The members of the KU Rector's College are KU Vice-Rectors, KU Deans, KU Bursar, KU Academic Senate President, KU Academic Senate Vice-President for the student part and other persons on the basis of the KU Rector's decision. The members of the KU Management Board are the KU Vice-Chancellors and the KU Bursar. The Grand Chancellor of KU shall have the right to attend meetings of the KU Rector's College and the KU Management Board.
- (5) If KU does not have a Rector, the Academic Senate of KU, with the consent of the Grand Chancellor of KU, shall, until the appointment of a new Rector of KU, for a maximum period of one year, entrust the function of Rector of KU to a person whose entrustment is agreed by a supermajority of the total number of members of the Academic Senate of KU and the Board of Trustees of KU, and the Academic Senate of KU shall immediately notify the Minister of Education of this fact. The Academic Senate may, with the consent of a supermajority of the total number of the Electoral Assembly (Art. 15 (1) of these Statutes) and the KU Board of Trustees shall revoke the delegation under the first sentence and delegate the office of Rector of KU (with the consent of a supermajority of the total number of members of the KU Academic Senate and the KU Board of Trustees and with the consent of the KU Grand Chancellor) to another person, and shall notify the Minister of this fact without delay. If the delegated person relinquishes the delegation, the first sentence shall be followed.
- (6) In accordance with *Ex corde Ecclesiae*, the Rector of the KU submits the Annual Report on the activities of the KU to the Bishops' Conference of Slovakia within the set deadlines.

Article 17 KU Vice-Rectors, Bursar and KU Quality

Council

(1) KU has at least two vice-rectors. Their competences shall be determined by the Rector of KU. The Rector of KU shall be represented by the Vice-Rectors of KU or the Bursar, to the extent determined by the Rector of KU.

(2) KU Vice-Chancellors are appointed and dismissed by the KU Rector after the opinion of the KU Academic Senate with the prior written consent of the KU Grand Chancellor.

(3) In the case of a temporary assignment as KU Vice-Chancellor, the KU Rector needs the prior approval of the KU Grand Chancellor. The term of office of Vice-Chancellors shall be four years. At KU, the same person may serve as Vice-Chancellor for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

(4) The Bursar shall ensure and be responsible for the economic, operational and administrative running of the public university and shall act on its behalf to the extent determined by the Rector. He/she shall be directly subordinate to the Rector, to whom he/she shall be accountable for his/her activities. The post of bursar shall be filled by a selection procedure in accordance with Section 14(1) of the Higher Education Act.

(5) The Quality Council of the KU as a body of the KU (hereinafter referred to as the "Quality Council") is established to perform tasks in the field of quality assurance of higher education within the meaning of Section 15 (2) (n) of the Act on Higher Education pursuant to Section 7 (4) of the Act on Higher Education. The Quality Council shall approve the internal quality assurance system for higher education. The statutes of the Quality Council shall be approved by the AS of KU on the proposal of the Rector of KU. The Quality Council has 17 members, including:

- a. Three members are experts with proven experience in quality management systems or quality education who are not KU employees,
- b. two members are experts in the fields of study in which the University is authorised to offer study programmes who are not KU employees,
- c. two members are student representatives,
- d. Four members are representatives of external stakeholders, two of whom are employer representatives and two KU alumni representatives,
- e. one member is a representative of the Conference of Bishops of Slovakia (hereinafter referred to as "KBS"),
- f. four members are representatives of KU faculties (1 representative from each faculty), nominated by the dean of the respective faculty,
- g. one member shall be a non-voting member of the KU staff.

(6) Members of the Quality Council are appointed and dismissed by the Rector of the University on the basis of proposals from the academic community after approval by the

KU Scientific Council. The representative of the KBS is nominated by the KBS or the Grand Chancellor of KU.

Article 18 KU Scientific

Council

- (1) Members of the KU Scientific Council are appointed and dismissed by the KU Rector after approval by the KU Academic Senate (Section 11 (1) of the Higher Education Act). The term of office of the members of the KU Scientific Council shall be four years.
- (2) The members of the KU Scientific Council are distinguished experts from the fields in which KU carries out educational, research, development, artistic or other creative activities. At least one quarter and no more than one third of the members of the KU Scientific Council shall be persons who are not members of the KU academic community.
- (3) The Rector of KU is the chairman of the KU Scientific Council.
- (4) The competence of the KU Scientific Council is based on the provisions of Section 12 of the Higher Education Act:
 - a) expresses its opinion on the proposal of the Rector of KU on the Long-term Plan of KU; b) regularly, but at least once a year, assess the level of KU in educational activities and in the field of science, technology or the arts;
 - c) approves other experts who have the right to examine in state examinations for study programmes carried out at KU as well as supervisors for doctoral studies carried out at the university;
 - d) approves the criteria for the title of associate professor and the criteria for the title of professor;
 - e) discusses proposals for the award of the scientific-pedagogical degree or the artistic-pedagogical degree "Associate Professor" and decides on their outcome in the field of habilitation proceedings and inauguration proceedings, where the higher education institution in its application for accreditation of habilitation proceedings and accreditation of inauguration proceedings has indicated a field of study in which the faculty does not carry out study programmes;
 - f) approves proposals for the appointment of professors; if it concerns the appointment of a professor in a field of study in which study programmes are carried out by the faculty, it does so on the proposal of the faculty's scientific council; if it does not approve the proposal, it returns it with a statement to the faculty's scientific council; g) approves general criteria for filling the posts of professors and associate professors; if it concerns the filling of the posts of professors and associate professors at the faculty, it approves them on the proposal of the faculty's scientific council;
 - h) approves the specific conditions for filling the posts of professors; in the case of filling the posts of professors at the Faculty, it does so on the proposal of the Faculty's Scientific Council;

- i) approves the KU Rector's proposals for filling the positions of visiting professors; in the case of filling the positions of visiting professors at the Faculty, it approves them on the proposal of the Faculty's Scientific Council;
 - j) awards the scientific degree of doctor scientiarum (abbreviated DrSc.);
 - k) awards eminent personalities with the honorary title "doctor honoris causa" (abbreviated "Dr.h.c.") with the prior approval of the KU Grand Chancellor;
 - l) proposes to confer the honorary title of professor emeritus under Section 78 of the Higher Education Act to professors over 70 years of age;
 - m) approves the Rules of Procedure of the KU Scientific Council on the proposal of the President of the KU Scientific Council.
- (5) The KU Scientific Council shall deliberate on questions submitted to it by the Chair of the KU Scientific Council or on questions on which it resolves.

PART FIVE

Study at KU

Article 19 Basic characteristics of education

- (1) KU provides education in fields of study or in a combination of fields of study by studying accredited study programmes at all three levels of higher education.
- (2) The organisation of all levels and forms of education is based on the credit system of study. The admission procedure, the course and the termination of studies are regulated by the KU Study Regulations.
- (3) The conditions of admission to study a study programme carried out at the faculty are approved by the Academic Senate of the faculty.
- (4) KU also provides further education within the meaning of applicable legislation and internal regulations of KU.
- (5) Data on accredited KU activities are recorded in the Ministry's registers, namely the Register of Fields of Study and the Register of Study Programmes.

Article 20

Framework conditions for admission and method of determination the number of applicants admitted

- (1) KU accepts students only for accredited study programmes in a predetermined number if they meet the announced admission requirements. If more students than the specified number meet the conditions, the applicants who have demonstrated the highest level of ability to study according to the stated conditions will be admitted. Admission to a second-

degree programme in a health-related field of study is subject to a first-degree university degree in the relevant field of study and the relevant length of professional medical practice in a health establishment, in accordance with the applicable legislation.

(2) Conditions of admission to study

a) The basic condition for admission to a bachelor's degree or to a study programme pursuant to Section 53 (3) of the Higher Education Act is the acquisition of a complete secondary education or a complete secondary vocational education.

b) The basic conditions for admission to a second-degree study programme pursuant to Section 53 (1) of the Higher Education Act are a first-degree university degree or a second-degree university degree, whereby the sum of the number of credits obtained in the previous higher education studies leading to the higher education degree and the number of credits required for the proper completion of the second-degree study programme for which the applicant is applying must be at least 300 credits.

c) The basic condition for admission to doctoral studies is a second-level university degree.

d) Admission to the study programme of the second degree in health fields of study is subject to a first-degree university degree in the relevant field of study and at least one year of professional medical practice completed in a health care institution after obtaining a first-degree university degree in the relevant field of study; the requirement of one year of professional medical practice does not apply to admission to the external form of study of the study programme of the second degree in health fields of study and to admission to the study programme of the second degree in the field of study of public health care.

e) Further admission requirements in the case of a bachelor's study programme or a study programme pursuant to Section 53 (3) of the Higher Education Act shall be published no later than 20 September of the academic year preceding the academic year in which the study is to commence, and for other study programmes two months before the last day for the submission of applications. The conditions and the method of verifying their fulfilment must be such as to enable the selection of applicants who show the highest degree of aptitude for the course to be made. KU may not make admission to study conditional on any financial consideration other than the fee referred to in Section 92(12) of the Higher Education Act.

(3) Detailed information on study opportunities and admission conditions is contained in the KU and faculties' Study Regulations and other relevant regulations.

Article 21

Framework conditions for the study of foreigners

(1) Citizens of third countries who are not citizens of a Member State of the European Union or of a State that is a party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area and the Swiss Confederation (hereinafter referred to as "Member States"), nor do they have permanent

residence in a Member State (hereinafter referred to as "foreigners"), study at KU in particular:

- a) under the same conditions as citizens of the Slovak Republic under the Higher Education Act, while they may
KU require tuition fees under the conditions set out in the Higher Education Act;
 - b) on the basis of international treaties and agreements to which the Slovak Republic is bound,
 - c) on the basis of cooperation agreements and agreements concluded in particular in the framework of international student mobility programmes;
 - d) on the basis of an agreement to participate in further training.
- (2) When enrolling for studies, it is verified whether the foreigner in the territory of the Slovak Republic meets the conditions according to the generally binding legal regulations governing the residence of foreigners in the territory of the Slovak Republic.
- (3) More detailed conditions for the study of foreigners will be regulated by the internal regulations of the KU.

Article 22

Framework provisions on tuition fees and study-related fees

- (1) KU determines tuition and fees associated with studies in accordance with Section 92 of the Higher Education Act.
- (2) The amount of tuition fees for a given academic year is regulated by an internal KU regulation issued by the Rector of KU.
- (3) The annual tuition fee for KU students is set by the Rector of KU on the proposal of the Dean.
- (4) The basis for determining tuition fees is set out in Section 92 (1) of the Higher Education Act and applies to the academic year that begins in the calendar year in question.
- (5) A full-time student of KU is obliged to pay the annual tuition fee if he/she incurs this obligation according to § 92 of the Higher Education Act. A KU student in the part-time form of study is obliged to pay the annual tuition fee in each year of study.
- (6) In the case of KU students studying under interstate agreements, tuition and fees associated with their studies are governed by the provisions of these agreements. A KU student who has been issued a certificate of a Slovak living abroad pursuant to a special regulation shall be considered a citizen of the Slovak Republic with regard to the payment of tuition fees (Section 92 of the Higher Education Act).
- (7) The Rector may reduce, waive, or defer tuition and fees associated with studies. In making his/her decision, he/she shall take into account the opinion of the Dean of the Faculty, the student's academic record, the student's social situation, health and other relevant facts as laid down in an internal regulation of the KU.

- (8) The KU Rector may waive or reduce the fees for KU employees as specified in the KU internal regulations.
- (9) Details of the fees associated with studying at KU are regulated by the KU internal regulations for the relevant academic year.

Article 23

Framework provisions on social support for students

- (1) KU awards scholarships from the scholarship fund formed according to the Higher Education Act (§ 94 - 101 of the Higher Education Act) and according to the KU Scholarship Regulations.
- (2) The types of scholarships and the conditions for their provision are determined by the KU Scholarship Regulations or the Faculty Scholarship Regulations, if the Faculty decides on its award.
- (3) The Rector of KU decides on the eligibility for a social scholarship.
- (4) Accommodation for KU students is provided by KU in purpose-built facilities and contributes to accommodation costs. The provision of accommodation shall be governed by the social need of the KU student and his/her academic performance.
- (5) KU provides catering for KU students and provides catering allowances allocated from the state budget.
- (6) The principles for the provision of accommodation and meals are governed by the relevant KU internal regulations.
- (7) KU creates conditions and supports sports and cultural activities of KU students from its own resources and from the state budget within the framework of the subsidy for the social support of students according to its possibilities.
- (8) KU provides special support for the higher education of KU students with specific needs to the best of its ability.

Article 24

Academic rights and obligations of students

- (1) The rights and obligations of students are defined in § 70 and § 71 of the Higher Education Act, taking into account § 34 of the Higher Education Act. KU students participate in academic self-government through their representation in the KU Academic Senate and in the academic senates of the faculties. KU students may form a KU Student Council, which is governed by its own statutes. Elections of the KU Student Council shall be organised by the students elected to the KU Academic Senate according to the rules approved by the KU Academic Senate.

- (2) A KU student may combine study programmes from several faculties according to the rules given by the KU Study Regulations.
- (3) KU students may not be members of associations or engage in activities whose aims are contrary to the character and objectives of KU.
- (4) Students are governed by the KU Code of Ethics. For violation of the obligations laid down in the internal regulations of KU and the faculties, a KU student may be subject to disciplinary action under the relevant disciplinary regulations.
- (5) For extraordinary academic achievements, contribution to KU or for extraordinary acts of civic bravery, a KU student may be awarded an academic commendation by the dean or, on the dean's proposal, by the KU rector or by the KU rector on his/her own initiative. The commendation may be accompanied by a monetary or in-kind reward in accordance with the internal regulations of KU and the faculties.

Article 25

Academic insignia, gowns and KU festivities

- (1) The academic insignia of KU and its faculties are a symbol of the authority and responsibility of academic officials. The manner of use of the academic insignia of KU and its faculties shall be approved by the Academic Senate of KU. Documentation of the insignia of KU and its faculties shall be kept at the KU Rector's Office.
- (2) The following are entitled to use KU gowns on ceremonial occasions: the Rector of KU, Vice-Rectors of KU, the President of the Academic Senate of KU, Deans, Vice-Deans, Chairpersons of Academic Senates of Faculties, Professors, Associate Professors and, according to the decision of the Rector of KU or the Deans, also other teachers and scientific employees of KU and its distinguished guests. The documentation of the university gowns is kept at the KU Rector's Office.
- (3) KU and its faculties award commemorative medals to its staff, students and other persons who have contributed to the development of KU or to the advancement of education, science and the Catholic way of life. KU medals are awarded by the Rector of KU after discussion in the KU Scientific Council.
- (4) The KU festivities are mainly:
 - a) the beginning of the academic year (Veni Sancte);
 - b) the end of the academic year (Te Deum);
 - c) matriculation;
 - d) Graduation;
 - e) inauguration of the KU Rector and Deans.
- (5) The matriculation of students and doctoral candidates takes place in the presence of the Dean or Vice-Dean of the Faculty and the text of the matriculation oath is approved by the Academic Senate of the Faculty.

(6) Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral graduation ceremonies are held in the presence of the Rector of KU or the Vice-Rector of KU. The form of graduation and the wording of the oath are approved by the Academic Senate of the Faculty. The Grand Chancellor of KU usually attends the ceremonies.

SIXTH PART

Basic principles of employment relations

Article 26

- (1) Recruitment of staff is governed by generally applicable law when concluding contracts of employment.
- (2) Selection procedures for filling the posts of university teachers, research staff, professors and associate professors and senior staff are governed by the Principles of Selection Procedures, which are an internal regulation of KU.
- (3) Conclusion, change and termination of employment relationships of employees enrolled at the faculties is within the competence of the deans of the faculties. The exercise of these competences is organisationally ensured by the personnel department of the dean's office, which is methodically managed by the personnel department of the Rector's Office and submits to it all the documents for actions reserved for the KU. The deans are accountable to the KU Rector for this activity and the faculty bears the consequences resulting from erroneous decisions.
- (4) Deans and senior employees of individual KU units authorised by the KU Rector may conclude employment contracts only within the scope of the approved structure and number of posts resulting from the internal regulations of the KU and faculties, within the scope of available funds and in accordance with the Long-term Plan of the KU and the respective faculty.
- (5) The filling of professorships and associate professorships is based on the principles for filling these positions approved by the KU Scientific Council. Positions designated by the Civil Service Act are filled in accordance with the Principles of the Selection Procedure.
- (6) KU employees are governed by the KU Code of Ethics.

PART SEVEN

KU's internal rules of management and conduct of business

Article 27 Basic provisions

- (1) KU manages the property and funds entrusted to it by the Catholic Church and the State. The management rules must therefore respect the regulations of the CCC and the generally binding legal provisions on management for public institutions.

- (2) Fundamental decisions in property relations and the use of funds are approved by the KU Board of Trustees according to the conditions set out in the Higher Education Act.
- (3) The basic document for the management is the budget approved by the Academic Senate of KU and the Board of Trustees of KU, which includes the state subsidy and the subsidy of the Catholic Church and other revenues of KU.
- (4) The budget of the KU shall be drawn up for the calendar year, as a general rule, as a balanced budget.
- (5) The draft budget, including the distribution of the state budget subsidy to the faculties and other parts of the University, is submitted by the Rector to the KU Academic Senate for approval and subsequently to the KU Board of Trustees for approval. The proposal submitted shall be in accordance with the contract concluded between the Ministry of Education and the University pursuant to Section 89(3) of the Higher Education Act and the internal regulations of the University governing the formulation and distribution of the budget, which shall be issued by the Rector after approval of these regulations by the Academic Senate of the University. The KU is obliged, in accordance with Section 20 of the Higher Education Act, to submit annually to the Ministry of Education its draft budget and the approved budget for the relevant financial year.
- (6) Income from own activities is distributed to individual funds in accordance with the Higher Education Act. The use of these funds is subject to the specific approval of the KU Academic Senate, with the exception of special purpose donations made to the funds. Proceeds from gifts which are not earmarked and from inheritances shall be distributed to the funds according to a proposal by the KU Rector after the KU Board of Trustees has given its opinion and after approval by the KU Academic Senate.
- (7) The financial management of KU is managed in accordance with the Higher Education Act, generally binding legal regulations according to the methodological rules of the Ministry of Higher Education of the Slovak Republic and the internal regulations of KU.
- (8) In carrying out administrative management tasks, all staff members entrusted with these activities are obliged to comply with the generally binding legal provisions and the internal rules of the KU.
- (9) Pending the approval of the budget for the calendar year in question, the University shall operate on a provisional budget basis in an amount equal to 90% of the previous year's endowment.

Article 28

Business activity

- (1) Entrepreneurial activities are governed by the Higher Education Act, the methodological guidelines of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Slovak Republic on entrepreneurial activities and the internal regulations of the KU, which are approved by the Academic Senate of the KU on the proposal of the KU Rector.

- (2) After the compulsory contribution to the funds, the income from business activities is distributed according to the principles approved by the Academic Senate of KU.
- (3) KU may carry out entrepreneurial activities that are related to its educational, research, development, artistic or other creative activities or activities that serve to make more efficient use of its human resources and assets. Business activities shall not compromise the quality, scope and availability of activities fulfilling the mission of KU. The costs of entrepreneurial activity must be covered by the income from it.
- (4) The right to conclude contracts in business activities is vested in the Rector of KU or employees authorised by him.
- (5) The entire management process of the business activity is monitored and recorded in a manner that is fundamentally separate from the management of the main activity.

PART EIGHT

Rules for the exercise of faculties' competence

Article 29

Scope of self-government

- (1) The bodies of the academic self-government of the faculty have the right to decide or act on behalf of the KU in the following matters falling within the self-governing competence of the KU:
 - a) deciding on matters relating to the academic rights and obligations of students enrolled for studies under study programmes conducted at the faculty;
 - b) carrying out business activities according to the rules laid down in the KU Statutes;
 - c) cooperation with other universities, legal entities and natural persons, including foreign ones, in the areas in which the faculty operates, to the extent and under the conditions specified in the KU Statute.
- (2) The self-governing competence of the faculty further includes:
 - a) internal organisation of the faculty;
 - b) determining the number of admitted applicants for study in the manner specified in the KU Statutes;
 - c) organisation of studies in accordance with the KU Study Regulations;
 - d) determining the focus and organising research, development, artistic or other creative activities;
 - e) Determining the number and structure of staff positions in the faculty;
 - f) election of members of the academic self-government bodies of the faculty;
 - g) conducting international relations and activities in the areas in which the faculty operates;

- h) handling of funds allocated to the faculty by the KU and funds otherwise received by the faculty for the performance of its tasks; (the faculty also comments on the handling of property used for the performance of its tasks).
- (3) The academic community of the faculty is the basis of the academic self-government of the faculty. It elects and dismisses members of the Academic Senate of the Faculty. The academic community of the faculty consists of university teachers and researchers enrolled at the faculty who are employed by the university on a fixed weekly working time (the staff part of the academic community of the faculty), and students enrolled in study programmes carried out at the faculty (the student part of the academic community of the faculty).
- (4) The internal regulations of the faculty shall regulate the affairs of the faculty which fall within its self-governing competence and its relationship to the KU, unless they are regulated by law.
- (5) The Faculty issues the following internal regulations:
- a) Faculty Statute;
 - b) the organizational regulations of the faculty;
 - c) the principles of elections to the Academic Senate of the Faculty;
 - d) Rules of Procedure of the Academic Senate of the Faculty;
 - e) Rules of Procedure of the Faculty's Scientific Council;
 - f) other regulations, if so provided for in the statutes of the faculty.
- (6) Section 15 (2) of the Higher Education Act applies to the content of the Faculty Statute
- (7) The Faculty Statutes are subject to approval by the KU Academic Senate with the prior written approval of the KU Grand Chancellor. The Faculty Statutes shall enter into force on the date of approval by the KU Academic Senate and the KU Grand Chancellor. Other internal regulations, except the Rules of Procedure of the Faculty Research Council, shall enter into force upon their approval by the Academic Senate of the Faculty. The Rules of Procedure of the Faculty Scientific Council shall enter into force upon their approval by the Faculty Scientific Council. The bodies of the academic
- (8) self-government of the Faculty are:
- a) Academic Senate of the Faculty;
 - b) Dean;
 - c) the Faculty's Scientific Council;
 - d) the Faculty Disciplinary Committee for Students (hereinafter referred to as the "Faculty Disciplinary Committee").
- (9) **The Academic Senate of the Faculty** is its self-governing representative body. It has 9 members, 3 of whom are students. The Academic Senate of the Faculty is divided into a staff part and a student part. The members of the staff part of the Academic Senate of the Faculty shall be elected in direct secret ballot by the members of the staff part of the academic community of the Faculty. Members of the student section of the

Faculty Academic Senate shall be elected by secret ballot by members of the student section of the Faculty academic community. Only a member of the staff section of the Faculty Academic Senate may be a member of the staff section of the Faculty Academic Senate. Only a member of the student section of the Faculty Academic Senate may be a member of the student section of the Faculty Academic Senate.

- (10) The office of a member of the Academic Senate of the Faculty is incompatible with the office of Rector, Vice-Rector, Bursar, Dean and Vice-Dean.
- (11) The term of office of the members of the Academic Senate of the Faculty shall be a maximum of four years.
- (12) Meetings of the Academic Senate of the Faculty are public. The Dean and the Rector have the right to speak at the meeting in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Academic Senate whenever they so request. At the request of the dean or the rector, the chair of the Academic Senate of the Faculty shall convene a meeting of the Academic Senate of the Faculty without delay, but within 14 days at the latest. If the chair of the academic senate of the faculty of a public higher education institution fails to do so, the dean or the rector shall convene a meeting of the academic senate of the faculty of the public higher education institution.
- (13) Membership in the Academic Senate of the Faculty shall cease
 - a) at the end of the member's term of office;
 - b) the appointment of a member to one of the offices referred to in paragraph (10);
 - c) termination of membership in the staff part of the academic community of the faculty;
 - d) interruption of the studies of a member of the student part of the Academic Senate of the Faculty;
 - e) the end of the student member's studies in the Academic Senate of the Faculty, unless he or she has applied for suspension from the Academic Senate of the Faculty pursuant to paragraph (11);
 - f) by failing to enrol in studies at the faculty for which he or she has been elected no later than the last day set for the enrolment of admitted applicants for the academic year in question, in the case of a member with suspended membership;
 - g) on the expiry of six months from the date of suspension; this shall not apply if the reinstatement of membership has taken place within that period;
 - h) by resigning as a member;
 - i) removal of a member from office by the academic community; the grounds for removal and the procedure for election and removal shall be laid down in the internal regulations of the Faculty;
 - j) death of a member.
- (14) If the membership of a member of the Academic Senate of the Faculty is terminated before the end of the term of office pursuant to paragraph (13) (b) to (j) of this Article, the corresponding part of the academic community shall elect a new member of the

Academic Senate of the Faculty to fill the vacancy, whose term of office shall last until the end of the term of office of the member whose membership has been terminated prematurely, or, if provided for in an internal regulation of the Faculty, the elected substitute shall take his or her place.

- (15) A member of the student part of the Academic Senate of the Faculty who is not a student of a doctoral study programme may request in writing to suspend his/her membership in the Academic Senate of the Faculty before the regular end of his/her studies. Membership shall be suspended as from the day following the day on which the student duly completes his/her studies. Membership shall be restored on the date on which he or she rejoins the student section of the academic community of the faculty concerned, unless it has ceased for other reasons. The internal regulations of the Faculty shall determine whether an elected alternate shall become a member of the Academic Senate of the Faculty for the period of suspension and the manner of his or her election, or whether a suspended member shall be deemed to be absent from the deliberations of the Academic Senate of the Faculty.
- (16) Academic Senate of the Faculty:
- a) approves, on the proposal of the Dean, the internal regulations of the Faculty pursuant to paragraphs (5) (a), (b), (e) and (f) of this Article, unless it is decided, on the proposal of the Dean, that the Faculty shall be governed by the relevant internal regulations of the KU; approves, on the proposal of the President of the Academic Senate of the Faculty, the internal regulations of the Faculty pursuant to paragraphs (5) (c) and (d) of this Article; b) approves the proposal of the Dean for the appointment and dismissal of the members of the Faculty's Scientific Council;
 - c) approves the draft budget of the faculty submitted by the dean and controls the use of the faculty's funds;
 - d) approves the long-term plan in educational, research, development, artistic or other creative activities of the faculty (hereinafter referred to as the "long-term plan of the faculty") drawn up in accordance with the Long-term Plan of KU, submitted by the dean after discussion in the Faculty Scientific Council and its update;
 - e) approves the annual activity report and the annual management report of the Faculty submitted by the Dean;
 - f) discusses the proposal of study programmes to be implemented by the faculty, submitted by the dean, prior to approval by the faculty's scientific council;
 - g) expresses its opinion on the Dean's proposal for the establishment, merger, amalgamation, division or abolition of faculty departments;
 - h) report once a year to the academic community of the college on its activities, which shall be published on the college's website for at least four years;
 - i) performs other tasks determined by the internal regulations of the KU or the faculty.

(17) **The dean** is the representative of the faculty, manages it, represents it and acts in the affairs of the faculty. The dean is accountable for his/her activities to the Academic Senate of the faculty; in matters in which he/she acts on behalf of KU (for the management of the faculty and for his/her other activities within the scope determined by the internal regulations of KU), he/she is accountable to the Rector of KU.

The dean is responsible to the KU Rector for compliance with generally binding legal regulations and for the activities of the faculty in the field of international relations and mobility.

(18)

The Dean is appointed by the Rector on the basis of the election results. The Electoral Assembly shall be set up in such a way that the persons appointed by the Rector of KU have one quarter of the votes and the other persons are representatives of the academic community of the Faculty. The Electoral Assembly shall be convened and chaired by the President of the Academic Senate of the Faculty. An absolute majority of the votes of all members of the Electoral Assembly shall be required for election. Furthermore, the provisions of Article 15, paragraphs (2) to (5) of these Statutes shall apply mutatis mutandis to the election of the Dean.

(19)

Pursuant to Section 22(10) of the Higher Education Act, a **Faculty Scientific Council** is established.

(20)

Faculty Scientific Council:

- a) expresses its opinion on the dean's proposal on the long-term plan of the faculty, which is drawn up in accordance with the KU Long-term Plan;
- b) periodically, but at least once a year, evaluate the level of the faculty in educational activities and in the field of science, technology or art;
- c) submits to the KU Scientific Council for approval the draft criteria for obtaining the title of Associate Professor and the criteria for obtaining the title of Professor;
- d) submits proposals for the award of the scientific-pedagogical title or the artistic-pedagogical title "Associate Professor" to the KU Scientific Council for discussion;
- e) submits proposals for the appointment of professors to the KU Scientific Council for approval;
- f) submits to the KU Scientific Council for approval the general criteria for filling the posts of professors and associate professors at the faculty;
- g) submits to the KU Scientific Council for approval the specific conditions for filling the posts of professors at the faculty;
- h) submits proposals for filling the positions of visiting professors to the KU Scientific Council for approval;
- i) approves the rules of procedure of the Faculty's Scientific Council on the proposal of the Chairperson of the Faculty's Scientific Council.

Members of the Faculty Scientific Council are appointed and dismissed by the Dean with the approval of the Academic Senate of the Faculty. The term of office of the members of the Scientific Council is four years. The members of the Faculty Scientific Council are distinguished experts in the fields in which the Faculty carries out educational, research, development, artistic or other creative activities and students. The members of the Faculty Scientific Council who are members of the academic community of KU may be only persons holding the post of professor or the post of associate professor, or researchers with scientific qualification level IIa or with scientific qualification level I, or artistic workers and students. One third of the members of the Faculty's Scientific Board shall be students of the Faculty. At least one quarter and no more than one third of the members of the Faculty Scientific Council shall be persons who are not members of the KU academic community. If the Faculty Scientific Council is discussing a matter which, at KU level, falls within the competence of the KU Scientific Council, the student part of the Faculty Scientific Council shall not vote on the matter. The dean shall be the chairperson of the Faculty Scientific Council.

- (21) **The Disciplinary Committee of the Faculty** discusses disciplinary offences of students enrolled in a study programme carried out at the Faculty and submits a proposal for a decision to the Dean. The members of the Faculty Disciplinary Board and its chairperson shall be appointed by the Dean from among the members of the Faculty's academic community after approval by the Academic Senate of the Faculty; half of the members of the Board shall be students. The activities of the Faculty Disciplinary Board shall be governed by the Rules of Procedure of the Faculty Disciplinary Board.

Article 30 KU International Relations and

Mobility

- (1) KU creates conditions and supports KU's international relations and mobility of KU academics.
- (2) The foreign activities of KU and its components consist mainly of:
 - a) in securing and supporting the secondment of university teachers, research and other employees of KU and its students to foreign universities and scientific research institutions; b) in securing close contacts and cooperation with Catholic universities in other countries;
 - c) in securing the admission of university teachers, research staff and students of foreign universities and research institutions;
 - d) in securing other forms of cooperation, particularly in international projects.
- (3) KU provides methodological guidance for foreign activities.
- (4) KU participates in international academic organisations and associations.

(5) Cooperation agreements at the level of KU units or individual departments may only be concluded on the basis of an enabling clause in an agreement concluded by KU, and in the case of institutions with which KU does not have an agreement, the KU Vice-Chancellor with the relevant competences must be consulted in advance of such activity.

**Article 31 KU publishing
activities**

- (1) The nature and objectives of KU as a scientific and pedagogical institution are also reflected in its publishing activities.
- (2) KU publishes mainly monographs, scientific periodicals, study aids and other materials.
- (3) Publications concerning faith and morals are subject to ecclesiastical approval in accordance with the regulations of Canon 823, §1 of the CCC.
- (4) The publishing activities of the KU are governed by a special regulation.

**NINETEENTH PART
Transitional and final provisions**

Article 32

- (1) The term of office of deans and members of the collective bodies of faculties which were established under the regulations in force until 24 April 2022 and whose term of office commenced under the regulations in force until 24 April 2022 shall be completed in accordance with the regulations in force until 24 April 2022. The term of office of vice-deans which were established under the regulations in force until 24 April 2022 and whose term of office commenced under the regulations in force until 24 April 2022 shall expire on the date of the expiry of the term of office of the dean concerned.
- (2) If any doubt arises as to the meaning and content of any of the provisions of this Statute, the Academic Senate of the KU shall issue an interpretation thereof. The interpretation shall enter into force on the date of its publication with the prior written consent of the Grand Chancellor of KU. The Academic Senate of KU shall inform the Rector of KU of the wording of the interpretation. The Rector of KU shall ensure that the interpretation is published without delay.

Article 33 Approval of the Statutes and amendments

thereto

- (1) This Statute, its amendments and additions are approved by the Academic Senate of the KU with the consent of the Grand Chancellor of the KU (Ex corde Ecclesiae, II., art.1, § 3 and art.3, § 4).
- (2) This statute is subject to registration by the Department.

Article 34 KU Internal

Regulations

- (1) The KU Statute is the basic normative-legal, organizational and management regulation of the KU.
- (2) The internal rules of the KU pursuant to § 15 (1) (1) (b) of the EC Treaty shall apply. (a) to (k) of the Higher Education Act are: KU Statutes, KU Internal Quality Assurance System for Higher Education, KU Study Regulations, KU Principles of Selection Procedure for Filling the Positions of University Teachers, Positions of Researchers, Positions of Professors and Associate Professors and Positions of Senior Staff at KU, KU Working Regulations, Organisational Regulations of KU, Principles of Elections to the Academic Senate of KU, Principles of Election of a Candidate for Rector and Acceptance of a Proposal for Removal of the Rector, Rules of Procedure of the Academic Senate of KU, Rules of Procedure of the KU Scientific Council, KU Scholarship Regulations, KU Disciplinary Regulations for Students, Rules of Procedure of the KU Disciplinary Committee.
- (3) KU shall issue the following internal rules pursuant to Article 15(1)(1)(b) of the Treaty. n) of the Higher Education Act: KU Code of Ethics, internal regulation on the substantive and temporal method of preparing and submitting the budget for approval, internal regulation on tuition fees and charges, KU Board of Trustees Statute, principles for filling the positions of professors and associate professors, specific conditions for filling the positions of professors, including the criteria for the award of the title of "visiting professor", the Principles of Catholic Formation at KU, the Principles of Elections to the Student Council of Universities of the Slovak Republic for KU, the internal regulation governing the Rector's power to limit the decision-making power of the KU component in the area of management and to assume this power, and other regulations specified in these Statutes.

Article 35 Validity and effectiveness of these

Statutes

- (1) This Statute is a legally binding regulation for all employees, students and members of KU and faculty bodies.
- (2) This Statute shall enter into force and effect upon compliance with the conditions set forth in Article 33 of this Statute.
- (3) The validity of the appointment or election of KU academic officers and KU academic governance bodies shall remain unaffected by these Statutes.
- (4) All legal acts adopted at the CoC shall, within 6 months of the entry into force of this Statute, be amended in accordance with its wording.
- (5) Proceedings which have been instituted and which have not been finally terminated by the date of entry into force of this Statute shall be completed in accordance with the standards in force at the time such proceedings were instituted.

(6) The Statute of the Catholic University in Ružomberok approved by the Academic Senate of the KU on 25.9.2018 as amended and supplemented shall be repealed upon the entry into force of this Statute.

(7) This Statute was approved by the Academic Senate of KU on 14.03. 2023 in accordance with § 9 (1) (a) of the Higher Education Act.

doc. PaedDr. Tomáš Jablonský, PhD.
President of the AS KU

doc. Ing. Jaroslav Demko, CSc.
Rector of KU

Mons. Bernard Bober,
Archbishop, Grand Chancellor of KU

Registered at the Ministry of Education and Science of the Slovak Republic on 28.04.2023