

# 1 UiS's role in the community 2030

## 2 Introduction

3 The University of Stavanger does not exist for its own part, but for society's. A definition of the term  
4 "Society" is not easy to agree on, but StOr believes that for a university, it is wise to make such a  
5 definition as broad as possible. It should include all people who live in the nation in which society  
6 exists. A concept of society must also include the interaction and communication that takes place  
7 between the people, both socially, politically, culturally and economically. Traditionally, the  
8 University has been regarded as institutions that aim to ensure independent scientific development  
9 in various fields.

10 Through its strategy, the University of Stavanger has highlighted three overarching values, these are  
11 independent, inclusive and creative. StOr believes that the values are good, and provides a good  
12 guide for how the superior should see the social tasks a university have.

13 StOr feels that UiS, in its dialogue with the surrounding community, has managed to become a very  
14 relevant contributor to the society in the region, and in the county. A good example of meeting and  
15 dialogue venues are value creation forums, but also the economic festival KÅKÅnomics is a good  
16 example of good interaction between business, the university and society at whole. At the same  
17 time, StOr recognizes that the university has great potential improve when it comes to its own  
18 reputation. In the fall of 2019, there have been several articles in Khrono that refer to a reputation  
19 surveys (1), UiS scores low in these surveys. Reputation is not only important for the university itself,  
20 but also for the students who are educated here. Students are missing a good cooperation with the  
21 alumni-network at UiS. StOr does not experience that the alumni-network is good enough at this  
22 time.

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## 24 The way forward

25 The University of Stavanger has been, and is constantly evolving. There is no reason to believe that  
26 this will stop in the future. From UiS's time as a college, UiS has brought with it's two strong  
27 professional pillars, which are largely relevant today in 2019. These are professional studies in health,  
28 care and educational science. Here, UiS has professional environments that are nationally leading in  
29 their areas. The second pillar is oil-related education both inside and outside engineering. In recent  
30 years, a stronger focus on social science has come to fruition, we see this especially through the new  
31 Master in Energy, Environment and Society. The establishment of the business school as a separate  
32 faculty also shows that the University of Stavanger has improved over the past few years.

33 It is difficult to predict specifically what the needs of the future society will be. StOr still sees some  
34 challenges that both UiS and the students have to solve. The sustainability goals must lie as a holistic  
35 idea in the business UiS is doing. Within these 17 points, you can already see much of UiS's potential.

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## 37 Oil and the future

38 Stavanger has also previously built up large parts of its industry around certain industries. Herring  
39 fishing and canning industry was the big ones from earlier times. The lesson the city and the  
40 university must take with them is that it has had major consequences for the local community as  
41 these industries disappeared. The uncertainty of the market is in some form interesting, nobody  
42 could predict the consequences of the oil discovery in 1969 for both the city and the nation. This

43 uncertainty also requires that it is possible to enroll to and graduate from the university in order to  
44 constantly update and further develop its knowledge. Both Norway and the world are changing,  
45 especially when it comes to the work done towards achieving the sustainability goals. Therefore, the  
46 University of Stavanger's education and research on energy, petroleum and offshore will be  
47 important in the future. Students must have the autonomy to study what they want. Nevertheless,  
48 the University of Stavanger does not operate in a single vacuum, and must constantly be observant  
49 of the changes in society without compromising institutional autonomy and the academic freedom of  
50 each researcher. In 2019, the University of Stavanger has committed to health, which fits well with  
51 sustainability goals and the coming wave of aging.

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53 **StOr believes that:**

- 54 • The University of Stavanger will link its strategy to the UN's sustainability goals.
- 55 • The University of Stavanger must actively work with their reputation.
- 56 • The University of Stavanger aims to educate students for the current and future job market.
- 57 • The University of Stavanger will create several venues between students, academic staff and  
58 working life regionally and nationally.
- 59 • The University of Stavanger will facilitate for lifelong learning.

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61 (1: [https://khrono.no/ipsos-ntnu-conditions/ntnu-topar-conditions-paint-with-selected-university-](https://khrono.no/ipsos-ntnu-conditions/ntnu-topar-conditions-paint-with-selected-university-and-high-school/417720)  
62 [and-high school/417720](https://khrono.no/ipsos-ntnu-conditions/ntnu-topar-conditions-paint-with-selected-university-and-high-school/417720))