

# Student Union Malmö's operational plan 25/26

## §1. Introduction

The operational plan is a steering document, adopted by the council, setting the work and operations for the Student Union Malmö (hereafter, "the Union") for the upcoming operational year 2025-2026.

The operational plan's structure begins with the Union's operations, followed by chapters on student engagement and student representation, as well as study political work. The union board for 24/25 suggests that having considered the above areas of focus, the new board should consider how these will work in the development of a sustainable structure for the new internal operation and other components of the union.

The operational plan is written in a way that ensures the board has the flexibility to achieve the set goals in a manner they best see fit. The board therefore has a mission to create an action plan that will complement this document to concretise action steps and division of responsibilities.

## §2. Union operations

The Union has been appointed to ensure the good quality of education, and ensure all students feel included and excel at the university. The president is the chief student safety representative for all students at Malmö University, due to the union's reorganization the safety representatives for every faculty are now employed in ombuds.

In alignment with the Malmö university 2025 strategy, The Union should incorporate AI competencies by fostering an environment and opportunities for students to learn how to use it in relation to academic freedom

Furthermore, the Union should also consider avenues for generating revenue due to increasing budget cost cutting by the government and by the University.

The discussions with the University regarding the future Amphitrite building as well as the union placement in it is ongoing. Exact amount of space we will get is still uncertain. There should be continuous work going on finding the best solution for the permanent space of the Union's organisation including the social spaces for the students

Working closely with Associations Sections to achieve an increase in student engagement and student influence.

Finally, developing a clear strategy to ensure the visibility of the union is amplified at all faculties in the university.

### Goals:

#2.1. Foster an environment that nurtures the needs and circumstances essential for students' overall well-being.

#2.2. Reinforce bilingualism at the Union by fostering the use of both Swedish and English

#2.3. Nourish sustainable and continuous collaboration with Malmö University and other actors to improve conditions of students at MAU and in the wider community.

#2.4. Exploration of avenues to generate independent revenue for the Union's activities and operations.

#2.5. Find the possible long term venue solution suitable for the whole Union's organisation well as for the social activities of the students.

#2.6. Actively engage in the creation of spaces for the Union and all its operations within the new building on the Amphitrite plot, and the use of these spaces in an effective way.

## §2.1 Structure of the Union

After several years of working towards achieving stability and a good division of responsibilities within the Union board, the Union Underwent an unprecedented re-organisation of its structure. The first year of transition has passed and it has been working effectively. However this still requires a lot of rethinking and adapting to the realities of the operational year of 25/26. Increased engagement of the council (and committees) and student representation is vital in the new structure, and how to manage and motivate these students are key points. A good work environment during the transitional year itself, by dividing areas of responsibility and having a clear knowledge of who is responsible for which specific aspect of the Union's work. This will also ensure a good working environment.

### Goals for the new structure:

- #2.1.1. Maintain high standards of the Union's constitutional functions.
- #2.1.2. Continuously assess responsibilities, adjust work distribution sustainably across existing, altered, and new roles.
- #2.1.3. Provide a coherent representation for students across the four faculties including the Police Students
- #2.1.4. Uphold a vibrant student community and continued satisfactory study-social experiences.
- #2.1.5. Student engagement and recruitment, remains a constant goal for the Board and Kansliet in all their responsibilities.

## §3. Student engagement

The Union Represents Over 20,000 students at Malmö University. For the Union to drive its quality work, Student engagement is highly needed. A good level of engagement leads to powerful student Influence.

There are many ways in which students can become engaged. At the beginning of the academic year, students are more enthusiastic and eager to get involved; therefore, this is the right moment to encourage them, attract future talent, and to create ties and connections in the various areas of engagement.

Engagement needs to be continuously developed and maintained throughout the operational year, and from one operational year to the next.

### Goals:

- #3.1. To increase outreach and engagement with students to encourage participation in the Union and its activities.
- #3.2. Grab the opportunity to engage students at the start (and till the end) of the academic year
- #3.3. Maintain and increase our outreach, either by study political or social events, to students via associations and sections
- #3.4. Create sustainable and long-lasting engagement in the Union through motivation, incentivisation and camaraderie.
- #3.5. Ensure that students are embraced and integrated into the new structure of the Union.
- #3.6. Establish the Union's committees as bodies with real influence on students' situations, including cooperation between them and the student body.
- #3.7. Find ways to incentivise continued and sustainable engagement of the Union council and other student representatives.

#### §4. Student representation

Student representation constitutes a pivotal part of the Union's statutory responsibilities, which it is one of the most critical challenges and goals for the union, as well as to ensure consistency in the representation positions to be filled throughout the academic term. Student representation is the foundation of the Union. Hence, serious efforts should be channelled towards recruiting and training student representatives, which would ensure that student perspectives can be raised in all processes and decisions that would directly or indirectly affect them. It is pertinent to note that student representation must be balanced and include all Malmö university student population.

##### Goals:

- #4.1. Sustainable and continuous student representation at university meetings, at all levels.
- #4.2. To keep oneself updated on questions around research and education that are important to students and raise them up during relevant meetings.
- #4.3. Facilitate events for underrepresented student groups and faculties that are and have been less represented within the Union.
- #4.4. To advocate for initiatives that address the needs and concerns of students from diverse backgrounds, including those from marginalised and/or underrepresented groups.
- #4.5. To implement programs within the Union to support new student representatives in their new role.
- #4.6. To support the student sections, committees and other student groups to give access to professional and personal connections useful for students' future aspirations.
- #4.7. To help keep all parties informed and engaged, by having student representatives and section volunteers act as direct connections between the Union and the University.

#### §5. Study political work

Being a student includes more than just attending classes and studying. It entails the presence of various conditions necessary for the successful completion of one's education. Factors such as living conditions, the learning environment, available student resources in the city, economic circumstances, and prospects for employment are just a few of the aspects that directly or indirectly impact students and their academic pursuits.

The Union serves as the driving force and as the representative addressing these concerns from the perspectives of students. All initiatives within this framework should consider the diverse student body of Malmö University. The Student Union will actively engage in critical self-assessment, articulate students' concerns and viewpoints to Malmö University, and advocate for them within Malmö, Skåne and beyond.

##### Goals:

- #5.1. Maintain a proactive approach to address housing-related issues at the local and regional levels through advocacy efforts and cooperation with relevant actors.
- #5.2. Continue to be a consistent ambassador for students' concerns when interacting with local and regional leaders, legislators, and other influential figures.
- #5.3. Discuss and find ways to tackle issues related to student employment during their studies, and for career transitions post-graduation.
- #5.4. Continue to promote the University's adherence to the directives and regulations governing student influence, as well as bringing attention to the persistent gaps between policy and practice.
- #5.5. Work proactively to increase student understanding of higher education politics.
- #5.6. Work to promote and adhere to democratic and academic ideals.