Shaping a Sustainable Future.
We embarked on a mission

• By merging three leading universities in 2010, Aalto was founded to work as a societally embedded, and innovative research university for a better world
• Aalto has a national mission to strengthen Finland’s innovative capacity through first-class research and education
Together, we have come far

- We have successfully brought together science, art, technology, and business to become a forerunner in our key areas
- Our campus has rapidly grown into a world-class collaboration hub
- We have transformed into one of Europe’s most international universities
Our current strengths

- Excellence and increasing impact in our chosen key areas in research, art and education
- A unique combination of collaborating disciplines
- Extensive co-creation with partners
- An internationally prominent start-up ecosystem
- A courageous, low-hierarchy culture with empowered students
Major trends shaping us

- The global sustainability crisis
- Technological disruptions and transformation of working life
- Increasing complexity in globalisation
- The changing landscape of higher education: increasing demand and competition, digitalisation, pressure on funding
Living strategy

- We have adopted a living strategy approach tailored for a world in motion
- Our purpose, values, and way of working define our long-term direction
- We choose development areas and actions that best drive us towards our purpose
- As a community, we proactively and continuously re-evaluate our choices
Purpose

Shaping a sustainable future

Research
We excel and make breakthroughs in and across science, art, technology and business.

Education
We spark the game changers of tomorrow.

Impact
We renew society with research-based knowledge, creativity and entrepreneurial mindset.
We generate innovative solutions to tackle global grand challenges.

Values

Responsibility

Courage

Collaboration

Ways of working

Working for a better world, we act sustainably for the wellbeing of all.

Taking on challenges with agility, creativity and passion, we aim high.

Diversity is part of who we are and we foster an empowered community that shines by working together.
SHAPING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Purpose

- **Research**: Breakthroughs in and across science, art, technology and business
- **Education**: Sparking the game changers of tomorrow
- **Impact**: Innovative solutions to tackle global grand challenges

Focus of development

- **Driving excellence**: World-class clusters of excellence, bringing talent together
- **Future-led learning**: Greater societal responsibility in degree education and continuous learning with elevated student experience
- **Inspiring ecosystem**: Building an internationally prominent ecosystem

Solutions for sustainability

- Using our strengths to address global challenges

Radical creativity

- Globally leading community for new thinking

Entrepreneurial mindset

- Fostering a strong entrepreneurial culture

Enabling our success

- Investing in our community & people, infrastructures & campus, and services

Values and ways of working

- **Responsibility**: We act sustainably for the wellbeing of all
- **Courage**: Taking on challenges with agility, creativity and passion, we aim high.
- **Collaboration**: A diverse and empowered community that shines by working together
We excel and make breakthroughs in and across science, art, technology and business

Focus of development: Driving excellence

We create world-class clusters of excellence in our key research areas and bring complementary talent together to work on grand challenges.

Actions: Attracting and fostering talent, developing selected research infrastructures, new collaboration across fields
We spark the game changers of tomorrow

Focus of development: Future-led learning

We take greater societal responsibility in degree education and continuous learning, in and across our key areas. We elevate student experience and quality of learning.

Actions: Renewing educational offering, developing our digital and engaged learning environment, integrating sustainability and multidisciplinary studies into programmes, advancing learning-centricity, focusing on holistic wellbeing.
Focus of development: Inspiring ecosystem

As a community of faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners, we build our innovation, creative and entrepreneurial ecosystem as a prominent node in global networks.

Actions: Cultivating an environment of innovation, developing global and local networks, building a sustainable and thriving campus
Our three cross-cutting approaches

Focus of development: We help solve grand challenges in and across our key areas. We build an outstanding creative community for new thinking. We foster an inspiring entrepreneurial culture.

Solutions for sustainability

Actions: Connecting our strengths to create solutions for grand challenges, pioneering sustainable solutions in our operations

Radical creativity

Actions: Empowering an experimental culture by building the spaces and practices that encourage us to break boundaries and create novel perspectives

Entrepreneurial mindset

Actions: Advancing entrepreneurial capabilities throughout our community, supporting student-driven activities and initiatives
Enabling our success

Focus of development: We invest in our community & people, infrastructures & campus, and services.

Community & people
Actions: Developing our culture of inclusion, curiosity, collaboration and wellbeing as our competitive edge.

Infrastructures & campus
Actions: Investing in open, state-of-the-art physical & digital infrastructures, and campus environment as long-term assets.

Services & resources
Actions: Building dynamic service solutions and data-driven operations. Strengthening our financial resilience.
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References

- A comprehensive, international peer evaluation of Aalto University’s research quality (RAI 2018)
- Aalto University is recognised as a globally leading young university (QS top 50 under 50, 2020)
- MIT, JRC and EUA have recently portrayed the entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem evolving around the university as an international role model
- Aalto University is recognised as one of Europe’s most international universities (THE 2019)
- Examples of Aalto University’s distinctive research excellence
- Key figures and reports from 2018
- An overview of Aalto University’s position in international rankings