

Governing Board

Contingency Plan for Students, Teachers, Researchers, and Non-Academic Staff in the Event of a Nuclear Attack in Ukraine or Neighboring Countries

Objectives

- Ensure the safety and well-being of Instituto Superior Técnico students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff on mobility in Ukraine and neighboring countries.
- Establish procedures for assistance and support to international students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff (Ukraine and neighboring countries) at IST.
- Coordinate efforts with national and international entities.

Contingency plan to be activated only if Portuguese official entities indicate it.

Section 1: IST Students, Teachers, Researchers and Non-Academic Staff in Ukraine and Neighboring Countries

1.1. PREVENTIVE PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Refuges and Security: Identify nuclear shelters or safe locations indicated by local authorities | Liaise with local universities/embassies to obtain information.

Emergency Kit: Recommend the acquisition of emergency kits (food, water, basic medicines, P100 mask) | To be recommended to students.

Preventive Evacuation: If the risk situation increases, encourage voluntary departure to safer countries or even return home | Obtain information from consular entities.

1.2. COMMUNICATION AND MONITORING

Registration of students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff: Confirm the location and contacts of all IST students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff on mobility in the affected countries (Ukraine, Belarus, Romania, Poland, Georgia, Slovakia, Hungary, Moldova, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania).

Permanent Communication Channel: Establish an emergency group (WhatsApp) for immediate communication with students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff | 2 dedicated mobile phone cards - e-sim (NGAC) | 2 people in each nighttime slot - 2 hours each slot | create emergency email international.help@tecnico.ulisboa.pt | Contingency team: Zita Martins, Rui Mendes, Luis Moreira, Mobility and International Partnerships Office (NMPI) and International Admissions Office (NAI) teams.

Regular Updates: Send information about the situation in real time, based on reliable sources (Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portuguese Ministry of Internal Administration, NATO, etc.) | Decide timing, cadence, level of detail of information and means of dissemination (Mail, Whatsapp).

1.3. EVACUATION PLANS

Cooperation with Embassies: Coordinate with Portuguese Consulates and Embassies/ Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs the inclusion of students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff in evacuation operations.

Safe Routes: Identify safe land or air routes | Provide financial/logistical assistance for student transportation | Create cost center to purchase travel in an emergency context + virtual card from the old NCA.

Support in Host Countries: Create a temporary reception network for students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff in safe EU countries, in conjunction with other Portuguese HEIs.

1.4. PSYCHOLOGICAL AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT

24/7 Line: Provide an emergency telephone contact for psychological support | VP Jorge Morgado can identify possibilities.

Academic Support: Guarantee academic continuity through alternative teaching models or partnerships with other universities outside the identified perimeter | VP Francisco Melo.

Section 2: Establish Procedures for Assistance and Support to International Students, Teachers, Researchers, and Non-Academic Staff (Ukraine and Neighboring Countries) at IST.

2.1. COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Security Guarantee: Ensure that students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff from identified countries feel safe.

Point of Contact: Appoint those responsible at IST to be the direct link with students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff from the identified countries | Valentina Oliveira and Ágata Nicolau.

Visa Update: Provide support in case of visa renewal or bureaucratic difficulties | NAI.

2.2. PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT

Individualized Support: Provide psychology services to deal with anxiety or stress | VP Jorge Morgado can identify possibilities.

Section 3: Institutional Coordination

Collaboration with the Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs: For support in evacuations, visa, and diplomatic communications.

Articulation with International Networks: Involve networks such as Magalhães, CESAER, T.I.M.E., and UNITE to share good practices and interinstitutional support.

Internal Emergency Plan: Activate a crisis management team at IST, with representation, among others, from the areas of international affairs, psychological support, and communication | President Rogério Colaço; Communication Joana Lobo Antunes; Administrator Nuno Pedroso; VPs Zita Martins, Jorge Morgado, Francisco Melo, Marta Almeida, and Researcher João Alves.

Section 4: External Communication

Public Information Note: Publish an official note on the IST website, reinforcing efforts to protect students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff on mobility.

Media and Social Networks: Avoid alarmist speeches, promoting messages of solidarity and tranquility.

Section 5: Monitoring and Update the Contingency Plan

Continuous Assessment: Review and update the plan quarterly or whenever there are significant changes in the geopolitical scenario.

Conclusion

This plan ensures that IST is prepared to protect its students, teachers, researchers, and non-academic staff regardless of nationality or location. Solidarity, safety and academic support remain key priorities.

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