

# AAU Research Plan 2020-2021

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*Peter Bolcha, Director of Research, in cooperation with Research Committee, Deans, and Academic Vice-Presidents*

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## **AAU Research Vision for 2025**

In 2025, AAU is a respected university in the Central European region, with 3-5 major research areas. The AAU research team regularly publishes internationally recognized scholarly outputs, in cooperation with teams from other institutions, and with significant use of external funding. The research areas are fully integrated into the education that AAU offers, including preparation of prospective researchers in MA and PhD program/s. Next to adding new knowledge, AAU research also has a clear positive impact on the careers of AAU students, as well as society.

## **Research as integral part of AAU mission**

Exposure of students to research (active via projects, passive via classes given by active scholars) is one of the essential features of university education.

Active research with scholarly recognized outputs is a necessary condition for Czech Accreditations and WASC Accreditation.

Research serves as one of the quality signals for applicants.

Research helps to diversify the revenues of AAU (with a prospect of significant rise of this share in the near future).

## **AAU Research Priorities**

High quality outputs, team work, student engagement, positive social impact, external partnerships, external funding orientation

## **AAU Research Team**

The core of our research and publication activity is performed by the **research track faculty**, who devote a part of their academic appointments to research. At the moment, these are the 12 internal faculty members, and another 3 external members on employment contract. There are another 10-15 faculty members who regularly contribute to AAU research. Remaining 25+ instructors with PhD are adjunct at AAU, but might join us for the projects if interested. Every year, the AAU team creates around 30 publications, ranging from journal articles to monographs.

## **AAU Research Areas<sup>1</sup>**

### **Law & Economics (Law, Economics, Criminology)**

We focus on effects of laws, corruption, and criminal activity detection, by using both statistical techniques and qualitative approaches. Other fields of our interest are related to legal proceedings, especially evidence restorative justice, and its practices and application. Last but not least, we look at the impact of regulations on the behavior of businesses and individuals. Our researchers currently work on the following projects: Relative efficiency of public road construction spending as an indicator of possible corruption and Developing advanced tools for analysis of traffic accidents for Czech Police (in cooperation with other universities). More projects are in the phase of applications (e.g. project on public mass shootings, traffic accident determinants, restorative justice practices etc.).

**Faculty:** [Alexei Anisin](#), [Carollann Braum](#), [Peter Bolcha](#), [Pietro Andrea Podda](#), [Miroslav Svoboda](#)

## **Transnational Processes (Political Science, History, Ethnology)**

We research and discuss current transnational challenges, such as Migration, Populism or Authoritative regimes. Besides standard publications and discussions fora, we intend to prepare a project of Visual International Politics, as well as Experimental AAU as a testing lab for the young generations' opinion. We partner the conference [Ideas in Politics](#) and host workshops, such as the conference Model United Nations ([PORGMUN](#)). Currently, AAU is having



**PRIORITY AREA: Safe society and security**



