## A look at the international collaborations of the University of Geneva







International scientific collaborations are at the heart of the University of Geneva's policy, as they are in other Swiss universities and the umbrella organisation swissuniversities. This summary is based on an analysis of the data available on these collaborations within two services: International Relations and Partnerships, and Academic Exchange. It presents the evolution of academic collaborations and partnerships in relation to 3 axes: interinstitutional collaboration agreements, partner institutions and academic mobility.

## **AGREEMENTS (1970-2020)**

Between 1970 and 2020, UNIGE has signed 1127 agreements, valid or expired, with 533 institutions in 83 countries. More than 90% of the agreements allow for student exchange. Fewer framework, specific and sectoral agreements are being signed in favour of more university-wide collaboration agreements encouraging mobility.

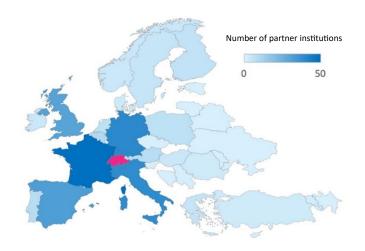
Most agreements have been negotiated in close collaboration with a member of faculty. Many of the agreements in force for the whole university were initiated by one faculty. The three most active faculties in initiating agreements are: Humanities, Sciences and FPSE.

The first agreement was signed in 1971 with the Babes-Bolyai University (Romania), an active partner to this day. Among the 20 oldest partners, 14 are still active in 2020:

Institution	Country	1 <sup>st</sup> signed
Universitatea Babes-Bolyai	Romania	1971
Université de Yaoundé 1	Cameroon	1980
Université de Savoie	France	1980
Université de Caen Basse-Normandie	France	1986
Université de Montréal	Canada	1990
Lomonosov Moscow State University	Russia	1990
HEC Montréal	Canada	1991
University of Pennsylvania	USA	1991
Universita degli Studi di Torino	Italy	1991
Université technique tchèque, Prague	Czech Rep.	1991
Smith College	USA	1992
Università degli Studi di Firenze	Italy	1992
Université Paris Dauphine	France	1993
Uniwersytet Warszawski	Poland	1993

## **PARTNERS (1970-2020)**

UNIGE has partners on all continents. Most are in Europe (70%), followed by Asia (10%), North America (7%), Latin America (4%), the Middle East and North Africa (4%), Africa (3%) and Oceania (2%). At the beginning of 2020, UNIGE has 430 active partners in 73 countries, including nearly 300 in Europe (35 countries). The countries where we have the most partners are France (50), Germany (40) and Italy (39):



Between 40 and 48 of our partners in 2020 are among the top 100 institutions according to the Shanghai, QS and THE rankings. Academic exchange is in place with the overwhelming majority (>90%) of these partners. Collaborating with the best institutions certainly strengthens the position of UNIGE. But in terms of mobility, rankings do not seem to be the main criterion of attraction for students.

## **EXCHANGE (1981-2020)**

In 2018-2019, UNIGE ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among the most active Swiss institutions in the Swiss-European Mobility Program. Since the 2000s, mobility at UNIGE has increased by 1-3% each year. Between 1981 and 2020, 20'168 stays (incoming and outgoing flows) were recorded. In 2018-2019, nearly 7% of Bachelor's and 6% of Master's students did an exchange.

Exchanges remain highly concentrated in Europe (56% of flows), particularly with France, Germany, Italy and Spain. 90% of all mobility is with 30 countries.

Of the 30 most popular partner institutions:

- 18 are in Europe, 7 in North America, 2 in Switzerland, 1 in Asia, 1 in Africa and 1 in Australia;
- 6 are also among the oldest;
- 5 are among the top 100 institutions in global rankings.

Some faculties tend to be more receivers of exchange students (GSEM, Humanities, Sciences), while others are more exporters (FTI, GSI, SdS); balanced flows are rare (FPSE, Law). Despite the benefits of academic mobility, the costs of a stay abroad dissuade students.

