



aalto-yliopiston ylioppilaskunta
aalto-universitetets studentkår
aalto university student union

Strategy 2021-2024

Approved at Representative Council meeting 1/2021

Foreword

This document is the strategy of Aalto University Student Union (henceforth AYY). Its purpose is to describe what kind of future AYY as an organisation aims for and how future challenges will be met. The strategy serves as a tool for strategic management and is actively used to support decision-making.

The strategy is valid for four years, 2021-2024. New strategy work will take place during 2024. During this strategy period, a mid-term review will be carried out in 2022. The strategy will then be considered by the Representative Council and it will be possible to make additions, deletions and changes according to the progress of the goals and the state of the world. In addition, the AYY Board reviews the strategy annually and assesses the progress of the goals and, if necessary, submits amendment proposals to the Representative Council.

The strategic goals are divided into top-level and low-level goals. The top-level goals describe a long-term vision of the future and are not expected to be achieved in the short term, whereas the low-level goals are intended to be achieved during the strategy period.

When the strategy mentions AYY, it refers to the student union as an organisation. AYY's services cover all of AYY's activities that generate added value for members, including advocacy, events, community activities and housing, among other things. When we talk about the Aalto community, we refer more broadly to the academic community and the student culture community at Aalto. The Aalto community includes students as well as student associations, recreational clubs and the university, among other things.



Vision

The best student life in the world.

Mission

AYY – As the community of Aalto people, we provide an unforgettable and smooth student life and a breeding ground for society.

Values

Student-centred approach

Our members feel that they belong to the Aalto community and can influence AYY's operations. AYY is renewable, enthusiastic and bold. Cooperation is AYY's greatest resource, which is reinforced with approachable, accessible and participatory activities.

Diverse and equal community

In the Aalto community, everyone is treated equally. AYY values diversity, internationality and the sense of community and works actively for equality.

Well-being

The well-being of the Aalto community members is of primary importance to AYY. The atmosphere in the Aalto community is accepting, humane and empathetic.

Sustainability

There must be sufficient resources for future operators. AYY operates in a socially and economically responsible manner, respecting the carrying capacity and ecological sustainability of the environment.

Strategic goals

AYY of the future

AYY is a member-oriented service organisation from which all members benefit during their studies. High-quality services allow Aalto people to enjoy happy and unforgettable student years.

- All members of AYY recognise and are aware of what AYY does and what services AYY offers.
- AYY's finances and investments are planned so that the service level and operations will remain attractive in the future as well. AYY's property portfolio is developed in a financially sustainable manner and the importance of corporate relations as a source of income is increased.
- AYY takes finances into account in all decision-making and aims to calculate operations regularly in accordance with the budget framework.
- The service level of the Student Union is improved with digital services which take accessibility into account. AYY also invests in the internal digitisation of the organisation.
- AYY's operating culture is inspiring and motivating and supports the well-being of employees, persons in confidential positions and volunteers.



In its operations, AYY aims for carbon neutrality by the year 2030, promotes the circular economy and respects the carrying capacity of the environment and biodiversity.

- The construction and maintenance of AYY's properties are carried out in an ecologically sustainable manner, taking into account the entire lifespan of the properties. Sustainable living and the utilisation of the circular economy are made possible in AYY's housing.
- AYY enables its members to lead a sustainable lifestyle and challenges the academic community and other interest groups to take ecological sustainability into account in their own operations.

Life of future students

Each member of AYY has a healthy and safe home that provides a breeding ground for life. The learning environment is inspiring and meets the needs of the community.

- AYY provides high-quality, multi-purpose and accessible facilities for student activities and events in the Aalto community.
- AYY offers student housing so that willing students have the opportunity to live near the campus at an affordable price. With its housing stock, AYY strives to meet the demand, and the planning of new construction and development programmes ensures that the occupancy rate of the existing stock remains high.
- When living in AYY's housing, neighbours form a community in daily life, which supports the well-being of residents, improves the comfort of living and promotes encounters between different fields of study.
- The daily well-being of students is actively supported and promoted, and everyone is given the opportunity to find a balance between studies and leisure.



Everyone identifies themselves as a member of the Aalto community and can form lifelong interdisciplinary friendships and find their own community.

- The structures of AYY and the Aalto community support cooperation between different operators. Various operators, cultures and fields in the community work actively together and understand the value of others.
- The Aalto spirit and the sense of belonging arise already during the first year of study and remain past the student years. The spirit of Aalto is created by everyone finding their place in the community.
- International students have equal opportunities to participate in the activities of the Aalto community, influence decision-making and benefit from AYY's services.

- The profile of those participating in AYY's activities corresponds to the membership and its diversity.
- AYY's events promote encounters and friendships across association and school borders. The focus of activities is on events and concepts that would not otherwise be implemented in the community.

Aalto students create the best university, community and society. AYY speaks with the voice of Aalto students and is listened to.

- AYY's cooperation with its interest groups is proactive, visible and goal-oriented. Results and advocacy goals are evaluated regularly.
- Advocacy work is based on researched information, and AYY utilises and collects the necessary data.
- AYY works actively to identify, correct and prevent discriminatory structures in the Aalto community.
- AYY's members want to and know how to influence the activities and services of the Student Union, and it is simple to have influence.