STYR 2020/71



Vice-chancellor

Lund University regulations concerning temporary leasing of premises to democratically constituted students' associations

Background

The present regulations concern the University's position on temporarily leasing premises to political organisations for gatherings, dissemination of information, expressions of opinion or other similar purposes.

The University's premises are not a place of public use but are primarily intended for teaching, research and other regular academic activities. The University is responsible for how the premises are used and takes decisions about who is permitted to access and use them.

Higher Education Ordinance

Chapter 1, Section 13 of the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance (HEO) states that a higher education institution is obliged to allow a democratically constituted association of its students to use its teaching premises for meetings arranged by the association for its members provided that the purpose of the meeting is to inform, express opinions or the like, or the performance of an artistic work. Persons invited by the association to attend the meeting may not be refused admission to the venue of the meeting.

The provisions laid down in the first paragraph shall not apply if there is reason to assume that a serious disturbance of public order will occur or unlawful activity take place at the meeting. Nor shall the first paragraph apply if use of the premises by an association is incompatible with the orderly conduct of the higher education institution's affairs or with its obligations to third parties. Ordinance (1998:1003).

Decision

Based on HEO Chapter 1, Section 13 (1993:100), Lund University has decided the following:

The University shall not lease premises to political organisations for gatherings, dissemination of information, expressions of opinion or other similar purposes. However, a students' association, which meets the requirements laid down in HEO Chapter 1, Section 13 has the right, even for political activities and including invited participants, to

- 1. book shared lecture halls for gatherings,
- 2. organise events on other premises after consultation with and approval from the organisation responsible that operates on the premises concerned.

Entry into force

The present regulations enter into force on 16 January 2020, replacing the previous regulations (BY 2010/158).

The decision in this matter was taken by the undersigned vice-chancellor in the presence of university director Susanne Kristensson following a briefing by property finance officer Karin Wittenfelt.

Torbjörn von Schantz

Karin Wittenfelt (LU Estates)

Copies sent to: All administrative divisions All faculties USV LUS

Memorandum on the Lund University regulations concerning temporary leasing of premises to democratically constituted students' associations

Background

The decision "Lund University regulations concerning temporary leasing of premises for the purpose of political activities" from 2010 describe when the University's premises may be used by students' associations and were based on the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance.

Since then, the Ordinance has been revised and thus the University must review its decision.

The previous decision stated:

In accordance with Chapter 3, Section 9 of the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100), Lund University has decided the following.

This reference is no longer valid and has therefore been removed.

The new decision also includes a clarifying text from the Higher Education Ordinance regarding exceptions to when premises may not be leased.

In other respects, the previous decision applies.