



# Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022

2022 asc 1

## PART 1

### STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

#### *Academic freedom and institutional autonomy*

#### **17 Academic freedom of higher education providers and staff**

- (1) In exercising their functions under this Act, the Welsh Ministers and the Commission must have regard to the importance of protecting the academic freedom of—
- (a) tertiary education providers in Wales that provide higher education (so far as the freedom relates to higher education or research and innovation), and
  - (b) academic staff at those providers.
- (2) In this section, “academic freedom” means—
- (a) in relation to tertiary education providers, their freedom to determine—
    - (i) the contents of particular higher education courses and the manner in which they are taught, supervised or assessed,
    - (ii) the criteria for admission of students to higher education courses and to apply those criteria in particular cases, and
    - (iii) the criteria for the selection and appointment of academic staff and to apply those criteria in particular cases;
  - (b) in relation to academic staff, their freedom within the law—
    - (i) to question and test received wisdom, and
    - (ii) to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges they may have at the tertiary education providers.

---

**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022, Section 17. (See end of Document for details)*

---

.....

**Commencement Information**

- I1** S. 17 not in force at Royal Assent, see **s. 148(2)**
- I2** S. 17 in force at 4.9.2023 by S.I. 2023/919, **art. 2(c)**

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022, Section 17.