



**SWPS
University**



ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2023





TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 03** Introduction
- 04** SDG 1 - No poverty
- 06** SDG 2 - Zero hunger
- 09** SDG 3 - Good health and well-being
- 13** SDG 4 - Quality education
- 16** SDG 5 - Gender equality
- 19** SDG 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- 21** SDG 7 - Affordable and clean energy
- 22** SDG 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- 25** SDG 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- 28** SDG 10 - Reduced inequalities
- 32** SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- 35** SDG 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- 37** SDG 13 - Climate action
- 39** SDG 14 - Life below water
- 40** SDG 15 - Life on land
- 42** SDG 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- 45** SDG 17 - Partnership for the goals

INTRODUCTION

SWPS University is deeply committed to advancing the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs) set forth by the United Nations. As a leading Polish university, SWPS University recognizes its role in driving positive societal impact, fostering environmental stewardship, and advancing equitable access to education. This report serves as a comprehensive overview of the university's progress and initiatives aligned with the United Nations SDGs, highlighting specific actions taken to support environmental sustainability, social equity, and inclusive growth through various educational, research, and community engagement initiatives.

Throughout 2023, SWPS University continued to promote SDG-oriented practices through a range of academic programs, research initiatives, and collaborations. The university has expanded SDG-related courses and projects within its curricula, preparing students to confront real-world sustainability challenges. SWPS has also undertaken tangible efforts to enhance its campus infrastructure, improving environmental management practices and expanding green spaces across various campuses. These actions underscore SWPS University's resolve to create a campus environment that not only supports academic growth but also embodies principles of sustainable development.

The university's participation in international alliances and networks further reflects its dedication to SDG 17, emphasizing partnership as a means of achieving shared sustainability goals. As a member of the Baltic University Programme and a signatory of the Social Responsibility of Universities Declaration, SWPS University collaborates with other institutions to foster sustainable innovation and knowledge exchange across borders.





End poverty in all its forms everywhere

SWPS University is committed to contributing to the achievement of this goal. The university's mission is to foster an inclusive and supportive academic environment, ensuring that all students, regardless of their financial background, have access to quality education and opportunities for personal and professional growth. Our engagement with SDG 1 is driven by a belief in the transformative power of education to create opportunities and promote economic well-being.

Financial support

USWPS provides a comprehensive range of **scholarships** aimed at reducing the financial burden on students. By offering the support, the University enhances access to quality education, ensuring that financial hardship does not impede academic and professional advancement. The support for students, both domestic and international, includes financial aid for those who temporarily find themselves in a difficult financial situation due to unforeseen circumstances and scholarships for low-income students.

As part of its "**Accessible University**" initiative, we offer tailored financial aid to students with disabilities. This programme aims to eliminate barriers for these students, enabling them to pursue higher education equitably. By providing necessary financial resources, the University supports inclusive education and fosters equal opportunities for all students.

USWPS offers numerous **scholarships** to students for academic, social, artistic or sports achievements awarded by the university, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, as well as local governments.

The University assists students in securing low-interest **student loans**. Also, it promotes employer partnerships that support education financing (**employer-funded education**). The employer may agree to pay partially or fully for a student's tuition fee, if they deem that the selected study programme improves their professional skills and competencies. Through these options, students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds gain access to flexible funding solutions.





End poverty in all its forms everywhere



Support for candidates

USWPS offers a variety of scholarships that cover full or partial tuition fees for candidates who excel in academic achievements, community engagement, changemaking, and creativity. Among the **programmes and competitions** there are those: for aspiring computer scientists (“**Code the Future**”), aspiring communication and product designers (“**Design for Change**”), for best secondary school graduates (“**Mistrzowski Start**”), for future graphic designers (“**Głowa się rusza**”), Scholarship for International Students.

Free services

Extending its social support to the wider community, SWPS University offers **free legal counseling** in the Student Legal Clinic and **psychological therapy services** in the Environmental Mental Health Center for Children and Adolescents in Poznań. The free support includes individual cognitive-behavioral therapy and systemic therapy, as well as educational therapy and family therapy, which are accessible to students and the public alike.

Research and publications

In 2023, SWPS University contributed to the understanding of social stability and economic challenges through various **publications**. One notable publication is: “Nie jest to życie, które oni rozumieją, w ich mniemaniu moje życie jest bardzo niestabilne” (DOI: 10.18778/1733-8069.19.4.02) by D. Winogrodzka. This study explores the perceptions of young adults regarding their own job stability compared to that of their parents, providing valuable insights into generational differences in economic security and stability.





End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



SWPS University is dedicated to advancing sustainable solutions for food security and healthy nutrition, aligning with the objectives of SDG 2. Through research, educational programs, and community collaborations, USWPS contributes to understanding and addressing issues surrounding food access, quality, and sustainability. Our initiatives aim to enhance awareness, influence public policy, and foster innovation in food systems for the benefit of society.

Education on food

SWPS University's **Food Studies** programme provides students with a comprehensive understanding of food systems, culture, and policy. This postgraduate programme explores the complexities of food production, consumption, and sustainability, equipping students with skills to address challenges in nutrition, food security, and public health. Graduates are prepared to contribute knowledgeably to initiatives that support healthy, sustainable food systems.

Research on culinary trends

Through **research on culinary trends**, SWPS University examines the impact of dietary choices on health and the environment. The research was shared and discussed on the occasion of **World Food Day** (October 16). By exploring how food trends influence what we eat, the research provides insights that can guide public understanding of sustainable diets and the health implications of food choices. One of the main trends is "zero waste". A report of the PROM (Programme for Rationalization and Reduction of Food Waste) project, prepared by the Federation of Polish Food Banks, indicates that about 5 million tons of food are wasted annually in Poland. Therefore, the zero waste trend (not wasting food) is one of the most useful fashions in nutrition. These studies contribute to developing strategies for promoting better nutrition and more sustainable food practices in society.





End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



Projects with local governments

SWPS University actively engages in partnerships with local government initiatives, including **Warsaw's Food Lab** and **Food Trails projects**. The University collaborates on these programmes to explore innovative approaches to urban food policies and support the development of sustainable food systems in urban settings.

The **Warsaw Food Lab** promotes local food production, reduces food waste, and supports environmentally friendly practices. The Lab is an extension of the city's existing efforts towards a sustainable food policy. With the support of science and thanks to the involvement of representatives of various social groups, including entrepreneurs, the best solutions are being sought. Reducing food waste is a priority in Warsaw's food policy project, and at the same time one of the world's biggest challenges. The **Food Trails project** focuses on public policies that encourage access to fresh, nutritious foods for all residents.

SWPS University supports the **design of effective public policies** related to food security and nutrition. By advising on and helping to shape public policies, the University aids in creating sustainable frameworks for food access, aligning with SDG 2 goals to reduce hunger and improve the quality and availability of food in communities.





End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



Students' initiatives in Wrocław

At the Wrocław campus, SWPS University students are actively involved in projects that promote sustainable dietary habits and combat food waste. In collaboration with the city of Wrocław, students designed a campaign promoting the planetary diet, which encourages environmentally friendly and health-conscious food choices. Additionally, in partnership with Foodsi, students worked on initiatives to reduce food waste.

These projects were showcased at the inaugural Wrocław Food Forum, highlighting SWPS University's commitment to fostering sustainable food practices and educating the community on responsible food consumption.



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



SWPS University, recognized for its pioneering role in psychology and social sciences, is dedicated to promoting Goal 3. Our commitment to mental health and holistic well-being aligns with our mission to foster a thriving, supportive society.

Mental health support

To support the **mental health** of our students, SWPS University collaborates with the USWPS **Support and Activity Center** to provide **consultations** and **psychotherapy** for students enrolled at our university. Additionally, we maintain continuous cooperation with the Student Parliament of the Republic of Poland to promote mental health prevention and treatment initiatives. This collaboration aims to raise awareness and provide resources for students facing mental health challenges

SWPS University offers **free mental health support** for students facing emotional challenges. These psychological consultations help students identify underlying issues or more complex concerns that may need further therapy or psychiatric care.

For students in need of additional support, most consultations are available through the **Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Clinic** or with psychologists affiliated with the university's campuses. This clinic, run by USWPS, is the first specialist clinic in Poland at a university educating psychologists and psychotherapists. Students receive a discount as part of the university community.





Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



The Community Mental Health Center for Children and Adolescents, located at the SWPS University campus in Poznań, was established to support the mental health needs of the city's youngest residents. The center provides free, individualized care, including cognitive-behavioral therapy, systemic therapy, educational therapy, and family therapy. Additionally, the center offers psychiatric consultations and psychoeducational guidance, ensuring comprehensive psychological and psychiatric support for children and adolescents in need.

SWPS University is committed to fostering health and well-being through an **inclusive and supportive educational environment**. The university provides tailored assistance to students with disabilities, offering adaptations in the learning process such as customized teaching methods, additional exam time, and individualized study support. These measures help ensure equal access to education and promote mental well-being by reducing stress and providing a supportive academic experience for all students.

Psychology programmes
At SWPS University, each campus offers a comprehensive **psychology program with a diverse range of specializations**. These include Clinical Psychology, Social Psychology of Organizations, Neurocognitive Science, Business Psychology, Educational Psychology, Cross-Cultural Psychology, Forensic and Criminal Psychology, Psychology and Informatics, and Psychology in Organization and Technology. In addition we also offer an Erasmus Mundus joint degree programme called GLOBAL MINDS (Psychology of Global Mobility, Inclusion, and Diversity in Society). By equipping future professionals with the skills to improve mental health and quality of life, we work to create positive change in communities, supporting individuals on their journey toward greater balance and resilience.

Psychology programmes

At SWPS University, each campus offers a comprehensive **psychology program with a diverse range of specializations**. These include Clinical Psychology, Social Psychology of Organizations, Neurocognitive Science, Business Psychology, Educational Psychology, Cross-Cultural Psychology, Forensic and Criminal Psychology, Psychology and Informatics, and Psychology in Organization and Technology. In addition we also offer an Erasmus Mundus joint degree programme called GLOBAL MINDS (Psychology of Global Mobility, Inclusion, and Diversity in Society). By equipping future professionals with the skills to improve mental health and quality of life, we work to create positive change in communities, supporting individuals on their journey toward greater balance and resilience.





Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

"Depression? No, Thanks" programme

A notable initiative is the Health Policy Programme titled "**Depression? No, Thanks**", focused on the prevention of depressive disorders among children and adolescents, funded by the Mazowieckie Voivodeship. This programme aims to raise awareness about the risks of depression, particularly in younger populations, and to promote early intervention strategies. Through various activities, including workshops and educational campaigns, "Depression? No, Thanks" equips children, parents, and educators with the tools to identify early signs of depression and understand the importance of mental health care.

Cooperation with WOŚP on mental health

In August 2023, during the **Pol'and'Rock Festival** organized by the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity (WOŚP), SWPS University made significant contributions to mental health awareness through a series of preventive workshops. In total, we conducted **33 hours of workshops** focused on mental health. Among these, 3 workshops were featured on the main stage of the (WOŚP), while additional sessions were held at our booth with the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Our efforts allowed us to share valuable knowledge and experience with at least 1,000 attendees, emphasizing our commitment to promoting well-being and mental health within the community.

Support for Ukraine

SWPS University has actively supported the **Ukrainian community** since the conflict began, forming a dedicated team on February 25, 2022, to coordinate assistance, especially for affected students. Key actions under the "**Focus on Ukraine**" project include:

- Psychological Support (free psychological consultations at the SWPS Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Clinic, totaling 151 sessions and 3 psychiatric consultations in 2022-2023);
- Legal Assistance (43 consultations for the Ukrainian community);
- Volunteer Training (300 psychology students were trained to deliver psychological first aid, led by Professor Agnieszka Popiel and Dr. Ewa Pragłowska);
- Workshops (stress management workshops were held for volunteers supporting refugees);
- A visual glossary developed by students, available in 7 languages to assist with communication;
- Language Courses: 46 participants took language courses in English and Polish.





Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



Research and publications

Support for health and well-being is also facilitated through the activities of various research centres, including the **Health & Coping Research Group**, the **Clinical Research and Psychotherapy Improvement Center**, and the **Stress Research Center**. These centers contribute to scientific and educational projects such as "**PROSPECT: Social Support and Health**" and "**Choosing Health – an Internet Intervention Programme for Weight Loss**". Additionally, **student scientific societies**, such as the Sports Psychology Society, play an essential role in promoting mental health and well-being through their initiatives and research activities.

Here are some of SWPS University's key **publications** from 2023 that contribute to SDG 3 by advancing knowledge and interventions in mental health, well-being, and physical health:

"A global experience-sampling method study of well-being during times of crisis: The CoCo project" (DOI: 10.1111/spc3.12813) by M. Fijakowska, E. Skimina about global well-being through experience sampling during times of crisis; "A role that takes its toll? The moderating role of leadership in role stress and exposure to workplace bullying" (DOI: 10.1108/IJCMA-03-2023-0047) by M. Gamian-Wilk, P. Stapiński about leadership impact on the stress-bullying relationship in workplaces, identifying factors that could mitigate workplace mental health challenges; "An experimental manipulation of cognitive appraisals in parental burnout" (DOI: 10.1038/s41598-023-38587-8) by D. Szczygieł.

Promotion of good health and well-being

SWPS University supports health and well-being by organizing various events, including conferences such as the **Sport Psychology Days** held at the Wrocław campus or **Flipping the Coin of Well-Being** in Warsaw. Additionally, we are committed to promoting scientific knowledge in psychology and well-being. One of the initiatives in this area is "**Strefa Psyche**" (Psychology Hub), an online platform that raises awareness and provides resources related to mental health. It features webinars, podcasts, and recordings of lectures by renowned psychologists and practitioners. The content is shared on social media including YouTube channel. All multimedia materials are also accessible as free podcasts on popular streaming services like Spotify, Apple Podcasts, SoundCloud, Lecton, and Empik Go.



Strefa Psyche
Uniwersytetu SWPS



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



To advance SDG 4 ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education SWPS University has created accessible and engaging educational initiatives.

Popularisation of knowledge

Through popularisation platforms such as **Science Share** and available for all **course platform**, SWPS provides **public access** to a diverse range of lectures, webinars, open access full-text scientific publications as well as the results of research work, scientific projects and artistic activities carried out at our University. These platforms make **university-level knowledge available to the broader community**, fostering lifelong learning and curiosity in various scientific fields. By involving university experts in these initiatives, USWPS simplifies complex topics and encourages public engagement with science.

In addition, SWPS University offers specialised content across fields like psychology, design, management, design and law through **Strefa Psyche** (Psychology Hub), **Strefa Zarządzania** (Management Hub), **Strefa Designu** (Design Hub), **Strefa Kultur** (Culture Hub) and **Strefa Prawa** (Law Hub). These initiatives host high-quality resources, including podcasts, video lectures, and articles, where leading scientists, psychologists, and professionals share their insights. We are the first university in the world to start **popularizing science** in the form of **podcasts** on the international service Spotify. Currently, we are among the most popular creators in the country publishing on this platform. We also provide **free educational events** such as lectures, seminars, conferences accessible to everyone, both online and in person.



Strefa Psyche
Uniwersytetu SWPS



Strefa Prawa
Uniwersytetu SWPS



Strefa Kultur
Uniwersytetu SWPS



Strefa Designu
Uniwersytetu SWPS



Strefa Zarządzania
Uniwersytetu SWPS



Strefa Technologii
Uniwersytetu SWPS



Science Share
SWPS University



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Courses for pupils

SWPS University also reaches out to young students preparing for higher education. The **pre-matura course** offers webinars on essential study skills, stress management, and motivation, tailored to support students as they approach high-stakes exams. Additionally, the “**Zawodowcy**” series connects high school students with professionals from various fields, providing insights that can help them make informed career and academic choices.



Global cooperation within ERUA

SWPS University is actively participating in the European University initiative as a member of the **European Reform University Alliance (ERUA)**. In partnership with the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, through the [project](#) titled “Enhancing the Impact of Polish Universities’ Research Activities on Global Scientific Development by Strengthening Research Collaboration with Internationally Renowned Research Centers within ERUA”, USWPS aims to increase its global scientific impact and strengthen its international research collaborations. Under this initiative, SWPS will focus on adapting its organizational structure, processes, and information technologies to support active participation in the consortium. Specifically, this includes enabling students and staff from partner universities within ERUA to enroll in courses and programmes offered by SWPS, as well as providing certificates to validate learning outcomes achieved through these offerings.





Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



Conferences and events

In line with its commitment to educational innovation and quality, SWPS University organized the conference "**Education in Action: Challenges and Solutions**". This event brought together educators, academics, and practitioners to discuss the pressing challenges facing modern education and to explore practical, research-based solutions. Key topics included adapting to digital transformation, enhancing student engagement, and supporting the mental health of learners and educators. The conference provided a platform for exchanging best practices and promoting collaborative approaches, reinforcing SWPS University's role as a leader in educational reform and a promoter of evidence-based teaching strategies.

Research and publications

Here are descriptions of key SWPS University **publications** from 2023 that contribute to understanding and enhancing educational practices. "A Diachronic Approach to Perceptions of Success and Failure in Language Education" by H. Komorowska-Janowska (DOI: 10.4467/20834624SL.23.009.18270) explores how perceptions of success and failure in language education have evolved over time. It provides valuable insights into the factors that influence language learners' achievements and the implications for teaching practices. The book "Akademickie Nauczanie Zdalne. Czego Nauczyła Nas Pandemia?" edited by T. Grzyb and A. Ziółkowska: examines the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on higher education, particularly the shift to remote learning. It discusses the challenges, benefits, and innovations that emerged during this period, offering practical recommendations for educators and institutions.





Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

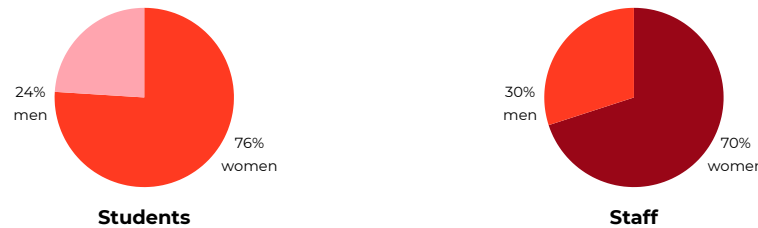


SWPS University remains firmly committed to advancing gender equality and combating discrimination across all aspects of its academic and community life. Guided by values of **openness, courage, and responsibility**, we are dedicated to creating an inclusive environment that ensures equal opportunities for all.

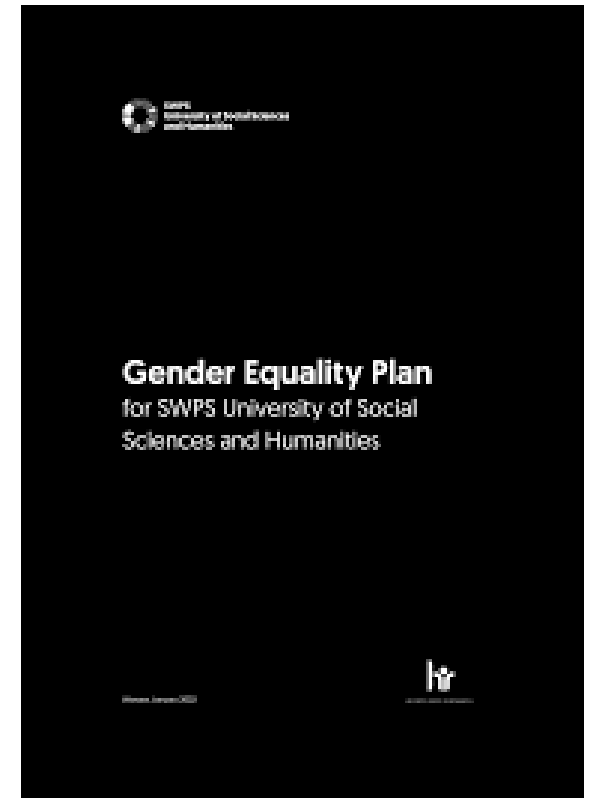
Gender Equality Plan

Our **Gender Equality Plan** (GEP), established in 2022, sets a foundation for proactive policies and practices aimed at reducing gender disparities, promoting diversity, and establishing accountability in fostering equality. The GEP, developed in alignment with European guidelines, addresses issues such as eliminating gender-based discrimination, supporting women in leadership, and fostering gender balance in recruitment, career development, and decision-making processes. The plan outlines a series of targets to increase female representation in senior academic positions and administrative roles, with a focus on monitoring progress through regular audits and reports.

At SWPS University, gender distribution and balance in leadership and decision-making reveal a commitment to inclusion. **Women represent 70% of all employees at SWPS University**, with a particularly strong presence in administrative roles. **In the academic division, women make up 59% of staff**, demonstrating a solid foundation of female representation.



In research and teaching positions, gender distribution is more balanced overall, yet there are distinct trends at certain academic ranks. In purely teaching roles, women again constitute the majority, with a narrower gap in gender distribution across senior academic ranks compared to research or combined research-teaching positions.





Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Students' research group - MyGender

Since June 2017, SWPS University has hosted [MyGender](#), a research group dedicated to advancing gender equality and conducting both academic and social projects. This group, composed of students and graduates from psychology and cultural studies, doctoral candidates, and community members interested in gender issues, organises anti-discrimination workshops and has developed a comprehensive guide for educators to support transgender and non-binary students.



Raising the awareness

USWPS organizes numerous events to promote gender awareness and empowerment, including the ["Empowerment Workshop: The Impact of Gender Stereotypes"](#), where participants explore the influence of gender norms and work toward dismantling harmful biases. The workshop was a part of a conference titled ["Queer & Here: Where Are We and Where Aren't We?"](#) that provided a platform for discourse on gender identity, sexual orientation, and the LGBTQ+ experience. It served as an inclusive forum to advance dialogue and policy discussions, ensuring that diverse gender identities are recognized and supported within academic and societal contexts.

Additionally, in alignment with SDG 5, USWPS hosted the ["Creative Jam 2023"](#). The event was focused on gender equality through the lens of art, inviting participants to explore and express themes related to gender equity in innovative ways. This event brought together students, artists, and experts to collaborate on creative projects that challenge stereotypes and promote inclusivity.

By merging artistic expression with social advocacy, Creative Jam aimed to raise awareness about gender issues and inspire meaningful dialogue within the community. event, a space where art and activism converged to address gender equality and highlight the impact of the arts in shaping social attitudes.





Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Social engagement and campaigns

In 2023, SWPS joined the "**Supporting Women's Success**" initiative, aimed at mobilizing women to actively participate in democratic processes such as the Polish parliamentary election on 15 October 2023 and advocate for gender equality. This campaign underscores SWPS University's role in fostering civic responsibility and empowering women to make their voices heard in the political sphere.



Anti-discrimination activities

SWPS University has a policy that protects individuals reporting discrimination from educational or employment disadvantages. The **anti-discrimination expert** operates under principles of confidentiality, impartiality, and informality, ensuring that individuals can report issues without fear of negative consequences for their academic or professional standing. USWPS offers an **e-learning anti-discrimination course** aimed at students, focusing on accessibility and diversity awareness. By participating in this course, integrated into the onboarding process students not only expand their knowledge but also contribute to making the university a more welcoming place for everyone, benefiting both their academic experience and their everyday lives. The course is part of the "My SWPS University - Accessible University" project.

Publications

In 2023, SWPS University addressed gender equality through several key publications: "Boys don't read poems! Stereotype Threat in the Language Education in Boys" by S. Bedyńska and I. Krejtz, which explores the negative impact of stereotypes on boys' language learning; "Attribution of Blame in an Intimate Partner Violence Situation: The Effect of Victim Sexuality and Observer Sex" (DOI: 10.1177/08862605231157444) by D. Boduszek and A. Dębowska, examining biases in blame attribution in IPV cases; and "Depression, Anxiety, and Post-Traumatic Stress during the 2022 Russo-Ukrainian War" (DOI: 10.1038/s41598-023-28729-3) by A. Chudzicka-Czupała comparing the mental health impacts of the war on populations in Poland, Ukraine, and Taiwan, highlighting the need for gender-sensitive support.



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Infrastructure and access to water

SWPS University is dedicated to supporting SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation by ensuring **unlimited access to running water across all campuses**. The buildings on the SWPS University campuses have been adapted to all sanitary requirements, which has been improved especially during the COVID-19 epidemic. Each campus is fully integrated into the city's water supply and sewage networks, providing safe, potable water to the university community. Through infrastructure enhancements and awareness campaigns, SWPS University strives to create a campus environment that values responsible water consumption and reduces waste.

New water dispensers and a sustainable approach

In 2023, SWPS University installed **water dispensers on all campuses, providing both cold and hot water to students and staff**. Connected to municipal water and sewage networks, these dispensers offer safe, potable, filtered water, encouraging the use of refillable bottles and reducing reliance on single-use plastics. This setup not only ensures convenient access to clean drinking water but also promotes sustainability by supporting reusable bottles and reducing plastic waste.

We're also focusing on cutting water consumption by installing **high-efficiency sanitary equipment**. Our goal is to track and optimize water use within university buildings, raise awareness about mindful water usage among the university community, and run educational campaigns. We also aim to dive into research on efficient water management, conservation, and water-related technologies.





Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

In collaboration with the Student Government, Wrocław Campus of the SWPS University launched informational campaigns promoting the use of tap water. These initiatives emphasize the quality of municipal tap water and encourage students and staff to choose sustainable drinking options, such as filtered reusable bottles. This campaign reflects the University's commitment to educating the campus community about the environmental and financial benefits of tap water over bottled alternatives.

At the Katowice campus, SWPS University provides drinking water in large, reusable containers and avoids using disposable plastic cups, further minimizing waste. The Student Government also organizes informational activities to raise awareness about responsible water consumption, encouraging students and staff to contribute to a sustainable campus environment.





Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



Sustainable energy and energy efficiency

SWPS University is committed to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through targeted actions focused on energy efficiency, renewable energy adoption, and educational engagement. Across all campuses, USWPS has implemented numerous upgrades and systems to reduce energy consumption and promote clean energy practices, setting an example of sustainability in higher education.

Modernisation of lighting and infrastructure

To reduce energy use, SWPS University has modernised **lighting systems by installing LED lights** in office spaces and common areas. **Motion and light sensors** have been strategically placed in areas with high traffic, such as restrooms, to ensure lighting is used only when necessary. This transition to LED and sensor-based lighting not only lowers energy consumption but also enhances the campus environment by promoting efficient and responsible energy use.

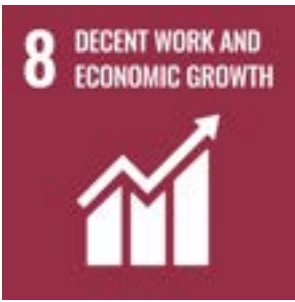
SWPS University's campuses buildings have undergone significant modernization to improve **thermal efficiency** and **reduce energy dependency**. Efforts include adding insulation, upgrading windows, and implementing intelligent temperature control systems, which allow for individualised temperature management in each room. These advancements ensure optimised heating and cooling, which minimises energy waste and creates a comfortable environment that aligns with sustainable principles.

Renewable technologies and education

To further contribute to clean energy goals, SWPS University campuses have integrated renewable energy technologies, such as **photovoltaic panels** installed on building roofs, e.g. in Katowice Campus. These solar installations provide a sustainable source of electricity, reducing reliance on traditional energy sources and lowering the institution's carbon footprint. By harnessing renewable energy, SWPS University demonstrates its commitment to long-term sustainability and clean energy practices.

In addition to infrastructure improvements, SWPS University actively promotes knowledge-sharing on clean energy through educational events, such as the **"Directions for Renewable Energy Development in Poland"** seminar. These events bring together students, faculty, and industry experts to discuss innovations and best practices in renewable energy, fostering an informed community and encouraging broader adoption of clean energy solutions.





Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



SWPS University's commitment to SDG 8 is reflected in its dedication to fostering an inclusive, supportive work environment that champions professional growth and economic resilience. The university aligns with the highest standards for fair recruitment, ethical integrity, and development opportunities for researchers. With a robust range of initiatives across employee training, benefits, and career support, SWPS University ensures sustainable work conditions and equips students and alumni for successful career transitions, promoting lasting economic impact and employability.

HR Excellence in Research

In 2016, SWPS University received the prestigious **HR Excellence in Research award**, a recognition granted by the European Commission. This distinction acknowledges SWPS University's alignment with the principles outlined in the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, which set the standard for fair recruitment, supportive working conditions, and development opportunities for researchers across Europe.

The HR Excellence in Research award certifies SWPS University's commitment to **fostering an inclusive and transparent working environment** that supports ethical standards, professional integrity, and continuous employee development. In line with this award, the university actively pursues initiatives in four key areas: ethics and professional responsibility, fair recruitment practices, work conditions and social benefits, and career growth.



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



USWPS staff development

SWPS University fosters professional development for its employees through an extensive range of **training** and **support programmes**. Staff have access to **workshops on managerial, language, and computer skills**, as well as **project management** and **team collaboration**. Academic employees, in particular, benefit from annual **Didactic Skills Development Weeks** and **Masterclass sessions** with international experts, along with personalised consultations with didactic advisors.

To support academic leadership, the university provides **developmental coaching** to academic managers, enhancing their leadership and management abilities. Additionally, early-career researchers and PhD students are included in a **mentoring programme**, while teaching-focused employees have opportunities to advance to the rank of university professor.

Working conditions and social benefits

SWPS University is committed to fostering **favourable working conditions** and **social benefits** for its employees. It has implemented a new compensation system with clear salary, bonus, and publication incentive regulations. Bridge contracts support researchers between grants, ensuring continuity in their academic careers. A University Staff Council advocates for staff interests, participating in consultations and proposing improvements to working conditions and development opportunities. The university provides extensive support for researchers through the Research Department, internal grants, and assistance in career advancement. Regular employee satisfaction surveys guide the implementation of staff-driven improvements.

USWPS supports its community and is able to respond quickly to a changing situation. During the period of the pandemic, the university established an Epidemiological Response Team and initiated the **'WspieraMY i Nauczamy'** programme. As part of the programme, the university offered employment to students who had lost their livelihoods as a result of the pandemic. Teaching staff were supported with the introduction of distance learning.





Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



SWPS University provides a **comprehensive range of benefits for its employees**, encompassing both financial and non-financial perks. These include access to the Erasmus+ programme for staff. Employees receive financial support for corrective eyewear and can access a MultiSport card for fitness. Through the university's Benefit Cafeteria, they can select from various one-time benefits. The private medical care ensures ongoing health support. Additionally, USWPS offers discounts on educational programs for employees and their families, along with reduced rates on language courses through the SWPS Language School. For mental health support, employees can access psychological assistance through the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Clinic.



Erasmus+

**MultiSport****MEDICOVER**
B E N E F I T S

Office for Career Services

The Office for Career Services plays a key role in **supporting students and alumni in their professional development**. The office offers a comprehensive set of services designed to help individuals transition from education to successful careers. These include **career counselling sessions**, where students and graduates can work with advisors to clarify career paths and develop actionable steps toward their goals. The office also hosts **workshops** and **training sessions** focused on enhancing practical skills. Through regular **job fairs** and employer events, students gain direct access to potential employers and are exposed to a wide range of industries. Additionally, the Office connects students with **internship** and **job opportunities** that align with their fields of study, fostering real-world experience and growth in a professional setting. The Office at SWPS actively promotes employability, skill-building, and sustainable economic participation among its students and graduates.



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



Human Touch Group

SWPS University is a vital member of the **Human Touch Group**, a unique collaboration that places human needs and values at the forefront of its mission. Founded by entrepreneur and philanthropist Piotr Voelkel, the Human Touch Group brings together businesses, educational institutions, and non-profit organisations to foster innovation and sustainable development. The group encompasses two universities: SWPS University and Collegium da Vinci in Poznań.

HumanTech

SWPS University is actively involved in **HumanTech - Center for Social and Technological Innovation**. The Center's mission is to connect the world of science with the social, cultural and business environment. It is a meeting place for representatives of business, NGOs and local government with scientists and students to implement joint projects. The HumanTech Center is the only center in Poland that deals with both social and technological innovations, and the only one of its kind operating in a humanities university.

The Center **popularizes knowledge of human-technology relations**. The Center has prepared a Joint Report of the HumanTech Center and IDEAS NCBR. Public opinion poll and research report "What Poles think about robots" presenting the attitude of the Polish society to the topic of robotization and humanoid robots in Poland was prepared in autumn 2023.

Other activities of the center include **HumanTech Meetings** (HTM). This is a project to popularize the latest knowledge at the intersection of technical sciences and social sciences. During the meetings organized as part of the project, scientists and experts from all over the world share their knowledge and experience in various fields, which allows us to look at new technologies and phenomena related to them from many perspectives. The main theme of the June 2023 meetings was **The Future of Universities and Universities of the Future**. The role and mission of universities, which are also undergoing transformation, were considered.

HUMAN TOUCH GROUP



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



In December 2023, there was held **HumanTech Summit 2023** - the 2nd edition of the international scientific conference HumanTech Summit organised by the HumanTech Centre at SWPS University that presented the latest knowledge in the field of human-technology relations. The mission of the conference is to connect people from different worlds and make them realise that technology without humans and humans without technology cannot do alone as much as they can by working together.



SWPS Innowacje



SWPS Innowacje

SWPS Innowacje (SWPS Innovations) is a special purpose company of SWPS University that provides **consulting, research** and **training to business and the public sector**. The primary objective of SWPS Innowacje is to provide clients with comprehensive services aimed at broadly understood **business development and improving the quality of functioning of public institutions**. In an innovative way, we use the latest scientific knowledge and experience to develop the organisations of our partners. It is focused on education, development, and customised training. We offer the construction of diagnostic tools suitable for organisations including HR, marketing, schools and nurseries, medical facilities, among others. We carry out comprehensive qualitative, quantitative and ethnographic research. The team consists of the best experts in methodology, statistics, psychometrics.



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



Strefa Technologii

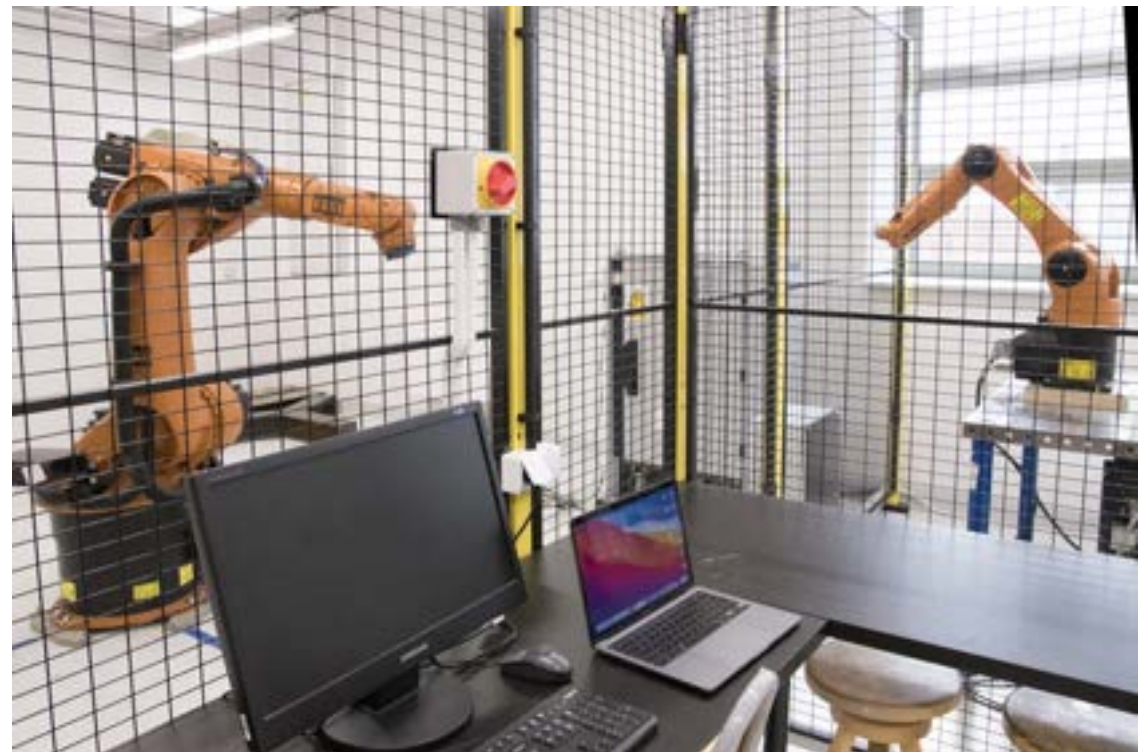
Strefa Technologii (Technology Hub) is a platform dedicated to exploring the intersection of technology, psychology, and social sciences. It provides students, researchers, and industry partners with **access to the latest technology and expertise, fostering innovation** through workshops, training sessions, and collaborative projects. The Technology Hub supports knowledge transfer and the development of practical solutions that address real-world challenges in areas like digital transformation, data analysis, and user experience.

Impact'23 Congress

SWPS University participated in the **Impact'23 Congress**, one of Poland's leading events for innovation, digital transformation, and sustainable development. As a content partner, USWPS contributed to the congress by **sharing expertise on how interdisciplinary research and social sciences can drive innovation and support sustainable infrastructure**. Experts from the university participated in debates throughout the congress, adding insights on sustainable growth and technological advancements. This collaboration fostered meaningful exchanges between academia and industry, promoting new approaches to sustainable development.

KUKA robots in SoF

SWPS University actively contributes to SDG 9 also by the use of **KUKA robots** to assist students in the **School of Form**. This project focuses on integrating advanced robotic technology into the design process, providing students with hands-on experience in automation and innovation. By collaborating with industry leaders and utilising cutting-edge technology, SWPS University fosters an environment of creativity and practical learning, preparing students to contribute to sustainable industrial development.





Reduce inequality within and among countries



SWPS University is dedicated to creating a **more inclusive and equitable learning environment**. By implementing various support programmes and adapting facilities, the university actively works towards reducing inequalities.

Accessible University

Through its "**Barrier-Free University**" initiative, SWPS offers comprehensive **support services and adaptations** that ensure accessibility and a supportive learning environment for students with disabilities and special needs. Programme is aimed at **eliminating architectonic and educational barriers** and creating a **more inclusive academic environment**. Initiatives within the programme include conducting training and workshops for university staff to better support individuals with disabilities, offering free psychological services to students to help them cope with emotional and mental challenges, and providing access to accessibility experts who advise on adapting spaces and educational processes.

Support in the learning process

SWPS University offers comprehensive support for students with disabilities to facilitate their active participation in the academic process. Key services include:

- Personal Assistants that help students with tasks they cannot perform independently, such as taking notes during classes, navigating the campus, and accessing library resources;
- Sign Language Interpreters for students who are deaf or hard of hearing can request interpreters to translate content during lectures and consultations, ensuring effective communication;
- Stenographers that provide real-time transcription of lectures and discussions;
- For visually impaired students, the university offers orientation sessions to familiarise them with the campus layout and routes;
- Free psychological consultations are available for students experiencing crises, helping them navigate challenging situations and directing them to further support;
- Exam Adaptations: modifications to assessment methods, such as extended time or alternative formats for exams, to ensure fair evaluation.



Reduce inequality within and among countries



SWPS
University

Adaptation of buildings

SWPS University is committed to creating an inclusive environment by continuously **adapting its buildings** on every single campus to ensure accessibility for all students. This initiative includes the installation of ramps and elevators, which facilitate free movement throughout the campuses for individuals with disabilities. Additionally, specially designed restrooms are provided to ensure comfort and accessibility for these individuals. The university also implements clear and readable signage systems in its buildings, incorporating features such as Braille labels and audio guidance systems to assist those with visual impairments.

Library Facilities

We strive to provide the best possible environment for people with disabilities to use our **libraries and reading rooms**. We are committed to ensuring that disability does not limit students' access to our library collections. Therefore, we have introduced many facilities and equipped our libraries with **specialised equipment and software** to assist people with disabilities to consult teaching materials, books and journals. In addition, people are able to borrow more items at a time and use them for longer periods of time, and they can also be borrowed by an authorised person. The libraries at USWPS are equipped with specialized devices to assist visually impaired and blind individuals in accessing their resources. Users interested in utilizing these specialized tools can request assistance from library staff. Among the facilities, there are: computer stations with a large keyboard; specialized software, including screen readers, speech synthesizers, and magnification programmes; equipment for converting printed materials into electronic formats; a stationary magnifier; a reader for playing text files in various formats etc.





Reduce inequality within and among countries

Gender Equality Plan

The **Gender Equality Plan** (GEP) at SWPS University is a strategic initiative established to foster an inclusive environment for all individuals, regardless of their gender identity. Published in January 2022, the plan aims to create equal opportunities for students, staff members, and leadership structures within the university. The GEP reflects the university's commitment to being a safe space for everyone and addresses various aspects of gender equality. Additionally, SWPS University contributed to the creation of a document titled "**Guide to Equality**," which educates the university community about equality and diversity while highlighting best practices. This collaborative effort further supports the university's goal of ensuring that all individuals feel valued and supported in their academic and professional pursuits.



Anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policy

USWPS is dedicated to ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all students and staff by actively combating discrimination and harassment. To uphold this commitment, the university has implemented a **comprehensive anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policy**. This policy establishes clear guidelines and procedures for addressing issues related to discrimination and mobbing. Individuals who experience discrimination or harassment are encouraged to report their experiences through a dedicated form available on the Virtual University website. SWPS University has appointed the **Rector's Representative for the Prevention of Discrimination and Mobbing**. This representative plays a vital role in overseeing the implementation of the policy and addressing related concerns.



Reduce inequality within and among countries



Publications and research

There are several publications from 2023 that suits the essence of SDG 10:

“Association between mental health, psychological characteristics, and motivational functions of volunteerism among Polish and Ukrainian volunteers during the Russo-Ukrainian Wa” (DOI:10.1038/s41598-023-47840-z) by A. Chudzicka-Czupała examines the mental health, psychological traits, and motivations of Ukrainian and Polish volunteers during the Russo-Ukrainian War;

“Between settlement, double return and re-emigration: motivations for future mobility of Polish and Lithuanian return migrants” (DOI: 10.1186/s40878-023-00350-3) by O. Czeranowska, explores why Polish and Lithuanian return migrants choose to stay, move again, or re-emigrate, identifying factors like employment and family attachment as key influencers;

“Crossover of the dimensions of work-family and family-work conflict in couples: Protocol for a qualitative study” (DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0290216) by E. Smoktunowicz, M. Lesnierowska, J. Ziolkowska, M. Roczniowska outlines a qualitative study to understand how dual-earner couples experience and manage conflicts between work and family roles through in-depth interviews.





Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



SWPS
University

SWPS University is committed to fostering sustainable **urban development** through practical and research-based initiatives aligned with SDG 11. This dedication is evident through our teaching, research, and community engagement. Our experts believe research should deliver practical solutions that enhance people's quality of life, and we welcome partnerships with public institutions, NGOs, and local governments to achieve these goals.

Bicycle Infrastructure:

At our campuses, we added new **bicycle racks** to accommodate the growing number of students and staff cycling to campus. In Katowice, we installed **bike stations** near public transport stops, encouraging a more eco-friendly commute for students and employees.

Public Policy and Urban Design Projects

SWPS University's researchers and students are involved in numerous **projects** that address urban challenges and public policy design. In October 2023, we hosted discussions and workshops, at the panel titled "**For Whom Is the City Designed?**" which brought together urban planners, designers, and policymakers to explore inclusive and sustainable city planning. Additionally, in Wrocław, the **2023 Main Event team game** allowed students to engage in simulated urban planning challenges, highlighting the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in city design.

SWPS University actively supports **sustainable urban development in collaboration with local communities and government bodies**. SWPS University works to design and influence public policies that address contemporary urban challenges, aiming to create cities that are more inclusive, safe, and resilient. One example is the university's involvement in the **Designing Public Policies initiative**, where experts from SWPS contribute their insights on shaping urban policies to improve the quality of life for residents and make cities more sustainable. Experts from the USWPS also supported Sopot in the creation of the **Sopot City Development Strategy for 2022-2030**, especially within the framework of the city diagnosis. During the work on the strategy it was possible to identify the most important challenges that Sopot faced.





Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



Research and Community Engagement

In a practical application of this commitment, SWPS University also collaborated with the **Warsaw district of Wawer on a social diagnosis project**. This research aimed to assess the district's social environment, identifying key needs and challenges within the community. By providing local policymakers with valuable data and recommendations, USWPS aids in the strategic planning process, helping to guide decisions that foster community well-being and sustainable growth.

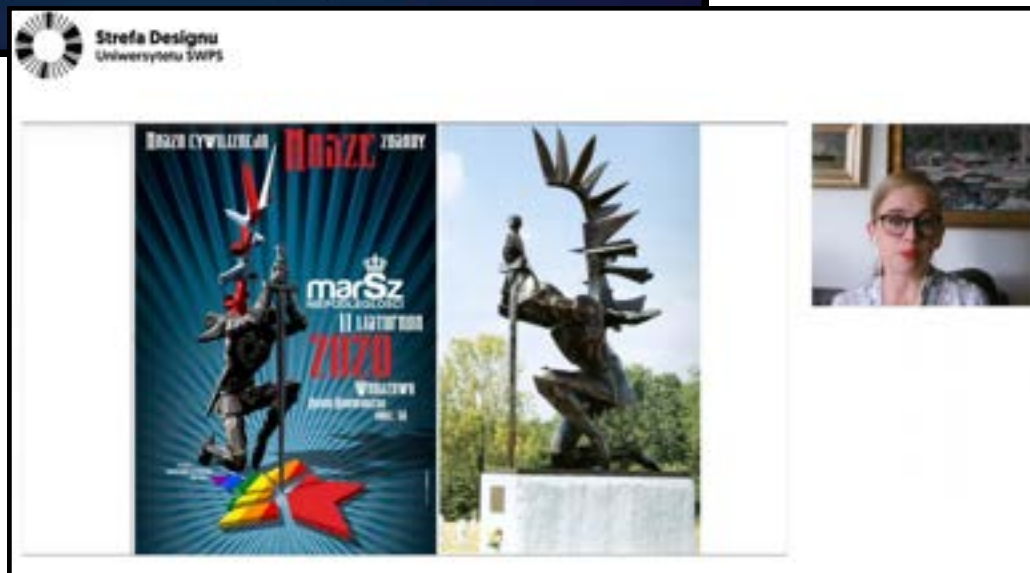
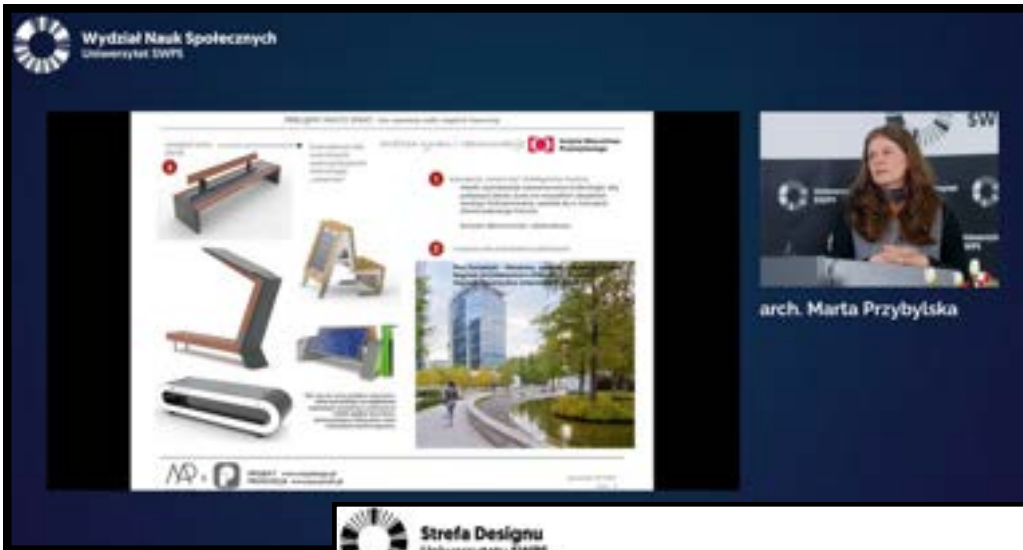
Additionally, SWPS University collaborates with the **Mazovian region on initiatives like Innowator Mazowska and Startuj z Mazowsza**, which promote innovation and support sustainable economic development by building networks between startups, local businesses, and public institutions. These efforts are part of a larger strategy funded by the European Social Fund to promote smart, inclusive growth in the region.

Among the publications related to SDG 11, there is as follow:
“An irrelevant look of novice tram driver: visual attention distribution of novice and expert tram drivers” (DOI: 10.1145/3588015.3589514) by A. Warchoł-Jakubowska, I. Krejtz, K. Krejtz - this study compares the visual attention of novice and expert tram drivers to improve training and urban transport safety;





Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



“Divided towns, integration and cross-border cooperation. The cases of Cieszyn/Český Těšín and Słubice/Frankfurt (Oder)” (DOI: 10.1080/14782804.2023.2174502) by J. Kajta investigates integration and cooperation in the divided towns of Cieszyn/Český Těšín and Słubice/Frankfurt (Oder), promoting sustainable urban development in border areas.

Design for Society and Sustainability
Strefa Designu (Design Hub) at SWPS University serves as a **creative platform dedicated to exploring design’s role** in everyday life, society, and innovation through events, lectures, and workshops, also on social media platforms such as YouTube. In 2023, we conducted several activities on this topic that are available to everyone to watch online, for example **“Furnituring ‘smart’ city”** as part of the conference Social Innovation. Academy - Technology - Society, **“Design activism - the relationship between art and social engagement”** and **“Design activism - examples of social involvement of designers in Poland”**.



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

In alignment with SDG 12, SWPS University actively promotes sustainable practices within its community to reduce waste and support circular economy principles. Through environmental awareness initiatives, practical recycling solutions, and educational programmes on sustainable design, the University fosters a culture of responsibility for resource use among students, staff, and the wider community.

Waste Segregation Infrastructure

Across all SWPS University campuses, **recycling bins** are strategically placed to encourage waste segregation, accompanied by clear signage to guide proper sorting practices. This infrastructure supports the University's commitment to minimizing environmental impact by facilitating responsible waste disposal. By equipping campus spaces with **dedicated bins for different waste types**, SWPS University not only reduces landfill waste but also reinforces a culture of environmental responsibility among campus members.



Events on Circular Craftsmanship

SWPS University also organises events such as [webinars on circular craftsmanship](#), where experts discuss the importance of renewing and repurposing items instead of disposing of them. These sessions educate students and the broader community on how circular practices contribute to responsible consumption by extending product life cycles and reducing the demand for new materials. This aligns with the University's goal to integrate sustainable principles into educational offerings and to empower participants with practical knowledge on reducing waste.



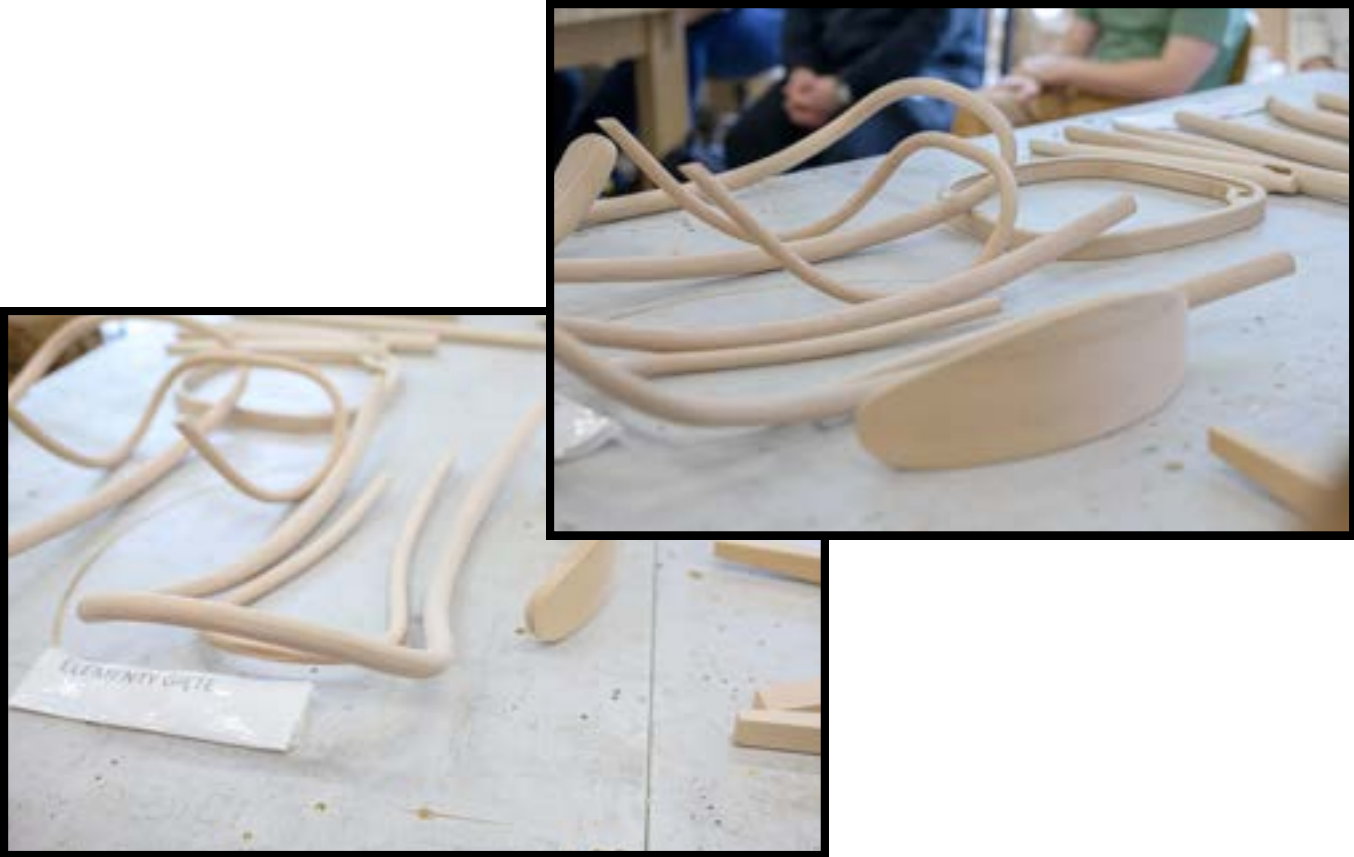
Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



Educational Initiatives in Sustainable Design

SWPS University's School of Form hosts various educational initiatives aimed at encouraging **sustainable design**. One notable project, supported by **Paged Meble**, focuses on using waste materials to create new, functional products. In this programme, students work with materials that might otherwise be discarded, exploring creative ways to repurpose and integrate them into design projects. Such activities provide hands-on experience in circular design, highlighting the importance of reducing waste and promoting sustainable production within the design industry.

Through waste segregation efforts, educational programmes in sustainable design, and events focused on circular craftsmanship, SWPS University contributes to a more responsible approach to consumption and production, supporting both environmental and societal well-being.





Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



As part of its commitment to SDG 13, SWPS University undertakes a range of interdisciplinary research, educational, and community engagement initiatives aimed at combating climate change and promoting environmental awareness. The university's efforts focus on mitigating climate impacts and building resilience through education, research, and policy engagement. By leveraging expertise in social sciences, psychology, and behavioral research, SWPS actively contributes to climate change mitigation strategies and adaptation initiatives on both local and national levels.

Center for Climate Action and Social Transformation (4CAST)

The Center for Climate Action and Social Transformation, established in 2022, is an interdisciplinary research and implementation center whose activities include interdisciplinary scientific research, development work and applied research in the social sciences and humanities in the area of innovative and effective solutions for society in response to the challenges posed by global climate change.

The Center's research emphasizes promoting **social engagement in climate action and encouraging community involvement in sustainability initiatives**. It explores effective methods of social influence to drive climate mitigation and foster pro-environmental behaviors. By prioritizing prosocial values, the Center aims to inspire collective responsibility in addressing climate challenges. Additionally, it examines societal adaptation to new environmental conditions, focusing on resilience and proactive changes to inform effective strategies for climate adaptation and mitigation. The center frequently hosts workshops and conferences that bring together scientists, policymakers, and community leaders to discuss strategies for promoting sustainable behavior.



Climate Adaptation: Enhancing Local Resilience

The SWPS University **initiative on climate adaptation** aligns with SDG 13 by addressing how individuals and communities can adjust to the impacts of climate change. This activity involves research on the social and psychological aspects of adapting to changing environmental conditions, with a focus on building resilience in communities. Dr Dominika Blachnicka-Ciacek, sociologist at the Centre for Climate Action and Social Transformation and lecturer in the Public Life course, talked about what action we can take for the climate. By analysing public attitudes and behaviours toward climate adaptation, the university seeks to create strategies that support psychological and practical preparedness for climate-related challenges.



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



Convincing the Unconvinced: Climate Change Mitigation Project

One of SWPS University's significant contributions to climate action is its **research on climate change mitigation strategies**, especially in addressing climate scepticism. Through targeted studies, SWPS examines effective communication strategies aimed at reaching individuals who are sceptical or indifferent to climate change. The issue of public support for the European Union's climate policy, alternative or traditional energy sources in the context of citizens' sense of national identity was analysed by researchers from SWPS University in collaboration with researchers from the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń and the University of Waikato in New Zealand. The results of their study were published on 8 June 2023 in the journal PLOS Climate. The lead author of the study is psychologist and Vice-Rector for Research at SWPS University, Professor Aleksandra Cisłak-Wójcik. This work not only informs public education efforts but also supports government and NGO campaigns aimed at increasing public support for climate initiatives.

PLOS CLIMATE



Among other research on SDG 13 was made by J. Michałowski in the article "Beyond climate anxiety: Development and validation of the inventory of climate emotions (ICE)" (DOI: 10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2023.102764). This publication introduces the Inventory of Climate Emotions (ICE), a tool designed to measure a wide range of emotions related to climate change, such as anger, guilt, and anxiety. The study validates the ICE through extensive research, highlighting its reliability and applicability in understanding emotional responses to climate change and promoting pro-environmental behavior.



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development



SDG 14 aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development. This goal addresses the need to reduce marine pollution, manage and protect marine ecosystems, and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification, among other targets.

While SWPS University specializes in fields such as psychology, law, design, and social sciences, and does not conduct direct research related to marine life or ecosystems, it nonetheless supports the broader objectives of SDG 14. The university promotes awareness and educational initiatives related to environmental sustainability and encourages interdisciplinary collaborations that contribute to the preservation of marine environments indirectly through policy, design, and community engagement.

Baltic University Programme

SWPS University is a member of the **Baltic University Programme (BUP)**, one of the largest university cooperation in the world, with more than 110 participating universities in the Baltic Sea Region. BUP provides valuable materials, information, and resources about sustainable development and the Baltic Sea. As a member of BUP, SWPS University has access to a wealth of educational resources that cover various aspects of the Baltic Sea, ensuring that our community stays informed and engaged with regional environmental issues. These resources are detailed on the BUP Course Platform and BUP Educational Material Bank. Among the courses, there are for example: Climate Change in the Baltic Sea Region; Energy Transition in the Baltic Sea Region; Introduction to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD); The Baltic Sea Environment; Challenges and Solutions, and Sustainable Tourism in the Baltic Sea Region.

Additionally, being part of BUP allows our students to participate in various events and activities. One such event is the **BUP Science and Sail 2023**, focused on the Baltic Sea Environment, which offers a unique combination of scientific education and sailing experiences, promoting hands-on learning and engagement with marine topics.





Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



SWPS University, while primarily focused on social sciences, psychology, or design, contributes to supporting SDG 15 through initiatives that foster environmental awareness, sustainable practices, and the integration of sustainability principles across its educational and community outreach programmes.

Green campuses

SWPS University is actively enhancing **green spaces on its campuses**, contributing to biodiversity, improving air quality, and creating a more inviting atmosphere for students and staff. The Wrocław campus now hosts a **honey meadow**, which attracts pollinators and supports local biodiversity. Additional **trees** and ivy have been planted to create more greenery around the campus. Inside the buildings, green plants are continually added, creating a fresher, more nature-friendly environment for everyone. Campus in Katowice stands **as a green oasis** in the middle of an urban landscape. Nestled in a peaceful and quiet area, it is surrounded by lush greenery, creating a refreshing contrast to the bustling city. During a recent renovation, additional trees were planted, including these around the parking lot to enhance the green coverage and provide shade.





Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



Designing for Plants and Animals

USWPS also emphasizes raising awareness about environmental conservation in its Strefa Designu (Design Hub). Through initiatives like "**Designing for Plants and Animals**", the university explores non-anthropocentric design, which focuses on the needs and rights of plants and animals rather than just human needs. It discusses the importance of shifting away from a human-centered perspective in design and considering the well-being of other living organisms. The article features insights from Dr. Monika Rosińska, a sociologist and design researcher, who emphasizes the need to recognize and address the requirements of non-human entities in design projects. It also highlights innovative projects, such as Harpreet Sareen's "Argus" project, which uses nanosensors to monitor plant health and water quality.



Congress of Animal Rights

The **III Congress of Animal Rights**, that was held on the campus of SWPS University in Warsaw focused on promoting and protecting animal rights and welfare. By gathering experts, activists, and policymakers, the event advocated for stronger legislation and practices to ensure humane treatment of animals. This aligns with SDG 15, which includes the sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems and the protection of biodiversity. Through this event, SWPS University demonstrates its commitment to environmental sustainability and responsible practices benefiting both animals and the ecosystem.



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



SWPS University actively contributes to SDG 16, which promotes peace, justice, and strong institutions, through various academic and social initiatives focused on justice, legal design, and societal well-being.

Governance and students' bodies

The **governance structure** of SWPS University is designed to represent a diverse range of perspectives, including voices from students, faculty, and other university stakeholders. At SWPS, different units, departments, and representatives ensure that their interests are acknowledged and integrated into the university's decision-making process. Students play a significant role, with dedicated bodies and representatives advocating for their needs and contributing to institutional policies that impact the student experience. Through this inclusive governance approach, USWPS fosters an environment where varied perspectives contribute to a balanced and democratic management structure. SWPS University hosts a variety of **student organizations** focused on academic, cultural, social, and athletic interests, providing students with opportunities for engagement, personal growth, and community building.



Conferences on law issues

SWPS University is actively involved in achieving SDG 16 through the organization of various conferences. **"Politics of Justice: Text, Image, and Practice"** was an international conference held from September 27-30, 2023, in Warsaw. This event focused on the philosophy of Walter Benjamin and the issue of justice in the context of contemporary crises. It brought together over 70 researchers from various countries to discuss theoretical and practical aspects of justice. USWPS co-organized an event **"Family, Society, and Law: From Roman Law to the Present Day"** that took place in Universitat de Barcelona and online on April 21, 2023, and featured scholars from several European universities.

The conference analyzed the evolution of family law from the times of the Roman Empire to the present day, providing a forum for discussing changes in family relationships and their impact on legal systems. We also co-organized the **EUARENAS Conference** on the Radical Side of Participation, held on September 21-22, 2023, in Wrocław. This conference explored radical approaches to public participation in local governance, academia, and social innovation, aiming to make participation more inclusive and proactive.



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



'Vote. Change Poland' social campaign

SWPS University actively supports social campaigns that promote civic engagement and social responsibility. One example of this commitment is the university's recent campaign encouraging **participation in the parliamentary elections** on 15.10.2023. Instead of running traditional promotional ads for its programmes, SWPS University chose to dedicate its advertising space to remind citizens of the importance of voting. With messages like 'Here was supposed to be a college advertisement. But it's time for a more important election', 'You will only take this exam on 15 October. There will be no second date' or "You will still have time to decide on your course of study - now is the time for more important elections", USWPS tried to convince the public to visit polling stations.



Exhibitions on the walls

In October 2023, on the walls of campuses in Warsaw, Poznań, Wrocław, and Sopot, there appeared **exhibitions of photographs from the Archive of Social Protests**. These exhibitions document events related to socio-political tensions in Poland since 2015. The archive collects visual traces of social activism, grassroots initiatives opposing political decisions, and violations of democratic principles and human rights. It is a collection of images that serve as a warning against rising populism and various forms of discrimination, including xenophobia, homophobia, misogyny, and the climate crisis. By creating this archive, its creators aim to extend the lifespan of images associated with specific events, whose relevance often diminishes after publication in the media.



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Legal Design initiatives

The **Legal Design Forum** is an annual conference organized by SWPS University in Wrocław. The 3rd edition was held on 15.09.2023 and it brought together lawyers, designers, entrepreneurs, and scholars to discuss the field of legal design. The forum focused on innovative solutions for legal communication, visualization of complex legal procedures, and the creation of more user-friendly and comprehensible legal tools. The goal was to enhance the accessibility and usability of the law in a rapidly evolving society. Another project about **legal (communication) design**, called "**Change Through Design**" is a student initiative at SWPS University, Wrocław campus, aimed at leveraging design methods to bring about social change. Students work on projects designed to improve quality of life through innovative solutions. This project combines theory with practice, allowing students to develop their design skills and understand how design can influence social change.



Research and publications

These are SWPS University's publications related to SDG 16:

"The Issue of the Scope of Application of Substantive Law Norms by an Arbitral Tribunal" (DOI: 10.32084/tkp.5386) by I. Wysocka discusses challenges in ensuring fair arbitration proceedings. The chapter of the monograph entitled "Aktualność propozycji zawartych w prezydenckim projekcie ustawy o współdziałaniu w samorządzie terytorialnym na rzecz rozwoju lokalnego i regionalnego z 2013 r." by H. Izdebski reviews the relevance of the 2013 presidential draft law on local governance cooperation. "Back to Basics: Human Rights Violations and Dehumanization" (DOI: 10.1016/j.cobeha.2023.101263) by M. Formanowicz highlights the importance of upholding human dignity and legal standards. "Czy konieczna jest instytucjonalizacja zawodu psychoterapeuty?" (DOI: 10.33226/0032-6186.2023.8.8) by A. Hyżorek discusses the benefits and challenges of formal regulation in the psychotherapy profession.





Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

SWPS University demonstrates a strong commitment to supporting **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and fostering sustainable development through partnerships, education, and initiatives at the local, regional, and international levels.

Declaration of University Social Responsibility

In 2022, SWPS University has signed the **Declaration of University Social Responsibility (SOU)**, expressing its voluntary commitment to promoting sustainable development and social responsibility in its education and management practices. This declaration was signed by Professor Katarzyna Januszkiewicz, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences in Warsaw.





Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development



Activities within the ERUA

As a member of the **European Reform University Alliance (ERUA)**, SWPS University is dedicated to fostering sustainable development and making a positive social impact within local communities. Through collaborative initiatives aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SWPS University supports the creation of engagement strategies aimed at advancing sustainable growth and strengthening social resilience across ERUA regions.

These initiatives include establishing **Creative and Interregional Knowledge Communities**, which facilitate knowledge-sharing and cooperation on sustainability issues, as well as contributing to the SDG Inventory. ERUA also hosts **interactive events to engage local communities** more deeply, enhancing environmental, social, and economic outcomes. To further these goals, the **Green and Inclusive Committee** focuses on implementing green policies, defining key sustainability performance indicators (KPIs), and enhancing energy efficiency and campus accessibility.



Baltic University Programme

The **Baltic University Programme (BUP)** is a large international network of universities located in the Baltic Sea Region that aims to **promote sustainable development** and democracy through education and research. The network works together to address environmental protection, sustainable development, and democratic values. BUP fosters collaboration among universities, authorities, municipalities, and other stakeholders to enhance regional educational and research communities. The programme supports interdisciplinary research, academic events, and the development of educational materials focused on sustainability. By creating a platform for knowledge exchange and cooperation, BUP plays a crucial role in advancing sustainable development goals in the Baltic Sea Region.



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Events

The conference "**Social Innovations – Challenges, Solutions, Practices**", organised by SWPS University, gathered representatives from academia, NGOs, public institutions, the private sector, and local communities. Participants shared knowledge and experiences in implementing social innovations to address pressing social and environmental issues, building lasting partnerships and fostering solutions that align with global sustainable development goals.

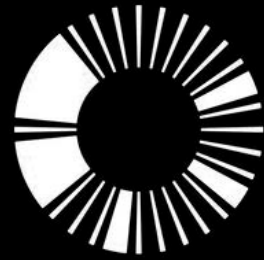
The event featured expert presentations and panel discussions on **practical aspects of social innovation**, highlighting best practices and cross-sector collaboration. This approach created valuable synergies among stakeholders, reinforcing the importance of multi-sectoral partnerships in achieving sustainable development and advancing SDG 17.



Commitment to Teaching SDGs and Sustainable Development

SWPS University integrates SDG-focused education within its curriculum across various disciplines. Dedicated **postgraduate programmes**, such as **ESG Change Manager** and **Sustainable Digital Design**, focus specifically on sustainable practices and the SDGs, equipping professionals with tools to drive sustainable change. Additionally, sustainability **topics are incorporated into undergraduate and graduate programmes**, such as Management and Leadership and Public Life, which feature courses on Climate Change, Sustainable Economy, and Quality of Life. This approach ensures that all students, regardless of their field of study, gain an understanding of sustainability challenges and solutions, preparing them to contribute meaningfully to sustainable development goals in their careers.





SWPS
University