SWPS University

USWPS SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2025



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SWPS University | 2025 Sustainability Report



INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as a roadmap for a better future for all. This report documents SWPS University's contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by compiling initiatives that integrate research, artistic, educational, and social activities with the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We believe that the examples compiled in this report demonstrate that sustainable development is woven into the very fabric of our community's organizational culture. SWPS University exists to serve people, society, and the environment through education, research, the arts, and public engagement and in that, its mission is aligned with the 2030 Agenda at its core.

During the reporting period, we are implementing **the SWPS University Strategy for 2024–2029.** This document reinforces our commitment to creating a sustainable space — one that is attentive to the needs of people and nature, open to collaboration, and ready to respond to the challenges of the present for the sake of the future. In 2025, we also jointly developed the **Sustainability Action Plan for SWPS University**, which translated the commitments from the strategy into 41 specific tasks across 6 areas of impact of our activities.

The Sustainability Report is a publication that brings together the diverse activities of our community into a cohesive whole. This report covers initiatives, publications, and projects undertaken in 2025*. It was prepared and co-edited by the Sustainability Office Team.

**Due to the specific nature of higher education institutions, the information presented here covers the calendar year 2025 or the 2024–2025 academic year.*



No Poverty

END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

SDG 1

We view access to high-quality education as one of the key factors in combating social exclusion and reducing economic inequality.

In 2025, we continued our financial support strategy aimed at equalizing opportunities for education. We operate an integrated scholarship model to reduce economic barriers at every stage of the educational cycle and to build an inclusive academic environment.

Last year, we also expanded our offerings of free psychological and counseling support through the Accessibility, Scholarship and Student Activity Center (CWiA).

Financial Support Programs

In 2025, SWPS University continued to offer a wide range of scholarships — funded both by the state budget and by the university's own funds or those of organizations supporting it.

Inclusion of vulnerable groups

We offer dedicated financial instruments designed to support people with disabilities and international students facing difficult life circumstances, or with outstanding athletic achievements, engagement in the community or artistic initiatives.

Rector's Scholarship

Outstanding students are eligible for the Rector's Scholarship, which is granted for high academic performance and scholarly, artistic, or athletic achievements. It is awarded to a maximum of 10% of students in a given program.

Social scholarships and financial aid for students and doctoral students

We offer financial support to mitigate the risk of exclusion from the educational process due to financial reasons.

In 2024 and 2025 we paid out a total of

1,452 scholarships

(rector's, social, special, allowances) for the amount of over PLN 20 million.

Pro Akademika Foundation Scholarships

As part of the **Student Support Fund,** the Foundation awards scholarships to individuals facing difficult circumstances who are excelling in the fields of science, the arts, or community service.

In addition, the Foundation awards the **Prof. Zbigniew Pietrasiński Creative Scholarships** to undergraduate and doctoral students who apply their knowledge to develop practical solutions in social or artistic activities.



Candidate Programs

We have our own scholarship funds that remove financial barriers for candidates with high academic, social, and athletic potential. We run four competitions:

Głowa się rusza

in the graphic design program in Wrocław, the assignment involves creating an original work of art in the form of a poster.

Mistrzowski Start

supports talented high school graduates with high scores on their final exams who are applying to college.

Zmieniam Świat

for socially active individuals with artistic or athletic achievements and good high school graduation exam scores.

Scholarship for international candidates

scholarships for international candidates to study in English; the selection process is based on an essay.

29 scholarships awarded to candidates for 2025/26



Initiatives for the Local Community



The Student Legal Services Education Center

USWPS operates the Student Legal Services Education Center where law students, under the supervision of faculty members and practicing attorneys, offer free legal advice to individuals whose financial circumstances prevent them from affording professional legal assistance. The clinic operates on a pro bono basis, and assistance is available in the areas of civil, family, inheritance, labor, contract, alimony, and tenancy law. This initiative provides tangible support to individuals at risk of legal exclusion and engages students in the social responsibility of legal professions.



The Accessibility, Scholarship and Student Activity Center

In collaboration with the SWPS University Clinic and other counseling centers, the Center provided students with **426 psychotherapy sessions and conducted 11 crisis interventions.** We provided 27 legal consultations regarding residency legalization. In the 2024–25 academic year, we also provided free psychological support to **66 working individuals (423 visits) and 6 family members (51 visits).**



Open Event: Author Talk on the “Money or Life” Book

In March, a discussion was organized with the participation of experts (including Prof. Agata Gąsiorowska, a psychologist at USWPS and co-author of the book) and the public, focusing on the relationship between the economic system, work, and quality of life. The event encouraged reflection on a sustainable lifestyle, social justice, and a reevaluation of consumerism.

Zero Hunger

END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE.

SDG 2

We are committed to promoting sustainable solutions for food security and healthy nutrition, supporting the achievement of SDG 2.

Through research, innovation, educational programs, and collaboration with the local community, SWPS University aims to contribute to better addressing issues related to the availability, quality, sustainable sourcing, and distribution of food. Our initiatives aim to raise awareness, influence public policy, and support innovation in food systems for the benefit of society.

Community Fridge

In October 2025, we launched the university's first Foodsharing Point on the Warsaw campus. Here, instead of being discarded, food is donated and passed on to others.

This initiative represents a pragmatic response to the global issue of food waste that impacts us all. It was developed through a collaboration between students and professionals. We integrated it with educational activities centered on responsible consumption. The project fosters the establishment of a more sustainable campus while promoting resource sharing, solidarity, and the reduction of food waste.





Further Operational Plans

As part of the Sustainability Action Plan released in 2026, we aim to establish Foodsharing Points on other campuses, and in each location, we plan to implement an intervention or educational campaign to reduce food waste produced in our canteens.

Publications
Scientific Projects

Mapping moral judgments of food waste: Moving beyond truisms (on USWPS side: Paulina Idziak)

An international psychological study on the moral determinants of food waste. The results demonstrate how moral intuitions (including a sense of social justice and sensitivity to the problem of world hunger) influence food waste reduction, creating a scientific foundation for more effective educational and pro-environmental campaigns.



LIKE-A-PRO
From Niche to Mainstream: Alternative Protein Sources

In 2025, SWPS University continued the international LIKE-A-PRO project ("From niche to mainstream: alternative proteins"), funded by the Horizon Europe program. The initiative aims to popularize and increase the availability of alternative protein sources (plant, fungal, microbial, insect, and marine) in urban and rural environments.

The research team at SWPS University, led by Prof. Aleksandra Łuszczyńska, is responsible for a key psychological and social area: researching consumer attitudes and acceptance, and co-designing implementation interventions with the participation of stakeholders (including retailers, the food service sector, and specialists in nutritional education).

Warsaw Food Lab

The Warsaw Food Lab project, implemented by SWPS University in collaboration with the City of Warsaw, moved from a pilot phase to full-fledged operational implementation in 2024–25. In 2024, a system for donating surplus food from the food service sector to non-governmental organizations and food banks was launched, promoted as part of the city's "Warsaw Doesn't Waste" campaign.

In 2025, these activities were scaled-up to include monitoring and collection logistics at large marketplaces, saving additional tons of nutritious food from waste. The initiative represents a sustainable model for partnership between science, local government, and business in urban food policy.

WARSZAWSKI FOOD LAB
Innowacje dla systemu żywnościowego Warszawy



Good Health and Well-Being

ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

SDG 3

We pursue Goal 3 through a holistic approach to mental, physical, and social well-being, combining international scientific research, expert publications, and implementation projects with direct social support and student engagement. Our university's activities include, among others, preventative health care, relationship psychology, and support for those experiencing chronic illnesses.

In 2024-25, we also collaborated with public institutions – for example, we prepared recommendations for the Ministry of Health, provided opinions on a depression treatment program for the Marshal's Office of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship, and conducted activities together with the National Consultants for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy.

Mental Health Support

In 2025, the University developed and promoted preventive health programs for students, PhD candidates, and those working at our University. Examples include the Activy 2025 challenge, an initiative that mobilizes the entire community to engage in daily exercise.

We have also maintained a system of immediate support in crisis situations, offering free psychological consultations and emergency psychotherapeutic care for people studying and working at the University.

SWPS Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Clinic

The clinic provides specialized psychological consultations and therapy, provides broad access to psychotherapeutic support, and provides health education services. It also provides teaching facilities for psychology and psychotherapy students, supporting the training of future specialists in cognitive-behavioral therapy.

Klinika Terapii Poznawczo-Behawioralnej Uniwersytetu SWPS

426 2024/2025
free psychotherapy sessions for students

423
free psychotherapy sessions for working people

Soruce: SWPS University Annual Report

Initiatives for the Local Community

Education support

"Lessons without taboos" with the SEXEDPL Foundation

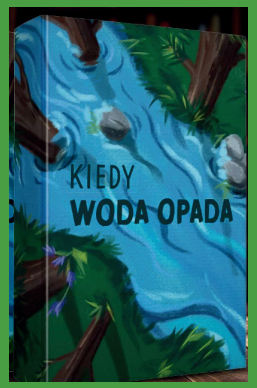
SWPS University and the SWPS Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Clinic supported the SEXEDPL Foundation in its "Lessons Without Taboo" project. The initiative aims to provide teachers and educators with free, reliable lesson plans on the body, emotions, and relationships, as well as to raise public awareness of sex education.



Mental health, wellbeing and crisis support

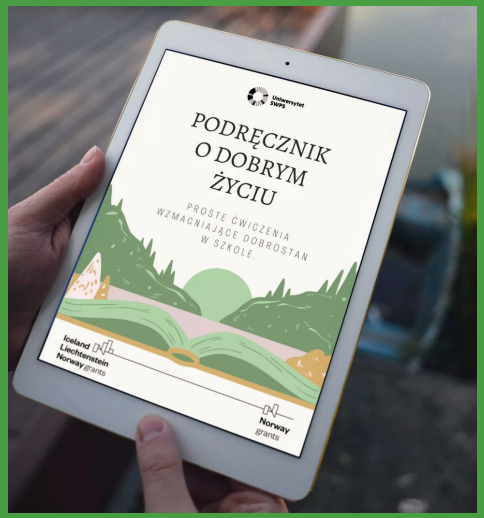
Flood Support Therapeutic Fairy Tale and Guide from USWPS

How can we ensure the mental well-being of children who survived the flood? Experts from SWPS University and the University of Wrocław have prepared publications to help children during the flood crisis. The Opole Scouting Association (ZHP) will distribute copies of the books to those in need.



A Handbook of the Good Life" – we strengthen well-being at school

"A Handbook of a Good Life" was created as part of the international project "Science & Society: A Bilateral Initiative in the Field of Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities." Researchers from SWPS University conducted workshops with teachers from across Poland, resulting in a publication that will help effectively support young people in building healthy self-esteem and a fulfilling life.



A charity spot by USWPS students for the Mam Marzenie Foundation on Polish Television

SWPS University students have created a commercial for the Mam Marzenie Foundation, which helps fulfill the dreams of children suffering from serious illnesses. The clip will be broadcast on TVP (Polish Television) and on video billboards in Warsaw.



Selected Publications

Preventing parental burnout:

Effectiveness of online group interventions in reducing parental burnout in mothers.

Piotrowski, K., Sanna, K., Szramka, B., Kamza, A., Michałowski, J., Gutkowska-Maciejuk, A., Roskam, I., & Mikolajczak, M.

A study demonstrating the effectiveness of online group interventions (based on mindfulness and building parenting balance) in long-term reduction of parental burnout and depressive symptoms in mothers.

Psycho-oncology and pain management:

Coping styles and pain level in lung cancer patients: The mediating role of stress level and the moderating role of place of residence and gender.

Poręba-Chabros, P., & Kolańska-Stronka, M.

The results indicate the crucial importance of psycho-oncological interventions in pain reduction, with particular emphasis on the needs of patients from rural areas.

Prevention of suicidal behavior and self-harm:

Monitoring self-harm as a preventive tool, taking into account the situation in Poland.

Biechowska, D., Baran, A., & Hołyst, B.

A monograph devoted to new solutions in the field of public health and psychiatry, focused on systemic monitoring of self-aggressive behaviors and the implementation of modern suicide prevention strategies.

Digital Health:

Meta Self-Efficacy Internet Intervention to Support Occupational Health in Young Employees: Protocol for Co-Creation and a Randomized Controlled Trial.

Maciejewski, J., Cieślak, R., Carlbring, P., & Smoktunowicz, E.

A study on the development and implementation of an online intervention to support the mental health and professional well-being of young employees by enhancing meta-self-efficacy. The project aligns with modern, easily accessible methods for preventing mental disorders (e.g., depression and anxiety) in the workplace.

72 new publications on SDG 3 in 2025*

*According to Scienceshare

Selected Research Projects

LONELY-EU

The Social Isolation and Loneliness in Europe Network: Evidence-Based Policy Recommendations on its Causes, Consequences, and Monitoring



The LONELY-EU project, in which 6 European universities are involved, aims to provide policymakers with a list of effective practices to reduce loneliness and the feeling of isolation, to create a questionnaire tool to measure and monitor loneliness, and to comprehensively assess the causes and consequences of loneliness in each European Union country.

Dyadic support exchange, affective well-being and HIV/AIDS stigma: A daily diary study of intimate couples of people living with HIV

The main goal of the project, led by Professor Ewa Gruszczyńska on behalf of SWPS University, is to examine the relationships between the daily provision and receipt of social support, daily emotional well-being, and the daily experience of stigma in the relationships of people living with HIV. The project is being carried out by a consortium consisting of scientists from SWPS University and the University of Warsaw.



The Process of Restoring Meaning in Cancer. The Role of Psychological Resilience: Intensive Longitudinal and Experimental Studies

The aim of the research is to understand how people struggling with cancer regain a sense of meaning and mental well-being.

The project, based on longitudinal and experimental approaches, focuses on the role of psychological flexibility as a key mechanism of adaptation. The results will be used to develop interventions to support cancer patients in their treatment and adaptation to their disease.



Research Centers

Center for Applied Research on Health Behavior and Health (CARE-BEH)

Behavioral health prevention: The Center (CARE-BEH) examines the determinants of a healthy lifestyle – from diet and physical activity among young people to support for seniors – providing data for the evaluation of health policies.

Center for Trauma, Crisis, and Growth

Crisis Intervention and Trauma Support: Experts from the Research Center develop and implement effective psychotherapeutic techniques for people who have experienced critical experiences (disasters, loss of loved ones, chronic illnesses).

Streslab: Stress Research Center

Innovation and Stress Research: The Center specializes in research on work-related stress and traumatic events. Research insights are used to design and test solutions through interactive online programs, mobile apps, and virtual reality.

Health & Coping Research Group

Resilience and adaptation mechanisms: The Health & Coping Research Group analyzes the mental resources that facilitate coping with stress, creating a solid foundation for programs building mental resilience.



Events
Conferences



Growing Up Safely: From Digital Prevention to Support During Mental Crisis

The event was the sixth installment of the acclaimed "Child – Teen – Adult" conference series. We continued the substantive debate on children's rights and empowerment, as well as ways of counteracting domestic violence. This time, the focus shifted to the multidimensional psychological safety of the young generation in the face of rapid civilizational change.



Safe School: How to Effectively Counteract Peer Violence

A free conference which was held in Sopot in May 2025, at which the effective strategies for countering violence among children and youth were presented. The conference brought together practitioners and those involved in research on bullying, education, and innovative methods of working with students.



1st National Student Sexology Conference

At the first edition of the conference, attendees had the opportunity to gain reliable, up-to-date information about sexuality, sexual health, and prevention methods. The aim of the event was to create an open space for conversation about sexuality, which is why this year's edition was titled "Sexuality Without Taboos."

Everyday life under pressure. Burnout at work, in the family, in education – how to react and prevent it?

The conference was dedicated to reflecting on the fast pace of life and the pressure to be high-performer. The meeting examined the impact on burnout of various areas of life: work, parenting, and school life. We encourage you to watch the lecture: "Sustainable Workload Management." You will learn what happens when pressure increases and routine ways of reacting may not be enough.





Quality Education

ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.

SDG 4

For SWPS University, quality education means not only imparting knowledge but also creating conditions in which each person can develop their potential, acquire the necessary competences and participate in social life.

We strive for education that is accessible, inclusive, and responsive to real societal challenges. As the University, we incorporate sustainable development into curricula, reduce barriers to study, and develop staff competencies. A key element of our approach is open access to knowledge – we create resources that allow access to teaching materials, expertise, and research results regardless of location or formal connection to the university.

Open Educational Resources

SWPS University's Open Educational Resources Platform promotes the democratization of learning by providing open courses in psychology, social sciences, and development. The service supports building social awareness and developing future-proof competencies.

SWPS University Knowledge Zone

A new edition of SWPS University's nationwide project, aimed at providing reliable, expert knowledge in an accessible format. We help interpret the contemporary world, because as a university, we have the privilege of utilizing the potential of outstanding specialists in numerous fields. We provide a space where science meets practice, and experience meets fresh, innovative perspectives.

Science Share

The Science Share Repository serves to collect, archive, and openly share the scientific achievements and raw research data of SWPS University staff and doctoral students. The platform supports the development of open science, research transparency, and a digital knowledge infrastructure.

Strefa Wiedzy
Uniwersytetu SWPS

Within the Knowledge Zone, we cover topics from 8 key areas:

Psychology
Laws
Design
Business
Culture and art
Society
Technology
Gaming

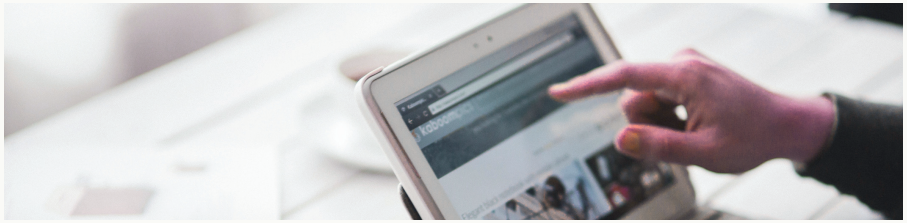
Accessible Digital Education

The accessibility of education depends on the quality of the digital environment, which is why we develop digital solutions that facilitate access to information, communication with the university, and independent handling of matters related to studying via online channels.

Virtual University and Knowledge Base

As part of our accessibility efforts, we have implemented, among other things, an online system for submitting applications and questions, a Virtual University mobile app, and a Knowledge Base. **The Virtual University app is used by 16,733 students.** The Knowledge Base generates over 133,000 visits annually, with a content relevance rate of approximately 80%.

These technological solutions enable personalized information, process automation, and faster response to student needs. More than 4,000 newly enrolled students each year receive support as they progress through their studies.



16 733 people using the Virtual University app

133k+ visits to the Knowledge Base annually

80% content usefulness index in university mobile apps

Plain Language and Inclusive Communication

One of the directions of further development is to increase communication accessibility by implementing plain language standards and inclusive communication.

Planned activities include communication audits, simplifying key documents, developing guidelines, and e-learning training and courses for employees. The university is also developing website accessibility in accordance with WCAG standards.

We Learn How to Create Inclusive Education

The quality of education depends not solely on curricula and technology, but also on the competencies of those who make up the academic community. For this reason, SWPS University works to foster the expertise and skill sets of its staff in the fields of accessibility, diversity, and provision of an environment conducive to learning for people with diverse needs.

Accessibility Training Course

As part of the "Accessible University" project, an e-learning course was prepared covering topics such as: combating discrimination, intercultural sensitivity, accessibility and the needs of people with disabilities, preventing mobbing and harassment in the workplace, working with people with special needs, and practical tools for building an accessible academic environment.

The course was completed by 77.7% of those employed at the university under employment contracts and in permanent collaboration. The program is being further developed, with subsequent modules addressing topics such as crisis intervention and adaptations for individuals with special needs, including neurodiverse individuals. Ultimately, the training will reach at least 1,282 participants.

Accessibility Day

To raise awareness across the academic community, four annual Accessibility Days are also planned. The events aim to foster the exchange of knowledge and best practices regarding the needs of people with disabilities and others with special needs.

Education for SDGs



SWPS University implements education for the Sustainable Development Goals by incorporating SDG-related content into curricula in all fields of study.

Currently, knowledge about sustainable development is integrated into various courses, and selected fields of study offer individual elective or required courses that directly cover SDG-related topics. This approach allows students from various disciplines to study global development challenges and explore ways to respond to them.

The university is also expanding its activities as part of the ERUA2 project by mapping teaching practices in relation to the SDGs, which constitutes a step toward a more systematic integration of education on sustainable development into its entire curriculum.

Mapping Educational Content

In the 2024/2025 academic year, SWPS University conducted a comprehensive mapping of educational content in relation to the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. The analysis covered 5,497 syllabi from all university faculties and programs. The SDG Classifier tool was used for the analysis, identifying links between educational content and individual SDGs.

1,213 subjects related to ethics and social responsibility, sustainable development or social innovation were identified, including 780 in first-cycle studies, 374 in second-cycle and long-cycle master's studies, and 55 in postgraduate studies.

These included, among others, the following subjects: Corporate Social Responsibility, Social Psychology of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Public Life, Environmental Psychology, Green Innovation, Social Entrepreneurship, and Innovation Management.

3 Educational Areas

- RESPONSIBILITY
- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- SOCIAL INNOVATION

5497 this is how many programs of study we analyzed in terms of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals

1213 that is how many courses we offer on ethics, due diligence, sustainable development, or social innovation.

Selected Publications

Research supports the development of the knowledge necessary to build a safe, inclusive, and responsible educational environment. Publications with significant social impact include studies on topics such as youth well-being, peer violence, media literacy, and navigating the digital environment.

„Just shut out the world": Bullied adolescents' structured recreational and sports activities and their relationship to well-being and friendship

Wojcik, M.

Monika Wójcik and her co-authors discuss the experiences of adolescents experiencing peer violence and the importance of organized recreational and sporting activities for their well-being and friendships. The article was published in the Journal of Leisure Research in 2025.

The penetration of Russian disinformation related to the war in Ukraine: Evidence from Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia

Biechowska, D., Baran, A., & Hołyst, B.

This publication by Marek Wenzel, Karina Stasiuk-Krajewska, Veronika Macková, and Klára Turková examines the penetration of Russian disinformation related to the war in Ukraine in Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia. The study provides important insights into developing a critical approach to information and media literacy.

Research Projects

JustMOBI – digital education for a just transition of mobility

The project, led by David Sypniewski and Izabela Bołoz, aims to provide accessible and equitable higher education in terms of digital literacy and transportation system design. The project is developing a model of education that prepares students for the digital jobs of the future in the mobility sector and addresses gender bias in transportation design.

CoDesign4Transitions – Democratic Design for Sustainability

This international project, implemented under Horizon Europe, combines doctoral education with the search for solutions to the societal challenges posed by climate change. Nineteen institutions from nine countries are participating in the project, and ten doctoral candidates are participating in interdisciplinary training.

The program develops competencies in areas such as participatory design, co-design, service and system design, and democratic innovation. Collaboration with institutions, businesses, and social organizations in developing and testing new solutions is a key element.

Other activities

Competencies for Sustainable and Digital Transformation

SWPS University carries out publicly funded development projects that support the enhancement of qualifications in areas critical to today's work and academic environments. Starting in 2023, these activities cover the fostering of competencies in sustainable development and digital skills, the digitization of university operations, and the improvement of access to infrastructure and services. The total value of educational activities under these development projects amounts to approximately 2 million PLN.

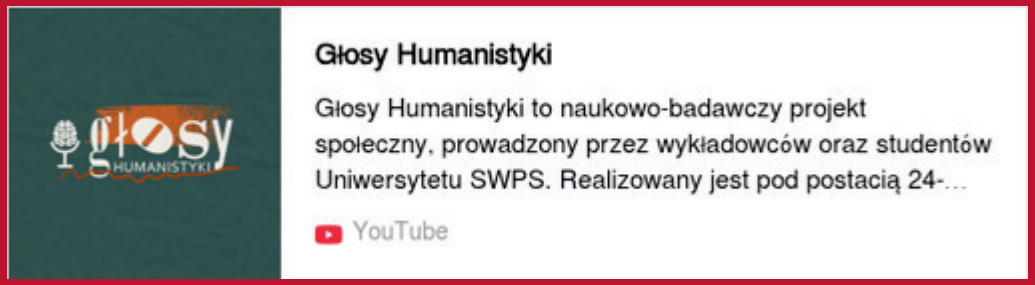
Education for Sustainable Development

In 2025, the university hosted a series of webinars dedicated to sustainable development, with a particular focus on environmental issues. Management also participated in the Climate Mosaic workshops, which expanded understanding of the causes and consequences of climate change.

Nearly **100 people** participated in these educational activities.

Głosy Humanistyki (eng. Voices of the Humanities): Podcast Series *on the Usefulness of Social Sciences and Humanities*

A group of scientists and students from SWPS University recorded 24 episodes of a podcast promoting the humanities and social sciences. Professor Karina Stasiuk-Krajewska, editor Tomasz Wołodźko, and their team attempted to demystify this field of study using an innovative, media-friendly format. The invited guests – authorities from the world of Polish science and art – demonstrated that the media portrayal of the humanities and humanities scholars is often unfair, misleading and inaccurate.



Events
Conferences



4th National Interdisciplinary Conference "ATENA": Psychology in the Context of Contemporary Social Challenges

This year's event focused on the role of psychology in analyzing and mitigating the impact of societal challenges. We discussed how new technologies can impact our identities and relationships, and how the climate crisis can impact our mental health. We also discussed how to build mental resilience in the face of global changes.



Mental Health and Quality of Life in the Academic Environment: Group-Specific Characteristics and Methodological Challenges

The conference, organized by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education and SWPS University, addressed the topic of mental well-being and quality of life in the four basic groups that make up the academic community in Poland: students, doctoral students, administrative staff and academic staff, with reference to the broader, global context.

Lifelong Learning

Learning does not end with a diploma. We offer opportunities to gain knowledge and competencies at various stages of life – through postgraduate studies, courses, trainings, webinars, and open educational resources, targeted at a wide audience.

A good example is the "Social Entrepreneurship: Basic Course" project, within the framework of which a curriculum and teaching materials were developed to build competencies in the field of social entrepreneurship.

The program was aimed not only at students but also at entrepreneurs and employees in the social education sector. Its goal was to enhance the skills of 40 program participants and of five staff members.



Gender Equality

ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

SDG 5

As part of our strategy at USWPS, we are taking steps to support diversity, equality, and accessibility, including the development of equality policies, mentoring programs, and initiatives aimed to increase women's participation in science and management. We are reviewing our indicators and existing differences quantitatively and qualitatively.

SWPS University achieved a position in the 101–200 range in THE Impact Rankings 2025 in the SDG 5: Gender Equality category - second place in Poland.

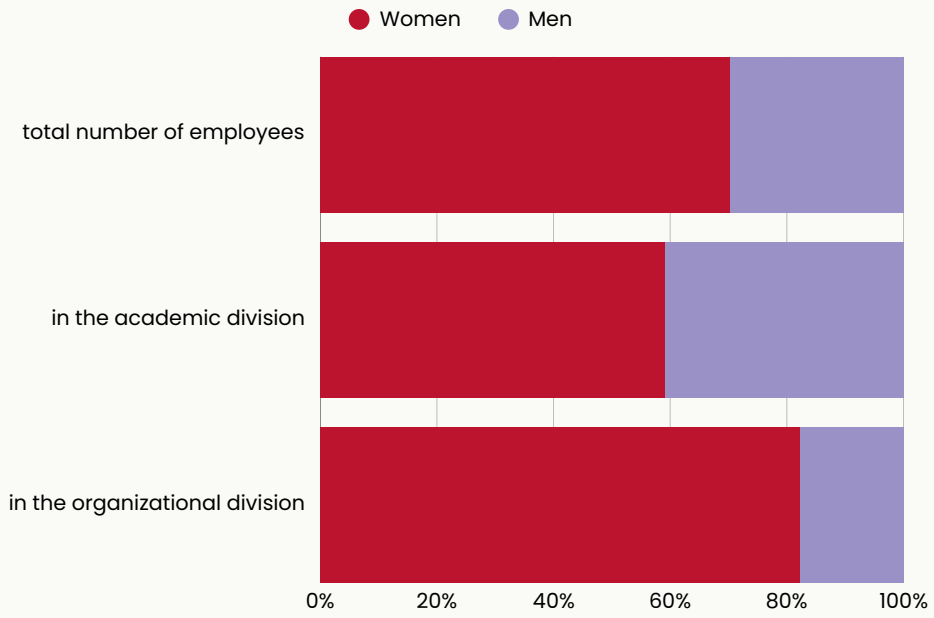
Gender Equality Plan

The Gender Equality Plan is a document drafted in 2022, with the objective of guaranteeing that SWPS University is a safe place for everyone, operating with respect for equality and diversity. The plan includes an analysis, objectives, and measures to combat unequal treatment of women and men in the labor market and in the workplace, to prevent all forms of gender-based violence, and to eliminate all forms of prejudice, including gender-based prejudice.

The plan achieves its goals through actions in 5 key areas:
Work-life balance and organizational culture; Gender distribution in leadership and decision-making at the university level; Gender equality in the recruitment and career development of staff and students; Integrating a gender equality dimension into research and teaching content; Measures to prevent gender-based violence, including sexual harassment.

You can read the current status of implementation in the Task Status Report 2022-2025.

Employment at SWPS University by Gender



Source: The Equality Plan

Events
Conferences

"Women's Cinema" series with the participation of experts from the SWPS University

As part of the Malta Festival, during "Women's Cinema" series, we were able to invite the audience to engage in dialogue and intellectual exchange. Almost all screenings were followed by discussions, which included not only the filmmakers themselves, but also special guests: experts from SWPS University in the fields of psychology, cultural studies and social practice.

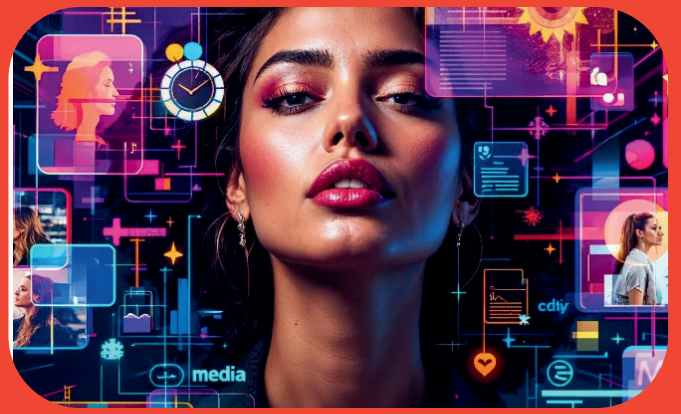


Trauma and childbirth: the unconscious influence of the past and the possibility of psychic integration

The webinar focused on the impact of traumatic experiences on childbirth and the importance of a trauma-informed approach to perinatal care. The event promoted knowledge about women's mental health and supported the development of skills among professionals who work with pregnant and postpartum women.



Women in the Media. Media About Women. National Scientific Conference

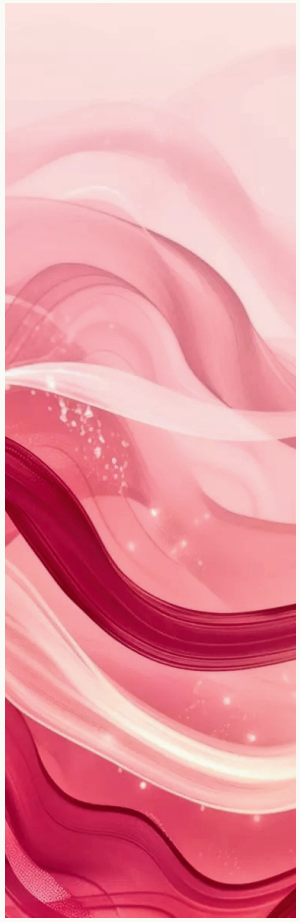


The conference, intended for experts, focused on the portrayal of women in the media, gender stereotypes, equality, and the visibility of women in the public sphere. It fostered public debate on gender equality, addressing, among other things, the portrayal of women in media culture. The conference also addressed the complexity of a paradigm based on opposition — in which women are simultaneously reduced solely to motherhood or their relationships with men — and contrasted it with an egalitarian model in which women are portrayed as independent, autonomous, and always consciously shaping their own agency.

Scientific and Research Projects

Assessing the reception and potential of menstrual cycle awareness in the creative process of menstruating people within the cultural and creative sectors

In 2024–2025, SWPS University, under the leadership of Dr. Emilia Cholewicka, implemented a project dedicated to menstrual cycle awareness and its importance for the creative process of menstruating individuals working in the cultural and creative sectors. The research focuses on breaking down taboos surrounding menstruation, identifying the needs of menstruating individuals, and assessing the impact of menstrual cycle awareness on well-being, creativity, and work organization. The project's findings will serve as a basis for developing recommendations for policies of care and more inclusive practices in the cultural sector.



Women interACT. Participatory theatre against the double exclusion of women

The main theme of the "Women InterACT" project, led by Dr. Agnieszka Młodzińska-Granek at the University of SWPS, is participatory theatre as a tool to counteract the double exclusion of women. This project provides a platform for the exchange of best practices between three European theatre organizations whose primary goal is integration through art.

The work will culminate in theatre performances, produced in Poland, Slovenia and Greece, respectively (premieres in the first and second quarter of 2026).



Photo of the Kobietostan Collective Association

National Science Centre grants for female scientists at SWPS University

In 2025, female scientists at SWPS University received grants from the National Science Centre to carry out research projects, strengthening the position of women in Polish science and developing research that addresses significant societal challenges. This funding confirms the high quality of their research and supports the development of women's independent scientific paths – from conducting their own projects to building research teams and developing international collaborations.



Clean Water and Sanitation

ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL.

SDG 6

From a higher education perspective, Sustainable Development Goal 6 focuses on ensuring responsible water management on university campuses.

As a university with a relatively low direct water footprint, SWPS University focuses on improving access to drinking water, increasing water efficiency in campus infrastructure, and incorporating water-saving measures into its long-term campus development plans.

Access to Drinking Water

All our campuses are fully connected to municipal water and sewer systems, guaranteeing access to safe tap water that meets applicable sanitary standards.

We provide free access to filtered drinking water (drinking fountains) in places accessible to people with mobility disabilities.

In 2025, the university completed its implementation of free access on all campuses, simultaneously contributing to a reduction in the use of single-use plastic bottles. This initiative allows for more sustainable campus operations and promotes environmentally responsible behavior.

Water-Saving Systems and Further Plans

In 2026, we publishedthe Sustainability Action Plan for our university, which includes the gradual implementation of water-saving systems on all campuses to improve water efficiency and reduce resource consumption.

The plans include:

- Continuation of preparations for the implementation of the water recycling system,
- multi-campus monitoring of water management indicators as part of the ERUA alliance activities.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Affordable and Clean Energy

ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL.

SDG 7

We are transitioning to renewable energy sources, systematically improving the energy efficiency of our campuses and integrating low-emission principles into university expansion and modernization plans.

We analyze not only the overall energy consumption balance, but also qualitative indicators, including the share of renewable energy in the mix of individual facilities and the actual impact of the investment on the carbon footprint. These efforts have resulted in, among other things, a reduction in the carbon intensity of purchased electricity by approximately 95% compared to the national average (market-based method) and the gradual implementation of our own renewable energy installations.

Campus

Procurement of Renewable Electricity Supported by Guarantees of Origin

We are implementing a programme to source electricity from renewable energy sources (RES), supported by Guarantees of Origin.

Simultaneously, we are upgrading lighting systems to energy-efficient LED technology, installing motion and daylight sensors in high-traffic areas, and carrying out building upgrades designed to improve thermal performance. We are also implementing smart temperature control systems that enable room-by-room management of indoor conditions. This approach helps reduce energy consumption, heat losses and improve the overall energy efficiency of our buildings.

Renewable Energy Micro-Installations

In 2025, 6% of the University's electricity consumption was supplied directly by its own renewable energy micro-installations.

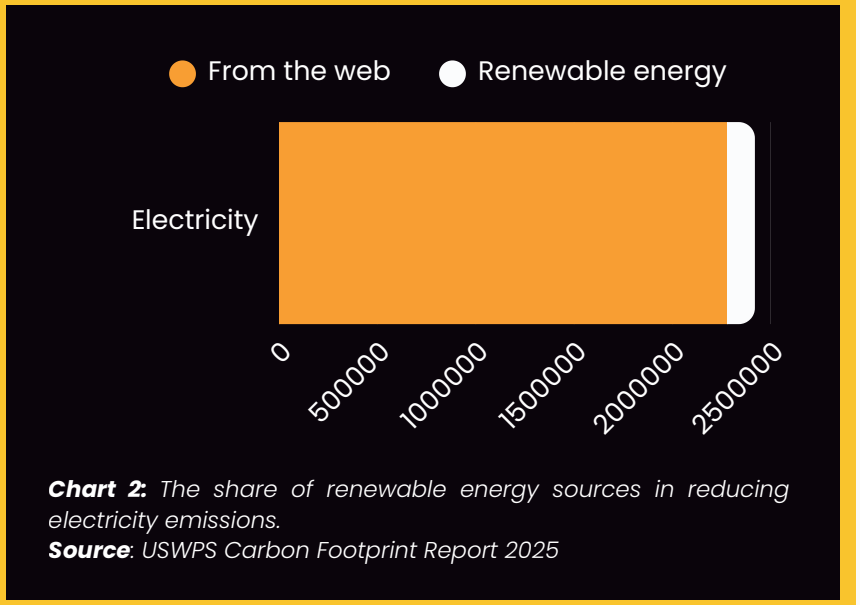


Chart 2: *The share of renewable energy sources in reducing electricity emissions.*
Source*: USWPS Carbon Footprint Report 2025*

Modernization of the Krakow Campus

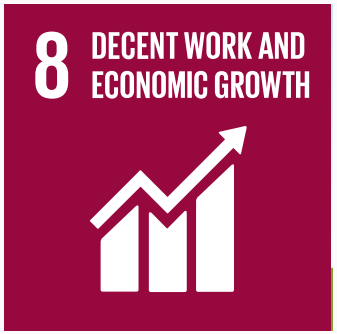
In 2025, we completed a comprehensive energy-efficiency retrofit and adaptive reuse of the historic former Silesian Seminary building in Kraków, transforming it into the new home of the Fr. Józef Tischner Branch. Carried out in accordance with heritage conservation requirements, the project combined the preservation of the building's historic fabric with the performance and functionality standards expected of a modern 21st-century campus.

The project included the installation of an energy-efficient heating and ventilation system with heat recovery, energy-efficient LED lighting and air-conditioning. The energy-efficiency retrofit was co-financed by Poland's National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management (NFOŚiGW). **The investment also incorporated renewable energy installations, heat recovery systems and rainwater retention tanks.**

The refurbished building has also been made fully accessible to people with specific access needs, including persons with disabilities. Improvements include the installation of modern lifts and access ramps.

The installation of two lifts was co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus under programme FERS.03.01-IP.08-001/24.





Decent Work and Economic Growth

PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL.

SDG 8

We conduct research that addresses social and economic challenges and build an organizational culture based on respect, collaboration, and equal opportunities. We support students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to consciously shape their career paths, and we provide employees with conditions conducive to professional and academic development.

For SWPS University, implementing SDG 8 is part of a broader mission of a responsible university – one that both imparts knowledge and co-creates conditions for a more fair and sustainable labor market.

HR Excellence in Research

In 2025, SWPS University continued to implement HR Excellence in Research standards, confirming the university's commitment to creating a friendly and transparent work environment. This distinction, awarded by the European Commission, confirms the university's HR policy's compliance with the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. As part of these efforts, we support academic career development, ensure equal opportunities, promote transparent recruitment policies, and create conditions conducive to high-quality research.

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Anti-Mobbing and Anti-Discrimination Activities

In 2025, we continued our efforts to counteract mobbing and discrimination, supporting the development of a safe and inclusive work environment. The operation of the Anti-Mobbing and Anti-Discrimination Committee and the Academic Ombudsman Team strengthened our ability to respond to undesirable behavior and resolve conflicts in a spirit of dialogue and respect.

Benefits for Employees

In 2025, the University supported the well-being of employees by, among other things, co-financing private medical care for them and their families, as well as providing them with:

- MultiSport card,
- access to the benefits platform,
- the possibility of joining group insurance,
- discounts on studies and language courses at USWPS,
- free psychological support, including access to therapy,
- professional development, including training, workshops and the opportunity to participate in international exchange programs such as Erasmus+.

USWPS Career Office

Job and Internship Fair 2025

95% exhibitors rated the event good or very good

We support Goal 8 by developing cooperation between universities and employers, creating a space for the exchange of experiences and direct contact between students and graduates with various sectors of the economy.

One of the key events was the 2025 Job and Internship Fair, which allowed participants to explore job, internship, and placement opportunities and establish contacts with companies. The event provided a platform for dialogue between the academic community and the labor market, supporting the development of professional competencies and increasing opportunities for students to actively enter the labor market.



Job and Internship Fair 2025 in Wrocław.

Development of Competencies and Preparation for a Professional Career

We support our students in making informed career choices and developing the skills needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving labour market. The activities of the Career Services Office bridge academic experience and professional practice by providing support with work placements and internships, career counselling, preparation for recruitment processes, and building connections with employers.

Students and graduates had access to 1,408 job, placement and internship opportunities through the Career Services Office database. In 2025, 3,581 students completed mandatory professional placements, including 1,182 during the winter semester and 2,399 during the summer semester.

Professional skills development was further supported through workshops delivered both in collaboration with external partners and by the Career Services Office team. A total of 1,021 participants attended 17 sessions featuring external experts, while 436 participants took part in 11 workshops organised by the Career Services Office. Topics included career path planning, as well as skills assessment and development.

643 individual career counseling for **418** students.*

**Source: USWPS Annual Report for 2024/25*

Selected Publications

Mental Well-Being and Work Ergonomics

Work Design and Mental Health: Mediating Role of Job Satisfaction

Kolańska-Stronka, M., Poręba-Chabros, A., Krzykawska, J., Malina-Tyda, B.

This study examines the impact of work environment design (autonomy, ergonomics, feedback) on employee job satisfaction and mental health within the context of the Job Demands-Resources (JD-R) model. The findings indicate that appropriate conditions and a supportive work environment play a key role in alleviating depressive symptoms and pain in employees. The publication provides practical guidelines for creating safe, healthy, and stimulating workplaces.

Labor Market Inclusiveness and Integration

Organizational culture in acculturation processes: experiences of professionals from Ukraine and Latin America on the Polish labor market

Golińska, A.

This work addresses the integration and acculturation of foreign professionals in the Polish labor market. It analyzes the role of organizational culture in supporting equal opportunities, preventing exclusion, and adapting employees from diverse cultural backgrounds (including those from Ukraine and Latin America). The findings contribute to efforts to foster a fair, inclusive labor market and full employment that respects diversity.

Economic Growth, Creative Industries and Sustainable Development

Enabling an inclusive and sustainable cultural ecosystem and driving economic development

Ilczuk, D., Karpińska, A.

This chapter explores the economic dimension of culture and creative industries (CCIs) as a key driver of innovation, economic diversification, and job creation. The authors argue that integrating culture into the sustainable development agenda stimulates social cohesion and sustainable economic development, providing a significant research contribution to understanding modern economic growth mechanisms.

Employee Relations and Work Environment Stability

Trust in the organization as a mediator in the relationship of good organizational context with employee well-being

Czerw, A., Grabowski, D. Chudzicka-Czupała, A., Stąpor, K.

This publication addresses the topic of building trust within organizations and its impact on employee well-being. The study highlights the importance of a positive organizational context for the mental health and effectiveness of staff, contributing to the ongoing research on creating supportive and stable workplaces.

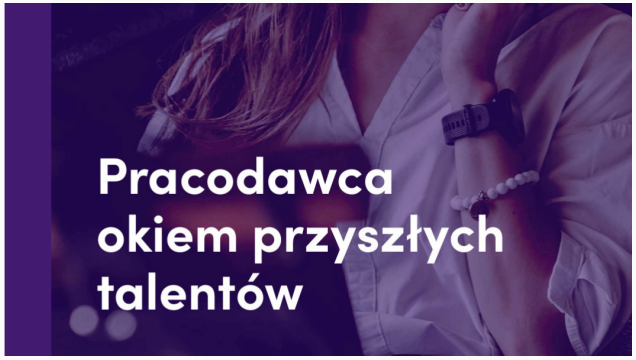
18 new publications on SDG 8 in 2025*

*According to Science Share

Reports

Research report: How can employers attract young people?

The study analyzes the expectations, attitudes, values, and needs of representatives of the generation entering the labor market. The report provides employers with practical guidance on how to create attractive, flexible, and decent employment conditions that support the effective professional development of young workers.



Healthy Companies Index Report

The project focuses on implementing good practices in organizational health, ergonomics, and mental and physical well-being in the workplace. This is a direct response to SDG 8.8 (promoting safe and stable work environments).



Scientific Project

Social Impact Evaluation and Academic Discourse: A Comparative Approach (Poland, UK, Norway)

Dr. Marta Wróblewska from SWPS University is examining a new academic evaluation practice: the assessment of "research impact." The researcher from our university examines the process of implementing "impact" as a criterion for evaluating research in three countries: the United Kingdom, Norway, and Poland. The project draws on methods and theories from linguistics, sociology, and philosophy.





Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

BUILD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION

SDG 9

In 2025, our university promoted responsible entrepreneurship and social innovation through the "Startup Booster for Social Impact" acceleration program and hackathon partnerships (including Hack4Change, ERUA 2025).

USWPS experts were also involved in educating businesses on ESG standards and financing conditions, and co-created the debate on digital transformation and sustainable development as experts and substantive partners at key economic events, including the Impact'25 congress.

Supporting Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship

We support the development of innovative solutions that address social and environmental challenges, strengthening the competencies of those creating new products, services, and business models. In 2025, the university implemented educational and mentoring activities as part of the Startup Booster for Social Impact program, supporting the development of impact startups and preparing them for the acceleration process.

The program included free training sessions, webinars, and consultations on topics such as intellectual property management, project presentations, creating impactful products, and developing innovative solutions.

Selected Publications

Research for Innovation and Organizational Transformation

The role of AI in ESG and sustainability reporting: a bibliometric study *Berniak-Woźny,J.*

The article analyzes the role of artificial intelligence in ESG reporting and the possibilities of using AI to increase the efficiency, transparency and quality of sustainability management processes.

Expert-innovator behaviour questionnaire as a new tool for selecting potential experts *Deptuła, A.M., Nosal, C.*

The authors present a tool enabling the identification of competences of people involved in risk assessment and implementation of innovative projects, pointing to the role of cognitive openness, willingness to work with uncertainty and the ability to create new solutions.

Projects

Towards Positive Impact – Podcast

In the series "Towards Positive Impact," researchers from the University of Warsaw and entrepreneurs from the University of Warsaw discuss how to combine business with mission—that is, how to build an impactful startup. The discussions cover how to develop a startup to change the world: from securing funding and building teams, through measuring social and environmental impact, to consciously seeking partners.



Podcast: Why do we have that impact?

Two (moving) Heads are Better than One

Research on the impact of joint movement and motor synchronization on cognitive processes and the effectiveness of collaboration between people. It analyzed how motor coordination supports innovative thinking, problem-solving, and relationship-building in teams.
The publication presents conclusions indicating that physical activity and movement cooperation can be an important tool supporting creativity and the effectiveness of group processes.



SOCIN 2025 Conference

Startup Booster for Social Impact" at the SOCIN 2025 Conference

We presented our acceleration program "Startup Booster for Social Impact" during the international scientific conference SOCIN 2025.

During the presentation, Dr. Agnieszka Młodzińska-Granek and Dr. Patrycja Radek spoke about startups and impact innovations, i.e. experiences in supporting innovative enterprises aimed at generating positive social and ecological impact.

Knowledge Transfer Center

In 2025, the Knowledge Transfer Center played a key role in connecting the university's scientific and research potential with the economic and social sectors. The unit was responsible for the commercialization of research results, intellectual property management, and supporting faculty and students in transforming innovative ideas into marketable solutions.

Centrum Transferu Wiedzy
Uniwersytet SWPS

Events
Conferences



Impact Congress 2025

Once again, we participated in one of the most important economic and technological events in the CEE region – the Impact '25 Congress. University experts actively participated in panel discussions, presentations, and workshops devoted to the challenges of today.

During the event, we shared knowledge on social innovation, the impact of new technologies on the human psyche, artificial intelligence, and sustainable development. Lectures and discussions with USWPS experts generated considerable interest, providing an important voice for the academic community in the debate on the future of the economy, science, and society.



Hack4Change 2025

The Faculty of Psychology at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Sopot became a partner of the nationwide Hack4Change 2025 event. As part of the cooperation, experts supported those designing technological innovations.

During the hackathon, participants faced the following challenges:

- Building a future talent economy that fills regional skills gaps;
- Better public sector governance through inclusive digital reforms;
- Inclusive and sustainable development through the implementation of an academic excellence programme.



Conference "Climate Crisis and the Social Challenges of Business"

The conference analyzed the impact of climate change on the functioning of the labor market, economic stability, and corporate social responsibility. The discussion presented an approach in which responsible economic growth must take into account a just ecological transition, the creation of decent jobs, and reducing the negative impact of the private sector on the environment.

The event provided a platform for exchanging knowledge on implementing ESG strategies and building organizational resilience in the face of global climate challenges.



Reduced Inequalities

REDUCE INEQUALITIES WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES

SDG 10

Building an open and inclusive academic community is one of the foundations of SWPS University's activities. We create conditions in which every person – regardless of background, age, gender, health, or economic situation – has the opportunity to fully participate in academic life, develop scientifically and professionally, and benefit from available support.

We develop solutions that strengthen equal opportunities and accessibility by combining systemic activities with initiatives that respond to specific community needs.

Accessible Campuses

We support people with disabilities and special needs. Our campuses have undergone accessibility audits and are adapted to the needs of people with limited mobility. We have ramps, elevators, stair lifts, accessible restrooms, and visual and tactile information systems (e.g., Braille signs and high-contrast information signs). These investments promote social inclusion and eliminate discrimination resulting from architectural barriers.

The Krakow facility, renovated in 2025, has also become fully accessible to people with special needs. Modern elevators and ramps have been installed, among other features.

You can read more about current solutions at: University without barriers.

Equal opportunities in education

Our university offers students a range of scholarship programs, including a special scholarship (for students with disabilities), a social scholarship, and the Rector's scholarship. You can read more about scholarships in this report under SDG 1.

Under the Active Local Government – Module II program, implemented by the State Fund for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (PFRON), individuals with moderate or severe disabilities can apply for co-financing for higher education, postgraduate studies, and doctoral programs. The university provides support with the application process and access to information.

Support in the Teaching Process

As part of the "University Without Barriers" program, we provide support from assistants, sign language interpreters, stenographers, and spatial orientation instructors, as well as the ability to customize the organization of studies and forms of assessment, and access to specialized equipment and psychological support.

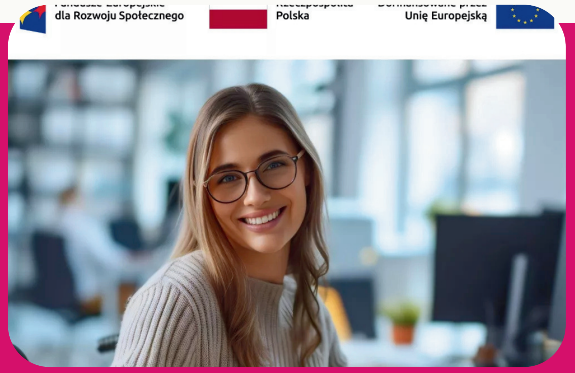
Selected Research Projects

My USWPS - Making the University Increasingly Accessible

Project manager: Dr. Ewa Ger

In 2025, SWPS University continued the implementation of the "My USWPS – Making the University Increasingly Accessible" project, co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus.

The project encompasses measures aimed at improving the University's accessibility across eight areas, including infrastructure, communication, technology, procedures and education support services. Its objective is to create an inclusive academic environment that responds to the needs of persons with disabilities and other individuals with specific access needs, while embedding the principles of universal design across the University.



DEMRES – The Effectiveness of Discursive Strategies of Democratic Regression and Democratic Resilience

Project manager: Dr. Agnieszka Kwiatkowska

The project examines the impact of political narratives on democratic processes and the resilience of societies to phenomena that lead to deepening social divisions. The research findings are intended to foster a better understanding of the mechanisms for building social cohesion and democracy.



Photo: Dr. Agnieszka Kwiatkowska, SWPS University

EMPOWER – Activating Change

Project manager: Dr. Anzhela Popyk

The project is dedicated to the civic engagement of Ukrainian youth affected by refugee or forced displacement experiences. The research focuses on strengthening the social and civic participation of young people living in migration situations.



Publications

Important words starting with P. About money, psychotherapy and psychiatry in Poland"

A report prepared by Pomagam.pl and SWPS Innovations examines economic barriers to accessing psychotherapy and psychiatric care, as well as the impact of financial circumstances on the use of psychological support. The publication highlights inequalities in access to mental health support.



From Self-Defense to Agrounia. Rural Social Movements after 1989 Wenzel, M.

The monograph presents the transformation of social movements in the Polish countryside in the years 1980–2024, analyzing their role in representing the interests of rural residents and their impact on civic participation and public debate.



Title: "Us and Them" – symbolic boundaries of the middle class in Poland. Leśniewicz, K.

This article examines the mechanisms by which the Polish middle class creates and legitimizes symbolic divisions that contribute to social exclusion and the perpetuation of inequality. The study demonstrates that social distance and the principles of belonging depend on capital and local context, revealing subjective barriers to social cohesion.



Social Initiatives

Co-Present – Dialogue Session

The event, organised in the "Human Library" format, enabled participants to learn about the experiences of people with disabilities and build attitudes based on empathy, openness and counteracting stereotypes.

Koło Naukowe
Badań Nad Życiem Publicznym
Uniwersytet SWPS

What is it Like to Be a Social Activist in Warsaw?

The open meeting with Dr. Jan Śpiewak focused on civic participation and the challenges faced by those engaging in social activities. The initiative promoted civic dialogue and student social engagement.

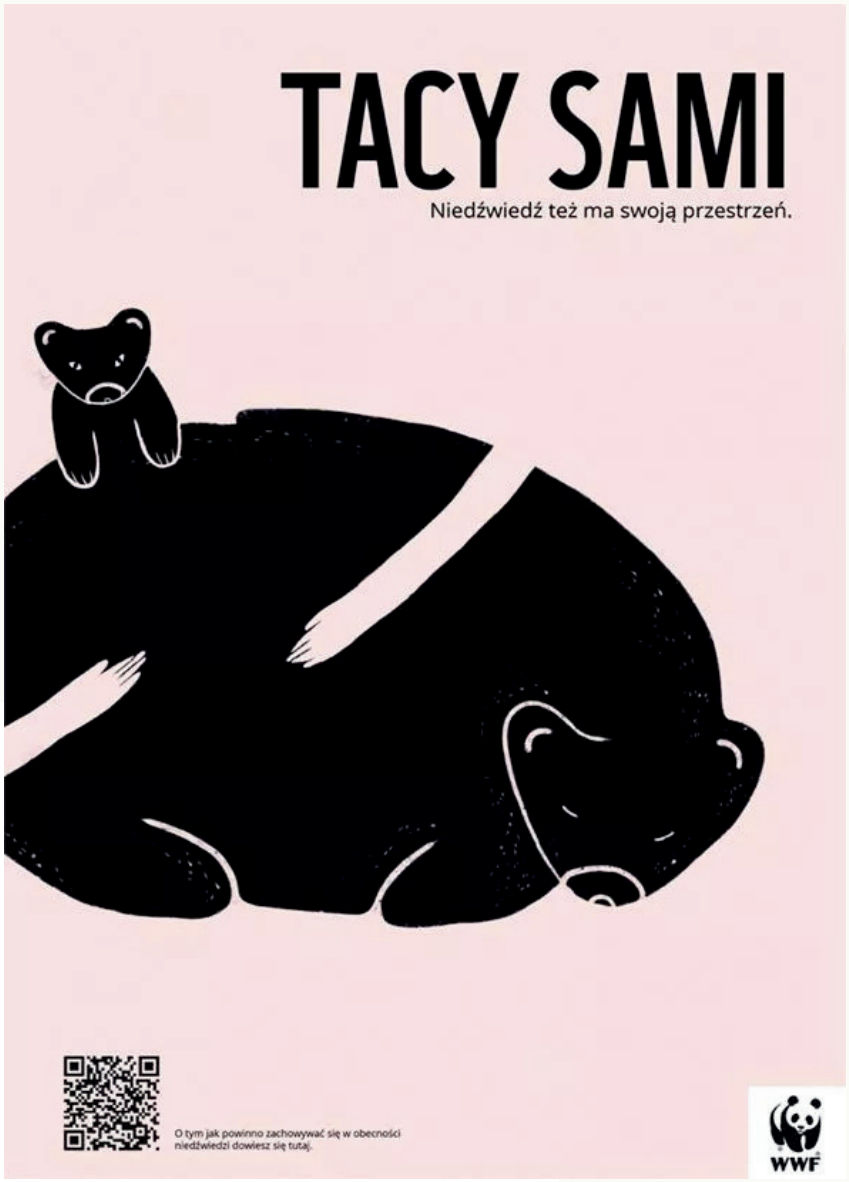


"Modules 2" – Opening at the Graphics Gallery

The exhibition of design students' work presented solutions to social challenges such as visibility for marginalized groups, accessibility, inclusive education, and collaboration with community organizations. The project demonstrated how design can support the creation of a more inclusive society.



Authors: Marta Olszewska, Aleksandra Tobiasz, Pola Pawlak



Authors: Julia Havrylak, Aleksandra Tobiasz

Sustainable Cities and Communities

MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE

SDG 11

The implementation of Goal 11 requires cooperation between science, public institutions, social organizations and residents in finding solutions to the challenges of modern cities – from the availability of space, through environmental protection, to strengthening participation.

SWPS University supports the implementation of Goal 11 by combining research with practice and collaborating with local governments, public institutions, and social partners. We focus on designing welcoming and accessible spaces, developing sustainable mobility, environmental education, responsible implementation of innovation, and strengthening local community engagement.

Student Initiatives in Collaboration with Municipalities

New Space – Krakow Metro Partner: City of Krakow

SWPS University is participating in a project related to the planned construction of a metro in Krakow. During workshops, students are developing concepts for metro stations as modern spaces integrating communication, social, and service functions, meeting the needs of residents.



Tech for Good – smoginfo.pl. Partners: CSHARK, Wrocław University of Science and Technology

SWPS University students co-created the smoginfo.pl platform, which provides a knowledge base for local governments on air quality improvement initiatives. The project, developed as part of a student internship, combines design expertise with social responsibility.



Activities for the Local Community and Surroundings

"City with Nature" – Ecological Education and Fairy Tale Therapy (USWPS and the City of Poznań)

This program combines environmental education and psychoeducation for children from Poznań preschools and schools. It includes outdoor activities (in city parks and forests), workshops, and shared readings of nature stories conducted by ZZM educators and students and faculty from USWPS.





Exhibition "Lares and Penates. On Building a Sense of Security in Architecture" (Polish Pavilion at the Venice Biennale)



Presented at the 19th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice, this exhibition, co-created by School of Form lecturers Maciej Siuda and Aleksandra Kędziorek, explores the concept of architecture as a refuge from the elements, disasters, and threats.

Inauguration of the exhibition "Lares and Penates. On Building a Sense of Security in Architecture" in the Polish Pavilion at the 2025 Architecture Biennale. Photo: Milena Liebe, Zachęta Archive

Selected Publications

Resident/User-Centric Design: On the (Post)Pandemic Opportunity to Design Apartments Better Suited for Work
Jeran, A., Basińska, A.

Presented at the 19th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice, this exhibition, co-created by School of Form lecturers Maciej Siuda and Aleksandra Kędziorek, explores the concept of architecture as a refuge from the elements, disasters, and threats.

Events
Conferences

Conference "Responsible AI at the City of Warsaw"

A summary of a joint project by the University of Social Sciences and Humanities and the capital city authorities aimed at defining directions for the ethical and responsible implementation of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) in public administration. As a result, the "Warsaw GenAI Code" and a guide for public administration employees were developed.



ERUA Off-Site Seminar in Sofia: "How to Reduce Visual Noise in Cities?"

An international research course on countering advertising chaos and visual information overload in the urban fabric. It included fieldwork in Sofia, an exchange of experiences regarding Krakow's "Landscape Act," and student design work.



Lecture during the seminar "Visual noise as a problem of contemporary urbanization" at the NBU

Lecture by Dr. Wojciech Świder: On the book "Economics. Forbidden Science"

A meeting with an expert from the Poznań University of Economics, who discussed issues related to investing, savings, securing assets against inflation, global economic processes, and urban resilience.

Responsible Consumption and Production

ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

SDG 12

Resources are limited, and overconsumption and irresponsible production lead to environmental degradation. Goal 12 promotes recycling, a circular economy, and informed consumer choices.

SWPS University's activities include the participation of university experts in publications and initiatives related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the development of research on the social aspects of climate transformation, as well as projects using data analysis and new technologies to create more effective social solutions.

SWPS University also supports businesses and public institutions in responding to the challenges of sustainable resource management.

Campus

Green Infrastructure and Reducing Resource Consumption on USWPS Campuses

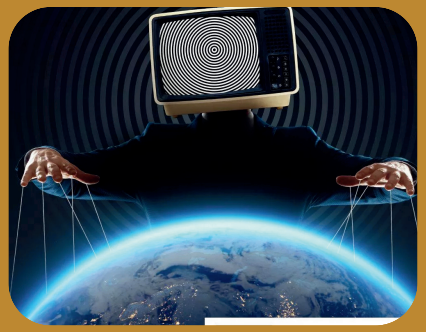
We promote responsible consumption on all USWPS campuses - we have containers for selective collection, we reduce paper consumption (by digitizing the process), we have planned actions to reduce plastic in academic spaces, and we implement principles of responsible waste and raw material management on campuses.



Projects Publications

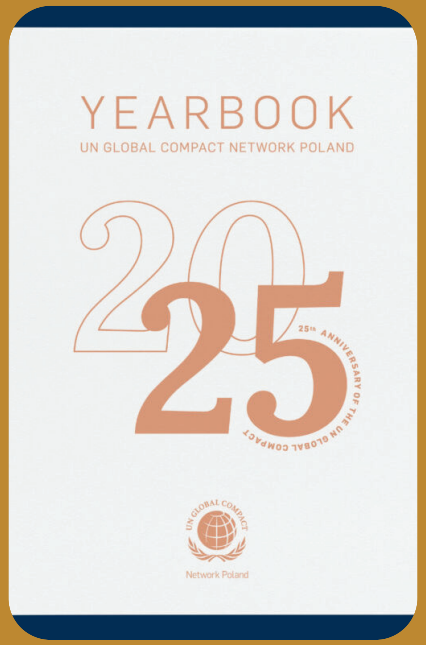
ACAD.IO Project – Attribution, Data Analytics, Remediation and Interoperability

A research project focused on data analysis and developing countermeasures that support process efficiency and responsible use of resources in the digital and technological environment.



Contribution of USWPS Experts to the UN Global Compact Network Poland (UN GCNP) Yearbook

This article, authored by Dr. Justyna Berniak-Woźny, Dr. Magdalena Kubów, Dr. Agnieszka Młodzińska-Granek, and Dr. hab. Mariusz Wszołek from SWPS University, has been published in the UN Global Compact Network Poland Yearbook. This scientific/expert publication, prepared by SWPS University researchers for the UN GCNP report, addresses the challenges of sustainable development, responsible business, and the implementation of ESG and sustainable consumption principles in economic practice.



Events Conferences

Conference: Climate Crisis and Social Challenges of business

A scientific and economic event dedicated to the role of business in the face of climate change. Discussions focused on transforming business models toward sustainable production, reducing carbon footprints, and corporate social responsibility.

University Exchanges

From 2025, we began organizing regular initiatives promoting the circular economy in the academic environment – we have a cashless exchange of clothes, books and equipment (swap party), promoting sustainable consumption and extending the life cycle of products.



Climate Action

TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

SDG 13

Achieving Goal 13 includes promoting clean technologies, changing the way energy is produced, and raising awareness of the impact of human activity on climate change.

USWPS has strategic initiatives aimed at achieving SDG 13, including infrastructure modernization, internal university initiatives, and research and implementation projects for the environment and climate change adaptation. We also incorporate climate change-related content into curricula and support adaptation to its effects. We monitor and report our ESG activities, and we support communities and society in the process of adapting to climate change and its effects.

Carbon Footprint Measurement

In 2025, we published our first carbon footprint report and continued measuring and reporting our carbon footprint in accordance with international standards (GHG Protocol Corporate Standard, GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance, ISO 14064-1:2018) using the Plan Be Eco tool.

Compared to 2024, emissions increased by 12.92%. This is primarily due to the expansion of the inventory scope to include a branch in Krakow.

The entire report is available at:
Carbon Footprint Report for 2025

GHG Emission Sources Included in the Carbon Footprint Calculations, Breakdown by Reporting Category

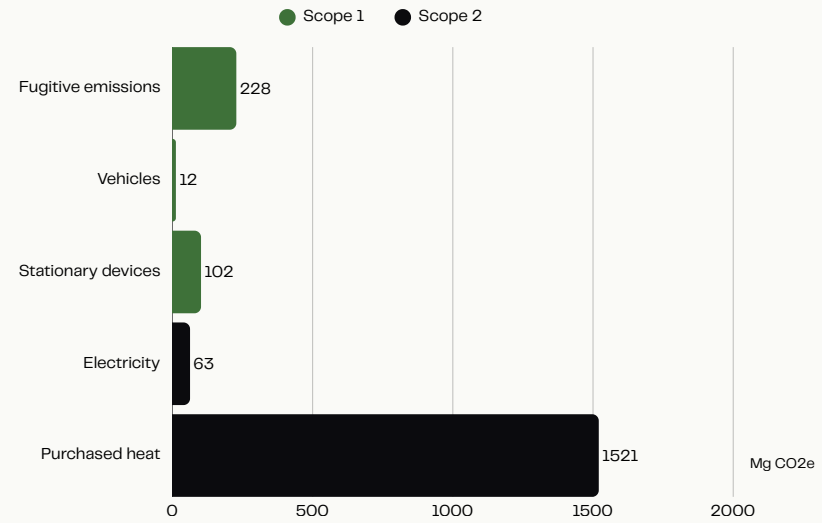


Figure 3: *Distribution of the contribution of Scope 1 and 2 categories to an organization's carbon footprint.*

Total emissions	Scope 1	Scope 2
1 925,27 Mg CO2e	**341,99** Mg CO2e	**1 583,28** Mg CO2e



Selected Publications

The role of self-efficacy and emotional stability in the relationship between climate anxiety and well-being in young adults

Kolańska-Stronka, M., Jabłońska, K., Poręba-Chabros, A.

This study focuses on the psychosocial consequences of climate change. It examines the relationships between emotional stability, self-efficacy, and climate anxiety, and its impact on overall psychological well-being (PWB). It also examines how attitudes toward environmental activism mediate the relationship between environmental values and climate anxiety.

Resilient Sisterhood – Indigenous Women in Indonesia and Their Adaptation to Climate Change

The aim of Dr. Katarzyna M. Głąb's project is to examine sisterhood strategies for adapting to climate change among indigenous women in Indonesia. The project posits that indigenous women play a significant, yet often underestimated, role in adapting to climate change. A key premise is the concept of multi-species sisterhood, which encompasses not only interpersonal relationships but also ties with nonhuman actors, emphasizing their mutual interdependence. The project focuses on analyzing indigenous cosmologies, everyday adaptive practices, and the intergenerational transmission of knowledge.



Selected Projects

GREEN MUNDUS Master's Degree in Psychology for Climate Action and Environmental Protection

SWPS University, in cooperation with the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA), has received funding for the first time under the Erasmus Mundus Design Measures programme to prepare a joint study programme – "GREEN MUNDUS: Joint Master in the Psychology of Climate Action".

The project, which will subsequently lead to the launch of a joint master's degree program in the psychology of climate action and environmental protection, will be implemented by a consortium led by SWPS University. The other consortium partners include four institutions belonging to the ERUA alliance and two external partners:

Life Below Water

CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SDG 14

Actions for Goal 14 include reducing ocean plastic pollution, protecting coral reefs and reducing the impact of the fishing industry on marine ecosystems.

USWPS has a humanities and social sciences focus, so we don't directly develop marine fauna research. However, the university supports Goal 14 by promoting articles, videos, and educational podcasts on reducing the use of plastics and microplastics, and by promoting responsible consumption. We also explore the psychology of pro-environmental attitudes, addressing the motivation to protect water resources and rivers (which pollute, among others, the Baltic Sea) and developing habits that support aquatic ecosystems.

"BhA" Installation ("Blue Humanities Archive")

Dr. Justyna Górowska's "BhA" installation, created in collaboration with Dr. Thomas Hainis (Imperial College London) as part of the international Studiotopia 2 program, combines art, science, and new technologies to protect aquatic ecosystems. The Blue Humanities Archive is an online archive that combines art with environmental education about water.

The project utilizes the innovative DNA-based Blue Humanities Archive method, promoting a more sustainable approach to data storage. The initiative raises awareness of the declining biodiversity of freshwater and marine environments.



Website Archive

BUP - Baltic University Programme

It is an international network of academic cooperation, bringing together over 110 universities from the Baltic Sea region, in which SWPS University actively participates, promoting cooperation, mobility and sustainable development.

BUP provides materials and valuable resources on sustainable development and the Baltic Sea. Through its membership, USWPS has access to a wide range of educational content (BUP Course Platform, BUP Educational Material Bank). You can read more in the sustainability report for last year.



Life On Land

PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS

SDG 15

For universities, achieving Goal 15 means creating and developing green infrastructure, conducting educational activities and implementing solutions that support nature conservation in the surrounding area and on campuses.

We are implementing SDG 15 through the development of green spaces, increasing biodiversity on campuses, and educational and design initiatives that promote a responsible approach to the environment. These initiatives include planting, creating pollinator-friendly spaces, greening interiors, solutions that support water retention, and collaborating with local partners to protect urban ecosystems. This direction is consistent with the SWPS University Strategy for 2024–2029.

Green Campus Infrastructure

In 2025, greening was included as an indicator in SWPS University's Sustainable Development Plan. As part of these commitments, the university systematically develops and enhances its green infrastructure: pollinator-friendly flower meadows are being established, new trees and climbing plants are being planted, and building interiors are being gradually filled with plants. These seemingly small but lasting actions truly enhance urban biodiversity and improve the quality of the spaces surrounding campuses.



Designing for Ecosystems

The USWPS Design Department (School of Form) carries out academic projects focused on sustainable design (biodesign, use of biodegradable materials, reducing the environmental footprint of products).



Initiatives

The Monument to the Experimental Rat

The Experimental Rat Monument, unveiled on the campus of SWPS University in Wrocław at the initiative of the student community, commemorates laboratory animals that have contributed to the advancement of science. The initiative promotes reflection on the ethical dimensions of research involving animals and builds awareness of human responsibility for the well-being of other species. The project aligns with SDG 15 "Life on Land" by supporting education for animal protection and shaping attitudes based on respect for biodiversity.

Institutional commitments

SWPS University Strategy for 2024–2029

Sustainable Development and Climate Strategy: The university has adopted an internal strategy aligned with the 2030 Agenda, emphasizing, among other things, reducing paper consumption (protecting forest resources) and promoting pro-ecological attitudes on campuses.

SDGs Partnership "Together for the Environment"

SWPS University has joined a nationwide initiative combining science, business, and the public sector to support the implementation of environmental sustainable development goals, including the protection of terrestrial ecosystems.





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

SDG 16

For universities, achieving Goal 16 means building transparent governance structures, promoting academic integrity, conducting research on the rule of law and human rights, and creating space for social dialogue.

SWPS University develops interdisciplinary research projects in the field of law and media studies, promotes civic education, implements the concept of Legal Design facilitating citizens' access to law, and is directly involved in social and rehabilitation activities.

The university's activities include combating disinformation, countering violence, supporting vulnerable groups, and international cooperation for peace and justice within the ERUA alliance.

Culture and ethics of SWPS University

Academic values

We are enriching the set of classic university values - beauty, goodness, and truth -with those that respond to the challenges of today: **openness, courage, and responsibility.** We are building a strong, transparent, and trustworthy institution by promoting research integrity and the highest ethical standards.



Community Activities

Strengthening forensic expertise
Dr. Marlena Banasik at IES

Dr. Marlena Banasik has been appointed by the Minister of Justice to the Scientific Council of the Jan Sehn Institute of Forensic Research. This distinction bridges the gap between science and justice practice, supporting the improvement of expert witness opinions.

Help for flood victims:
pomocdlapowodzian.swps.pl website

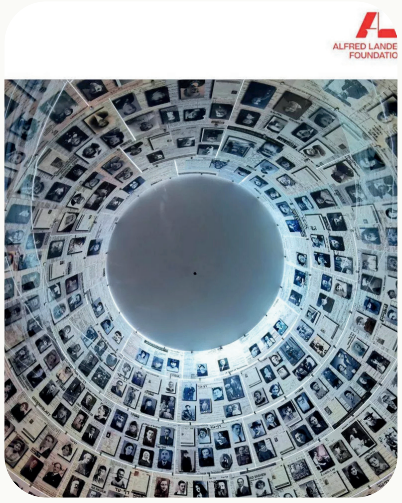
The USWPS Legal Communication Design Center, in conjunction with the Domański Zakrzewski Palinka (DZP) law firm, created an interactive information platform after the 2024 flood. Using Legal Design principles, complex regulations and official procedures were transformed into simple, accessible instructions, helping victims quickly obtain the support they deserve.

Projects

Support and Research on Student Well-Being during Wartime

The research project by Professor Agata Chudzicka-Czupała and Dr. Barbara Ostafińska-Molik, "Between Resilience and Crisis: The Mental Well-Being of Ukrainian and Polish Students During the Russian-Ukrainian War," compared symptoms of mental disorders, stress levels, and coping strategies among students from Poland and Ukraine. The study provides a foundation for creating effective support systems for those affected by the war.





Memory Governed: Poland's Politics of Holocaust Remembrance

The project, led by Dr. Tadek Markiewicz, focuses on analyzing existing data and providing new perspectives on the implementation of Polish Holocaust remembrance policies. Given that two-thirds of European Jews were murdered on Polish territory, Warsaw is a key site of debate over how the international and European communities commemorate this genocide. The study addresses the challenges facing civil society in the context of historical policy.

Public Against Their Will. Creating a Subject in the Archives of Operation "Hyacinth"

A research project focused on the process of forming minority subjectivity in disintegrated state archives. The analysis examines subjectivity shaped or deformed by the repressive, biopolitical militia intervention of the 1980s. The study juxtaposes critiques of oppressive state actions with the narrative of the authorities who defended them as supposedly caring protection for vulnerable social groups.





Fighting Disinformation: CEDMO 2.0 Project

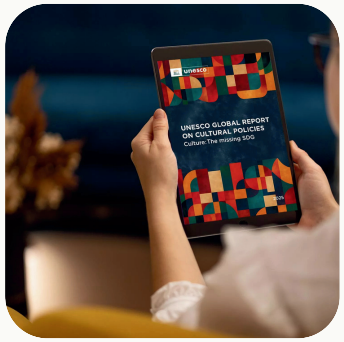
This project aims to build social resilience to disinformation in Central Europe. The research focuses on analyzing the mechanisms by which false information spreads and developing educational tools and strategies to verify content in digital media and strengthen the information space.

Publications



Creators or Victims? The Disinformation Phenomenon and the Polarization of Business: The Example of Poland

This scholarly publication analyzes the relationship between growing social polarization and the phenomenon of disinformation in the business community. The authors examine the role of commercial sectors both as entities vulnerable to disinformation attacks and as entities potentially co-responsible for their replication.



Raport UNESCO: „Culture: The Missing SDG"

UNESCO's first global report on the role of culture in sustainable development, co-authored by researchers from the Creative Economy Research Center at SWPS University, Professor Dorota Ilczuk and Anna Karpińska, analyzed the economic dimension of the cultural and creative industries worldwide, pointing to the need to incorporate cultural policies into the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.



Media and Politics in Europe from the 19th to the 21st Century

This book, edited by Evelina Kristanova (a media scholar from the University of Social Sciences and Humanities), charts the historical evolution of media influence on public opinion and the shaping of political discourse. The work analyzes the transformation of political communication over the centuries—from the printed press, through radio and television, to the contemporary internet and digital media.



Education

ERUA Course: Faces of Justice

This international, intensive course, implemented at the University of Warsaw School of Law and Administration (USWPS) as part of the ERUA alliance, aims to familiarize students with the various dimensions and concepts of justice in contemporary liberal democratic states, supporting the development of civic and pro-democratic attitudes.

ERUA Winter School in Cyprus: Law in a Divided World

The winter school, titled "Disputed Territories and Legal Remedies in International Public Law," was organized by the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in cooperation with universities in Lithuania, Germany, and Italy. The program combined theoretical analysis of territorial conflicts and international law with work in a multicultural research environment.

Events
Conferences



AI and the Law: How to Navigate Artificial Intelligence Law

The conference discussed the European AI Act, privacy protection, intellectual property and the socio-economic consequences of implementing artificial intelligence.



How to Communicate Law – Law as a Subject of Information Exchange

The event was dedicated to improving the accessibility and understandability of the legal system. A wide range of topics were discussed, from the structure and language of court decisions, through the cultural contexts of legal disputes, to graphic, empathetic visualizations of legal provisions.



Consumer as a Party to Civil Proceedings

The conference aimed to raise citizens' legal awareness in business transactions. Speakers familiarized vulnerable market participants with legal definitions, court procedures, and methods for effectively pursuing claims in disputes with entrepreneurs.



Lecture by Prof. Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos: Performing Spatial Justice

A multimedia performance based on the book Spatial Justice. The speaker presented a radical theory of spatial justice, understood as the struggle of diverse actors to occupy a given space. This concept addresses pressing challenges such as geopolitical conflicts, environmental law, and rights in digital space.

Lawyers and Artificial Intelligence – Challenges and Threats of Digital Transformation

The anniversary conference of the Faculty of Law at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw, dedicated to the digital transformation of the justice system, was held. Participants discussed the prospects for using AI in the work of lawyers and the related threats to fundamental rights and professional ethics.

Legal Design Forum 5 - from trend to systemic change

The main goal of our Forum is to exchange research, design, and implementation experiences, all framed by design for law. This brings together individuals working in the fields of law, communications and media, social innovation, and design. The interdisciplinary group of speakers attracts a diverse audience.



Cover of the magazine "W Kratkę o Pięknie" (A Checkered View of Beauty). Author: Emi Szewczyk (volunteer at the Dom Kultury Foundation)

Student activities

"W Kratkę O Pięknie" Magazine

A joint initiative of the Dom Kultury Foundation and the Wrocław Department of Graphic Design at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities. As part of the project, women incarcerated at Grochów Prison write articles under pseudonyms, while students and faculty design the magazine's graphic design. A special issue, published with the support of the YES Foundation, is dedicated to the theme of beauty, helping prisoners resocialize through art and creative expression.



Illustration for the magazine "W Kratkę o Pięknie": Barbara Uspieńska (USWPS graphics), layout and typography: Piotr Szewczyk (USWPS graphics, Institute of Design)



Partnerships for the Goals

STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SDG 17

Goal 17 in higher education means actively developing cooperation networks between universities, businesses, the public sector and non-governmental organizations.

In 2025, we implemented these goals by expanding our national and international alliances. A groundbreaking step was joining the UN Global Compact Network Poland and strengthening our cooperation with WWF Poland and UNEP/GRID-Warsaw. By combining scientific potential with business and social practice – including through implementation projects, student initiatives (such as the smoginfo.pl portal), and our involvement in the ERUA alliance – we were truly strengthening the innovation ecosystem and building interdisciplinary bridges towards a sustainable future.

Global engagement

We are developing a network of international and national alliances. We are members of the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA), the European University Association (EUA), the International Association of Universities (IAU), and the Baltic University Programme (BUP). In 2025, we officially joined the UN Global Compact Network Poland and continue our strategic cooperation with WWF Poland.

In 2025, SWPS University became a member of the International Relations Offices Forum (IROs Forum), a nationwide organization dedicated to fostering international cooperation among Polish universities. SWPS is the first private university in Poland to join this organization.

European Reform University Alliance

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES
INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES BUREAU

International Relations Offices Forum

Participation in the ERUA 2025 Summit ("Navigating the Borderlands")

We are actively co-creating the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA). In 2025, our delegation participated in the alliance's annual summit (ERUA 2025) at Roskilde University, under the theme "Navigating the Frontiers: European Universities for Social Justice and Sustainability."

During the event, our representatives shared their experiences in the field of societal challenges, teaching innovations and commitment to building sustainable and equitable academic communities in Europe.



International Cooperation for Innovation in Education (ERUA)

In 2024, university representatives presented their research results at the international conference InnoEducaTIC 2024 – XI Jornadas Iberoamericanas de Innovación Educativa en el ámbito de las TIC y las TAC, organized by the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. The event brought together representatives of universities and institutions from many countries, and one of the sessions was devoted to projects implemented within the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA), promoting international cooperation in the field of educational innovation.

The paper, "Collaborative learning – a model for designing social entrepreneurship education," by Dr. Magdalena Kubów and Dr. Karolina Osterczuk, was presented as an oral presentation. The research focused on a collaborative learning model as a tool for developing competencies in social entrepreneurship, co-creation, and cross-sectoral collaboration – competencies crucial for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Participation in the conference also resulted in a publication in the conference proceedings.

Publication:
Kubów M., Osterczuk K., *Collaborative learning – model for designing social entrepreneurship education,* in: Educational Innovation in the field of ICT and TAC. Projects, Methods and Tools for the Future of Education, Dykinson, 2024

Partnerships

UNGC Poland



We have joined the UN Global Compact Network Poland, a national UN initiative for sustainable business. As part of this partnership, we are guided by the UNGC Ten Principles and co-create events, educational projects, research, and publications (including the UNGC Yearbook), strengthening the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Poland.

UNEP GRID

RAZEM DLA ŚRODOWISKA
PARTNERSTWO SDGs

We have joined the SDG Partnership "Together for the Environment," coordinated by the UNEP/GRID-Warsaw Center. Together with partners from the business, science, and non-governmental organizations sectors, we are implementing initiatives to protect ecosystems and the climate, including webinar series and educational activities, for which we were awarded a commemorative Partnership statuette.

Santander Bank Poland



We have established a strategic partnership with Santander Bank Polska, aimed at supporting the development of our academic community. As part of this collaboration, we implement educational, quality-oriented, and scholarship initiatives for students and employees, supporting the development of future competencies, improving qualifications, and fostering entrepreneurship.

WWF



We have signed a cooperation agreement with the WWF Poland Foundation, combining science with practical nature conservation efforts. Together, we are implementing educational, scientific, and social awareness-raising projects focused on protecting biodiversity, combating the climate crisis, and fostering pro-environmental attitudes.

Courage

Responsibility

Openness

Openness, courage and responsibility define our institutional culture and shape attitudes that promote collaboration, high agency, and concern for the well-being of people in the academic community and beyond. These values are our compass for action toward a more sustainable tomorrow.

SWPS University

More information about sustainable development at SWPS University can be found on the university website: Sustainable development

or by contacting the Sustainable Development Office at zrswps@swps.edu.pl.

We hope you enjoy reading the Sustainable Development Goals report as much as we enjoyed preparing it.

Co-editors of the Office of Sustainable Development

SWPS University

USWPS
www.swps.pl
Email: zrswps@swps.edu.pl