



The best and the largest institution  
of higher education in Poland.

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**200** years of tradition

**21** faculties

**48,000** students and doctoral students

**310 million** euro budget

**800** foreign partners

## POLAND – IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

Poland is a member of the [European Union](#) and [Schengen Area](#). This means that whoever enters Poland may freely travel around over 20 European states.

International reports and rankings confirm the [high quality of the Polish education system and higher education](#):

- Poland was ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in “The Learning Curve” – international ranking prepared and compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit, which measures the level of education in almost 40 countries in the world.
- The best Polish universities are among institutions of higher education, which have appeared in the international rankings such as Academic Ranking of World Universities, QS World University Rankings or Times Higher Education World University Ranking. These rankings comprise 2% of the world’s top universities.

Polish universities belong to the [European Higher Education Area](#). Students and academics from other European countries can feel at home here. The [European Credit Transfer System](#) and other tools developed through the [Bologna Process](#) make it possible for students to commence, pursue or complete their studies in a European country of their choice.

Poland has 140 public Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Apart from the classic universities, there are medical, technical, economic and pedagogical universities, universities of life sciences, physical education, artistic, theological, maritime, military and government service HEIs, State Higher Professional Schools. Polish academies offer a wide choice of programmes of [1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle studies](#) and [long cycle \(uniform\) Master’s studies](#), in full-time and part-time systems. 1.5 million students every year receive their education in Poland. This makes our country one of European leaders, preceded only by Great Britain, Germany and France.



The leading concepts of the University’s activity are the **unity** of teaching and research, and the harmonious development of all branches of knowledge represented in its curriculum.



**Poland** has become an increasingly popular study destination, with almost 60,000 international students from 150 countries choosing to study here each year.

## WARSAW – ACADEMIC CITY

The University has its seat in [Warsaw – the capital of Poland](#), one of the most dynamically developing European cities. Warsaw is steadily climbing in international rankings of the world’s most attractive urban areas (Top 50 of the City Brand Index, United Nations State of the World’s Cities report, Best cities ranking and report by the Economist Intelli-

gence Unit). Not only is [Warsaw a political, economic, social and cultural centre](#); it is also an undisputed leader of Polish education – the city’s facilities provide education to 240,000 people each year. According to QS Best Student Cities 2016 Warsaw has been on 2<sup>nd</sup> place in a [list of the world’s most affordable cities for international students](#).

## UW – THE COUNTRY’S LEADER IN TEACHING AND RESEARCH

The University of Warsaw, the largest institution of higher education in Poland, is the country’s leader in teaching and research. The keynote of its activities is the [unity of research and education](#), as well as a harmonious development of all disciplines represented at the University: [humanities, social and natural sciences](#).

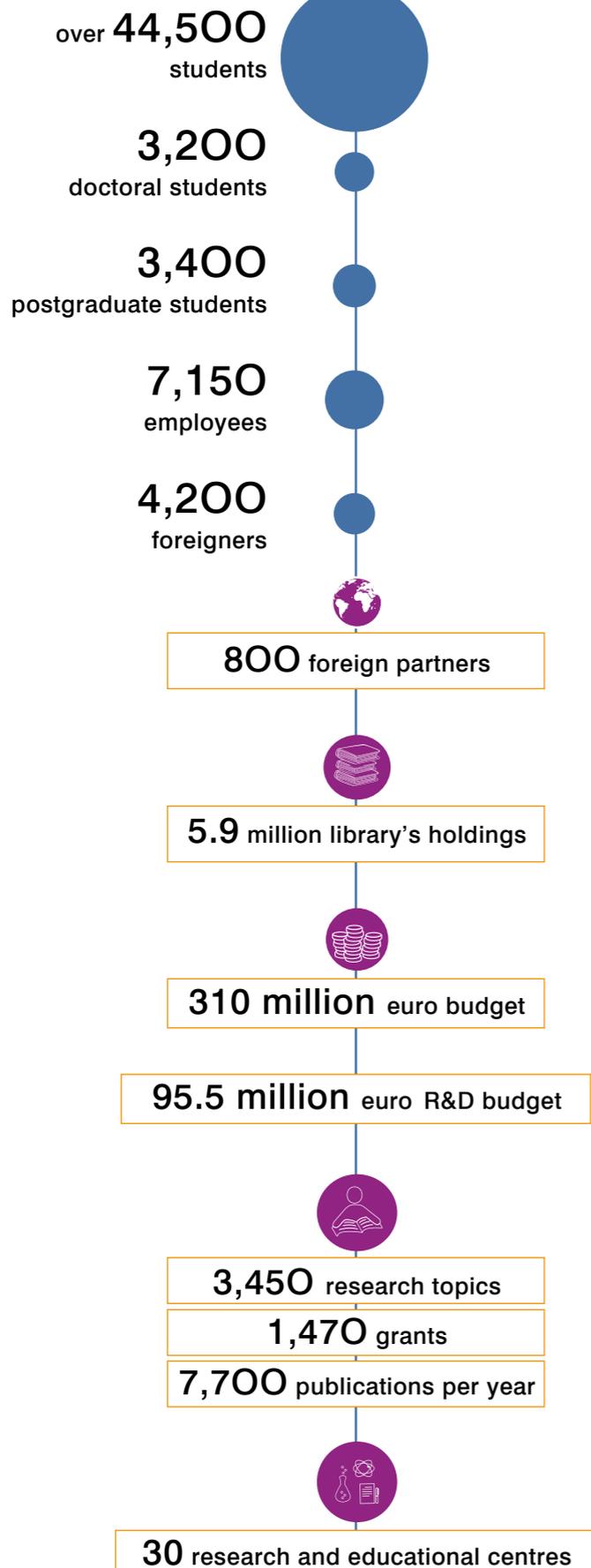
In the national universities rankings, the University has been ranked 1<sup>st</sup>. Certainly, it is the best Polish university in the international rankings. It performs particularly well in the [international rankings by subjects](#). 21 programmes of study provided by the UW are among 200 the best university’s programmes offered in the world – due to US News and World Report 2016, QS World University Rankings 2015/2016, Eduniversal Best Masters and MBA’s Ranking 2015/2016.

The University of Warsaw is the [most international academic institution in Poland](#). Each year more than 4,000 foreigners study at the

University. We are the most active university among Polish institutions of higher education participating in the European Union student exchange programme – Erasmus+.

The university life concentrates in [three campuses](#): Central, Ochota and Stuzew, located in different districts of Warsaw. The University’s historic seat, located in the heart of Warsaw, is widely appreciated for its elegant architecture. The natural science departments’ campus in Ochota has recently gained imposing new buildings, housing state-of-the-art laboratories. These facilities provide their users with comfortable work and study areas, and interestingly arranged recreational spaces. Investments that will be undertaken under the multiannual development plan (2016-2020) funded by the government ca. 230 million euro, can provide a comfortable working and study conditions to representatives of the humanities and social science. Dormitories along with sport and cultural facilities will be provided to students.

## FACTS AND FIGURES



## 21 FACULTIES

- Faculty of Applied Linguistics
- Faculty of Applied Social Sciences and Resocialisation
- Faculty of „Artes Liberales”
- Faculty of Biology
- Faculty of Chemistry
- Faculty of Economic Sciences
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies
- Faculty of Geology
- Faculty of History
- Faculty of Journalism, Information and Book Studies
- Faculty of Law and Administration
- Faculty of Management
- Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics, and Mechanics
- Faculty of Modern Languages
- Faculty of Oriental Studies
- Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology
- Faculty of Physics
- Faculty of Polish Studies
- Faculty of Political Science and International Studies
- Faculty of Psychology

## QUALITY OF TEACHING

Each year the University provides education to approximately 51,200 students. The candidates are offered a **wide choice of programmes in humanities, social and natural science**, as well as numerous **interdisciplinary programmes**, which combine knowledge and skills in various fields.

University of Warsaw offers:

- a wide choice of programmes of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle studies and long cycle (uniform) Master's studies,
- 33 programmes of doctoral studies (3<sup>rd</sup> cycle),
- 3 MBA programmes,
- 145 postgraduate programmes,
- over 200 Open University courses.

The University offers over **20 English-language programmes**. Within the Polish-language programmes, approximately **2,000 courses are taught in foreign languages**.

Monitoring careers of the UW graduates is the largest research project of this type in Europe. It provides proof that the University of Warsaw diploma is advantageous on the labour market: **94% of respondents have found employment after graduation.**

The University's system of language provision sets a pattern for other universities at home and abroad. It has been distinguished by the European Commission with the European Language Label award.

In conjunction with universities from abroad, the University of Warsaw runs **25 joined programmes** of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of studies.

The high quality of teaching at the University of Warsaw is confirmed by various accrediting bodies and is reflected in **international rankings** such as the Quacquarelli Symonds World University Ranking, Eduniversal Best Masters and MBA Worldwide or US News and World Report. The authors of these rankings select each year the best two hundred programmes out of thousands provided worldwide. In 2016, twenty-one programmes from the University of Warsaw received such distinction.

## UNIVERSITY OF RESEARCH

The University employs **3,700 scholars**. One in four holds the title of professor. They participate in **over 180 projects** financed by **European and other international funds and organizations**, such as EU Horizon 2020 and 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme, European Science Foundation, European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research, European Economic Area and Norway Grants, European Molecular Biology Organization, European Space Agency, Polish-Swiss Research Programme, US Office of Naval Research, and Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. The University of Warsaw is the leader among all Polish institutions that won the Horizon 2020 and 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme grants.

Since 2016, the University of Warsaw can use the 'HR Excellence in Research' award given by the European Commission. The logo identifies the institutions and organisations that adopted the principles included in the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researcher.

Among projects financed as part of the European programmes, particularly interesting are prestigious grants of the **European Research Council**: in 2007-2016, ERC awarded 22 grants to scientists working in Polish institutions, 13 of those grants are carried out at the University of Warsaw. Our employees are laureates of all the ERC schemes: the Starting Grants, the Advanced Grants, the Consolidator Grants and the Proof of Concept. Their research concern astronomy, informatics, physics, sociology, linguistic and

cultural studies. They received more than 15 million euro.

Each year the body of **publications** produced by the University scholars' increases by approximately **7,500 new items**, most of them appearing in prestigious international journals.

## WORLDWIDE RENOWN

In many areas, the University scholars maintain an already **well-established position in the world of science**. One such example is the work carried out by the University **archaeologists** in twenty countries, on five continents. The discoveries made in Egypt, Sudan or Peru have fundamental significance to our understanding of the history of these areas, and have contributed to the protection of local heritage. Spectacular discoveries of our **palaeontologists** traces of tetrapods in the Holy Cross Mountains that changed the hitherto views on the evolution have gained global recognition.

The University **astronomers**, who are actively involved in many well-known astrophysical collaborations like OGLE, H.E.S.S., CTA, LIGO/VIRGO, Planck, Gaia, have also gained unquestionable reputation. The **physicists** are members of the Graphene Flagship consortium supported by the European Commission. They have also contributed both to the Large Hadron Collider, installed at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).



The UW is a **leading institution** of higher education in Poland which employees were awarded ERC grants.

The University scholars maintain an already well-established position in the world of **science**.



## COOPERATION

### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The University cooperates with over **800 foreign partners**. It is a member of approximately **100 international associations and research networks**. It is involved in activities of organizations that work for the integration of higher education, e.g. the European University Association, Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe, and Heads of University Management and Administration Network in Europe, Network on Humanitarian Action. It actively supports initiatives for the development of **joint research and didactic projects**.

Our University is the most active Polish academic institution in **Erasmus+** (EU programme for education, training, youth and sport, 2014-2020). We cooperate with 440 universities from Europe and other countries like Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Palestine and the Republic of South Africa. We participate also in projects concerning innovations in education, the improvement of the quality of teaching and an exchange of good practice between universities.

### COOPERATION WITH BUSINESS PARTNERS

The University has always supported both basic research, which broadens our understanding of the world, and applied research, the findings of which have practical applications. Therefore, the University has established various **business partnerships**, for example to find new uses for graphene or to discover new radiopharmaceuticals used in the diagnosis and treatment of e.g. cancer. In 2015-2016, 7 spin-off companies were set up at the University of Warsaw. They focus on, among others, bioremediation, biodegradation, medical and veterinary diagnosis, genetics, satellite observations for forest economy and agriculture. Broad cooperation with business and social partners is possible through **expert centres** offering analytical, laboratory as well as computing services.

Our University is open to contacts with society and the world of business in Poland and beyond. Recently, we have established relation with Google. The company has funded a new research centre at UW – the Digital Economy Lab (DELab). This is the first such project in Central and Eastern Europe. The University of Warsaw realizes projects funded by Google.

## AUTHORITIES 2016-2020

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## TWO CENTURIES OF TRADITION

In 2016, the University of Warsaw has celebrated its **200<sup>th</sup> anniversary**. For the last two centuries, the University has been exerting significant influence on the history of Warsaw and the whole country.

It has fostered the advancement of sciences, educated the country's elites and been an important centre of social and cultural life.

## A GLANCE INTO THE FUTURE

As the University of Warsaw enters the third century of its existence, it has set for itself strategic goals. These include:

- to maintain a strong position among top universities in Central Europe,
  - to join the group of the best universities in our continent,
  - to strengthen the research recognition of the UW, which contributes to the development of world science,
- to develop interdisciplinary research initiatives, individualized education programmes and cooperation with businesses and social partners. It will be possible due to the realization of the multiannual development plan (2016-2020) funded by the Polish government. Financial support equals ca. 230 million euro.

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