

University of Warsaw – Research

The University of Warsaw is not only the largest university in Poland, but also a leading research centre in the country. Besides its 21 faculties, the university also comprises 30 research units, where 3 800 scholars work and 3 000 doctoral students receive their education. Since 2016, the University of Warsaw has the right to use the title 'HR Excellence in Research' awarded by the European Commission. This award confirms that the university fulfils the requirements of the European Charter for Researchers. According to international rankings such as THE, QS and ARWU, UW is in the top 3% of universities in the world.

Almost one third of the university budget, equal to 320 million euro, is devoted to research. Domestic and European grants are the main sources of academic research funding. Employees from the University of Warsaw have received approximately 1 600 grants, equal to 137 million euro, since the foundation of the National Science Centre. Within the present EU financial framework, UW scholars have won more than 50 grants from the Horizon 2020 programme and act as coordinators in 9 projects.

The most prestigious European research competitions are organised by the European Research Council. UW employees have won 14 of the 28 grants awarded to Polish institutions by the council. Winners of ERC grants are engaged in a wide range of areas such as computer science, astronomy and archaeology – fields in which UW research groups maintain a well-established position in the academic world. Prof. Piotr Sankowski has won 3 ERC grants, which is quite an achievement in European research.

The strategic objective of the university ensure a good position among top European research universities and international recognition. It involves continuous development and collaboration with leading world centres. The university works with 800 international partners, and belongs to 100 global research networks and various consortiums set up to conduct particular research projects. In 2018, UW, the Sorbonne University, the University of Heidelberg and Charles University in Prague signed a declaration on the formation of 4EU – a European University Alliance. The universities want to enhance their cooperation in research, teaching and initiatives related to the social responsibilities of science.

Two international research agenda units, ReMedy (Regenerative Mechanisms for Health) created in collaboration with the University Medical Center Göttingen at Georg-August-University Göttingen, and the Centre of Quantum Optical Technologies, set up jointly with scientists from Oxford University, are hosted at the university.

Over the last decade, thanks to EU funding, representatives of the exact and natural sciences have been equipped with laboratories facilitating research at the highest level. 2016 saw the beginning of the realisation of the UW multiannual development plan (2016-2025). It aims to foster research in the humanities and social sciences, tighten up collaboration between faculties and simplify cooperation within the social and economic environment, as well as promote international academic exchange.

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