



University name: University of Pécs
Country: Hungary

SDG16: Peace, justice, and strong institutions

University of Pécs – Report on the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 16)

2024.

1. Introduction

The University is committed to acting in accordance with values that reflect the principles of justice, responsible institutional operation, transparency, and community inclusion in its operations and community engagement. SDG 16 – "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" – provides the University with a direction in the areas of education, research, and community engagement that goes beyond institutional operation: it encourages the University to take on an exemplary role.

2. Strategic and institutional background

The University of Pécs's strategy for 2023–2030 identifies equal opportunities, transparency, community participation, and social responsibility as fundamental values. Its strategic goals include institutional excellence and quality assurance, as well as the modernization and democratization of education and training.

3. Institutional operation, transparency, and community participation

3.1. Transparency and ethical operation

The University has published the "Sustainability Report 2024," which details the economic, environmental, and social responsibilities of its institutional operations. The College for Sustainable Development of the University of Pécs operates as an active student organization with the aim of promoting community participation, social responsibility, and ethical thinking.

3.2. Equal opportunities and inclusion

The University has a Gender Equality Plan in place, and the Equal Opportunities Plan is reviewed annually to ensure that the principles of inclusion, non-discrimination, and equal treatment are upheld for members of the student and staff community. The University won second place in the "Responsible Employer of the Year 2024" competition, which serves as recognition of the institution's employee-centered approach.

3.3. Student participation and community initiatives

The University organizes active community programs aimed at involving students and staff in shaping the institution's operations and developing community life. For example, student mentoring programs, volunteer activities, and social projects all contribute to community cohesion.

4. Education, research, and legal and ethical competencies

4.1. Education on good governance and social responsibility



The Faculty of Business and Economics launched new courses in 2024, such as the advanced program "Sustainability Reporting and Data Analysis Specialist," which encourages the development of competencies necessary for transparent institutional operations.

4.2. Research on the rule of law, security, and institutional prevention

The Research Group on Combating Human Trafficking at the Faculty of Law of the University of Pécs, in cooperation with the Dutch Reshape Foundation, once again brought the "freedom truck," an interactive crime prevention tool, to Hungary. The aim of the program was to make young people aware of the dangers of human trafficking in a playful way and to raise awareness of the factors that make them vulnerable to becoming victims

5. Partnerships, collaborations, and institutional networks

The university is an active member of several international and domestic networks whose aim is to strengthen cooperation between higher education institutions and social organizations in the areas of sustainability, transparency, and institutional excellence.

6. Summary

In 2024, the University of Pécs continued to contribute actively and systematically to the achievement of SDG 16 – "Peace, justice and strong institutions." In its operating culture, community and student services, educational and research programs, and partnerships, it has taken numerous steps to promote institutional reliability, inclusiveness, social participation, and security. These achievements provide a solid foundation for the coming years, as the University seeks to further develop its role as a model, socially responsible, and community-oriented institution contributing to a sustainable future.