# WE VALUE COMMITMENT AND SOCIAL CAPITAL

FROM 2016 TO 2018, VC UW COORDINATED THE "UW: INITIATIVES FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY" PROGRAMME, WHICH OPERATED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW IN COOPERATION WITH THE SANTANDER UNIVERSIDADES PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTED IN POLAND BY THE SANTANDER BANK POLSKA.

WE IMPLEMENTED 16 PROJECTS WITH OVER 120 PARTICIPANTS.



# OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME.

As part of the programme, undergraduate, graduate and PhD students at the University of Warsaw carried out projects that brought positive changes to the University's environment. Participants, through project work, had the opportunity to develop many skills and competencies. Each project established cooperation with an external partner who supported activities with their experience and knowledge.

The 3rd edition projects were entirely prepared by the Project Teams consisting of students from the University of Warsaw. Thanks to this, they implemented their own social activities from top to bottom.

# THE STUDENTS HAVE TAKEN THE CHALLENGE AND THE IN-ITIATIVE!

# I EDITION

# Foreign Markets Business

The project involved the search for new partners and outlets for a small, dynamically operating export company. Students got familiar with the specificity of conducting various analyses, establishing contacts, and making business decisions.

### How to Sell Europe?

As part of the project, students participated in the development of a communication and marketing strategy and methods to increase the visibility of the EurActiv.pl information portal. A student debate was prepared with the participation of Members of the European Parliament, experts, and think-tank representatives.

### **Culinary Corner**

As part of the project, students prepared a series of culinary, photo and educational workshops for pupils of the Sociotherapy Centre No. 2 "Kąt". The result is a professional culinary book, the preparation of which had a socio-therapeutic dimension for young people.

# Social Evaluation of the Project from the Participatory Budget

The participants prepared a professional evaluation of the project implemented as part of the participatory budget - an integration playground. The results and conclusions were presented at the debate with the participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations and the City Hall of Warsaw.

# II EDITION:

### Serendipity and the TROP $\ensuremath{\textcircled{}}$ Method

The most important tasks and objectives of the project included: getting to know the training industry and learning marketing activities, taking into account the client's needs, not only for the company's profit, but also for promoting business models based on values and empathy. The result of this project was a workshop meeting and presentation of the brochure "Science in Action".

# Ochota na Kampus

Work on increasing the involvement of the Ochota Campus community in the activities of the participatory budget and other forms of local activities. The participants gained practical knowledge about the participatory budget as well as the organization of an information campaign, cooperation with media, and the use of social media in project work.

# III EDITION:

# **Passenger Intervention**

A grass-roots initiative that brings together people who want to react to verbal and physical violence in public spaces. The focus was on the acts of violence against foreigners living in Poland. Participants conducted a series of interviews with foreigners, a promotion and information campaign, and organized a special tram ride during which they discussed the importance and methods of responding to violence.

### Stress the Stress

A series of workshops during which students of Warsaw universities could learn different ways to deal with stress and analyse its causes. The project resulted in a Facebook fanpage with articles about ways to prevent stress, and a list of places where help can be found.

# Open Source - Open Mind

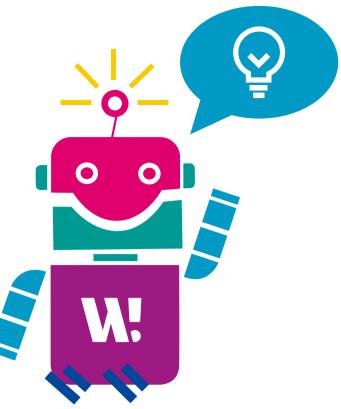
The focus of the project was security in cyberspace, in particular verification of information and its sources. The project consisted of workshops about recognising fake news, using Google tools to check information, as well as OSINT workshops (open source interview). The result is a publicly available handbook on the subject of the entire project.

### The Common Language of Powiśle

The Polish and foreign students prepared workshops for children, demonstration lessons for high school students, a lecture for seniors, and took part in two events, which were very important for the local community: XXI Integration Festival at the school on Drewniana Street and Picnic at the St. Franciszek Salezy House.

# Workshops on the Outreach Method Improving Professional and Interpersonal Competencies of Students from the Warsaw University

A project prepared by students of Social Prevention and Resocialisation, using the outreach method, which is applied to activities with people at risk of social exclusion. The activities were directed to new and experienced employees who were not familiar with this method.



The effect was two brochures distributed to places working with excluded people and passed on to future street workers.

# ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

#### Muslim, Meaning Who?

This project's objective was to create a publication of didactic material for teachers and non-governmental organizations. It helps in transferring reliable knowledge and fighting against the prejudices related to Muslims. The publication is available in paper and electronic version.

#### **City Benches**

Under the supervision of tutors and in cooperation with the City Hall of Warsaw, the importance of benches in urban spaces was examined. The participants analysed their shape, reception among residents, influence on their quality of life and use of public space. The result is a publication that contains conclusions from the conducted research.

# The Ripple Effect Project

The result was an outline of an information brochure for foreign students of the University of Warsaw, as well as a series of international meetings, called "Movie Nights", at the University's Student Houses. They have transformed into a permanent group integrating Polish and foreign students living in UW dorms in Ochota.

# Social economy as a tool of social change. Social economy triangle: Poland – Ukraine – Great Britain

An international project in which students of the University of Warsaw and the University of Lviv took part in a series of workshops on social entrepreneurship, and then met for a study visit in Warsaw. They visited various social enterprises and then discussed the possibilities of implementing similar projects in their local communities.

# ${\sf PROSocial-Summer\,Academy\,of\,Social\,Entrepreneurship}$

This project was addressed to students and graduates of the University of Warsaw and the Medical University of Warsaw who had ideas for their own social enterprises. During a weeklong training session, they took part in a series of workshops. The creators of the most promising business plans have been invited to participate in the prestigious European Venture Philanthropy Association (EVPA).



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