



Goal 15. 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».

Karazin University Participated in the Symposium "Sustainable Development - Current State and Prospects" and the Training Program "European Experience in Strategic Planning for Territorial Development Considering Ecosystem Services for Post-War Reconstruction of Ukraine"



Maryna Hryhorieva, Head of the Global Development Department at Karazin University, participated in the IV International Scientific Symposium "Sustainable Development - Current State and Prospects" and underwent training as part of the international winter school program "European Experience in Strategic Planning for Territorial Development Considering Ecosystem Services for Post-War Reconstruction of Ukraine."

The events took place from February 13 to 16, 2024, in Slavske village (Lviv region). The organizers of the symposium and winter school were the National University "Lviv Polytechnic," the V. Chernovol Institute of Sustainable Development, and the NGO "Mission of Sustainable Development."

The topics covered in the events included ecological balance and sustainable land use, environmental safety, tourism, and hospitality management, environmental expertise of goods, civil security, and current issues of land use. Overall, around 250 researchers from Ukraine and Estonia participated in the symposium.

The discussion of issues related to natural resource management, environmental impact assessment, and ecological expertise strengthens the scientific and practical foundation for biodiversity conservation.



Groundhog Day: Tymka III Predicts an Early Spring



Groundhog Day, held annually at the Karazin University biological station, directly contributes to the achievement of UN Sustainable Development Goal 15.

It emphasizes the importance of preserving biodiversity, natural habitats, and steppe ecosystems. This is an example of how traditions, science, and education can foster environmental awareness and protect nature.

The Karazin University Biological Station in the village of Haidary, Zmiiv district, hosted traditional events on the occasion of the Groundhog Day.

This year, this touching tradition, to which Ukrainians are so accustomed, is 20 years old! It is believed that a badger coming out of its burrow predicts the onset of spring by its behavior.

"We are waiting for our warm Ukrainian spring in 6 weeks," deciphered the prophecy of Tymko III's omen Nadiia Tokarska, the badger's keeper. The badger also chose patience as a superpower that will help Ukrainians win the war.

Based on the objectives of the EU Biodiversity Strategy, Karazin University scientists continue their hard work to preserve the virgin steppe and those who inhabit it, together with Tymko, the ambassador of the Ukrainian steppe.

Celebrating the Badger Day is an important symbol of the fact that traditions do not disappear because of the war, but, on the contrary, help us to maintain our inspiration and faith in victory, to develop national science and education!



Karazin Students Planted Magnolias in the University Botanical Garden



The botanical garden is not just a collection of plants but also a platform for environmental education, promoting knowledge about nature conservation, sustainable development, and responsible attitudes toward the environment. The involvement of students and faculty in greening efforts strengthens the human connection with nature.

The spring initiative to plant magnolias in the Karazin University Botanical Garden aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goal 15, as it supports biodiversity conservation, environmental education, and the restoration of the natural environment in the city.

This is a step toward a greener, healthier, and more resilient future.



On April 3rd, the administration, students, and faculty of Karazin University participated in an important initiative to preserve the diversity of the university botanical garden's plant life. This year, deciduous magnolias were planted — symbols of spring and love.

As noted by the Deputy Director of the botanical garden, Oleksandr Alyokhin, magnolias have been planted in the botanical garden over the past few decades. For many people, these plants are a symbol of Crimea, although they "feel good" in the Kharkiv region as well. Thus, more and more symbols of our South appear in Eastern Ukraine. According to him, the staff have hopes: in a few years, the botanical garden's territory will become even brighter and more colorful due to the planted plants!

The university's leadership expressed gratitude to the participants of this initiative and hopes that planting plants will become a tradition for the university. For the second year in a row, Karazinites have been meeting in the botanical garden in spring to enrich its flora. This year's event was supported by the Kharkiv Karazin University Foundation.

We believe that each planted plant is a step towards a greener, healthier future for all Kharkiv residents.

The Karazin University Botanical Garden is not only a place of relaxation and enjoyment for the city's residents but also a symbol of natural wealth and human responsibility towards it. Currently, the botanical garden's collections include over 8,000 species of plants.

<https://karazin.ua/en/news/karazintsi-vysadyly-magnolii-v-nbsp-botanichnomu-sadu-univer/>

Geologist Day: the University Celebrates



The profession of geologist, pursued by students at Karazin University, is key to achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 15, as it provides the scientific basis for the conservation and sustainable use of land, mineral resources, and geological diversity.

Geologists not only discover resources but also help protect the environment by providing tools for its preservation for generations to come.



Today Ukrainians celebrate Geologist Day. Karazin University joins in commemorating this day!

Geology is one of the first sciences taught at the university. The vast majority of specialized disciplines that students study today have been present since the university's founding.

The profession of a geologist is a true calling. Experts in this field traverse vast expanses, explore the secrets of the earth's depths, discover new deposits of minerals, and make an invaluable contribution to the development of science in Ukraine and the world.

The university sincerely thanks you for your tireless work, disseminated knowledge, and dedication to your important cause.

We wish you even more scientific discoveries, exciting journeys, and boundless knowledge!

International Day of Environmental Education



Through education, science, and outreach, Karazin University lays the foundation for the preservation of terrestrial ecosystems, biodiversity, and sustainable natural resource management.

This is an investment in a generation capable of protecting nature and ensuring its restoration.



Every year on April 15th, many countries around the world observe International Day of Environmental Education.

Focused on the development of environmental education, this day emphasizes the importance of preserving our planet for future generations. Educational institutions, acting as catalysts for change, make their significant contributions and offer educational programs aimed at preparing experts in the field of ecology.

The Education and Research Institute of Ecology of Karazin University educates highly qualified specialists, stimulates research, promotes innovation, and develops strategies to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals in environmental conservation.

On the International Day of Environmental Education, we call for the collective effort to ensure proper attention to environmental education, which is one of the key elements on the path to a better future!

<https://karazin.ua/en/news/mizhnarodnyi-den-ekologichnykh-znan-universytet-vidznachaie/>

38 Years Since the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster: The University Remembers



The Chornobyl disaster became a tragic example of how human activity can destroy terrestrial ecosystems.

Karazin University's efforts are focused on restoring degraded lands, preserving biodiversity, and preventing environmental catastrophes in the future.



This day, 38 years ago, the largest disaster in the history of nuclear energy occurred. On April 26, 1986, the Chernobyl disaster claimed thousands of lives and left an irreparable mark on the environment.

We honor the memory of those who saved the world from the consequences of this terrible tragedy. The Chernobyl disaster liquidators sacrificed their health and lives to mitigate the catastrophe's scale and protect us all from the danger of radiation.

Today, Ukrainians not only commemorate the victims but also defend their country from new threats. Ukraine is once again at the forefront of ensuring safety for the entire world. We thank the workers of the exclusion zone who prevented a recurrence of the tragedy in 2022 during the Russian military advance. The enemy's provocations continue to endanger the world with the horrors of a radiation catastrophe.

The Chernobyl tragedy remains a permanent reminder of pain, anxiety, and lessons from which humanity must learn.

We express our sincere gratitude and pay tribute to those who risked their lives for the sake of others. This heroic act will never be forgotten.

<https://karazin.ua/en/news/38-rokiv-vid-dnia-avarii-na-chornobylskii-aes-universytet-p/>