SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL NO. 5 “GENDER EQUALITY”

Gender equality in contemporary society is a fundamental principle of justice, equal opportunity, and human dignity. It extends far beyond formal equal access to education or employment, encompassing the culture of interaction, language, institutional practices, and deeper perceptions of the individual’s role in society.

In the twenty-first century, the issue of gender equality acquires new dimensions in the context of global crises, armed conflicts, economic instability, and social transformations. In Ukraine, these challenges are intensified by the consequences of the full-scale war, which has affected all spheres of life, including social roles, employment structures, family models, and access to resources.

In 2025, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University continued implementing Sustainable Development Goal No. 5 “Gender Equality,” considering it an integral component of academic culture, institutional ethics, and the modern university environment.

EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION

In 2025, the University continued ensuring equal access to education for all students regardless of gender.

The key principles included:

- non-discriminatory access to educational programs;
- equal opportunities in choosing fields of study;
- support for individualized educational trajectories;
- ensuring equal conditions for assessment.

Special attention was devoted to overcoming stereotypes concerning “traditionally male” or “traditionally female” professions, particularly in the fields of STEM, management, and the humanities.

The University consistently supports the idea that professional choice should be based on abilities, interests, and motivation rather than gender expectations.

GENDER EQUALITY IN THE ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

In 2025, Karazin University continued developing policies of equal opportunity in teaching, research, and governance.

This included:

- equal access to academic positions;
- support for career development;
- participation in research projects;
- representation in leadership structures;
- ensuring transparent procedures for academic advancement.

The University regards the academic environment as a space where professional competence constitutes the only relevant criterion for evaluation, regardless of gender identity

SUPPORTING WORK-LIFE BALANCE

In 2025, an important component of the University's policy remained the support of balance between professional activity and personal life for both employees and students.

This included:

- flexible forms of study and work;
- support for parenthood and motherhood;
- consideration of family circumstances in the educational process;
- development of a culture of mutual understanding within teams.

Under wartime conditions, this issue acquired additional complexity, as many members of the university community combined study or work with caring for children, relatives, or recovering from traumatic experiences.

PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF A CULTURE OF RESPECT

In 2025, the University continued efforts aimed at creating a safe and non-discriminatory environment.

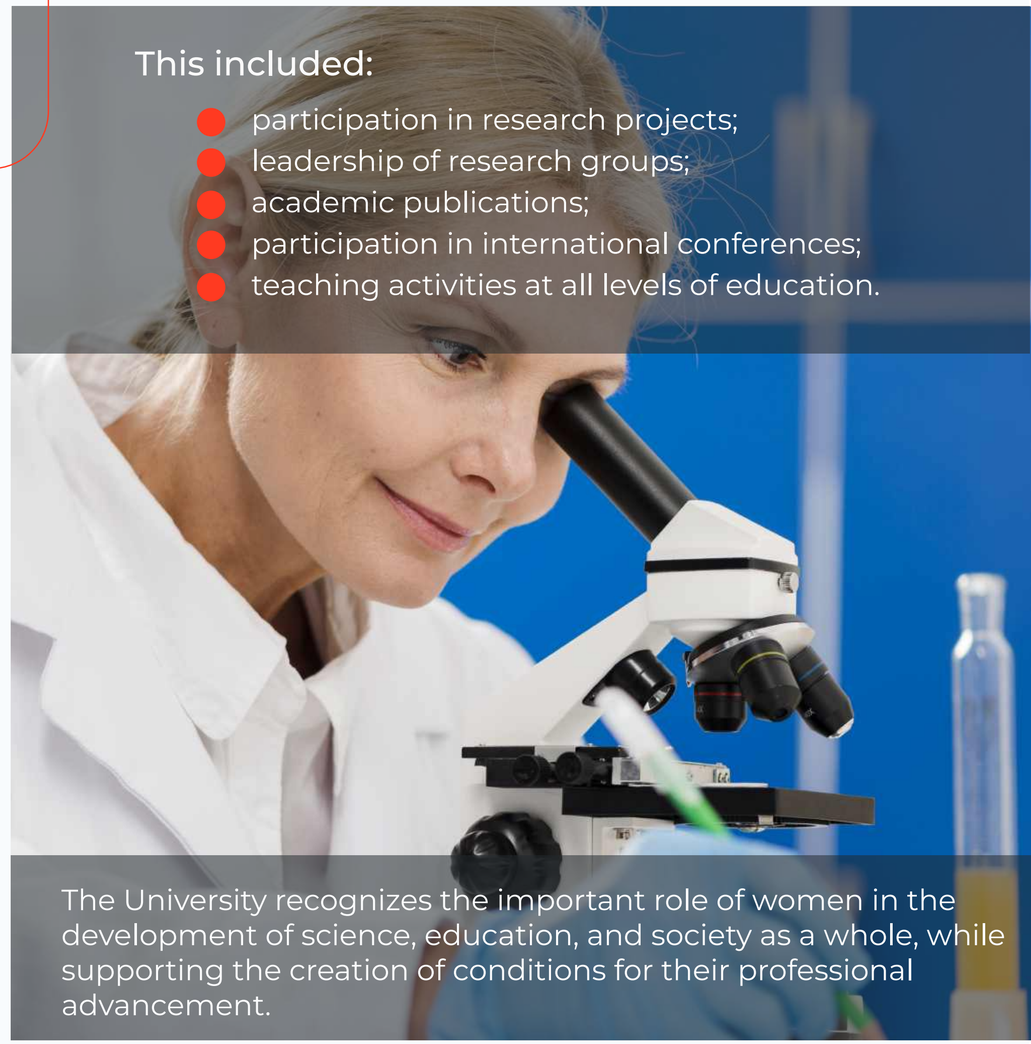
The main directions included:

- awareness-raising activities;
- development of a culture of ethical communication;
- prevention of gender stereotypes;
- support for equality in interactions within the academic environment.

Particular attention was devoted to fostering a culture of respect as a fundamental principle of university life.

WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

In 2025, Karazin University continued supporting women's participation in scientific and educational activities.



This included:

- participation in research projects;
- leadership of research groups;
- academic publications;
- participation in international conferences;
- teaching activities at all levels of education.

The University recognizes the important role of women in the development of science, education, and society as a whole, while supporting the creation of conditions for their professional advancement.



GENDER SENSITIVITY IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS

In 2025, the University continued integrating principles of gender sensitivity into the educational process.

This involved:

- updating educational materials;
- incorporating gender perspectives into the humanities and social sciences;
- critical reconsideration of historical and social narratives;
- development of interdisciplinary approaches.

THE UNIVERSITY AS A SPACE OF EQUALITY

In 2025, Karazin University continued developing the model of the university as a space of equality, trust, and mutual respect.

Within this environment:

- diversity is valued;
- individuality is supported;
- equal access to opportunities is ensured;
- a culture of dialogue is cultivated.

Gender equality is regarded as one of the key conditions for the sustainable development of the university community.

CONCLUSIONS

5 GENDER EQUALITY

In 2025, Karazin University continued the systematic implementation of Sustainable Development Goal No. 5 “Gender Equality” through:

- ensuring equal access to education;
- development of an inclusive academic environment;
- support for professional development;
- prevention of discrimination;
- fostering a culture of respect;
- integration of gender sensitivity into education.

Under the conditions of contemporary social challenges, gender equality emerges as an essential component of democratic development, social justice, and human dignity. For Karazin University, this means the consistent establishment of an environment in which every individual has an equal right to development, self-realization, and participation in shaping the future.