SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL NO. 11 «SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES»

A city is a complex system of interactions in which infrastructure, culture, economy, environment, and security are intertwined. Its resilience is determined not only by the physical condition of buildings and roads, but also by its ability to adapt to crises, preserve humanity, and sustain community life under changing conditions.

In the 21st century, the concept of a sustainable city goes beyond urban studies as such. It includes environmental responsibility, social inclusion, accessibility of services, energy efficiency, and the ability to recover after disasters and wars.

For Ukraine in 2025, the issue of sustainable urban development is particularly urgent. The war has significantly affected urban infrastructure, housing stock, transport systems, and the social fabric of communities. In these conditions, the recovery of cities becomes both a technical and humanitarian task.

In 2025, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University continued implementing Sustainable Development Goal No. 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities” through:

- urban studies research;
- environmental monitoring of the urban environment;
- development of educational programs;
- analysis of urban transformations;
- international cooperation;
- participation in urban space recovery.

For Karazin University, the city is a living system with which the university is in constant dialogue.

URBAN STUDIES RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, the university continued scientific research in urban studies, geography, and socio-economic urban development.

Main areas included:

- analysis of urban infrastructure;
- spatial development studies;
- demographic change analysis;
- modeling of urban systems;
- assessment of urban environmental quality.

Special attention was given to urban transformation in wartime conditions and post-war recovery.

RESTORATION OF URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2025, Karazin University contributed to analytical and expert support for urban infrastructure recovery processes.

The focus included:

- restoration of housing stock;
- reconstruction of educational and healthcare institutions;
- modernization of transport systems;
- urban energy resilience;
- security infrastructure.

University expertise is aimed at developing long-term solutions rather than purely restorative measures.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

URBAN ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE

In 2025, the university continued research on the quality of the urban environment.

The analysis covered:

- ecological condition of cities;
- accessibility of green spaces;
- social infrastructure;
- comfort and safety of urban space.

A city is viewed as a space of everyday human experience, where quality of life is shaped by small but systemic factors.





EDUCATION IN URBAN STUDIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, the university continued developing educational programs related to sustainable urban development.

Students studied:

- urban planning;
- urban environmental ecology;
- urban sociology;
- infrastructure systems;
- principles of sustainable development.

Education is aimed at preparing specialists capable of viewing the city as a complex interconnected system.

SOCIAL RESILIENCE OF URBAN COMMUNITIES

In 2025, the university focused on the social resilience of urban communities.

Key aspects included:

- support for internally displaced persons;
- development of civic initiatives;
- social integration;
- support for vulnerable population groups;
- development of local communities.

Social resilience is understood as the ability of a city to maintain cohesion even during periods of crisis.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, Karazin University continued research on environmental aspects of urban development.

Main directions included:

- urban ecology;
- waste management;
- green infrastructure;
- climate change adaptation;
- reduction of environmental burden.

Environmental sustainability is a key condition
for the long-term existence of modern cities.



INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, the university continued international cooperation in urban studies and urban development.

Main directions included:

- exchange of experience;
- joint research projects;
- participation in international urban networks;
- integration of European practices.

International cooperation enables the adaptation of best practices to Ukrainian realities.

CONCLUSIONS

In 2025, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University continued implementing Sustainable Development Goal No. 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities” through:

- urban studies research;
- analysis of urban infrastructure;
- educational programs;
- participation in city recovery;
- environmental research;
- support for social resilience;
- international cooperation.

The university views the city as a living system in which space, people, and time are intertwined. In this context, sustainable urban development involves creating conditions for a dignified, safe, and balanced human life in the urban environment.