SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL NO. 16 «PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS»

Peace is a complex system of social, legal, and institutional relations in which a person can live without fear, have access to justice, and trust state and societal institutions.

In the 21st century, societal stability is determined not only by the strength of institutions but also by their transparency, accountability, and ability to ensure equality before the law. Justice becomes a practice embedded in the daily functioning of the state and communities.

For Ukraine in 2025, this Goal is of particular importance. The war has intensified issues of security, trust, justice, human rights protection, and institutional resilience. In these conditions, recovery cannot be purely physical; it must also be institutional and moral.

Universities, in this context, serve as spaces where a culture of law, critical thinking, civic responsibility, and respect for human dignity is formed.

In 2025, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University continued implementing Sustainable Development Goal No. 16 “Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions” through:

- legal and social science research;
- education in law and public administration;
- development of academic integrity;
- international cooperation;
- outreach activities;
- support for democratic culture.

RESEARCH ON LAW, STATE, AND SOCIETY

In 2025, the university continued scientific research in law, political science, and social sciences.

Main areas included:

- functioning of legal systems;
- transformation of state institutions;
- protection of human rights;
- analysis of social conflicts;
- study of post-crisis recovery processes.

These studies aim to understand how resilient and just societies are formed.

EDUCATION IN LAW AND CIVIC CULTURE

In 2025, the university continued developing educational programs related to law and public administration.

Students studied:

- constitutional and international law;
- human rights;
- foundations of democracy;
- public administration;
- ethics of public service.

Education is aimed at forming responsible citizens and future professionals capable of working in state and societal institutions.

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ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AS A FOUNDATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CULTURE

In 2025, Karazin University continued strengthening the principles of academic integrity.

Main directions included:

- prevention of plagiarism;
- development of an ethical research culture;
- transparency in assessment;
- responsibility in scientific activity.

Academic integrity is viewed as a reflection of a broader culture of justice.



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HUMAN RIGHTS AND INCLUSION

In 2025, the university paid special attention to human rights protection and inclusivity.

The following issues were addressed:

- equal access to education;
- non-discrimination;
- support for vulnerable groups;
- gender equality;
- inclusive environment.

INSTITUTIONAL RESILIENCE IN WARTIME CONDITIONS

In 2025, an important focus remained the study of institutional resilience in crisis conditions.

Main aspects included:

- continuity of the educational process;
- adaptation of management structures;
- digitalization of administrative systems;
- ensuring the safety of the university community.

Strong institutions are understood as the ability to maintain functionality even under the most difficult conditions.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN LAW AND DEMOCRACY

In 2025, the university continued participation in international programs related to law, democracy, and governance.

Main directions included:

- academic exchanges;
- joint research projects;
- integration of European legal standards;
- participation in international scientific networks.

International cooperation contributes to strengthening legal culture and democratic institutions.



FORMATION OF A CULTURE OF JUSTICE AND TRUST

In 2025, the university continued awareness-raising activities aimed at developing a culture of trust and justice.

Activities included:

- scientific discussions;
- educational events;
- student initiatives;
- public lectures.

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CONCLUSIONS

In 2025, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University continued implementing Sustainable Development Goal No. 16 “Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions” through:

- legal and social research;
- education in law;
- development of academic integrity;
- protection of human rights;
- strengthening institutional resilience;
- international cooperation;
- formation of a culture of trust.

The university views peace and justice as interconnected foundations of social life. Strong institutions, in this context, are a space where human dignity, responsibility, and trust between people and the state are realized.