

Warsaw School of Economics



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Foreword



The Warsaw School of Economics (SGH) is a well-known university not only in Poland but also abroad. It is here that the creators of the Polish route "from a plan to the market" were educated. SGH graduates continue to be present in the highest economic and political positions in Poland. They are members of the Polish Parliament, European and global institutions. They hold managerial posts in Polish and international companies and institutions.

The Warsaw School of Economics employs outstanding scholars not only from the field of economics and management but also, among others, from the fields of law, sociology and political science. Their presence is a guarantee of the high level of scientific, research and educational activity of our university.

Today, one of the main objectives of the development of the School is to open it to foreign students. What we offer them is an extensive programme of studies, an excellent infrastructure and a friendly environment. If you don't believe that we teach economics and independent thinking well, we invite you to check it out for yourselves!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Budnikowski".

Professor Adam Budnikowski – SGH Rector



Get the facts

Get the facts

- Warsaw School of Economics was founded in 1906 by August Zieliński as Poland's first university of economics.
- Over 12 000 students are enrolled at our School in bachelor and master degree programmes, 1 200 are studying at the doctoral level and over 4 000 are completing other postgraduate courses. SGH employs over 1 500 staff members, of whom 900 are teaching and research staff.
- In the 2008 edition of The Financial Times ranking of the Top 50 Masters in Management programmes, SGH was among the 25 best European economic universities progressing from 31 rank in 2007 and 35 in 2006.
- In the opinion of journalists of the Polish edition of Newsweek, among all Polish universities it is SGH that gives its graduates the greatest chance of finding good jobs.
- SGH students represent almost 60 countries.
- Since the beginning of the economic transition in 1989, 11 out of 21 finance ministers of Poland were SGH graduates.
- The main negotiator of the Polish membership in the European Union, from 5 December 2001 until the end of negotiations, was Professor Jan Truszczyński – an SGH graduate and current lecturer.
- Professor Leszek Balcerowicz – an SGH graduate and lecturer, former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, former President of the National Bank of Poland, is considered to be the main architect of the Polish economic transformation after 1989.
- Professor Danuta Hübner, the first Polish commissioner in the European Commission (for Regional Policy), previously the Minister for European Affairs of the Republic of Poland and the Head of the Office of the Committee for European Integration and the Secretary of the State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, is an SGH graduate and current lecturer.

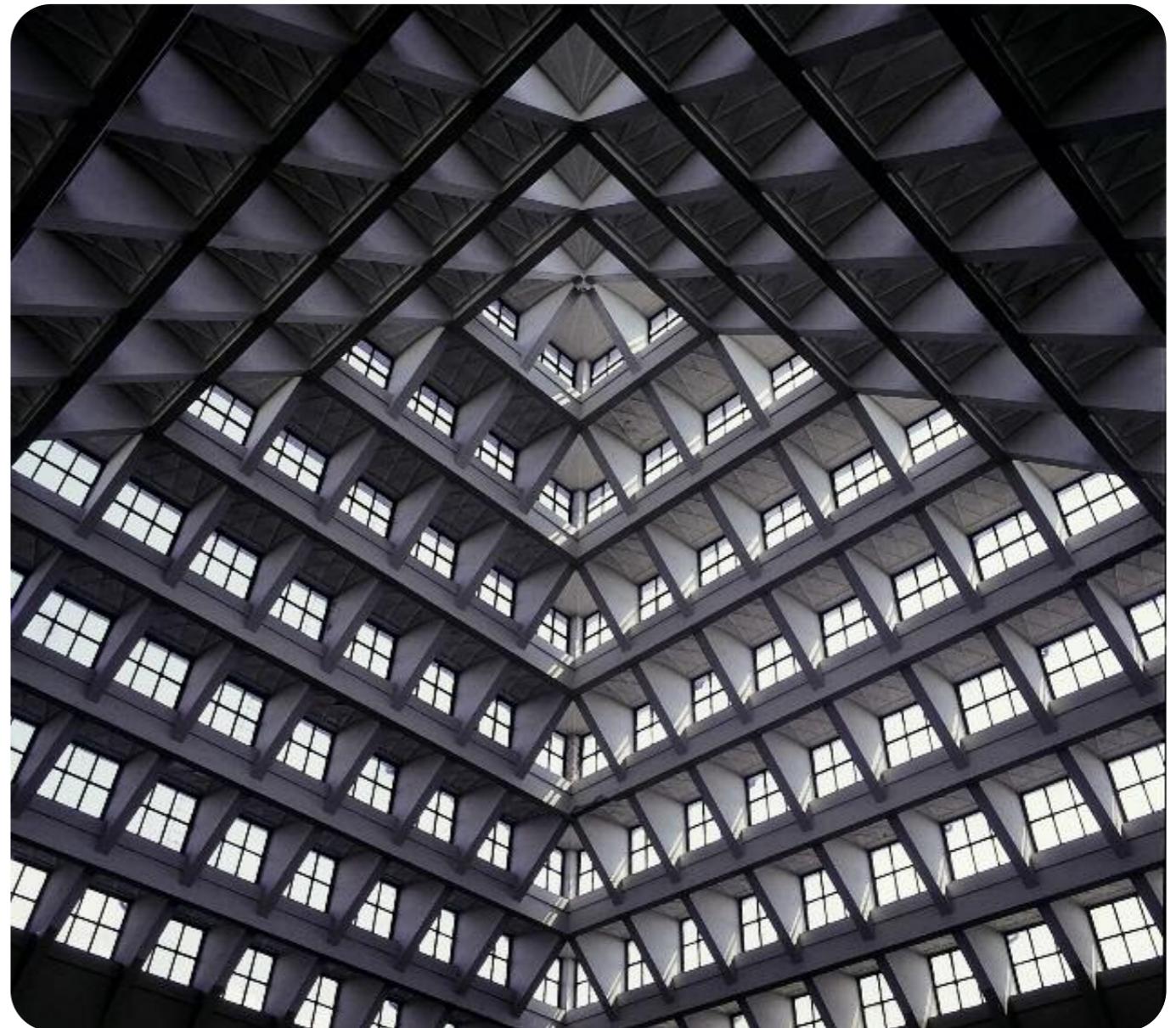
Get the facts

To a large extent, SGH owes its current renown and leading position on the market of economics education in Poland to thorough reforms conducted in the organisational structure of the university and its syllabi in the early 1990s.



On the one hand, the changes consisted in introducing an innovative, department-less organisational structure with employees gathered in scientific research units called collegia. On the other hand, the educational process was thoroughly reformed, which led to the individualisation of the courses of study. These changes were accompanied by almost revolutionary transformations of the programmes offered, resulting in the introduction of new subjects as well as the modernisation of the content of lectures and teaching methods. SGH's continuous development in the form of incessant changes taking place from the beginning of the reform at the turn of the 1980s results from fast reaction of the institution to the changing reality of the contemporary world. We must not forget that it is the experts connected with SGH who have had, and still do, a significant influence on the character of social and economic changes in our country.

Today, the Warsaw School of Economics is considered to be the best economic university and one of the best Polish universities, which is demonstrated by the fact that for many years the school has been placed first in the educational rankings of opinion-making weeklies such as *Wprost* and *Newsweek* as well as the daily *Rzeczpospolita*.





History

First economic university

The Warsaw School of Economics is the oldest economic university in Poland. It started its activity in 1906 with the foundation of August Zieliński's Private Courses of Commerce for Men at a time when Poland was being annexed by Russia, Prussia and Austria. The founder of the School, August Zieliński, managed to obtain the permission of the Russian sector authorities for opening courses, which, in fact, provided academic lectures in the Polish language. During World War I, with the consent of the occupying German authorities, the courses were acknowledged as "Handelshochschule", i.e. the Higher School of Commerce (HSC). However, it was not until Poland regained independence in 1918 that it became possible to give the School a more academic look. One year later, the authorities approved the statute of the HSC by giving it the full rights of a university. During World War II the school operated in conspiracy. After the end of the war in 1945, classes were resumed in the library edifice, which was kept intact. In June 1949, communist authorities nationalised the university and transformed it into the Central School of Planning and Statistics. The "socialist shape" imposed on the university by communists was aimed at creating an institution for educating official personnel, which was adjusted to the needs of a centrally planned and managed economy. Despite numerous limitations and obligations, the so-called science schools managed to develop, such as those of Aleksy Wakar and Michał Kalecki, which at that time were an avant-garde of economic thought. By the end of the period of the Polish People's Republic, the need for a thorough reform of the school became discernible. The conditions to conduct the same appeared in 1990 in the wake of the general transformation of the state. On 5 April 1991, the university returned to its previous name of the Warsaw School of Economics – "Szkoła Główna Handlowa" which literally translates from Polish as the "Main School of Commerce". New authorities commenced the transformation of the School. The teaching process was computerised and modernised and contacts were established with the best economic schools in Europe and around the world. Students were given the opportunity to choose lecturers and shape their own programme of studies.

Structure

The Rector, four Vice Rectors (for Teaching and Student Affairs, for External Relations, for Scientific Research and for Development) and the Senate, which is a principal legislative body of the school, constitute the supreme authorities of SGH.

The highest function in the school is performed by the rector of SGH, who manages the university and represents it outside.

The rector also chairs the meetings of the School senate, composed of representatives of professors, students and administrative employees. The rector has the right to use the title of Magnificence.

The administration, in turn, is managed by the chancellor who reports to the rector and the senate and is supported by his/her deputies: vice-chancellors. The chancellor and vice-chancellors are responsible for the proper management of the resources of the university.

The previous structure of faculties understood as a 'federation of schools' was replaced by the concept of matrix structure.

The Dean's Offices of Bachelor and Master Study Programme are responsible for the implementation of the syllabuses. Foreign languages tuition is provided by the Centre of Foreign Languages.

Chairs and research institutes are associated into units called Collegia. The Collegia group academics sharing research interests and carrying out syllabuses composed of specialists subjects.

The Collegia are headed by Deans. Each Collegium has its individual Scientific Council, composed of all professors and associate professors as well as representatives of junior faculty members. The Council defines major guidelines for academic research and teaching activities of the Collegium, awards academic titles, appoints new faculty members and appraises their performance.

The following Collegia operate within SGH:

- Collegium of Economic Analysis
- Collegium of Socio-Economics
- Collegium of World Economy
- Collegium of Business Administration
- Collegium of Management and Finance

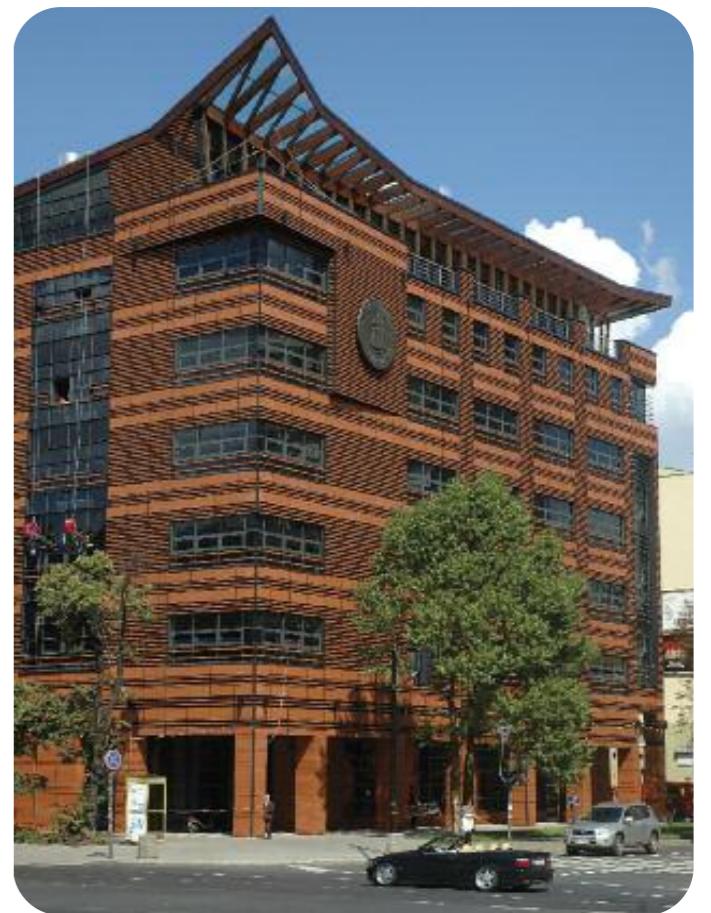
The basic scientific and educational resource consists of five buildings housing several lecture halls, capable of accommodating 5,000 students, several hundred smaller educational rooms and twenty computer laboratories. Moreover, the School has a sepa-

rate administration building, three dormitories as well as a historical edifice housing the library.

The Centre of Foreign Languages Education (CNJO) at SGH has its own library and reading room, the collections of which include dictionaries, lexicons, foreign press, student books and scripts. At the moment, the CNJO Library has nearly 5,500 volumes of literary fiction and 16 foreign press titles. The media library of the CNJO contains audio-visual self-study materials for students. The CNJO also has eight classrooms, three of which have been equipped with audio-visual equipment with the possibility of using satellite television.

SGH has its own sports facilities, composed of three gyms: one with a climbing wall, one with a sound system used for aerobics classes and one for playing volleyball and basketball. Moreover, the Centre of Physical Education and Sports has its own swimming pool located in the main building with an adjacent sauna and fitness centre.

Infrastructure





Education

Education

Over 15 000 students study at SGH. This number includes about 6 500 full-time students and about 5 400 part-time students. Moreover, 2 700 students participate in postgraduate courses and 1 200 students study for doctoral degree.

Since the School was established in 1906, it has educated over 70 000 graduates (of both graduate and postgraduate studies). A significant number of the SGH academics are its graduates. The school has awarded over 1 700 Doctor of Economics degrees and about 500 postdoctoral habilitation degrees.

SGH offers three degrees of undergraduate/postgraduate studies as well as a variety of postgraduate courses:

- **Bachelor's studies (I degree)** – six-term full-time or extramural studies providing participants with theoretical and specialist knowledge and methodological skills in the selected faculty.
- **Master's studies (II degree)** – for graduates with at least a bachelor's degree, full-time or extramural, four-term studies integrating knowledge from various fields, to a large extent developing management competences, e.g. planning, decision-making, team management and negotiations. The studies finish with the defence of the master's thesis. Master's studies at SGH can be done in the English language.
- **Doctoral studies** – full-time or extramural; 10 syllabi allowing students to obtain a doctoral degree of economic sciences in economics or management and marketing.
- **Postgraduate courses** – over 90 programmes in the Polish language, 2 MBA programmes (Canadian Executive MBA and Warsaw Executive MBA), a Master (HEC) in the English language, Executive Studies in Finance, and studies realised at the request of companies and institutions.

How our students study?

Graduates of secondary schools who start their academic adventure by undertaking full-time studies at SGH must first obtain their **bachelor degree**. During the first year of education, they acquire basic knowledge about the economy and related fields, but this is also when they have to decide on the direction of their studies and future professional steps. By the end of the first year, they choose their major. The bachelor's level finishes with writing and defending a dissertation. During these studies, participants follow the programme of one of the faculties available at SGH:

- Economics, ● European Studies, ● Finance and Accounting, ● Spatial Economics,
- Quantitative Methods in Economics and IT Systems, ● Social Policy, ● International Relations, ● Management as well as ● International Economics.

For persons with a bachelor's degree, SGH offers two-year **master's level studies** in the following subjects:

- Administration, ● Economics, ● European Studies, ● Finance and Accounting,
- Spatial Economics, ● Quantitative Methods in Economics and IT Systems, ● Social Policy,
- International Relations, ● Management, ● International Economics as well as ● Tourism and Recreation.

Besides their selected major, students at SGH may also decide to specialise in a certain area thereof within the framework of a specialisation or to pursue one of the 47 "interdisciplinary" programmes, aimed at deepening their knowledge and broadening their skills in the scope of areas in which students are interested.

For many years the course of studies at SGH has been individualised, and now students can choose subjects from out of over 1600 offered.



Education

Science & Research

Along with teaching, research is the most important objective of the SGH. Research topics are selected to support the teaching process and enhance educational standards of the academic staff. Research activities are conducted in Collegia, institutes and departments and cover a wide range of current issues of a significant impact on theory and practice.

Research areas

• Collegium of Economic Analysis

mathematical economics, mathematics of finance and insurance, econometrics and decision making theory, statistics and demography, operational research, economic informatics, micro- and macroeconomics, economic policy.



• Collegium of Socio-Economic Policy

history of economic thought, economic history, public finance and banking, environmental economics, urban economics, social economics, employment, social insurance, sociology, philosophy, political science, public administration, international relations, economic integration, security.

• Collegium of World Economy

international economics, foreign trade, European integration, globalization, tourism, international law, economic transition, international marketing, business communication.

• Collegium of Business Administration

enterprise, entrepreneurship, competitiveness, strategic management, human resources management, finance of enterprises, small business, managerial accounting, business application of marketing and logistics.

• Collegium of Management and Finance

theory of economics, theory of management, finance and banking, economic policy, marketing, economic law, accountancy, management in national economy, logistics and transport, quality management, economics of consumption.



The Copernicus Science Centre will soon open in Warsaw, on the bank of the Vistula River, as one of the first institutions of its type in Poland. It will include hundreds of interactive exhibits where children, young people and adults can carry out experiments demonstrating how the world around us works. The priority is on understanding the essence of phenomena, rather than on telling the story of scientific progress

Professor Leszek Balcerowicz
Former Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Finance, former
President of the National Bank of
Poland.

An SGH graduate and lecturer.



I have been connected with SGH for years. I graduated from the Foreign Trade Faculty. As a student, I became interested in the main problem of economy, i.e. why some countries develop quickly, other slowly, and still others do not develop at all. I also devoted many years to international economic relations.

I pursued my interests from my studies in my further research and teaching work at SGH and since 1989 also in public life. As I was interested in the problem of development, I directed my attention to the crucial role of political systems and their reforms in the development of the country, and my interest in international economic relations highlighted the role of opening the country to the external world and the necessity to be familiar with the world's economy in order to understand the local economy.

I am proud of being an SGH professor. I attach a great deal of importance to my work with students, the best of whom become my co-workers.

Support services



The library of SGH is the largest economic library in Poland, gathering over 1 million volumes, including over 215 000 periodicals.

The library offers ca. 1 000 Polish and foreign titles of current periodicals. Another 30 000 titles of foreign periodicals are available in computer bases.

The main book collection of the library of SGH is the largest specialist selection of this type in Poland. It gathers

books from the field of economics, history of economic thought, econometrics, economic policy, economic history and geography of particular countries, economic law, statistics, demography, accounting, finance and banking, labour and social policy, enterprise, industry, commerce, transport, services, management and marketing, environment protection as well as information technology and cybernetics. It has the largest collection of books concerning broadly understood socio-economic policy in Poland, including, among others, many of the first issues of classical works in economics. The library also has a computer laboratory.

The library houses the Centre of European Documentation constituting a part of Europe Direct – an all-European information network – and performing the role of a depository of publications of European Communities. It collects and makes available materials issued by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities in Luxembourg, publications of particular European institutions and Polish governmental and non-governmental organisations.

Except for classic IT solutions, SGH offers an e-learning platform called e-sgh, which makes it possible to publish supplementary materials for lectures and classes, to conduct full-time classes online as well as to organise and conduct courses and training sessions.



Małgorzata Kalisz
HR Manager
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Each and every year the circle of our consultants is enlarged by a large group of the graduates of the Warsaw School of Economics. Many of our interns are also SGH students.

The characteristic features of SGH students include good substantive skills, assertiveness and good orientation on the job market – the knowledge where to look for information about jobs and how to prepare oneself for the recruitment process, which makes it easier for them to find a job. SGH graduates often have certificates of completed traineeships and internships, which is what we attach a great deal of importance to. They also have good analytical skills and they speak foreign languages well, particularly English – which considerably increases their chances on the job market.

All things considered, from the point of view of recruitment, the Warsaw School of Economics is one of the most important higher educational institutions in Poland.

International relations

The international co-operation is an important element in enhancing its research and development of educational methods. The School has traditionally been open to exchange of knowledge, educational and research experience with abroad. The international character of the School is increasing as various organisational units of the SGH and its employees now maintain international contacts and co-operate with more than 150 foreign universities.

The School's academic teachers participate in international academic conferences. The School takes part in almost a hundred research projects conducted in co-operation with foreign centres.

Foreign co-operation enhances the international character of studies as the curriculum and educational methods are adjusted to international standards. The co-operation also enriches educational offer with interesting new specialist programmes lectured in foreign languages by Polish and foreign lecturers. SGH also takes part in a wide range of international student exchange programmes. This way students may attend courses at renowned foreign universities whose students in turn take part in non degree courses.



Katarzyna Czuperska, PhD, MBA
Area Director Europe, Middle East & Africa, Abbott Molecular

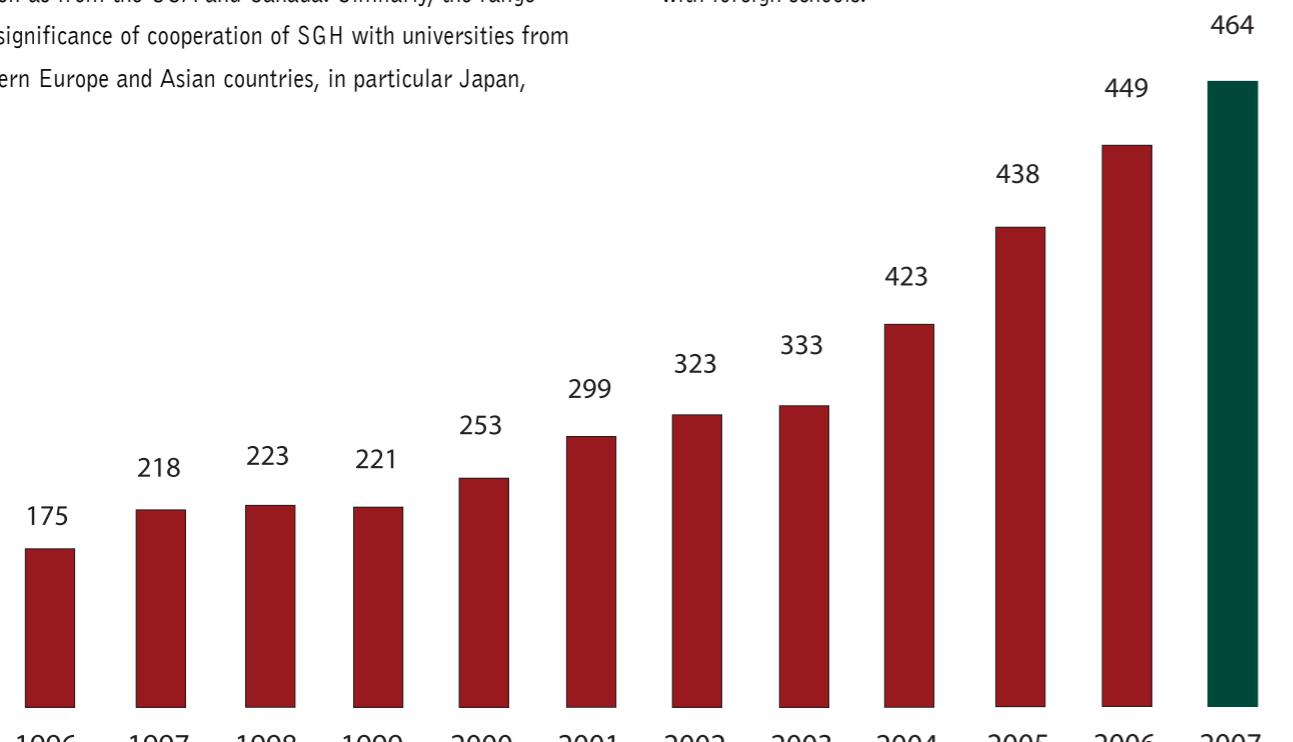
Yes, MBA at Warsaw School of Economics means two years of blood sweat and tears. But this experience constitutes a good basis for managerial competencies. Meeting ambitious individuals working for different industries and types of businesses, working with inspiring tutors, coping with speed and workload of the program – all those challenges pay back, preparing us for working in the diversified and changing business environment and make our way through in the face of obstacles and difficulties.



International relations

International relations

SGH is intensively developing international cooperation based on multilateral agreements and traditional bilateral contacts with foreign universities and educational institutions. The main partners of SGH are universities from the EU countries as well as from the USA and Canada. Similarly, the range and significance of cooperation of SGH with universities from Eastern Europe and Asian countries, in particular Japan,



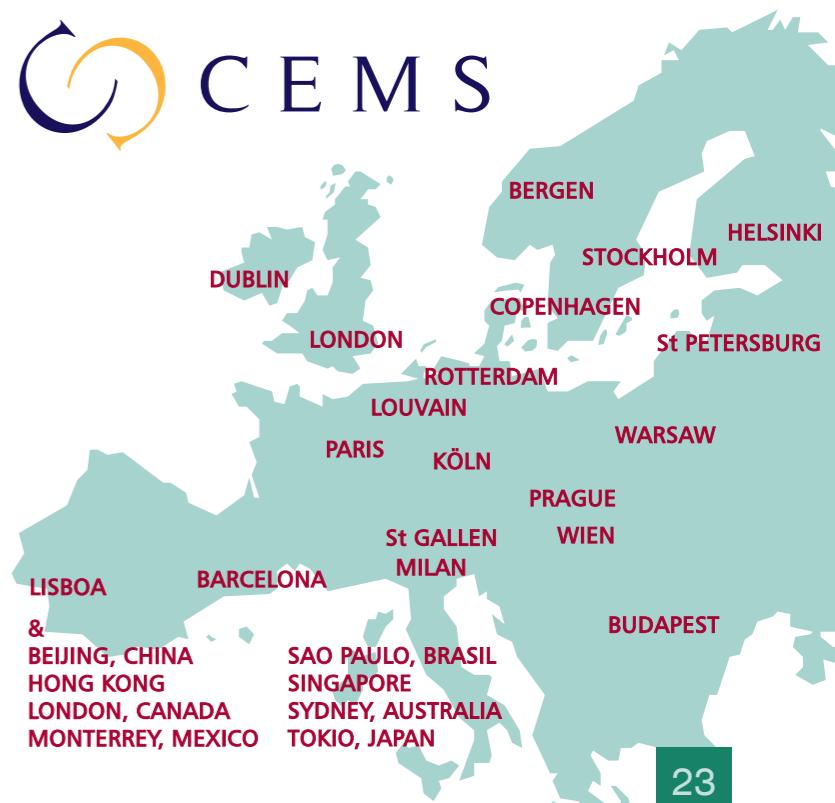
Since 1996 number of foreign students has been growing rapidly.

Korea and China, are also growing. In the past few years, foreign students from over 60 countries have studied at SGH together with Polish students and our research fellows have participated in the realisation of 40 research projects in cooperation with foreign schools.

CEMS (the Community of European Management Schools and International Companies) is an alliance of 27 leading business schools around the World and over 50 multinational companies. Objective of CEMS is simple: to provide a management education programme that will develop tomorrow's thought and business leaders. More than 2500 graduates from 35 countries and innumerable industry sectors are currently studying through CEMS. Together they represent a unique forum for the multicultural exchange of management ideas - and the future of European business. The one-year CEMS Master in International Management (CEMS MIM) degree programme, which is exclusive to students studying at CEMS member universities, creates multicultural and multilingual managers with the skills to thrive in tomorrow's business environment. It is a natural choice of degree if you have an excellent academic track record, and the potential to take on a senior international management role. Devised by both academic and business leaders, the CEMS MIM programme bridges university education and practical management, offering keen insights into leadership best practice. The programme encourages international mobility, cross-cultural aptitudes and is ultimately a fast track to success in the international arena.

"Marta Wielondek is the best example of the European Manager of 21st century" – wrote the Financial Times in the ranking (2005) of the 25 best European master's programmes in management, in which CEMS MIM was the third.

– "This merely 28-year-old Polish woman has already worked in Brussels, Switzerland, Poland and Germany. And she speaks English as if it were her mother tongue. In reality, she is a typical graduate of the CEMS Master in International Management".



International relations

PIM

SGH is also a member of PIM (Partnership in International Management) – the largest international organisation gathering economic schools offering management studies.

PIM, Partnership in International Management, is an international consortium of business schools that was founded in 1973. Each member institution represents the highest degree of excellence in the fields of business administration and management, demonstrates leadership in their geographic region and delivers an MBA or graduate-equivalent degree in management.

PIM facilitates the international exchange of MBA or masters degree-equivalent students among its member institutions, encourages the development of joint ventures and cooperation among faculty members and researchers.



International programmes

CEMS Master in International Management – a one-year educational programme realised in cooperation with 27 partner schools and over 50 companies belonging to the Community of European Management Schools and International Companies.

Economic and Social Sciences College (German Forum) in the German language, operating within the framework of the Polish German Academic Forum.

Council on International Educational Exchange – a one-term programme in economics, political and social sciences and history, prepared at SGH and directed to American students.

SGH-Sciences Po Double Diploma Programme – a master's programme after which the graduates obtain two diplomas: a diploma of SGH and of the Institute of Political Sciences Po in Paris.

Double diploma studies – bachelor's or master's studies realised by students partially at the partner school, finishing with two diplomas: one from the home university and the other from the partner school with which SGH has concluded suitable agreements.

LLP Erasmus – the most popular European programme for developing the exchange of students and teachers and internships abroad.

The Polish-Israeli Dialogue Forum – a series of seminars organised interchangeably at SGH and at the University of Tel Aviv. Each year, students of both schools take part in study trips and discussions held in both countries.

Master de Management Economique Européen – postgraduate studies in the French language in cooperation with Groupe HEC (Hautes Etudes Commerciales).

Executive Master in Business (Project Management) – postgraduate studies in the English language in cooperation with Groupe HEC.

Warsaw Executive Master of Business Administration (WEMBA) – a programme realised in cooperation with the University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management.

Canadian Executive Master of Business Administration (CEMBA) – a programme realised in cooperation with the Canadian UQAM.

Polsko-Japońskie Centrum Edukacji Menedżerskiej (the Polish-Japanese Centre of Management Education) at SGH – develops and conducts numerous educational programmes in the scope of Japanese methods and techniques from the area of economic sciences and management for students, scientists and managers.

Business Management Education in Ukraine – a project supporting Ukrainian educational programmes in management.

Academic Initiative East (Inicjatywa Akademicka Wschód) – a programme for Central and Eastern Europe in the scope of economics and management.

SGH and Ernst&Young – Executive Study in Finance. Postgraduate study created for the purposes of management education in finance.

Jean Monnet Programme, within the framework of which two departments operate at SGH.

Master in International Relations – a two-year master's programme in the English language directed to Polish and foreign students.

Polish-French European Extramural Doctoral Studies (Polsko-Francuskie Europejskie Zaoczne Studia Doktoranckie) – doctoral students may pursue a doctoral degree of the University of Marne la Vallée and doctoral degree of the University of Warsaw in political sciences.

Summer University Warsaw – a summer school organised by SGH each July.

Students

Student organisations

In SGH there are over 90 students' organisations whose activity makes the university teem with life and activity almost incessantly. The most active ones are students' associations and inter-university or international associations such as AIESEC or the European Students Forum AEGEE.

Beside lectures and classes, students cooperate in realising projects concerning all spheres of social life: science, culture, professional work, sports, entertainment or religion.

In the school corridors, in Parachute Hall, which is the heart of the school, one can always see students hurrying for meetings with people of business, politics and culture organised by students.

Students' associations, cooperating with departments and other units of the university, enrich scientific conferences with their innovative ideas.

Besides being a pleasant way of spending free time, the exceptionally intense activity of students' organisations at SGH is also a form of development complementing a typically academic edu-

cation: young organisers gain practical experience in planning, competing for recipients, advertising ventures and fundraising.

On the other hand, talented units and natural-born leaders stand out in this environment, and recruitment departments of companies who are patrons of student-organised events quickly contact them.

Student Union

A particularly important role in the life of the university is played by the Student Union, which organises numerous undertakings and co-decides about student matters. The Union helps to distribute resources allocated for financial aid to students, and also sets the criteria for granting academic and sports scholarships, cooperates with student dormitories with respect to the distribution of places and the level of fees, and its representatives are members of the school senate and its commissions. Members of the School Union organise the largest annual event – the Freshman Party.

Other student matters...

SGH provides its students with three dormitories: Sabinki, Hermes and Grosik, where over 1,000 students live in singles, doubles, triples and quads.

Between classes, the students frequently meet at the student club located under the main building of the university. You can also find them at the Park, which is another SGH-operated club and is one of the most popular ones in Warsaw, where people from outside SGH can also enjoy their time.

SGH students are provided with medical care – this role, to a basic and specialist degree, is performed by two medical centres – and sports infrastructure. On campus there are a swimming pool, sauna, gym and even climbing wall.



Parachute Hall – the centre of the School teeming with life, where students eagerly spend their time while waiting for classes, and organisations and companies present their projects.

In 2005 the Student Parliament of the Republic of Poland awarded SGH with the title of the most student-friendly Polish university.

Warsaw



Capital city

Warsaw is the capital city of the largest country in Central Europe, and at the same time the largest urban area in Poland. Investors have compared Warsaw's dynamic growth during last years with the explosion of investment on real estate market in Berlin in the early 1990s.

In Warsaw, you can see the most clearly how the city is taking full advantage of the tremendous and unique opportunities arising from the emergence of free market and the development of democracy. Poland's capital is one of the fastest growing cities in Europe. The investment boom is visible everywhere you look. The city has become one big construction and renovation site. The office and commercial buildings commissioned in the recent years accommodate hundreds of business, research institutions, banks and international organisations.

Warsaw, a city with a population of nearly 2 million, is the country's largest university and research centre with an enormous and highly skilled workforce. There are also 10,000 to 20,000 western managers, specialists working in the capital, deployed by consulting and development companies recognised world-wide, along with the hundreds of Western businesspeople visiting the city daily. Foreigners working here appreciate good working conditions and a favourable attitude of the people of Warsaw.

Picture on the left – view of city centre from SGH campus.



Warsaw

Warsaw is a city that is also attractive in cultural and tourist terms. A number of well-known cultural events of international



importance are held here. The extensive repertoire of scores of theatres, numerous concert halls and cinemas will satisfy even the most exacting audience.

Warsaw is a place of numerous historic sites and reminders of its glorious past, the capital that is changing rapidly from a drab city into a modern metropolis, as young as the people who live here, and becoming more beautiful by the day.

Warsaw is the largest academic centre in Poland – nearly 300,000 young people from Poland and all over the world study here. Warsaw is also an exceptional place offering its inhabitants and tourists a wide range of possibilities of spending free time. There are 46 theatres, several dozen museums and over 100 galleries. Students like meeting in numerous clubs. Warsaw houses the main national authorities – the government and the majority of large enterprises present operating on the Polish market, due to which the capital city of Poland is the most attractive and most dynamically developing labour market in Poland.



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