Sustainable Development Goals Report



UNIVERSITATEA DIN BUCUREȘTI

VIRTUTE ET SAPIENTIA

2024-2025

Table of contents

Introduction and Methodology

SDG 1. No Poverty

SDG 2. Zero hunger

SDG 3. Good Health and Well-being

SDG 4. Quality Education

SDG 5. Gender Equality

SDG 6. Clean Water and Education

SDG 7. Affordable and Clean Energy

SDG 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

SDG 10. Reduced Inequality

SDG 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities

SDG 12. Responsible Consumption and Production

SDG 13. Climate action

SDG 14. Life below water

SDG 15. Life on land

SDG 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

SDG 17. Partnerships to achieve the Goal

Mentions

Introduction

'The University of Bucharest is an active institution in addressing the challenges of the Sustainable Development Goals. Through up-to-date educational programmes, adapted to national and international economic, and social requirements, through advanced scientific research projects, as well as through social responsibility programmes, carried out together with its partners, the University of Bucharest supports excellence in education and scientific research and assumes a special responsibility towards Romanian society.'

Professor Magdalena Iordache Platis, Ph.D. Vice-rector of the University of Bucharest



With a history of more than 160 years, the University of Bucharest (UB) is today a prestigious, dynamic, inclusive, and student-centred academic institution characterised by creativity, innovation and sustainable action.

Within the 20 faculties of the UB, there are 99 bachelor's programmes, 228 master's programmes, 25 doctoral schools in specific fields and an interdisciplinary doctoral school, more than 60 research centres and 9 research stations. The UB has established itself as an institution of excellence in education and research, making it a priority to prepare its students for life and careers.

With the primary mission of promoting excellence in research at national and international levels, the University supports fundamental, experimental and applied research in the scientific fields of its faculties. UB's research directions are structured around a wide range of fields and are designed to provide concrete solutions and services for society and the economy, contributing to the advancement of knowledge. It also encourages inter-, multi- and trans-disciplinary approaches, including through the development of international collaborative research or training projects for teachers, researchers and students at all levels of study. As of 2018, UB is part of the CIVIS alliance - European Civic University, together with ten other prestigious European universities.

With more than 35,000 students, 1,291 teachers, 556 researchers and 1.133 administrative staff, the University of Bucharest is a strong and responsible community that aims to promote quality services, guaranteeing its graduates accross all fields and study programmes, a successful integration into the labour market.

Methodology

Through the expertise of its academic community, particularly its teaching staff and students, and the diversity of its study programmes and research fields, the University of Bucharest has long played an important role in advancing Romanian society. The University of Bucharest's mission emphasises social engagement, as set out in the University Charter and reflected in concrete measures adopted at the institutional level by members of its academic community.

Following the launch of the first edition of the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, the University became increasingly aware of its contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and initiated a comprehensive process to collect and consolidate relevant activities and data. This process has improved over recent years and led to the publication of the University's first report on the Sustainable Development Goals for the 2019/2020 academic year. According to the seventh edition of the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2025, one of the most widely recognised university rankings internationally, the University of Bucharest is the Romanian university with the strongest engagement in sustainable development activities, ranking 93rd worldwide.

For this report, the structure has been improved to better reflect the three dimensions of the University's mission - education, research, and social engagement - as well as the specific criteria of the THE Impact Rankings methodology. A working group within the Department of Quality Management prepared the report, coordinated by Professor Magdalena Iordache Platis.

The report includes examples and case studies that best illustrate how the University integrates the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its ongoing activities, demonstrating the concrete and effective steps the University of Bucharest is taking to advance sustainable development. To this end, we selected information from official reports produced by the University and its faculties, from institutional webpages, and from data collected by various administrative departments.

This was a challenging task, as the number of relevant activities exceeded what could reasonably be included in a single report. Some of these activities will be featured in future reports, while others are already presented on the University's sustainability webpage. We retrieved the number of scientific publications relevant to each SDG from the Web of Science platform (data accessed on 31 August 2026). The statistical data and information presented in this report refer to the 2024/2025 academic year.

This selection was not exhaustive.



UB aims to expand and strengthen policies designed to support students from disadvantaged backgrounds by providing academic and social services. In parallel, UB undertakes initiatives to facilitate access to higher education for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

1 NO POVERTY



Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest supports collaboration between the academic community and civil society through activities that involve students and academic staff in socially impactful projects. One example is the UB Service-Learning Awards event, organised as part of CIVIS Open Lab-UB, which brought together projects developed in response to the community's specific social needs. The event provided a platform to present and recognise initiatives through which students from several UB faculties, alongside lecturers and external partners, contribute to identifying and addressing social issues.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest supports reducing social vulnerabilities through solidarity campaigns organised at the faculty, university foundation, and student association levels. These initiatives help support children and pupils in difficult circumstances by mobilising the academic community's resources and fostering active civic engagement. To this end, the Faculty of Geography has launched an appeal for donations to purchase school supplies for schoolchildren in Galați County affected by flooding, whilst the Association of Chemistry Students at the University of Bucharest has continued its 'A Toy, A Smile for a Child' campaign, through which students are directly involved in collecting items and providing support for various humanitarian causes. Furthermore, the 'Virtute et Sapientia' Foundation of the University of Bucharest has expanded the support it provides to pupils in the UB SEED programme, including through campaigns organised around the winter holidays.



Courses

- **Metabolism of socio-economic systems: assessment methods and procedures** (Faculty of Biology)
- **Vulnerabilities and risks in the development of human settlements** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Family social work** (Faculty of Roman Catholic Theology)



Study programmes

- **Bachelor's degree programme in Social Work** (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work)
- **Master's degree programme in Theology and the Social Mission of the Church** (Faculty of Orthodox Theology)
- **Postgraduate programme in Modern Approaches to Special Psychopedagogy** (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)



Projects

- Partner in the project 'New Knowledge on Pathways to Include Persons in Vulnerable Situations' (PATHS2INCLUDE)
- Partner in the project 'Precarious Labour in Asia: Exploring Challenges and Solutions to Labour Insecurity through Case-Study-Based Evidence from 8 Asian Countries'

Research at the Forefront

The University of Bucharest, through experts from the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work and UniBuc Consult, contributed to a study on the reasons why Romanians choose to volunteer, initiated by Kaufland Romania and carried out with the support of iSense Solutions.



Statistics

26 relevant study programmes	2213 students enrolled in relevant degree programmes	684 graduates of relevant degree programmes
19 scientific publications indexed in Web of Science	6,98% of all research and development projects	16,1% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations
3932 students receiving financial support (social and occasional grants)	80% per cent of accommodation needs covered by the institution	1 educational support project for disadvantaged pupils

Affiliations and Partnerships

- 'Împreună' Community Development Agency

Institutional Structures

- Social Services and Student Activities

Research Infrastructure

- Centre for Research and Innovation in Social Services – CCISS, Faculty of Sociology and Social Work

Events and Opportunities

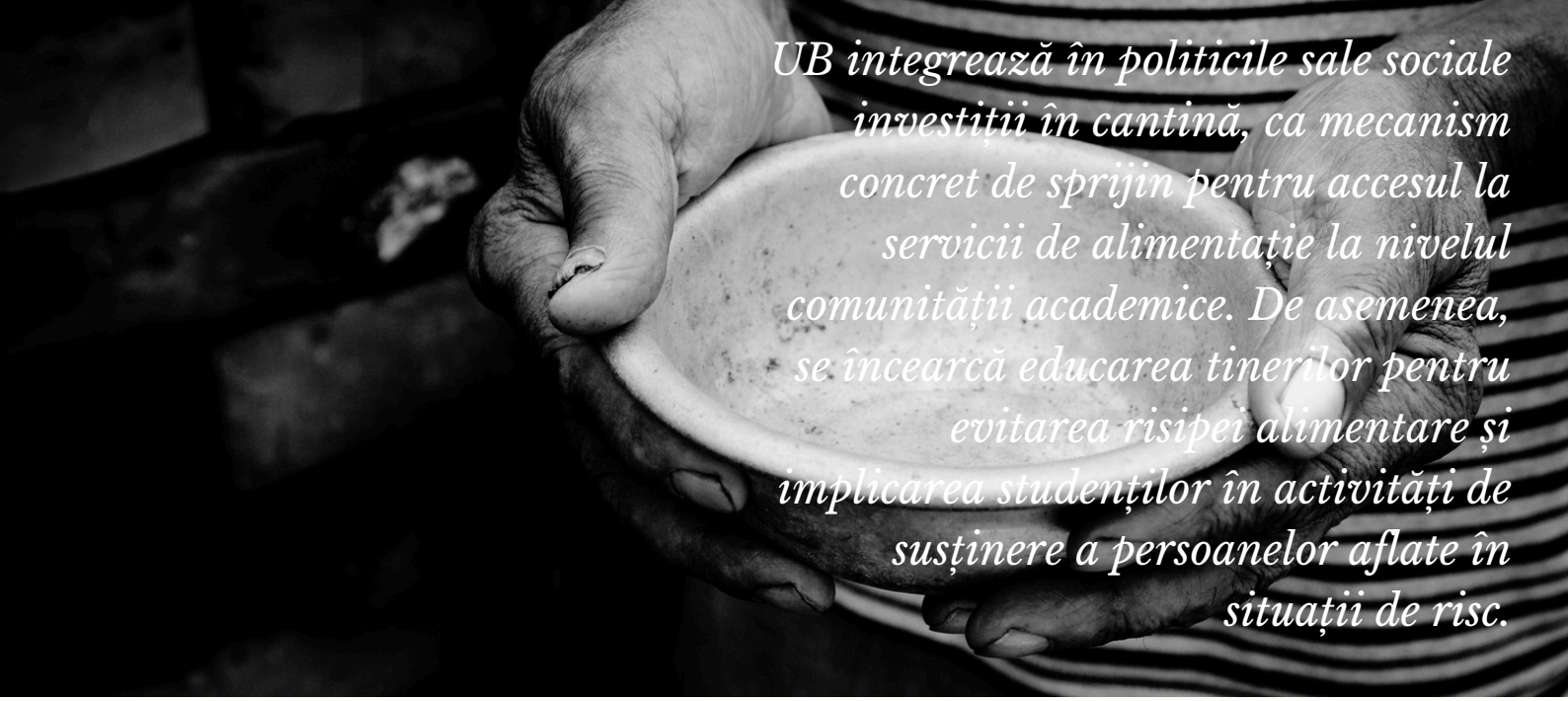
VERIS - Voices of Palmyra

The Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Bucharest hosted the CIVIS Open Lab entitled 'VERIS – Voices of Palmyra: Engaging (In)tangible Memorial Heritage in Social Innovation for Refugee Inclusion'. The event was organised in partnership with the University of Lausanne, the University of Glasgow and Jesuit Refugee Service Romania, and brought together academic staff, students, researchers and members of refugee communities. The activities explored themes related to cultural heritage and social inclusion through virtual reality experiences of the ancient city of Palmyra, embroidery workshops and storytelling sessions. The event provided a shared space where the academic community and vulnerable communities could meet, exchange ideas and strengthen intercultural dialogue.



Stay connected!

Follow the UB SEED programme – Educational Support for Disadvantaged Pupils, run by the 'Virtute et Sapientia' Foundation of the University of Bucharest, which supports high-potential pupils from low-income families.



UB integrează în politicile sale sociale investiții în cantină, ca mecanism concret de sprijin pentru accesul la servicii de alimentație la nivelul comunității academice. De asemenea, se încearcă educarea tinerilor pentru evitarea risipei alimentare și implicarea studenților în activități de susținere a persoanelor aflate în situații de risc.

2 FĂRĂ FOAMETE

Social Engagement

As part of the second edition of Sustainability Week (2024), the University of Bucharest organised the workshop 'Integrating Nutrition and Gastronomy for the Prevention and Management of Chronic Diseases', open to all interested members of the community. The event was led by Associate Professor Dr Magdalena Mititelu from the 'Carol Davila' University of Medicine and Pharmacy and explored the link between diet, health and the prevention of chronic diseases. The workshop aimed to provide accessible information to educate participants on healthy eating, food preparation methods and the use of food groups to prevent chronic diseases and maintain good health.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The 'D. Brandza' Botanical Garden of the University of Bucharest includes the 'Grandmother's Garden' section, a space that showcases the style of traditional Romanian gardens. Here, vegetables, flowers, medicinal and aromatic plants, shrubs and fruit trees are cultivated in a setting that draws the public's attention to the role of the garden around the home. The section contributes to the preservation and promotion of traditional varieties and offers students and visitors the opportunity to observe the diversity of cultivated plants. Through its educational nature, 'Grandma's Garden' functions as a living laboratory, where topics such as food resources, plant diversity and the importance of conserving cultivated plants can be discussed.

Courses



- **Elements of Nutrition in the Clinical Laboratory** (Faculty of Biology)
- **Determining the agricultural value of land** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Psychology and psychopathology of eating behaviour. Psychodiagnostic implications and psychological treatment** (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)

Study programmes



- Bachelor's Degree Programme in **Anthropology** (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work)
- Master's Degree Programme in **Disaster Management** (Faculty of Geography)
- Postgraduate Programme in **Sustainable Entrepreneurship** (Faculty of Administration and Business)

Projects



- Partner in the project 'Strengthening the integration of the Romanian METROFOOD-RO node into the European research infrastructure METROFOOD-RI (METROFOOD-RO Evolve)'
- Partner in the project 'Vulnerable communities driving innovation and governance of sustainable food systems in European cities' (FEED4FOOD)

Research at the Forefront

Mincu, F. I., Diaconu, D. C., Constantin, D. M. O., & Peptenatu, D. (2025). Evaluation of temporal changes in evapotranspiration and crop water requirements in the context of changing climate: case study of the Northern Bucharest–Ilfov Development Region, Romania. **Agriculture**, 15(11), 1227.

Statistics

20 relevant study programmes	1213 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	210 sundergraduate and 139 master ' s students employed in the field
53 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	3,32 % of the total number of the research/ development projects	9,9% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

Affiliations and Partnerships

- Grivița-Cișmigiu Community Centre

Institutional Structures

- Dormitory Services
- Canteen Services

Research Infrastructure

- Centre for Product Quality Control (LaborQ), Faculty of Chemistry

Events and Opportunities

Feeding the Past

The Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (ICUB), in collaboration with the 'Vasile Pârvan' Institute of Archaeology, organised the ArchaeoSciences seminar dedicated to the lecture 'Feeding the Past: Unravelling the Diets of Ancient Caucasian Societies', delivered by Dr Estelle Herrscher from Aix-Marseille Université. The lecture explored the dietary practices of ancient Caucasian societies from an anthropological and biogeochemical perspective. The topic provided an opportunity to discuss how diet can be studied through an interdisciplinary approach, based on material and biological evidence, and what this can reveal about the lives of past communities, the resources available to them, and their adaptation to different natural and social contexts.



Stay connected!

Find out more about the decline in soil biodiversity and practical solutions for sustainable agriculture in episode 21 of UB's 'Dose of Science', featuring Professor Carmen Postolache from the Faculty of Biology at the University of Bucharest.



UB promotes well-being within the university community through psychological counselling services, mental health support, access to medical services, and sports and leisure facilities.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest is a partner in the project 'Development of Genomic Research in Romania -ROGEN', coordinated by the 'Carol Davila' University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest. The project aims to develop genomic research in Romania and to establish a national infrastructure for sequencing, biobanks, and the storage and processing of genomic data. The University of Bucharest is involved through academic staff, researchers and PhD students from several faculties, contributing to the interdisciplinary nature of the project. Activities include pilot projects on prevention and early detection, prognosis and precision personalised treatment for priority conditions such as cancer, rare diseases, infectious diseases, cardiovascular and neurological disorders, as well as the transfer of research findings to the national health system.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest supports students' access to preventive and health information services through dedicated free testing campaigns. One example is the campaign offering rapid, free and confidential testing for HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C, aimed at UB students and organised in partnership with the Bucharest Hospitals and Medical Services Administration. The initiative gave students the opportunity to check their health in an accessible setting, with the support of specialists, whilst also helping to inform young people about the importance of early detection of infections that can have serious health consequences. The academic community regularly organises such preventative initiatives; a relevant example is 'Canapeaua ROZ Express', an educational event dedicated to breast cancer prevention.



Courses

- **Environmental and Occupational Health Standards** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Lifestyle Management** (Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies)
- **Biotechnology in Food Chemistry** (Faculty of Chemistry)

Study programmes



- Bachelor's Degree Programme in **Public Health Services and Policies** (Faculty of Administration and Business)
- Master's Degree Programme in **Sports Psychology** (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)
- Postgraduate programme in **Patient Navigation** (Faculty of Biology)

Projects



- The University of Bucharest, through the Faculty of Political Science, contributed to the project 'Media and Epidemics (MEDEP) – Technologies of Science Communication and Public Health in the 20th and 21st Centuries'

Research at the Forefront

The University of Bucharest, in collaboration with Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca and the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC), took part in a study on mental health and burnout in climbing.

Statistics

40 relevant study programmes	3332 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	1176 absolvenți al unor relevant study programmes
421 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	8,97 % of the total number of the research/ development projects	14,9% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations
1 medical office for students	1 ports complex, 11 sports halls and fields, and 1 facility for mountain sports activities	1 psychomotor counselling and quality-of-life improvement centre for UB employees

Affiliations and Partnerships

- Bucharest Hospitals and Medical Services Administration

Institutional Structures

- Psychological and Educational Assistance and Intervention Clinic (CAIPE)

Events and Opportunities

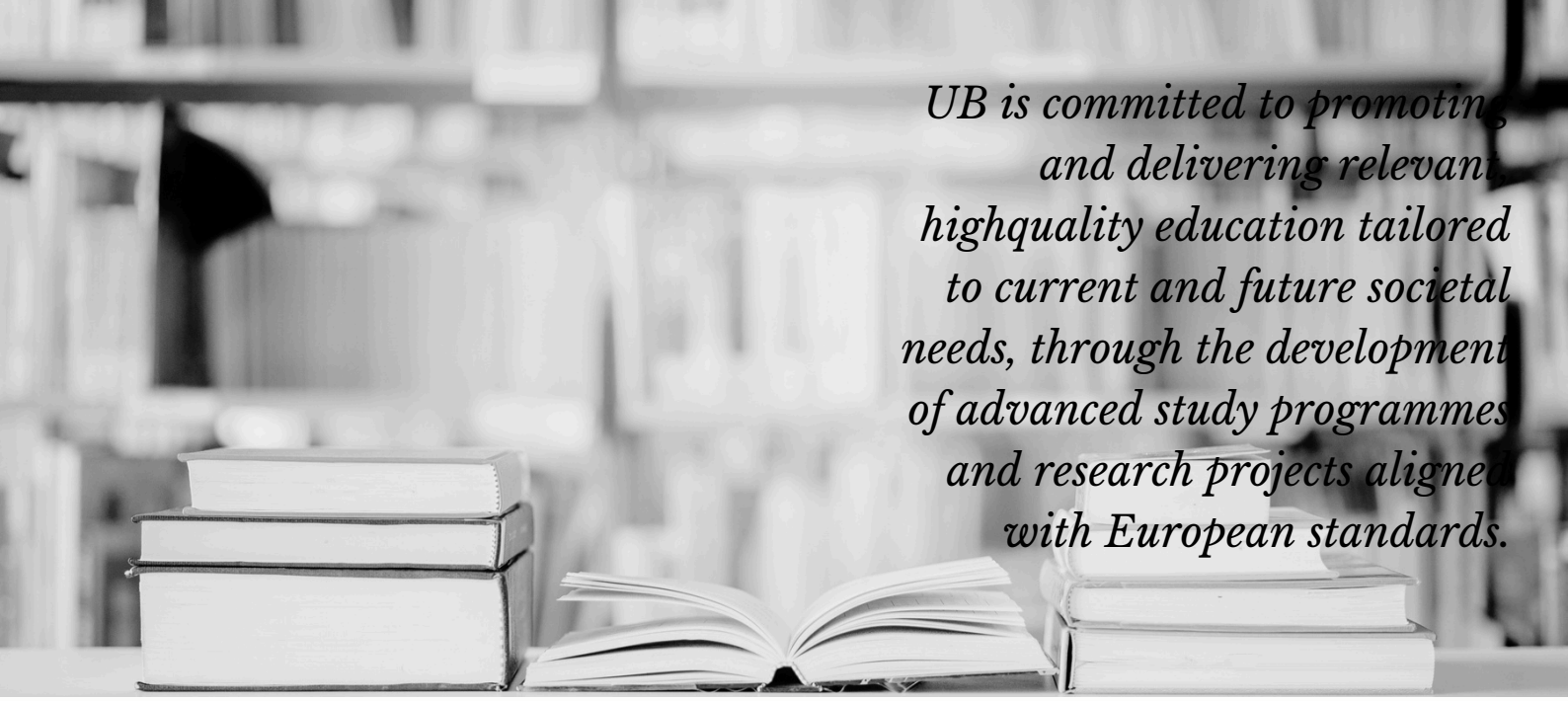
Pastoral care and care for the sick

The 'Justinian the Patriarch' Faculty of Orthodox Theology at the University of Bucharest, in partnership with the Romanian Patriarchate, organised the International Theology Symposium 'Pastoral Care and Care for the Sick - Mission and Service to Our Fellow Human Beings'. The event took place at the Patriarchal Palace in Bucharest and included presentations on caring for the sick, the role of faith in the therapeutic process, the Romanian Orthodox Church's social, charitable, and medical activities, and current challenges in supporting those who are suffering. During the symposium, participants discussed the relationship between spiritual care, community support and the needs of the sick.



Stay connected!

Follow the 'Literature and Books' series, through which the Faculty of Letters brings lecturers' reading recommendations closer to students and the wider public.



UB is committed to promoting and delivering relevant highquality education tailored to current and future societal needs, through the development of advanced study programmes and research projects aligned with European standards.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest is contributing to the development of professional skills within the pre-university education system through the PNRR project 'Lead4Edu – Leadership and Strategic Management for Quality Education'. As project coordinator, the University of Bucharest is implementing the project in partnership with the Teacher Training Centres in Bucharest, Ilfov, Prahova and Giurgiu, and the company Ascendis Consulting. The project aims to train 1,175 managers and those with managerial responsibilities within the pre-university system, through programmes dedicated to leadership, strategic management, resource management, innovative teaching strategies and community involvement in education. Through this initiative, the university transfers academic expertise to schools and educational institutions, supporting the professionalisation of educational management and positioning itself as a centre of expertise.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The Senate of the University of Bucharest organises the Student Leadership School, a programme dedicated to developing leadership skills and student representation. The 2025 edition brought together students from several faculties at the University of Bucharest and included training, mentoring and institutional leadership activities. The programme aims to support students involved in the university's decision-making bodies, providing them with a framework through which to better understand how the institution operates, the role of student representation and the responsibilities associated with it. Through this initiative, the University of Bucharest supports student participation in academic life and contributes to the development of skills useful for their involvement in the university community.

Courses



- **Design and management of educational programmes** (Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science)
- **Introduction to Educational Research** (Faculty of Humanities)
- **Analysis and Development of Educational Policies** (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)

Study programmes



- Undergraduate degree programme in Special Educational Psychology (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)
- Master's Degree Programme in Educational Mentoring (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)
- Postgraduate programme in Digital Pedagogy (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)

Projects



- Digital Ecosystem for Sustainable Learning (EDIS) Project
- Partner in the 'STEAM-EXPERIENCE: Experiential Learning in Natural and Research Laboratories' project

Research at the Forefront

The University of Bucharest and the Ministry of Education drew up the international report 'Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS 2023)', which was published by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement in December 2024.

Statistics

38 relevant study programmes	2708 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	1093 international students
30 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	13.29% of the total number of the research/ development projects	30,9% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations
33 postgraduate courses, 5 professional conversion courses and 2 adult vocational training courses	8 master's programmes in education	24 workshops organised as part of peer learning sessions

Affiliations and Partnerships

- Teachers' Training Centres

Institutional Structures

- UB Learning Center

Events and Opportunities

Ro European Universities: Current and Future IT&C Challenges

The University of Bucharest hosted the conference 'Ro European Universities: Current and Future IT&C Challenges', organised by the alliance of Romanian universities that are members of European university alliances. The event brought together representatives from higher education institutions in Romania to discuss topics related to university digitalisation, interoperability, data management, and collaboration between institutions. The conference addressed the current challenges facing IT&C departments, including the need for resources, common standards and solutions tailored to the university environment. The event provided a forum for universities to exchange experiences and highlighted the role of cooperation in developing better digital services for education.



Stay connected!

Visit the UB Learning Centre's platform for workshops, one-to-one sessions and resources dedicated to adapting to academic life, personal development, academic writing, critical thinking and career guidance.





UB promotes equal opportunities, acceptance, and the celebration of diversity through institutional measures aimed at preventing and combating discrimination and harassment.

5 GENDER EQUALITY

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest is a partner in the European project YOU-DARE – YOUth Debunking the Gendered Arguments of Far-Right Extremism, funded through the Horizon Europe programme. The project analyses how gendered narratives are used in far-right youth movements and how these can influence young people's attitudes and behaviours, including how they manage to capture young people's interest. Through an interdisciplinary and comparative approach, the project brings together partners from several European countries and aims to produce data, tools and recommendations useful for education, public policy and social interventions.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest promotes the visibility of women in research through the 'UB for Women in Science' series, launched in 2020. The initiative showcases the contributions of female researchers within the UB academic community and highlights female role models in fields where women are still under-represented. In 2025, the project was revived with three representative profiles: Cătălina Curceanu, Ștefania Mărăcineanu and Ileana Streinu. The aim of these profiles is to highlight relevant academic careers and scientific contributions, providing guidance for female students and young researchers interested in careers in science, as well as to promote an academic environment that is equitable, inclusive and open to innovation.



Courses

- **Social work in cases of domestic violence** (Faculty of Roman Catholic Theology)
- **The global agenda for diversity and equal opportunities** (Faculty of Political Science)
- **Gender Studies** (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work)



Study programmes

- Master's degree programme in **Equal Opportunities Policies in the Romanian and European Context** (Faculty of Political Science)
- Postgraduate programme: **Equal Opportunities Expert** (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work)



Projects

- Partner in the project 'Advancing Gender Equality and Inclusiveness in Research and Innovation Across South-East Europe' (SEE-ERA)
- Partner in the project 'Gender Equality through Media Investigation and New Training Insights' (GEMINI)

Research at the Forefront

The University of Bucharest, through a team of researchers comprising Laura Grünberg, Diana Elena Neaga, Corina Ilinca and Anca Niță, produced the research report 'Experiences and perceptions of menstruation and period poverty in Romania', commissioned by the Pe Stop Association.

Statistics

3 relevant study programmes	124 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	71,37% of graduates are women
31 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	2.66% of the total number of the research/ development projects	2,4% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations
1 Gender Equality Plan at UB	57,09% of teaching staff are women and 45,68% teaching staff leadership positions are held by women	68.02% of the total student population are women

Affiliations and Partnerships

- National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men (ANES)

Institutional Structures

- Gender Equality Committee
- Inclusion, Equity and Diversity Service

Events and Opportunities

Conceptually engineering gender terms

The Humanities Section of the University of Bucharest Research Institute (ICUB) organised the seminar 'Conceptually engineering gender terms', delivered by Dr Andreea Popescu. The event was part of the Lunchtime Seminar series, a format in which researchers present their work and discuss research findings in an interdisciplinary academic setting. The seminar explored how philosophy and social ontology can analyse and clarify gender-related concepts. The event included a presentation followed by a discussion, providing a forum to explore how language and concepts shape our understanding of social relations.



Stay connected!

Explore the online modules on gender equality, dedicated to gender equality, diversity, social inclusion and the prevention of sexual harassment in the university environment.



UB supports sustainable development by integrating topics related to water resource protection and responsible usage into research and curriculum.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest took part in Dâmbovița Delivery 2025, an urban event dedicated to enhancing the Dâmbovița River and the public spaces surrounding it. As part of the event, the University of Bucharest organised a series of activities under the title 'Poetry on the Dâmbovița', which included a poetry recital, workshops for children and teenagers, and audio-visual recordings featuring messages about people's relationship with nature. The activities aimed to raise awareness of issues relating to water, nature, ecology and urban life in a format accessible to the general public, whilst also seeking to revitalise the river's social and literary identity.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest's UNESCO International Geopark Țara Hațegului was a partner in the 'Fairy Life and the Plastic Monster' project, carried out in the Strei Valley, alongside the Drag de Hațeg Association, schools and local communities. The project used an educational fairy tale to discuss plastic pollution, water conservation and biodiversity around the River Strei with pupils. Activities included school workshops, fieldwork, clean-up initiatives, and art installations made from recycled materials. By involving children, teachers, and local partners, the project created an accessible framework for environmental education and encouraged responsibility for water resources.



Courses

- **Integrated water resources management** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Hydrotechnical developments and their impact** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Hydrodynamic testing of aquifers** (Faculty of Geology and Geophysics)



Study programmes

- Bachelor's Degree Programme in **Hydrology and Meteorology** (Faculty of Geography)
- Master's Degree Programme in **Climatology and Water Resources** (Faculty of Geography)



Projects

- Partner in the project 'Culture of bottled water in the Global North: A comparison of four countries, four cities, and four brands of bottled water' (CUBE-WATER-4CCB)

Research at the Forefront

Vaseashta, A., Stamatin, I., & Khudaverdyan, S. (2025). Micro/nano plastics in aquatic biota: Concerns, risks, mitigation, and policies. In A. Vaseashta, M. Klavins, & O. Stabnikova (Eds.), Micro and nanoplastics in the aquatic environment (pp. 1–58). CRC Press. https://doi.org/10.1201/9781003389460-1

Statistics

6 relevant study programmes	269 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	75 graduates from relevant study programmes
42 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	5,65 % of the total number of the research/ development projects	0,9% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

- UB provides over 150 still water dispensers on its premises

Affiliations and Partnerships

- The 'WATER' Doctoral Network – The role of interfacial WATER in membrane protein function

Institutional Structures

Coastal Research Centre for Environmental Protection

Events and Opportunities

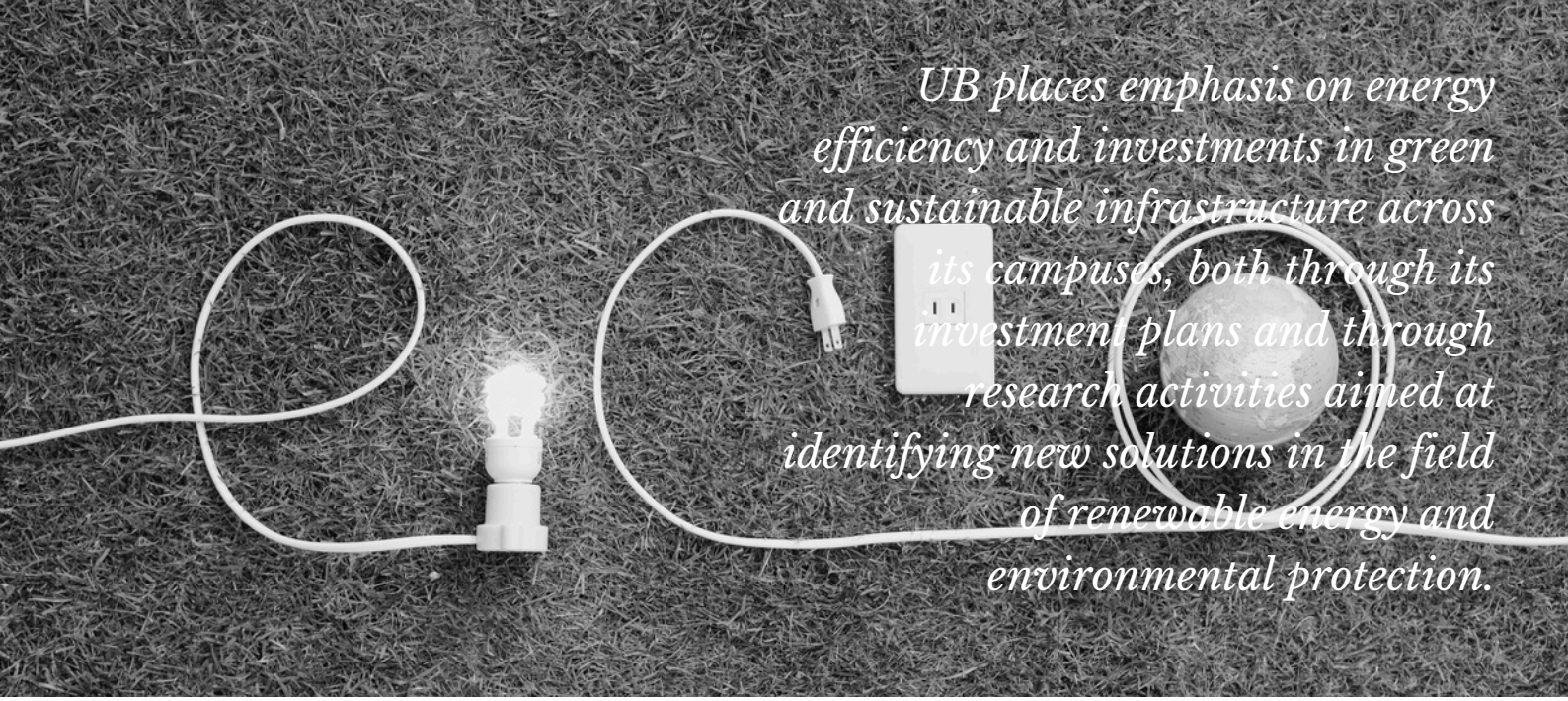
2nd Conference on Water Research for Young Scientists

The University of Bucharest hosted the 2nd Conference on Water Research for Young Scientists, an event resulting from collaboration with the West University of Timișoara and Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca. The conference built on the experience of the pilot edition organised in Timișoara and focused on young researchers in the field of water. The event aimed to promote the work of master's students, PhD students, and postdoctoral researchers within a multidisciplinary framework covering topics in ecology, chemistry, chemical engineering, biology, physics, and geography. The programme featured scientific presentations, a workshop on the European mission to restore the oceans and waters, and training sessions to develop the skills of young researchers.



Stay connected!

Follow the latest news from the PNRR ReSPonSE project to discover the research, sustainable solutions and initiatives dedicated to the protection and restoration of aquatic ecosystems in the lower Danube basin and the Black Sea coastal zone.



UB places emphasis on energy efficiency and investments in green and sustainable infrastructure across its campuses, both through its investment plans and through research activities aimed at identifying new solutions in the field of renewable energy and environmental protection.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Social Engagement

Through the GeoAlliance project, the University of Bucharest is fostering dialogue among the academic community, public authorities, experts, and stakeholders in the energy sector on issues related to geothermal energy use and the transition to green energy sources. The project's activities have created opportunities for practical discussion on the potential of geothermal resources, investment, scientific data and examples of best practice from other countries. These activities included a working session held in Oradea, attended by specialists from Romania, Iceland and Poland, as well as a meeting at the Ministry of Energy, dedicated to renewable resources and the future of investment in the geothermal sector.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The 'Prof. Ștefan Atanasie Pătrașcu' Educational and Scientific Research Centre in Surlari, coordinated by the Faculty of Physics at the University of Bucharest, provides a setting for applied research, training and environmental monitoring activities. The centre houses the Water Quality Monitoring Laboratory for the Natura 2000 protected area and the Renewable Energy Sources Laboratory, which support teaching and research activities related to the protection of natural resources. Through these facilities, students and researchers can carry out observations, measurements and practical activities relating to water quality, the environment and the use of alternative energy sources.



Courses

- **Solar energy conversion devices** (Faculty of Physics)
- **Fundamentals of electrical engineering and automation: photovoltaic, solar thermal, wind, tidal, wave and geothermal power stations** (Faculty of Physics)
- **Simulation and modelling methods for renewable and alternative energy sources** (Faculty of Physics)



Study programmes

- Master's Degree Programme in Renewable and Alternative Energy Sources (Faculty of Physics)
- Postgraduate programme in Radiation Protection, Radiation Hygiene and Environmental Protection (Faculty of Physics)



Projects

- Partner in the 'Community and ecosystem for accelerating the development of solar fuels and chemicals' (SUNERGY) project
- Partner in 'Integrative modelling of lands highly sensitive to degradation and desertification and of their solar energy resources in Europe' project (LANDSOLAR)

Research at the Forefront

Simionescu, M., Radulescu, M., & Belascu, L. (2024). The impact of renewable energy consumption and energy poverty on pollution in Central and Eastern European countries. Renewable Energy, 236, 121397.

Statistics

4 relevant study programmes	142 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	43 agraduates from relevant study programmes
46 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	2,33 % of the total number of the research/ development projects	1,3% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

~5 643 912 kWh/year electricity consumption in 2025

- 1 educational and scientific research centre for testing prototypes of alternative energy sources

Affiliations and Partnerships

- University of Reykjavik/Iceland School of Energy

Institutional Structures

- Technical Directorate

Events and Opportunities

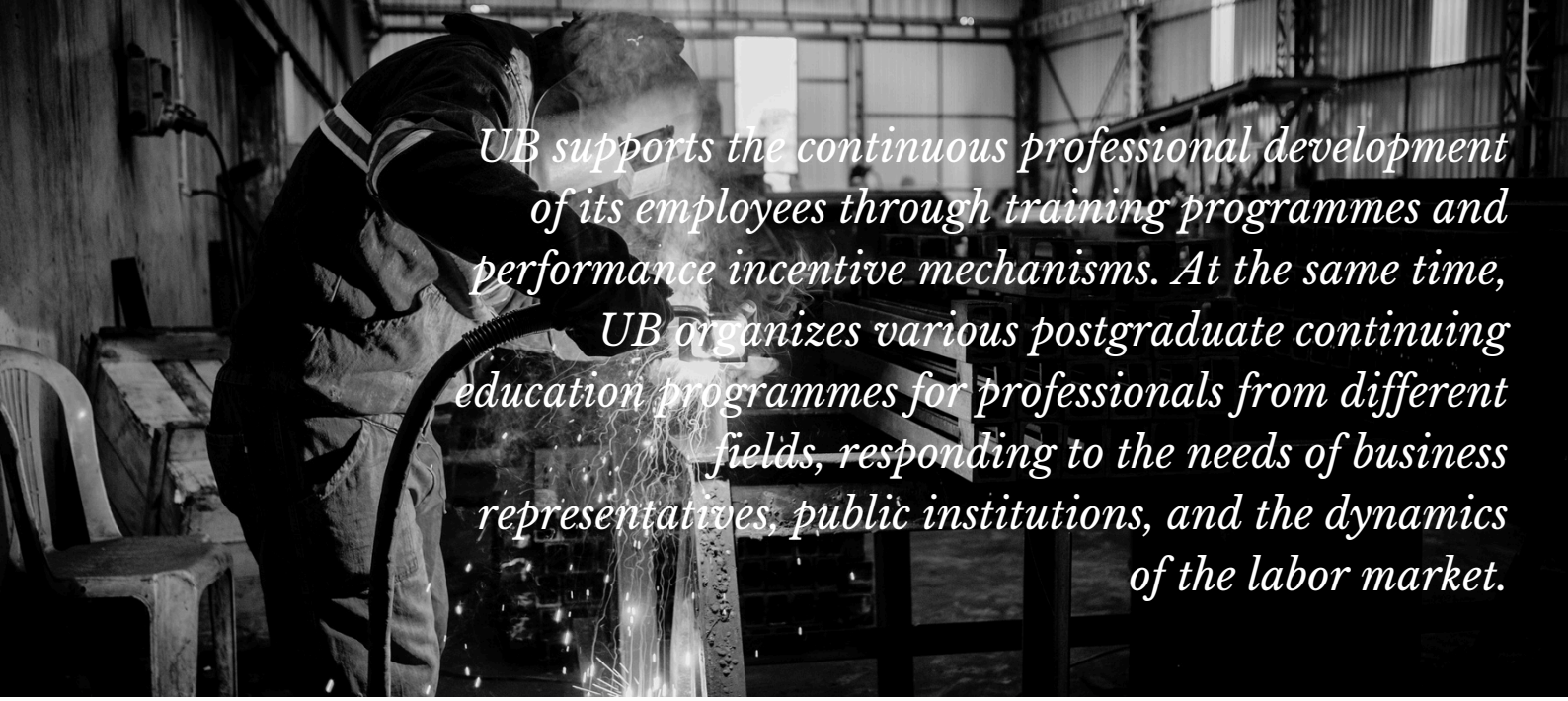
Green Energy Frontiers. Bridging Geoscience with Energy professionals

The University of Bucharest hosted the International Symposium 'Green Energy Frontiers. Bridging Geoscience with Energy Professionals', organised as part of the GeoAlliance project. The event brought together researchers, specialists, and energy-sector professionals to discuss the transition to green energy sources. Topics included geothermal resources, geothermal energy use, carbon capture and storage, the integration of hydro, wind, solar and waste-to-energy, as well as public policies and best-practice examples. The programme also featured a panel session on training future specialists for the energy transition, focusing on education, curriculum, and collaboration between academia, industry, and public authorities.



Stay connected!

Check out the training material 'Assessing Romania's Geothermal Potential: An Overview of Available Data', produced as part of the GeoAlliance project, to find out more about the available data on Romania's geothermal potential and its role in the transition to green energy.



UB supports the continuous professional development of its employees through training programmes and performance incentive mechanisms. At the same time, UB organizes various postgraduate continuing education programmes for professionals from different fields, responding to the needs of business representatives, public institutions, and the dynamics of the labor market.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

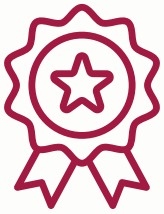
Social Engagement

The Faculty of Administration and Business at the University of Bucharest offers the postgraduate programme 'Sustainable Entrepreneurship' for those interested in developing responsible business models. The programme aims to combine the economic dimension of entrepreneurship with respect for the environment and the community, by developing skills related to the efficient management of resources, innovation and green solutions. Participants have access to experienced trainers, networking opportunities and useful tools for turning ideas into practical projects. Through this training programme, UB supports the development of skills for sustainable entrepreneurship and encourages integrating ethical values and good governance into professional practice.

Specific Activities

Good practices

Between 2025 and 2027, the University of Bucharest is running the project 'Hands-on HR Experience: From Theory to Practice for UB Students', in partnership with the HR Management Club Association. The project aims to align academic training with labour market demands through activities tailored to students interested in human resources. Students have access to work placements, workshops, mentoring and career guidance, in collaboration with professionals and organisations in the field. Through these activities, the project facilitates direct contact between students and employers and supports the development of skills useful for entering the workforce. The initiative helps to strengthen the relationship between the University of Bucharest and the professional community through practical partnerships and activities tailored to the needs of young people at the start of their careers.



Courses

- **Workplace Climate and Occupational Stress Management** (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)
- **Employment and the Labour Force** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Labour Law and Social Security** (Faculty of Administration and Business)



Study programmes

- Bachelor's Degree Programme in **Managerial and Administrative Assistance** (Faculty of Humanities)
- Master's degree programme in **Business Law** (Faculty of Law)
- Postgraduate programme in **Fundamentals of Capital Markets and Institutions** (Faculty of Administration and Business)



Projects

- Partner in the project 'Post-pandemic resilient communities: is the informal economy a reservoir for the next generation of digitalised and green businesses in the Global South?'

Research at the Forefront

The University of Bucharest, through its Statistics, Monitoring and Evaluation Service, produces an annual report on 'The career trajectory of the Class of 2023 graduates six months after graduation'.

Statistics

35 relevant study programmes	3613 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	1221 graduates from relevant study programmes
26 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	6.98% of the total number of research/development projects	5,2% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations
3 labor unions for UB employees	19 student associations	67% of bachelor's graduates and 79% of master's graduates were employed within 12 months of graduation

Affiliations and Partnerships

- HR Management Club Association

Institutional Structures

- Recruitment and Career Development Service
- Student Entrepreneurial Society (UNIHUB)

Events and Opportunities

Researchers in Action

As part of the Erasmus+ 'ReACT' project, coordinated by the University of Bucharest, the 'Researchers in Action' training session was organised, focusing on psychological flexibility and the management of work-related stress. The event took place at the School of Health of the Polytechnic Institute of Porto and brought together the partners involved in the project. The training addressed the need to support researchers' wellbeing by developing solutions for managing work-related stress. The project is coordinated by the University of Bucharest, through the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, and is being implemented in collaboration with partners from Portugal, Turkey, Ukraine and Sweden.



Stay connected!

Check out the results of the QS World University Rankings Europe 2026, where the University of Bucharest ranks as the top university in Romania for graduate employability and reputation amongst employers.



UB invests in strengthening its research and innovation capacity through the expansion of scientific infrastructure, integration into international networks, and the development of consultancy services, including through structures such as ICUB and UniBucConsult.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest supports the popularisation of science, including through activities designed to help students and young researchers communicate their research findings to the general public. One example is the partnership to organise the 'Games of Science' competition, now in its fourth edition in 2025, which offers participants a framework for training and practising scientific communication. The event targets undergraduates, master's students, PhD students, and early-career researchers from all academic disciplines and includes dedicated training, followed by a competition in which participants present their research concisely and accessibly, helping develop their communication, collaboration, and group learning skills.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest, through the UNIHUB Student Entrepreneurship Society, has launched Startup EcoHub, a green entrepreneurship programme aimed at students. The programme aims to foster an entrepreneurial spirit through business ideas focused on sustainability, innovation and the responsible use of resources. Participants were invited to submit business plans focusing on the environment, climate, energy, the circular economy and the bioeconomy, and the best ideas were awarded prizes. The programme also included a training component, through which students were able to develop skills related to sustainable entrepreneurship, management and innovation.



Courses

- **Media Innovation and Technology** (Faculty of Journalism and Communication)
- **Innovation and Entrepreneurship** (Faculty of Administration and Business)
- **International and European Intellectual and Industrial Property Law** (Faculty of Law)



Study programmes

- Bachelor's Degree Programme in **Information Technology** – Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science
- Master's degree programme in **Applied Genetics and Biotechnology** – Faculty of Biology
- Postgraduate Programme – **Radiation Protection in Nuclear Medicine and Radiotherapy: Contemporary Approaches and Clinical Implications** – Faculty of Physics



Projects

- Partner in the project 'AdvanCing UAVs teChnology to EnabLE monitoRing for A susTainable environmEnt'
- Partner in the project 'Dynamic business continuity of critical infrastructures on top of adaptive multi-level cybersecurity'

Research at the Forefront

The Educational Testing Laboratory (LTE) within the University of Bucharest's Learning Centre served as the national research centre for the International Study on Digital Competence and Information Literacy (ICILS).



Statistics

38 relevant study programmes	2121 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	583 graduates from relevant study programmes
42 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	9.97% of the total number of research/development projects	12,5% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

16,65% of UB's income is allocated to research (of UB's total income in 2025)

8 patents obtained in 2024/2025

Affiliations and Partnerships

- The ReCoNnect Consortium
- Research institutes at the Măgurele Platform

Institutional Structures

- Training and Consultancy Service – UniBuc Consult

Events and Opportunities

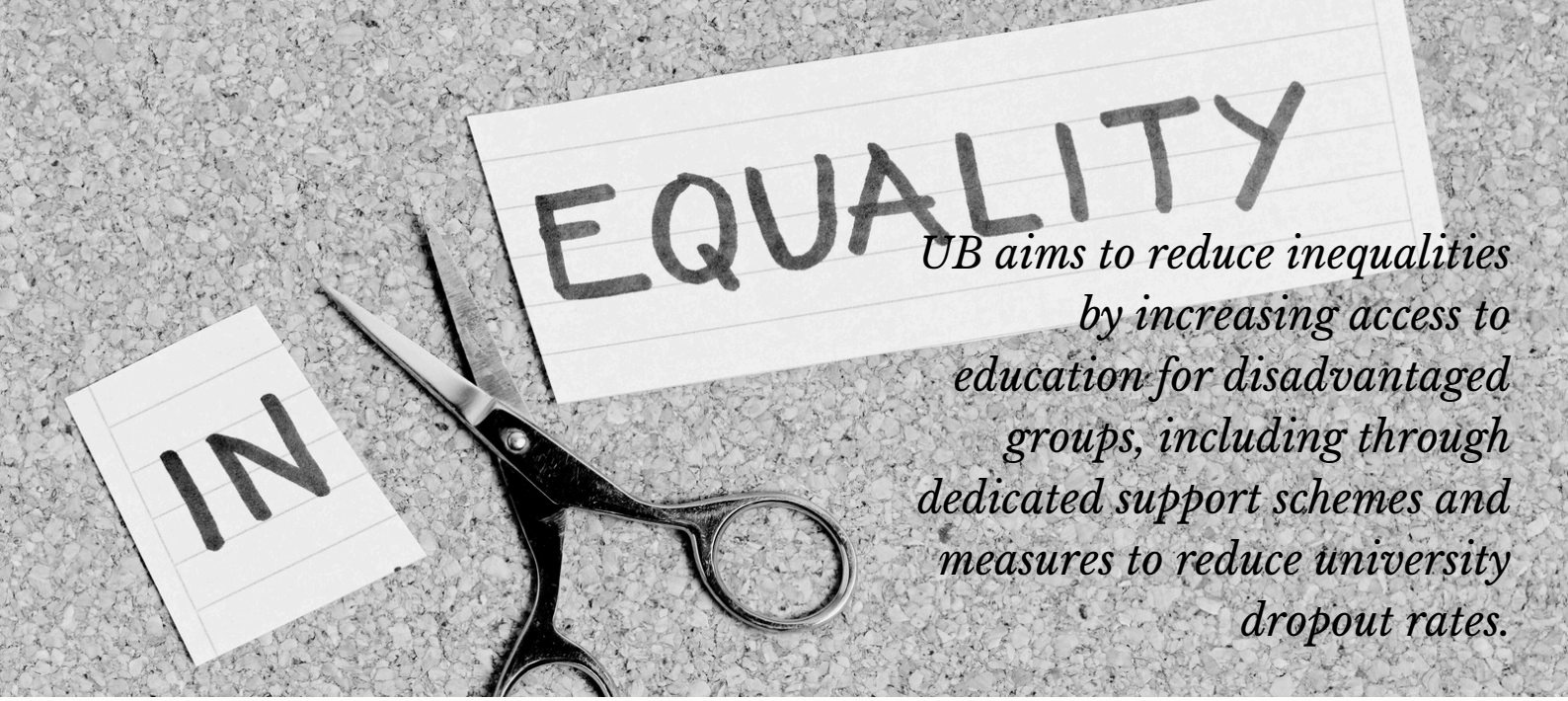
Explorers in the World of Physics

The Faculty of Physics at the University of Bucharest organised the first edition of the 'Explorers in the World of Physics' robotics competition, in collaboration with the PhotoniQ Robotics Club and with the support of ASF-UB and SciResCareer. The event was aimed at pupils with a passion for science and technology and included practical challenges that tested technical skills, creativity and teamwork. The robots built by the participants tackled challenges such as manipulating magnetic objects, navigating a maze, maintaining balance on a moving ramp and sorting objects. The pupils also had the opportunity to find out more about the study programmes offered by the Faculty of Physics, including the Robotics programme, and to visit teaching and research laboratories.



Stay connected!

Follow the activities of AI4UB, an ongoing ICUB programme dedicated to integrating artificial intelligence into education, research and interdisciplinary collaboration.



UB aims to reduce inequalities by increasing access to education for disadvantaged groups, including through dedicated support schemes and measures to reduce university dropout rates.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest launched the online campaign 'Be part of the change!', dedicated to promoting diversity, equality and inclusion within the academic community. The campaign included informational videos published on the university's online channels to familiarise the community with topics such as equal opportunities, gender equality, diversity, and inclusion. The Directorate for Strategic Orientation, Evaluation, Monitoring and Public Policy devised the initiative, supported by the Gender Equality Plan implementation team and carried out with support from the Directorate for Communication and Public Relations.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest supports the inclusion of people with disabilities through measures that combine financial support, accessible educational activities and participation in active lifestyle experiences. One example is the 25 private scholarships awarded, in partnership with Societe Generale Global Solution Centre, to students with disabilities enrolled at the University of Bucharest's 19 faculties. In addition to these measures, there are activities dedicated to pupils and students with special needs, such as the sensory workshop 'The Journey of the Senses', organised at the Botanical Garden for pupils with visual impairments, or the 'Active and Independent Living Camp', aimed at UB students with mobility and visual impairments.



Courses

- **Human rights and cultural diversity** (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work)
- **Diversity and Inclusion in Research** (Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences)
- **Social work for people with disabilities** (Faculty of Baptist Theology)



Study programmes

- Bachelor's Degree Programme in **Human Resources** – Faculty of Sociology and Social Work
- Master's Degree Programme in **Organisational Psychology and Human Resource Management** – Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences
- Postgraduate Programme – **Communication and Interpretation in Romanian Sign Language** – Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences

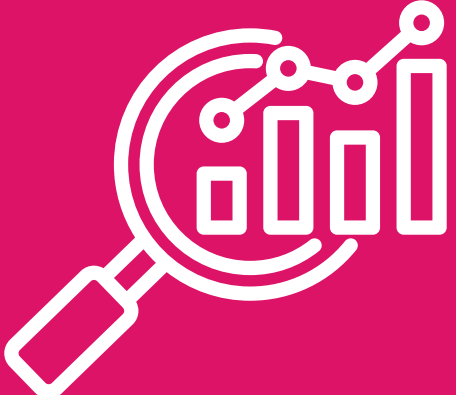


Projects

- Partner in the 'Unintentional Discrimination Detected and Racism Revealed and Deactivated' (UNDETERRED) project

Research at the Forefront

The University of Bucharest, through the 'eBelong2 – Sense of Belonging in the Context of New EU Alliances' project, contributed to a comparative mapping of existing institutional structures and measures at partner universities regarding student inclusion.



Statistics

12 relevant study programmes	969 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	390 graduates from relevant study programmes
29 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	7,31% of the total number of research/development projects	3,2% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations
113 students with disabilities are studying at UB and 12 people with disabilities are employed at UB	11,32% of international students enrolled at UB come from low- and middle-income countries	1 UB foundation

Affiliations and Partnerships

- European Accessibility Resource Centre (AccessibleEU)

Institutional Structures

- Inclusion, Equity and Diversity Service

Events and Opportunities

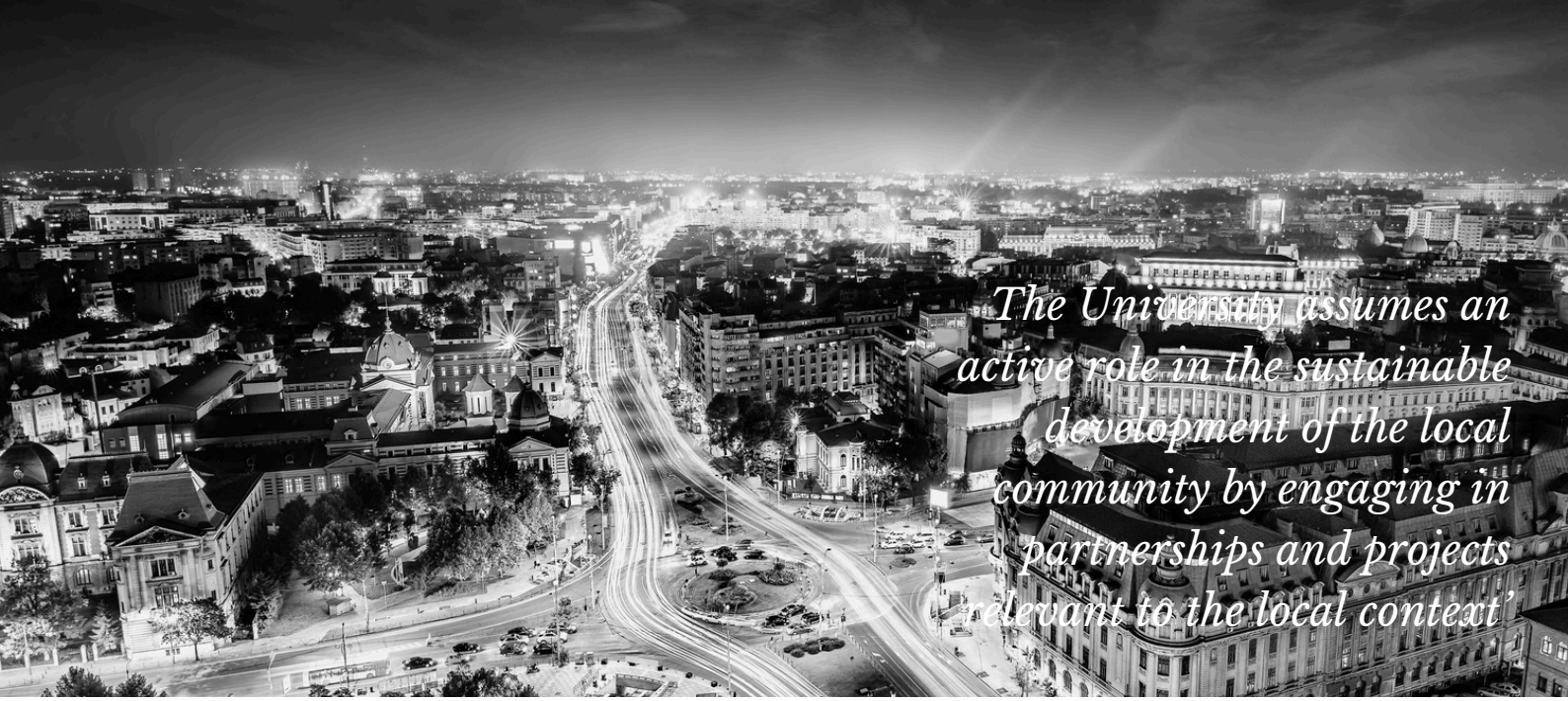
An academic discussion on equity, inclusion and quality in education

The Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences at the University of Bucharest hosted the national conference 'How do we build a high-quality, equitable school for all? Practical approaches and research evidence', organised by the Centre for Research and Promotion of Equity in Education and the RENINCO Romania Association. The event addressed issues of equity, inclusion, and quality in education through the presentation of research findings and practical workshops. The conference aimed to teach staff, special needs teachers, school counsellors, researchers, and students interested in developing a more accessible and equitable school for every pupil.



Stay connected!

Visit the Inclusion, Equity and Diversity Service page for information on the support services available to students in vulnerable situations and on how to report discrimination, harassment or abuse.



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest, through its Centre for Environmental Research and Impact Assessment (CCMESI), organised the 'Urban Living Lab Tei-Colentina' workshop, dedicated to participatory governance. The event brought together representatives from local authorities, civil society, the private sector, researchers and local residents in a joint process to analyse the areas around Lakes Tei and Plumbuita. Participants mapped the area's biophysical and socio-economic characteristics, identified local needs, and discussed possible avenues for transformation. The workshop was organised as part of the Green-INC project and provided a framework for practical dialogue on nature-based solutions, urban adaptation and inclusive development.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest promotes public access to heritage, art and culture by organising and hosting over 30 exhibitions, openings, tours and cultural activities open to the community. These events have made the most of the university's diverse spaces and resources, ranging from the university museum, the 'Dimitrie Brandza' Botanical Garden and CEREFREA Villa Noël, to faculties, research centres and science outreach initiatives. The themes covered included the university's and Bucharest's heritage, cultural memory, contemporary art, natural heritage, linguistic diversity, the history of science and the relationship between communities and urban spaces. Examples include 'University Figures and Bucharest's Heritage', 'The Beauty of Chemistry in Images' and activities exploring Bucharest. Furthermore, as part of the European project 'The Big Green', an artist-in-residence programme dedicated to the soil was organised.



Courses

- **Legislation on urban planning, spatial planning and local public administration** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Sustainable financing mechanisms and state aid for the green transition** (Faculty of Administration and Business)
- **Protection and promotion of UNESCO World Heritage** (Faculty of History)



Study programmes

- Bachelor's degree programme in **Art History** (Faculty of History)
- Master's degree programme in **Applied Geobiology for the Conservation of Natural and Cultural Heritage** (Faculty of Geology and Geophysics)
- Master's Degree Programme – **Smart Territorial Development** (Faculty of Geography)



Projects

- Partner in the 'Proximity without Density (PROWD)' project
- Partner in the 'MONitoring and Assessing prevention and restoration soLutIons to combat deSertificAtion' project

Research at the Forefront

Slave, A. R., Popa, A. M., Onose, D. A., Esmail, B. A., Albert, C., Hossu, C. A., ... & Gradinaru, S. R. (2025). Evaluating trends in the consideration of urban green spaces in strategic spatial planning: Insights from Romania. Landscape and Urban Planning, 263, 105425.

Statistics

38 relevant study programmes	1967 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	606 graduates from relevant study programmes
85 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	9.3% of the total number of research/development projects	2,4 % agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

~ €45 for accommodation in UB halls of residence (compared to ~€250 per month for private accommodation)

1 museum, 1 Botanical Garden, 1 UNESCO Global Geopark, 1 zoological station, 1 university house, and 1 hotel

Affiliations and Partnerships

- Romania's National Commission for UNESCO

Institutional Structures

- Property and Real Estate Management Office

Events and Opportunities

The University of Bucharest - a forum for dialogue on sustainable cities and resilient communities

In relation to SDG 11, the University of Bucharest has organised and hosted events dedicated to cities, territorial development, housing and community resilience. These themes were addressed from legal, geographical, economic and social perspectives, through conferences and workshops that brought together researchers, academic staff, students and specialists. Examples include the conference 'Urban Planning and Sustainable Development: Challenges and Perspectives of Current Regulations', the international conference 'Re-shaping Territories, Environments and Societies', and the interdisciplinary conference 'The Long View and the Short in Building Resilience'. Furthermore, the ICUB workshop on tenants and landlords of rented accommodation in Romania addressed housing issues and the relationships among stakeholders in the housing market.



Stay connected!

Discover the digital exhibitions of the University of Bucharest Museum, featuring themes on the university's heritage, Bucharest's heritage, the institution's history and the city's cultural spaces.



UB promotes responsible resource management across all its structures, including through innovation and the digital transformation of academic and administrative programs, projects, and processes.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Social Engagement

As part of Sustainability Week 2024-2025, the University of Bucharest organised the '*Change through Recycling*' campaign, dedicated to collecting unused textiles. Throughout the week, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science provided the University of Bucharest community with a collection point for clothes and other textiles for donation. The campaign aimed to reduce the environmental impact of textile waste and promote more responsible behaviour around resource use. The collected items were subsequently donated to charitable organisations.

Specific Activities

Good practices

In 2025, the University of Bucharest signed a cooperation agreement with the European Consumer Protection Organisation InfoCons to develop joint projects dedicated to education, science and civic engagement. The partnership aims to support the provision of information to young consumers and the general public, promoting access to accurate, relevant information tailored to current needs. The collaboration seeks to facilitate the exchange of experience, disseminate research findings and foster a sense of responsibility amongst citizens in their consumer choices. Through such initiatives, the two parties aim to promote social responsibility and foster an active approach to responsible consumption.



Courses

- **Tourism and Sustainable Development** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Consumption and Gender** (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work)
- **Sustainable Consumption** (Faculty of Sociology and Social Work)



Study programmes

- Undergraduate degree programme in **Ecology and Environmental Protection**, Faculty of Biology
- Integrated **Management of Natural Capital** Master's Degree Programme, Faculty of Biology
- Postgraduate Programme in **Educational Leadership for Sustainable Transformation**, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences



Projects

- The project 'An ecological approach within the circular economy: robocast photocatalysts for wastewater treatment and the use of reclaimed water in agriculture'
- Project coordinator for 'Metabolic engineering for a clean environment: cell plants for the removal and recovery of heavy metal waste'

Research at the Forefront

Simionescu, M., Radulescu, M., & Cifuentes-Faura, J. (2024). The role of natural resources rents and e-government in achieving sustainable development in the European Union. Resources policy, 97, 105278.

Statistics

20 relevant study programmes	807 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	240 graduates from relevant study programmes
32 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	1,66% of the total number of research/development projects	2,7% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

Selectively Collected Waste:
- 86,22 cubic meters of paper/cardboard
-21,88 cubic meters of plastic materials
-1112,3 cubic meters of vegetal materials

Affiliations and Partnerships

- ENVIRON Association

Institutional Structures

- Maintenance and Repair Works Service

Events and Opportunities

Driving Sustainable Urban Futures: a workshop on applied geophysics for sustainable cities

Members of the academic community took part in a workshop on the use of geophysical methods for the advanced management of municipal solid waste landfills, held at the Brånåsdalen landfill site in Norway. The event took place as part of the project 'Driving Sustainable Urban Futures: A Romanian-Norwegian Innovation Geophysical Alliance for Green Transition and SMART City Development', carried out by the Faculty of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Bucharest in collaboration with Pre Stack Solutions - Geo AS. The workshop provided a forum for the exchange of expertise between specialists from Romania and Norway, with a focus on the application of geophysical methods in landfill monitoring, environmental risk prevention and the development of more sustainable solutions for urban management.



Stay connected!

Follow the work of the interdisciplinary research and doctoral training group 'Natural Resources & Social-Ecological Systems', established within the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School of the University of Bucharest, which integrates perspectives from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities to analyse the use and governance of natural resources and their relationship with societal development and socio-ecological systems.



13 CLIMATE ACTION

Social Engagement

Through the European ScienceUs project, the University of Bucharest has launched a call for proposals dedicated to citizen science initiatives for adapting to climate change, with high potential for development and/or expansion into new regions of the European Union. In the first phase, 25 projects received support to draw up transnational development plans, and five of these were selected for the next stages of development. The selected initiatives have received financial support, mentoring and opportunities for collaboration within a European network. The call was aimed at projects involving citizens, researchers, public authorities, organisations and private sector stakeholders in identifying solutions applied at local or national level to tackle climate change.

Specific Activities

Good practices

Within the CIVIS university alliance, the University of Bucharest has contributed to the development of a master's programme dedicated to climate and environmental challenges. The 'Transdisciplinary Studies of Climate, Environment and Energy' master's programme offers an interdisciplinary training framework that integrates perspectives from the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and law. The programme is taught jointly by academic staff from CIVIS universities and offers students the opportunity to study in a range of European academic contexts. Through this programme, the University of Bucharest supports the training of specialists capable of understanding the relationship between climate change, energy transitions and environmental crises.



Courses

- **Global Climate Change** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Planning the economic transition to net-zero carbon emissions** (Faculty of Administration and Business)
- **Assessing the environmental impact of development projects, strategies and programmes** (Faculty of Biology)



Study programmes

- Undergraduate degree programme in **Environmental Geography** (Faculty of Geography)
- Master's degree programme in **Sustainability of Socio-ecological Systems** (Faculty of Biology)
- Postgraduate programme in **Sustainable Development** (Faculty of Administration and Business)



Projects

- Partner in the 'Climate-Resilient Development Pathways in Metropolitan Regions of Europe' project
- Partner in the project 'Cross-sectoral Framework for Socio-Economic Resilience to Climate Change and Extreme Events in Europe'

Research at the Forefront

The University of Bucharest was involved, as part of the CIVIS Open Lab, in the initiative 'Sensing Our Environment Together – Citizen Science for Climate and Air Quality', dedicated to the use of citizen science methods for monitoring the urban climate and air quality.



Statistics

19 relevant study programs	1122 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	343 graduates from relevant study programmes
136 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	17,28% of the total number of research/development projects	3,6% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

6350,35 total Scope 1 & 2 CO_2 emissions (in tons)

Affiliations and Partnerships

- Society for Urban Ecology - SURE

Institutional Structures

- Orşova Geographical Research Station

Events and Opportunities

International conferences on research into ecosystems and ecological services

The University of Bucharest was represented internationally through lectures delivered by Associate Professor Dr Virgil Iordache, a lecturer at the Faculty of Biology and director of the 'Dan Manoleli' Research Centre for Ecological Services (CESEC). The activities took place as part of a Fulbright research programme and addressed topics related to the stoichiometry of carbon, macronutrients and toxic elements in the study of ecosystems. The lectures included presentations at the Advanced Science Research Centre – CUNY and the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, focusing on the development of a critical area observatory in Romania and on the use of ecological research to understand ecosystems affected by human activities.



Stay connected!

Follow the 'Discussions with SKEPSIS' series, which includes episodes on climate change, climate myths and how science can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals.



UB conducts research projects in the field of aquatic biodiversity protection and sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems.

14 VIAȚA ACVATICĂ

Social Engagement

The 3NanoSAE Technology Transfer Centre, affiliated with the Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (ICUB), has contributed to the production of two volumes on algal biotechnology, published by CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. The volumes analyses the role of algae and microalgae in the development of green biotechnologies, with applications in environmental sustainability, wastewater treatment, agriculture, food products and the bioeconomy. The University of Bucharest's contribution is reflected in two chapters presenting an in-depth analysis of the use of oxygenic photosynthetic microorganisms in biological fuel cells used for wastewater treatment. The authors provide an overview of the current state of the art, as well as the prospects for the use of bioanodes and biocathodes in this innovative technology.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest is part of the Horizon Europe project DELTA-HUB – River Delta Science, Education and Modelling Hub, dedicated to research, education and modelling of deltaic environments, using the Danube Delta as a case study. The project aims to strengthen the University of Bucharest's research capacity and to develop a centre of excellence for the study of deltas, drawing on the expertise of the Faculty of Geography, ICUB and the infrastructure of the Marine and River Research Station in Sfântu Gheorghe. A key component is developing a digital model of the Danube Delta to help explain natural processes and inform decisions on sediment management and the protection of aquatic ecosystems.



Courses

- **Hydrology (river and lake studies)** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Marine geology** (Faculty of Geology and Geophysics)
- **Aquatic Ecology** (Faculty of Geography)



Study programmes

- Master's degree programme in **Assessment of Sedimentary Basins and Mineral Resources** (Faculty of Geology and Geophysics)
- Master's degree programme in **Environmental Policies for Sustainable Development** (Faculty of Geography)



Projects

- Partner in the DANUBIUS-IP project
- Partner in the 'MARine COastal BiOdiversity Long-term Observations' project

Research at the Forefront

BABOȘ, T., DOBRE, O., LAZĂR, C., PALCU, D. V., & POJAR, I. (2025). Characterisation of floating microplastic in Romanian coastal waters, Western Black Sea. Geo-Eco-Marina, 31, 103-109.



Statistics

11 relevant study programs	633 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	195 graduates from relevant study programmes
94 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	7,64% of the total number of research/development projects	1,4% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations
	3 research stations	

Affiliations and Partnerships

- EUROPONDS

Institutional Structures

- Marine and River Research Station (SCMF) - Coastal Research Group, Faculty of Geography

Events and Opportunities

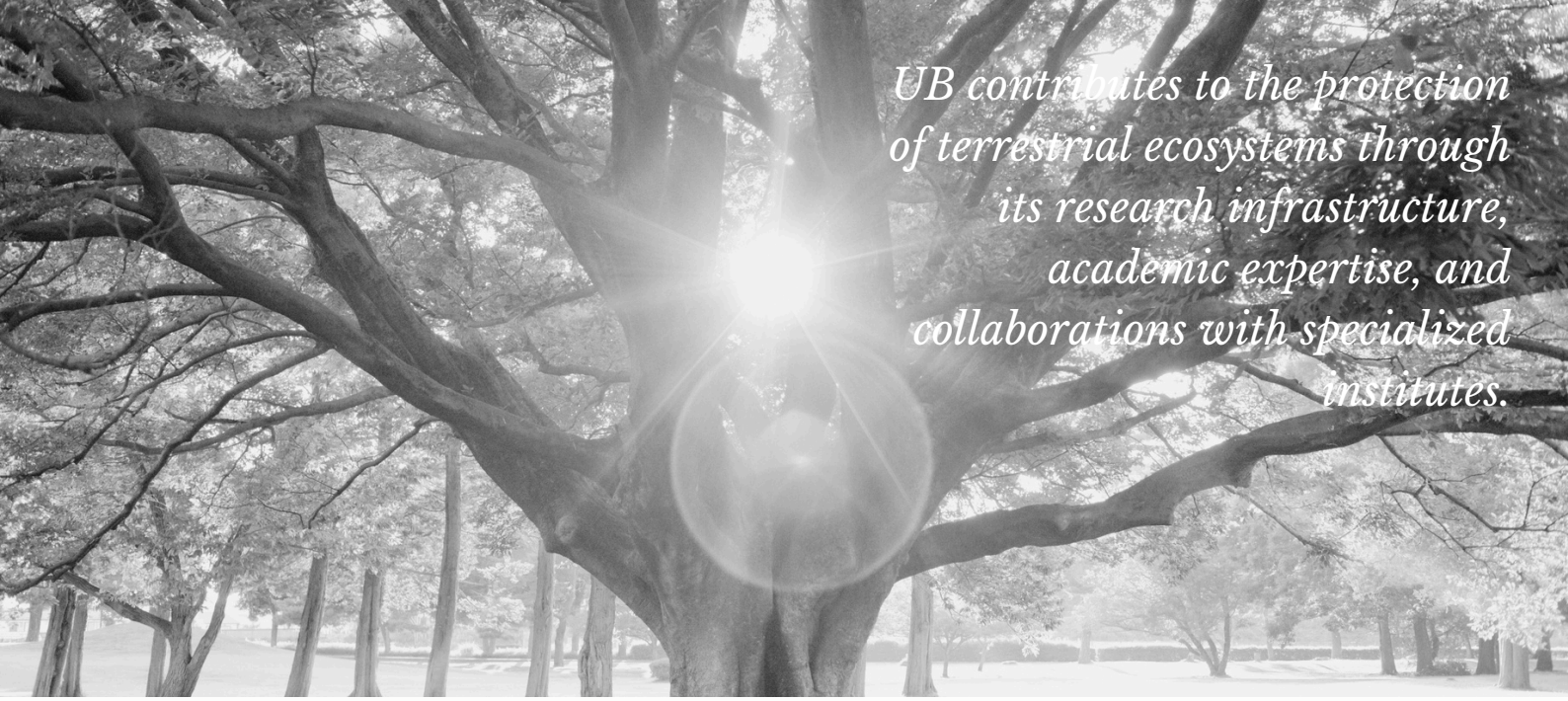
International exhibition and competition dedicated to aquatic biodiversity

The ‘Dimitrie Brandza’ Botanical Garden of the University of Bucharest hosted the third edition of the Bucharest International Betta Show, an event that included an international competition and an exhibition of exotic fish, open to the public free of charge. Visitors were able to view over 400 specimens of Betta splendens, making it the largest exhibition of exotic fish in Romania, and had access to informative seminars led by specialists, covering the proper care of fish, water conditions, feeding, breeding and disease prevention.



Stay connected!

Tune in to the Restore4Life Podcast to discover expert discussions on wetlands, biodiversity and the restoration of aquatic ecosystems, and explore the Wetland Restoration Hub, resources developed as part of the Restore4Life project.



UB contributes to the protection of terrestrial ecosystems through its research infrastructure, academic expertise, and collaborations with specialized institutes.

15 LIFE ON LAND

Social Engagement

The ‘Dimitrie Brandza’ Botanical Garden of the University of Bucharest marked International Biodiversity Day and European Parks Day with a series of activities aimed at the public and the scientific community. The events, organised in partnership with the Bucharest Institute of Biology of the Romanian Academy and the Văcărești Nature Park Authority, included a guided tour of the Botanical Garden, a session of scientific presentations and a visit to Văcărești Nature Park. The activities addressed topics such as biodiversity conservation, urban flora, invasive species, mountain biodiversity and the role of nature in urban areas. Through this format, the University of Bucharest brought together researchers, specialists and members of the public interested in protecting terrestrial ecosystems.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The Faculty of Biology at the University of Bucharest is continuing a 12-year collaboration with specialists from Buila-Vânturarița National Park, through field activities designed for Ecology students. Visits to the protected area give students the opportunity to observe habitats, species and forms of environmental degradation first-hand, such as deforestation, river regulation and mineral extraction. The programme includes presentations by park specialists and visits to sites relevant to understanding the relationship between nature, communities and cultural heritage, linking academic training with the management of protected areas and the monitoring of the impact of human activities on terrestrial ecosystems.



Courses

- **General Ecology** (Faculty of Biology)
- **Policies for the Conservation of Biological Diversity** (Faculty of Geography)
- **Biodiversity Conservation** (Faculty of Geology and Geophysics)



Study programmes

- Undergraduate Degree Programme in **Geology** (Faculty of Geology and Geophysics)
- Master's Degree Programme in **Advanced Geomatics for Environmental Research** (Faculty of Geography)
- Master's Degree Programme in **Environmental Physics and Ecological Materials** (Faculty of Physics)



Projects

- Experimental Demonstration Project (PED) PN-III-P2-2.1-PED-2021-1965 'Interactive tool for estimating abundance of wildlife populations' (WildPop)
- Partner in the project 'Science for Evidence-based and Sustainable Decisions about NAtural Capital'

Research at the Forefront

Feurdean, A., Hanganu, D., Bălășescu, A., Diaconu, A., Pfeiffer, M., Warren, D., ... & Tantau, I. (2025). Moisture availability versus grazing and burning as drivers of Holocene forest-grassland coexistence in Europe: A case study from open ecosystems of southeastern Romania. Quaternary science reviews, 351, 109153.

Statistics

25 relevant study programmes	1140 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	366 graduates from relevant study programmes
105 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	12,96% of the total number of research/development projects	1,7% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

4 research stations

1 Research Platform in Biology and Systemic Ecology

Affiliations and Partnerships

- Văcărești Nature Park Administration

Institutional Structures

- Sinaia Zoological Station

Events and Opportunities

The International Congress of Zoology

The University of Bucharest hosted ZoologyCon 2024, the 12th edition of the International Congress of Zoology, organised in collaboration with the 'Grigore Antipa' National Museum of Natural History and the Romanian Academy. The event brought together researchers, lecturers, students and participants from several countries for scientific sessions, presentations and workshops dedicated to zoological research. Topics discussed included palaeozoology, faunistics, zoogeography, taxonomy, evolution, ecology, biodiversity conservation, the utilisation of zoological collections and civic science. The programme also included a field trip focusing on local biodiversity and bioconservation efforts.



Stay connected!

Discover the work of the Centre for Habitat and Species Monitoring – Eșelnița, which plays a role in monitoring biodiversity, supporting the management of protected areas and developing environmental education activities in the Iron Gates Natural Park area.



UB promotes the preservation of an open society by cultivating democratic spirit, defending the principles of the rule of law, and encouraging civic engagement, maintaining its role as a catalyst for ideas, civic action, and social change.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Social Engagement

The Faculty of Administration and Business at the University of Bucharest has launched a media literacy and critical thinking project aimed at school pupils in Bucharest. The first workshops were held at the 'Gheorghe Lazăr' National College and the 'Timotei Cipariu' Greek Catholic High School, involving over 130 pupils. The activities took a practical approach, featuring mock newsrooms, exercises in analysing information, and discussions on identifying fake news and using official sources. The project forms part of the International Students for a Resilient and United Europe (SURE) programme and aims to develop critical thinking and increase young people's resilience in the face of disinformation.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest is organising the University of Bucharest Governance Workshop, a forum for dialogue on public administration, public policy and institutional reform. The 2025 edition, entitled 'Reconfiguring the public sector in the light of contemporary global technological, economic and political changes', was organised by the Faculty of Administration and Business and the 'Virtute et Sapientia' Foundation, in partnership with the General Secretariat of the Government. The event took place over two days, the first at the University of Bucharest and the second at the Romanian Government's headquarters. The discussions were attended by international experts, Romanian specialists, representatives of the business community, academic staff, PhD students, undergraduates and public decision-makers. The topics covered included digitalisation, artificial intelligence, automation, administrative reform and the adaptation of the public sector to current changes.



Courses

- **Policing şi intelligence în activitatea antidrog (**Facultatea de Sociologie și Asistență Socială**)**
- **Global Justice (**Facultatea de Științe Politice)
- **Relații internaționale şi comunicare** (Facultatea de Drept)



Study programmes

- Undergraduate degree programme in **Law** (Faculty of Law)
- Master's degree programme in **Public Policy for Energy, Climate Change and Sustainability** (Faculty of Administration and Business)
- Postgraduate Programme in **Diplomacy and International Representation** (Faculty of Political Science)



Projects

- Partner in the 'Participatory dEmocRacY that sCaLES' project
- Partner in the 'Increasing trust in European democratic institutions' (TRUEDEM) project

Research at the Forefront

Academic staff from the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences at the University of Bucharest were part of the team of experts for the study 'Hooked on the Feed: An Analysis of How Facebook, TikTok, and X Shape Information Consumption in Eastern Europe.



Statistics

41 relevant study programs	5275 students enrolled in relevant study programmes	1241 graduates from relevant study programs
22 scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science	3,99 % of the total number of research/development projects	19,4% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

The University of Bucharest Senate consists of 25% student representatives and 75% teachers.

Over 12 UB affiliations with international networks

Affiliations and Partnerships

- European Parliament Office in Romania

Institutional Structures

- Directorate for Strategic Orientation, Evaluation, Monitoring and Public Policy

Events and Opportunities

‘Geophysics for Civil Protection & Sustaining Humanitarian Aid Operations’

The workshop ‘Geophysics for Civil Protection & Sustaining Humanitarian Aid Operations’ marked the conclusion of the RO-GEO4HUMANITY project, initiated by the Faculty of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Bucharest and the Romanian Society of Applied Geophysics. The event was organised as part of the Geoscience 2024 International Symposium and presented the project’s results, focusing on the use of geophysical methods in civil protection and security. The presentations covered the detection of unexploded ordnance, the analysis of seismo-acoustic signals and the integration of field methods, including magnetometry, photogrammetry and thermal scanning. The workshop featured contributions from researchers and students involved in the fieldwork.



Stay connected!

Follow the VIRAL-D lecture series, organised by CCEA and ICUB, dedicated to the impact of digital technologies and artificial intelligence on democracy, public dialogue and trust in institutions.



The University is actively engaged in national and international consortia, university alliances, and transnational research projects that include components dedicated to sustainable development.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Social Engagement

The University of Bucharest ran the postgraduate programme 'Expert in Sustainable Development', through which it trained 1,838 experts from the public administration. The programme took place between March and July 2025 and was part of the Department for Sustainable Development's national initiative to train a corps of specialists to implement Romania's National Strategy for Sustainable Development 2030. UB organised the courses for 7 of the 8 development regions through its training and consultancy service, UniBuc Consult. Graduates received official certification for the occupation 'Sustainable Development Expert', recognised at the national level.

Specific Activities

Good practices

The University of Bucharest, through its Institutional Sustainability Service, organised the *UB Sustainability Gala* as a forum for students, academic staff, and representatives from the public and private sectors and civil society to come together. The event took place over three days and included activities focusing on educational opportunities and student support services, the future of work, green jobs, artificial intelligence and social inclusion. As part of the Gala, three panel discussions were organised with experts from public institutions and companies, as well as a session showcasing student projects with an impact on the community. These included projects by UB student associations and the Science Shorts by UniBuc project, winner of the third edition of the coLABORATORUL de IDEI competition.



Courses

- **Agenda 2030 - Politici și Proiecte pentru Dezvoltare Durabilă** (Facultatea de Geologie și Geofizică)
- **Dezvoltare durabilă** (Facultatea de Administrație și Afaceri)
- **Educație pentru dezvoltare durabilă** (Facultatea de Psihologie și Științele Educației)



Study programmes

- Doctoral School in Ecology (Faculty of Biology)
- 'Simion Mehedinți – Nature and Sustainable Development' Doctoral School (Faculty of Geography)
- Interdisciplinary School of Doctoral Studies at the University of Bucharest (ISDS-UB)



Projects

- Partner in the project 'Bio Knowledge Agora: Developing the Science Service for European Research and Biodiversity Policymaking'

Research at the Forefront

Popescu, Cristina Raluca Gh. (2025). Addressing Sustainable Development Goals Through Competency-Based Education, Addressing Sustainable Development Goals Through Competency-Based Education, IGI Global, (pp.1-348), DOI 10.4018/979-8-3373-3720-3, ISBN 979-833733722-7, 979-833733720-3.

Statistics

64,83% relevant study programmes	60,43% of total students enrolled in relevant study programs	64,39% of graduates from relevant study programs
81,89%of the total number of scientific publications indexed in Web of Science	71,43% of the total number of research/development projects	53,40% agreements and partnerships with relevant institutions, associations and foundations

1 Sustainability Week and other events organised by UB faculties to raise awareness and encourage the academic community's involvement in sustainable development activities

1 UB Sustainability Strategy for the period 2025–2030

Affiliations and Partnerships

- Department for Sustainable Development – Government of Romania

Institutional Structures

- Institutional Sustainability Service

Events and Opportunities

A session of scientific presentations on biodiversity and sustainable development

The ‘Dimitrie Brandza’ Botanical Garden of the University of Bucharest co-organised and hosted the first edition of the scientific conference ‘Harmony with nature and sustainable development’. The event was organised in partnership with the Bucharest Institute of Biology of the Romanian Academy and the Văcărești Nature Park Administration to mark International Biodiversity Day and European Parks Day. The meeting brought together 65 participants and featured presentations by life sciences specialists on topics such as biodiversity conservation, protected areas, invasive species and the effects of climate change on ecosystems.



Stay connected!

Take our online training courses on sustainable development and test your knowledge!

MENTIONS

The team that drafted this report included the following contributors:

- PROF. MAGDALENA IORDACHE PLATIS - coordinator
- Oana SÂRBU
- Silvia PĂDURE
- Gabriela BILIGA-NISIPEANU
- Andreea Irina MARINESCU



CONTACT

90, Panduri Street, Sector 5, 050663, Bucharest, ROMANIA

https://unibuc.ro/despre-ub/sustenabilitate/

sustenabilitate@g.unibuc.ro

https://www.facebook.com/sustenabilitateunibuc

https://www.instagram.com/sustenabilitate_unibuc?igsh=dmZnMDdzZ3Z6a3Q2