

## 2024 Sustainability Report SDG 16



PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS





### LETTER FROM THE REPORT RECTOR



Ege University is a leading university, an example of the Turkish higher education system, which has received Turkey's first Institutional Full Accreditation Certificate and has the identity of a Student-Focused Research University.

Our University, with its 69-year deep-rooted history, strong academic staff, qualified scientific studies, distinguished students, and graduates, is to make a supreme effort to build a solid future for new generations by being sensitive to the realities of the world, our country and the society we live in. Ege University is a strong research institution with an entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem where R&D, innovation, knowledge, and technology transfer take place between industry and university.

Ege University has adopted all the goals of eliminating inequalities, strengthening economic growth and employment, improving cities and residential areas, ensuring industrialization, protecting oceans and ecosystems, producing and consuming energy more sustainably, combating climate change, developing sustainable production and consumption, and empowering human rights. Our university operates within an adequate ultrastructure designable to implement all academic and operational activities within the SDGs framework.

We steadfastly persist in our pursuit of elevating Ege University into a vanguard research institution dedicated to pioneering technological advancements in support of sustainable development.

This report not only contains in-depth information about Ege University's remarkable efforts in each of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals throughout 2024 but also reveals the key strategies of our institution. Moreover, it serves as a guiding compass, not only illuminating our efforts but also enabling a keener determination of our evolving needs and strategic plans.

In harmonious unity, we ardently endeavor to steer our institution towards a guiding and pioneering role by meticulously realizing our objectives through a management philosophy of fairness, equity, and accessibility.

I appreciate all my esteemed colleagues whose collective efforts have shaped this report.

With warm regards and respect..."

Prof. Dr. Necdet BUDAK

Rector





### LETTER FROM THE REPORT TEAM

As the Sustainability Report Team, Ege University, we are proud and excited to present the third annual Sustainability Report of Ege University, one of Turkey's pioneering universities, prepared to concretize the University's commitment to sustainability and enable you to follow our sustainability-related efforts closely.

Sustainability lies at the heart of Ege University's main objectives. Besides, our university bears the responsibility of leaving a more livable world to future generations, and it emphasizes its determination to integrate sustainability principles in the fields of education, research, social contribution, and campus management. Over the years, Ege University has built a strong track record of offering sustainable solutions to address the challenges facing the university and society. In 2020, all these efforts culminated in establishing the Rankings Office. This move not only strengthened the university's commitment to sustainability but also led to the formation of sub-commissions focusing on various Sustainable Development Goals. These sub-working groups brought together academics and administrative staff from every faculty and the Rectorate, each contributing diverse perspectives and professional expertise.

What makes the Rankings Office even more dynamic is its inclusion of the Sustainability Report Team, which actively participates in all activities, thus enhancing the visibility of the office across the university.

Ege University aims to extend influence far beyond the boundaries of our institution. The EGE Sustainability Team seeks to be a trailblazer in instilling a culture of sustainability in other higher education institutions. Our Sustainability Team and its sub-working groups are going to serve as advisors to our university as well as to other universities, offering insights into Sustainable Development Goals and impact management. Furthermore, we are going to continue to be actively involved in educational initiatives that support schools on their sustainability journeys.

Beyond our campuses, we actively engage with local communities, businesses, and government entities to foster sustainable relationships, collaborate on solving common issues, and share our wealth of knowledge.

Ege University is unwavering in its commitment to the responsible management of resources to mitigate their impact on society, the environment, and the economy. This report offers a transparent and current source of information, providing valuable guidance to universities and stakeholders seeking to expand their knowledge on sustainability.

EGE University is actively dedicated to advancing sustainability through research, education, and innovation to become a leading institution in Turkey and worldwide. Our primary focus is on enhancing the accessibility, inclusivity, and affordability of our university for the benefit of our community. We cultivate positive partnerships with industry leaders to strengthen our engagement and ensure the use of environmentally sustainable practices that support innovation and research.

This report offers insight into EGE UNI's position in 2024 regarding enhancing sustainability in Turkey. We share our initiatives and commitments related to environmental, social, and economic sustainability, along with their corresponding impacts. We extend our gratitude to our sub-working groups, the Sustainability Report team, our dedicated students, EGE's esteemed academicians, and the Rectorate for their unwavering efforts this year to further our sustainable impact.

Our journey towards securing the sustainability of our world is an extensive and long way one. As the EGE Sustainability Team, we place our trust in the dedication of our university's staff and students to continue their improvements this year and sustain their endeavors well into the future.

We appreciate your interest in the Ege University Sustainability Report and eagerly welcome the feedback of our readers.

Prof. Dr. Göknur ŞİŞMAN AYDIN

Coordinator

EU Sustainability Office

# PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS





Ensuring public access to information in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, and protecting fundamental rights and freedoms, is critically important for the sustainability of effective governance based on peace, stability, human rights, and the rule of law.

Countries that guarantee public access to information through constitutional, legal, or policy frameworks and implement these measures effectively can achieve sustainable development.

We are living in an increasingly divided world. While peace, security, and prosperity remain stable in some regions, others continue to be trapped in cycles of conflict and violence.

Intense armed conflicts and environments of insecurity seriously damage the development of countries, hinder economic growth, and often lead to injustices that persist across generations.

In places where conflict continues or the rule of law is absent, sexual violence, crime, abuse, and torture become widespread. For this reason, these countries must take urgent and effective measures to protect the most vulnerable groups.

The Sustainable Development Goals aim to significantly reduce all forms of violence and work with governments and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity. Strengthening the rule of law is key to this process. Likewise, preventing illicit arms trade and enhancing the participation of developing countries in global governance institutions are also of great importance.

### EGE UNIVERSITY PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Ege University aims to support peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, ensure access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. To this end, it conducts academic, scientific, and social studies in accordance with national legislation, international agreements, and principles of public ethics. It establishes and supports responsive, participatory, inclusive, and representative decision-making mechanisms where students, academic and administrative staff, and all stakeholders can freely express their opinions and submit proposals.

Thus, it aims to build a governance approach that is open to the public, fair, effective, transparent, and sustainable. Within the scope of Goal 16, we aim to promote the development of peaceful and inclusive societies to support sustainable development, ensure access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. To this end, we conduct academic, scientific, and social studies in accordance with national legislation, international agreements, and principles of public ethics. We establish and support responsive, participatory, inclusive, and representative decision-making mechanisms where students, academic and administrative staff, and all stakeholders can freely express their opinions and submit proposals. Thus, we are implementing a sustainable management approach that is more peaceful, fair, effective, accountable and provides information to the public at all levels.

#### In this context, studies carried out at Ege University;

• Within the scope of elected representatives to the university's senior management; the Student Representative (Student Council President) is elected to represent the students at Ege University, a fully accredited student-focused research university. The President of the Student Council is a natural member of the Ege University.



The "I. Student Project Festival" at Ege University was organized in line with the principle of student-centeredness (2024).





• The administrative unit responsible for supporting the personal, cultural, and social development of students at the institution, resolving existing problems, and creating environments where students can enjoy a productive, active, and quality university life is the Ege University Dean of Students Office. Information on this subject can be accessed from the Dean of Students' Office (ege.edu.tr) link. Working in close collaboration with the Dean of Students, the Rector, and the Vice Rector responsible for Student Affairs, they develop new projects that will facilitate the academic and social lives of students. It provides support for the creation of an effective and productive learning environment. It supports the university's efforts to create the academic calendar. At Ege University, a student-focused research university, student studies and new practices are discussed in the Student Senate with the participation of the University administration. The Dean of Students, Student Senate, and Student Societies constitute independent student unions. Information and documents related to this subject are available in the links below.

**Ege University Student Senate** 

**Ege University Student Senate Guidelines** 

**Ege University Student Societies** 



"Ege University ranked 4th in the General Satisfaction Ranking of State Universities with a score of 511. The university also ranked 5th in the General Satisfaction Ranking, with an A Plus level. The survey also ranked 4th in the categories of Campus and Life Satisfaction, Academic Support and Attention, and Satisfaction with the Institution's Management and Operation; 5th in the "Richness of Learning Opportunities and Resources" survey; 7th in the "Personal Development and Career Support" survey; and 9th in the "Satisfaction with the Learning Experience" category.(2025)"

• Ege University is in constant communication with its stakeholders and continues to work with our university at local, regional, national and international levels.







"As part of the "July 15 Democracy and National Unity Day" events organized by Ege University (EU), the exhibition titled "July 15 Democracy and National Unity: The Name of Victory is Türkiye" was inaugurated (2025)."





- The opinions of Ege University's stakeholders are important for our university's academic activities, and these views are also included in the 2024–2028 Strategic Plan.
- Ege University Advisory Board is located at the link below and is here to provide opinions and suggestions to our University and the relevant units of our University in all areas we operate in, with the aim of increasing, developing, disseminating and continuously improving the quality of our University's education, training and research processes.

Ege University Advisory Board

Ege University collaborates with its stakeholders, including local, private, and civil society representatives.

Ege University Culture and Arts Advisory Board

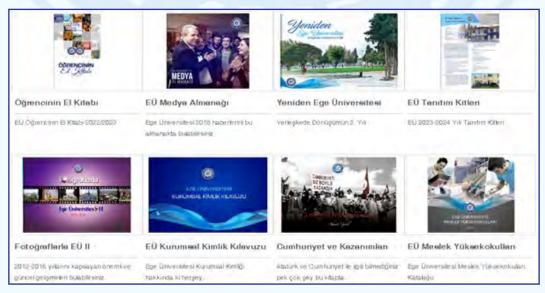
Ege University Continuing Education Center Advisory Board

<u>Ege University Advisory Board Members and Their Meeting Izmir's opinion leaders met at Ege University – Ege</u> University News Agency

Books, journals, etc. prepared by Ege University for local and national stakeholders













As part of the publication of Ege University's principles regarding organized crime, corruption, and bribery, Ege University publishes the university's financial information and reports, as required by Law No. 5018 on Public Financial Management and Control, at the link https://sgdb.ege.edu.tr/tr-1889/faaliyetler.html. Ege University has published its Ethical Principles. These principles cover a wide range of areas, from academic and administrative matters to human relations, and include standards and rules to be observed in university life and in the relations of university members with society and the environment. Violations of these principles of ethical conduct are evaluated by the relevant units of the University within the framework of relevant legislation.

The following link contains information and documents on the relevant subject:

personeldb.ege.edu.tr/tr-12605/formlar.html

www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?MevzuatNo=8044&MevzuatTur=7&MevzuatTertip=5

www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?MevzuatNo=5649&MevzuatTur=21&MevzuatTertip=5

Ege University aims to train experts against cyber attacks within the scope of the "Digital Innovation Collaboration Platform", of which our country is one of the eight founding members. In this regard, one of the four Cyber Security Vocational Schools established in Turkey was opened within Ege University. For more information on this topic, please visit the Ege University Career Planning and Success Coordination Office (ege.edu.tr).

Ege University is committed to the Ethical Conduct Principles of Higher Education Institutions (YÖK) to support academic freedom, freedom to choose research areas, and freedom to speak and teach publicly about the field of research.

Our support for academic freedom and studies at national and international levels is available at the Manşet – Ege University News Agency link.

To provide expert advice to the administration, training and capacity-building activities are conducted for policymakers and legislators in areas such as economics, law, technology, migration, displacement, and climate change. In this context, training programs and consulting activities are conducted within the Senate and the Board of Directors to enhance knowledge and skills in their areas of expertise.





Membership information for these activities is available at the link below:

ege.edu.tr/tr-853/senato.html

ege.edu.tr/tr-854/yonetim\_kurulu.html

To prevent violence in society, Ege University carries out initiatives that prioritize social peace and aim to raise awareness in this area. We advocate for respect toward all individuals, regardless of their ethnic background, religion, or political views, and support the building of peaceful societies where inequalities are reduced and a dignified life is ensured for everyone. In this direction, we will continue our scientific and research activities with determination.





## THE Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 & GRI Index Matrix

THE	Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 Version 1.1	GRI	Disclosure	Reported	Page
16.1	Research on peace and justice			Fully	1-2-4
16.2	University governance measures			Fully	1-2-4
16.2.1	Elected representation Have elected representation on the university's highest governing GRI 206: Anti-competitive Behavior body from: students (both undergraduate and graduate), faculty, 2016 and staff (non-faculty employees)	GRI 2: General Disclosures 2021 GRI 206: Anti-competitive Behavior 2016	2-9 Governance structure and composition 2-10 Nomination and selection of the highest governance body 2-13 Delegation of responsibility for managing impacts 2-11 Chair of the highest governance body 206-1 Legal actions for anticompetitive behavior, anti-trust, and monopoly practices	Fully	1-2
	students (both undergraduate and graduate)			Fully	1-2
	faculty			Fully	1-2
	staff (non-faculty employees)			Fully	1-2
16.2.2	Students' union Recognise a students' union			Fully	1-2
16.2.3	Identify and engage with local stakeholders Have written policies and procedures to identify local stakeholders external to the university and engage with them	GRI 2: General Disclosures 2021	2-5 External assurance 2-15 Conflicts of interest 2-16 Communication of critical concerns 2-29 Approach to stakeholder engagement 2-25 Processes to remediate negative impacts 2-26 Mechanisms for seeking advice and raising concerns	Fully	1-2-3
16.2.4	Participatory bodies for stakeholder engagement Have an existence of participatory bodies to recognize and engage local stakeholders, including local residents, local government, local private, local civil society representatives		2-29 Approach to stakeholder engagement	Fully	1-2-3
16.2.5	University principles on corruption and bribery Publish the university's principles and commitments on organized crime, corruption & bribery		2-23 Policy commitments 2-24 Embedding policy commitments 2-27 Compliance with laws and regulations	Fully	4
16.2.6	Academic freedom policy Have a policy on supporting academic freedom (freedom to choose areas of research and to speak and teach publicly about the area of their research)			Fully	4
16.2.7	Publish financial data Publish university financial data		2-20 Process to determine remuneration 2-21 Annual total compensation ratio 2-30 Collective bargaining agreements	Fully	4
16.3	Working with government			Fully	
16.3.1	Provide expert advice to government Provide specific expert advice to local, regional or national government (for example through policy guidance, participation in committees, provision of evidence)	GRI 2: General Disclosures 2021	2-29 Approach to stakeholder engagement	Fully	4-5
16.3.2	Policy-and lawmakers outreach and education Provide outreach, general education, upskilling and capacity- building to policy and lawmakers on relevant topics including economics, law, technology, migration and displacement, and climate change	GRI 410: Security Practices 2016	410-1 Security personnel trained in human Fully rights policies or procedures	Fully	4-5
16.3.3	Participation in government research Undertake policy-focused research in collaboration with government departments			Fully	4-5
16.3.4	Neutral platform to discuss issues Provide a neutral platform and 'safe' space for different political stakeholders to come together to frankly discuss challenges			Fully	4-5
16.4	Proportion of graduates in law and civil enforcement			Fully	
16.4.1	Proportion of graduates in law			Fully	
	Number of graduates			Fully	
	Number of total graduates from law and enforcement related courses			Fully	



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www.surdurulebilir.ege.edu.tr