

An Accredited Institution of the University of Westminster (UK)

# Sustainable **Development Goals** Report 2024

















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November 2025

### Message from the Rector of Westminster International University in Tashkent



"This is the fourth year that Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) is participating in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings. Guided by the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we continue to integrate sustainability across our teaching, research, operations, and community engagement. Our annual submission serves as a key instrument to measure our progress and strengthen our contribution to global sustainable development".

**Komiljon Karimov** 

At Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), we continue to reaffirm our strong commitment to the principles of sustainable development and the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This commitment is deeply embedded in our teaching, research, and the way we operate as a university community.

Our participation in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings for the fourth consecutive year represents not only a measure of our progress but also a reflection of our enduring aspiration to make a meaningful contribution to society. The SDGs guide our actions and inspire us to innovate whether through our curriculum, research projects, community engagement, or partnerships that create tangible impact.

The academic year 2024/2025 marked further advancement in embedding sustainability into every level of our institutional activity. From expanding education for sustainable development initiatives to strengthening research addressing environmental and social challenges, we continue to align our goals with Uzbekistan's national priorities and global development objectives.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to deepening our integration of sustainability across all dimensions of university life. Together with our dedicated staff, students, and partners, we will continue to transform ideas into action and ensure that WIUT remains a driving force for positive change locally, regionally, and globally.



#### Introduction

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are used to frame the University strategic decisions helping us to become compassionate, progressive, and responsible



Being the formal member of the UN in Uzbekistan, the first Sustainable Development Solutions Network member in Uzbekistan, and the host of many Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) instantiates, WIUT is one of the leading sustainability advocates in the region. WIUT has adopted the United Nations SDGs framework to support this core mission and to record, measure, and improve our contribution to a range of social, environmental, and economic outcomes. Every student, faculty and staff member at WIUT plays a crucial role in furthering this commitment and embeds SDGs across our operations, teaching, research, and knowledge exchange.

This year, in the 2025 edition, WIUT was ranked in four SDGs by the Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings: SDG 5 (Gender Equality) – 401–600th, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) – 201–300th, SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) – 101–200th, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) – 301–400th.

Notably, WIUT ranked 1st in Central Asia for SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and 3rd in Central Asia for SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth.

The University's commitment to Sustainability is embedded in its teaching, research, and infrastructural initiatives, aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to enhance its contributions to social, environmental, and economic outcomes.



# Progress on education for Sustainable Development

#### Celebrating the SDG Course at WIUT!



WIUT successfully closed the SDG Course for this year — launched in October in the previous year and spearheaded by our Rector. Dr. Komilion Karimov—a transformative learning experience dedicated to sustainability and global development. Over the months, students engaged in thought-provoking discussions, interactive debates, and

impactful projects, deepening their understanding of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and their real-world applications.

Within the course, a number of sessions were organised with very distinguished guests, including Dr. Ceren Güven Güres, Country Programme Manager of UN Women Uzbekistan; Professor Peter Bonfield, President of the University of Westminster; Sabine Machl, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan; Kanokpan Lao-Araya, Country Director of the Asian Development Bank; Nigina Abbaszadeh, Head of UNFPA in Uzbekistan and more.

The closing ceremony served as a celebration of dedication, creativity, and commitment, bringing together students, faculty, and distinguished guests. Highlights of the event included the announcement of winning teams, a reflection on key insights gained throughout the course, and a special token of appreciation presented to the Rector and Deputy Rector for their invaluable support.

Conspicuously, the winning team will participate in the International Student Conference at the University of Westminster in London, UK.

Although the course has come to an end, the mission of sustainability continues. WIUT extends its gratitude to all participants, speakers, and organisers who contributed to making this initiative a success.



#### WIUT Teaching, Learning, and Research Symposium 2025

Westminster On May 2025, International University in Tashkent held its annual Teaching, Learning and Research Symposium, focused on "Emerging Technologies and Skills for the Future." The event gathered educators, researchers, and industry professionals explore how to technology is transforming teaching and learning.



The symposium opened with a keynote address by Denise Waddingham, Country Director of the British Council in Uzbekistan, who shared key insights into the soft skills needed in today's labour market, including the value of English language proficiency.

The event concluded with the announcement of the best presentations:

1st Place: Mrs Elena Volkova — "UDL in Course Work Assessment in Introduction to Inclusive Education"

₩ 2nd Place: Dr Hamid Reza Shahbazkia — "Sorry, Bloom's Taxonomy—Al Just Ctrl+Alt+Del You"

₹ 3rd Place: Dr Tamilla Tagieva — "Creative Strategies in Legal Education: the Case of Banking Law Module"

Topics ranged from inclusive education and AI to gamification and the role of values in pedagogy. The symposium highlighted WIUT's commitment to innovation and preparing students and faculty for the future of higher education.



#### WIUT Student "Research Society Conference 2025"



On 28 April 2025, Westminster International University in Tashkent successfully held the Student Research Society Conference 2025 under the theme "Research for a Sustainable Future".

The conference consisted of three key sessions: Paper presentations open to all students across various disciplines, the presentation stage of the New Academic Talent 2025 competition,

featuring shortlisted Level 6 and Level 7 students and the awarding and closing ceremony of the Research Skills Development Course competition.

This event provided an excellent platform for young researchers to share their ideas, engage in academic discussion, and contribute to addressing global challenges through innovative research. Participants also had the opportunity to strengthen their research skills, critical thinking, and professional networks.

#### SDG 1: No Poverty

#### End poverty in all its forms everywhere



#### Scholarships and opportunities for students

#### University scholarship and opportunities for students

- University scholarship 80 students (15%-100% scholarship)
- Government scholarship 265 students (15%-100% scholarship)

#### Scholarships from public and private sectors

- Entity financed (Presidential School) 18 students
- "El-Yurt Umidi" Foundation Scholarships 10 students and 3 staff

#### Support for socially vulnerable students

Single parent / personal disability support scheme – 4 students

#### **WIUT Staff Support Schemes**

WIUT has unique social support and professional development schemes for staff members. Staff members willing to do their postgraduate (masters) studies can apply for a discount from 20% to 70% of the tuition fee, the amount of support depends on a year of experience and contribution made by colleagues who applied for the scheme. In the 2024-2025 academic year, more than 40 staff members received such support. Staff spouses studying at WIUT can also get discount support of up to 40%. Staff members are also eligible to support the studies of their dependents. This scheme is not only one of the employee benefits provided by the university, but it also serves as a means of social mobility and contribution to the development of society. The discount to finance dependents' studies ranges from 25% to 100% depending on the number of years worked at WIUT. In 2024-2025 academic year, around 30 staff members supported their dependents' studies.

WIUT also supports Academic Lyceum staff members with a premium to their salary.



#### WIUT Hosts Research Competition on Social Development



On February 21, 2025, Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) proudly hosted the opening ceremony of the Research Competition on Social Development, uniting young researchers and scholars committed to addressing key social protection challenges through scientific inquiry.

This joint initiative, launched by the National Agency for Social Protection

under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, and the Institute for Development of Social Protection (established under the National Agency for Social Protection), serves as a vital platform for emerging academics to contribute to societal progress and propose innovative solutions to pressing social issues in Uzbekistan.

Distinguished attendees included Otabek Makhkamov, Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation, Usmon Sharifkhojaev, Deputy Director of the National Agency for Social Protection, and Khurshid Zafari, Director of the Institute for Social Protection Development, alongside vice-rectors from leading universities.

#### **Publications**

Alimukhamedova, N. and Yusupov, N., (2025). Closure of the Non-Bank Microfinance Sector in Uzbekistan: Who Is Affected and by How Much? Economics of Transition and Institutional Change. <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ecot.12452">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ecot.12452</a>





#### SDG 2: Zero Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

### Training Course on Applied Econometric Analysis – agri-food sector development



The Training Course on Applied Econometric Analysis organized by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) took place from December 10 to 20, 2024. This intensive program aims to build the analytical capacity of young economists and researchers in Uzbekistan. It focuses on equipping

participants with advanced skills in quantitative research, economic policy analysis, and the application of econometric techniques to address socioeconomic issues, particularly in the context of agri-food sector development.

#### **Publications**

Bilal, M., and Shamsieva, M. (2025). Cereal Crops Yield and Climate Change: A Case Study. International Journal of Global Warming.

https://www.inderscience.com/info/ingeneral/forthcoming.php?jcode=IJGW



#### SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



#### Clubs' Day at WIUT: A Celebration of Talent and Passion

The annual Clubs' Day event at Westminster International University in Tashkent took place on the 17th of October, showcasing the incredible diversity of student talents and interests. With over 50 clubs participating, students had the chance to explore a wide variety of groups and activities on campus.

The event's goal was to introduce students to many clubs at WIUT, offering something for everyone—from academic societies to creative and sports clubs. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to get involved in campus life and pursue their passions.

#### Uzbekistan's Healthcare: Building a Strategic Talent Pool

On October 21, 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent joined forces with the Center for the Development of Professional Qualification of Medical Workers under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan to launch a programme aimed at developing 120 healthcare specialists across the country.



Mr. Farrukh Sharipov, the Deputy Minister

of Health, inaugurated the event with a keynote address. He emphasized the significance of this milestone for the national healthcare system and its alignment with Uzbekistan's long-term strategic goals.

The "International Experience in Healthcare Management and Public Health Preservation" programme is a week-long, 36-credit course within a broader 306credit curriculum. It encompasses the best international practices in healthcare



management, ethics, financing, insurance, digital transformation, and legal frameworks. This initiative seeks to enhance Uzbekistan's healthcare sector by equipping modern professionals with global perspectives, thereby creating a vital talent pool for the country's healthcare system.

#### Chess tournament champions!



On 19th October, Kimyo International University in Tashkent hosted a Chess Championship among universities, and we're thrilled to announce that our very own WIUT students brought home the prizes! A special shoutout to Suleymanov Mirabbos for securing first place and Shaptakov Omonjon for achieving third place!

### World AIDS Day Observed at WIUT: Promoting Awareness and Prevention

Westminster International University in Tashkent held a significant event ahead of World AIDS Day, observed globally every year on December 1. Established in 1988, World AIDS Day serves to raise awareness about the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection.

The event featured a guest lecture by Dilafruz Karimova, a leading specialist



from the Tashkent city AIDS Centre. Attendees had the opportunity to engage in an informative session focused on the prevention of HIV/AIDS, protective measures, and the critical importance of early diagnosis.

This initiative highlighted WIUT's commitment to fostering health awareness and promoting informed dialogue on pressing global health challenges among its students and academic community.

### WIUT and the Ministry of Health Launch a Professional Qualification Course



Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), in collaboration with the Centre for the Development of Professional Qualification of Medical Workers under the Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan, is proud to introduce a new professional development course aimed at advancing healthcare management in Uzbekistan in support of the Presidential

Decree №311 dated September 5, 2024 "On measures to Introduce Mechanisms of State Medical Insurance".

This innovative programme merges two specialized tracks:

- Financing Medical Institutions and Accounting Transformation
- Advanced International Practices in Healthcare Management, Financing, and Accounting

The 72-credit course focuses on integrating best global practices into the healthcare system, adopting innovative approaches, and enhancing the professional development of specialists. The first batch of participants from Syrdarya region and Tashkent city will gain valuable insights from the medical system of the United Kingdom and other leading medical institutions worldwide, equipping them with the tools to foster sustainable improvements in healthcare system of Uzbekistan.

#### Final of the Rector's Football Cup at WIUT!





Westminster International University in Tashkent proudly hosted the thrilling final match of the Rector's Football Cup, bringing together the university's most talented and passionate players!

### Youth Scientific Forum: Advancing the Fight Against Antibiotic Resistance

On December 16, 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), successfully hosted a youth scientific forum focused on tackling antibiotic resistance.

The event brought together talented young researchers from across Uzbekistan to share their insights, explore



innovative solutions, and foster interdisciplinary collaboration. Participants presented groundbreaking studies addressing the challenges of AMR, with a special focus on prevention, control, and practical applications in healthcare.

#### **Publications**

Hossain, M.B., et al. (2025). The Role of Leisure Satisfaction on Students' Engagement, among Higher Education Institutes during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Acta Polytechnica Hungarica. <a href="https://acta.uni-obuda.hu/Zia\_Bangfan\_Lukacs\_UsmanKhan\_Hossain\_152.pdf">https://acta.uni-obuda.hu/Zia\_Bangfan\_Lukacs\_UsmanKhan\_Hossain\_152.pdf</a>





#### SDG 4: Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

#### International round of the VIII Economics Olympiad (EO)



The year of 2024 marks Uzbekistan's debut in this prestigious Olympiad, and we are proud to say it has been a successful one! The Olympiad is structured in three rounds: the School Round, held in February 2024 across Uzbekistan with 583 participants from 14 regions; the National Round, hosted by WIUT on May 22, 2024, with 81 participants. The final round of EO2024 took place in the historic Ancient

Olympia, Greece, September 1-4, 2024.

As a leading academic partner of the Economic Fundamentals Initiative (EFI) project activities in Uzbekistan, WIUT played a crucial role in this journey by managing the School Round, hosting the National round, and conducting advanced training for the International Final Round of the Olympiad. The EFI project has funded all three rounds, making this achievement possible.

The delegation of five students (Khumoyunbek Ibrohimov, Jasurbek Rizoqulov, Samandar Norboyev, Behruz Olimov, Miron Tursunov), led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ikrom Rikhsiboev, WIUT Dean for Graduate School (research), showcased incredible talent on the global stage. Khumoyunbek Ibrohimov won a silver medal, while Jasurbek Rizokulov and Samandar Norboyev each earned bronze medals! All finalists are exceptional students from the Qarshi and Navoi Presidential Schools.



## The IV Young Librarians Forum at WIUT: A Significant Event of INFOLIB UZBEKISTAN-2024

On 22nd October 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent, in partnership with the National Library of Uzbekistan named after Alisher Navoi, hosted the IV Young Librarians Forum as part of the XIII National Information and Library Week "INFOLIB UZBEKISTAN-2024." Held at WIUT's Learning Resource Centre, the forum was a key



highlight of the week, addressing the future of library services in the digital era.

INFOLIB Week, running from 21st to 25th October, seeks to strengthen the library community and develop professional skills, with a particular focus on young librarians. These emerging professionals will be instrumental in attracting new generations of readers and promoting a culture of reading across Uzbekistan.

The event also included a competition, encouraging participants to advance their professional growth and engage with innovative approaches to improving library services.

#### **Exploring the Power of Literature**



Westminster International University in Tashkent had the honour of hosting three distinguished figures for a captivating guest lecture: Mamatqul Hazratqulov, Honoured Journalist and Writer of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Maqsud Jonixonov, renowned journalist, writer, and recipient of the "Shuhrat" Medal; and Jumanazar Beknazarov, recognised

as one of the most qualified medical professionals in Uzbekistan.

The lecture, titled "The Role of Literature in Shaping Critical Thinking on Societal Challenges," delved into the profound ways literature inspires analytical thinking and offers perspectives on addressing pressing social issues.

WIUT students actively engaged in this thought-provoking session, participating in lively discussions and exchanging ideas with the esteemed speakers.

### Research Skills Development Course (RSDC): Empowering the Next Generation of Researchers

On 20 January 2025, the Graduate School, in collaboration with the Students Research Society, officially launched the Research Skills Development Course (RSDC) at WIUT. The course has commenced, bringing together 50 students from diverse academic backgrounds selected through a competitive process.

The RSDC provides students with a comprehensive introduction to the



core principles of research, addressing common misconceptions and equipping participants with the tools to conduct both qualitative and quantitative studies effectively. Designed to accommodate students regardless of their major or prior research experience, the course serves as a foundation for exploring advanced research methods and developing critical skills.

Students who complete the course will have the opportunity to publish their findings in esteemed outlets, including the Working Papers Series (with ISBN) and the peer-reviewed Silk Road: A Journal of Eurasian Development, an open-access journal by the University of Westminster (UK) Press.

This initiative underscores WIUT's commitment to fostering academic excellence and cultivating a vibrant research culture among its students.



#### ICEL 2025: Language, Innovation, and Global Dialogue



On 2–3 May 2025, Westminster International University in Tashkent is proudly hosting the 6th International Conference on Education and Linguistics (ICEL) and Exhibitions, welcoming over 300 participants from 18 countries.

Centred around the theme "Innovations in Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics for a Sustainable and Inclusive Future",

the conference brought together global experts in language education, applied linguistics, and educational technologies. More than 100 academic papers were presented, covering topics such as digital tools, Al in language learning, sociolinguistics, and inclusive language policies.

Held in a hybrid format, ICEL 2025 served not only as a platform for academic exchange but also as a space for building international collaboration and advancing language education as a tool for equity and sustainable development.

#### International Case Conference 2025 Held in Tashkent

On 15 May, Westminster International University in Tashkent, in collaboration with ACWA Power, hosted the first International Case Conference (ICC 2025) in Central Asia.

The event gathered academics, researchers, and industry experts to explore real-world, regionally focused case studies and discuss the role of practice-based learning in business education. Topics included sustainability, entrepreneurship, digital transformation, and ethical management.

ICC 2025 marked an important step in strengthening collaboration between universities and the private sector, contributing to innovation in teaching and sustainable development across the region.



#### 1st Westminster Doctoral Research Network Workshop



Econometrics & Statistics (08.00.06).

The 1st Westminster Doctoral Research Network (WeNeRD) workshop was successfully held on 3–4 June 2025 at Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT). This two-day event brought together PhD and DSc students, as well as early-career researchers, from across Uzbekistan's higher education and research institutions, focusing on the fields of Management (08.00.13) and

The workshop featured a range of academic sessions, including research presentations, keynote talks by renowned academics, interactive seminars and workshops on research methodologies, data analysis, publishing strategies, early-career mentorship, and academic writing. Additionally, panel discussions and networking opportunities allowed participants to connect with fellow researchers, faculty members, and industry experts to explore potential collaborations.

Selected papers will be offered a fast track for international publication in the *Silk Road: A Journal of Eurasian Development*.

#### **Publications**

Smagina, O. and Asadova, Sh., (2025). Inside an Active Learning Classroom: Students' perspectives. Learning and Teaching. https://doi.org/10.3167/latiss.2025.180107

Hossain, M.B., et al. (2025). Modelling University Lecturers' Intention to Adopt Artificial Intelligence in Assessment Design Systems. Innovations in Education and Teaching International. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/14703297.2025.2517295">https://doi.org/10.1080/14703297.2025.2517295</a>

Hasan, A. K., (2025). Governance of Generative Artificial Intelligence: A Contemporary and Institutional Perspective. International Journal of Knowledge Management. https://www.igi-global.com/gateway/article/383061



#### SDG 5: Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



#### Women staff profile

In 2024-2025, the total number of staff at WIUT, including academic, administrative and professional, equaled 485 people. Among them 213 staff members or 44 percent were women.

Out of 190 publications in 2024-2025, 40 per cent of publications were published by female faculty members.

#### Launch of the StartHER Programme



We are thrilled to announce the launch of the StartHER Programme, introduced as part of the 5 Important Initiatives framework put forward by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, to empower female entrepreneurs! This programme equips WIUT's female students with essential skills, resources, and networks crucial for their entrepreneurial development.

The event brought together our female students and alumni, creating an atmosphere charged with enthusiasm. Participants engaged actively, posed insightful questions, and shared their personal entrepreneurial journeys, enriching the collective experience.

Additionally, the interns from the innoWIUT Entrepreneur's Lab inspired attendees by sharing their success stories and offering practical advice. Their contributions sparked motivation among participants to take bold steps in their entrepreneurial pursuits. The session was rich with valuable insights, and we look forward to witnessing how these ideas will influence the future paths of our participants.



#### Celebrating Women and Girls in Science at WIUT

On February 21, Westminster International University in Tashkent hosted "Science Heroes: Inspiring Talks", a special event in honour of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. The event brought together students, faculty, and distinguished guests to highlight the pivotal contributions of women in STEM.

The programme featured presentations from six talented participants representing various educational institutions, each sharing innovative research across diverse scientific disciplines.

We were also privileged to welcome Dr. Shakhlo Turdikulova, Vice President of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan and member of the World Academy of Sciences, whose inspiring insights reinforced the importance of supporting women in science.

#### **Publications**

Alimukhamdeova, N., Tokhirova, N., Zakhidov, A., Nurmatov, A., Basyoni, A., Abdullaeva., L., Aganova, V., and Latypova, V., (2025). Female Students' Aspirations and Study in U.S.: Voices of Gen Z From Uzbekistan. The Midwest Quarterly a Journal of Contemporary Thought. Pittsburg State University.





#### SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

#### Strengthening Academic Ties: Italian Delegation Visits WIUT



As part of an official visit to Uzbekistan, Mr Federico Failla, Minister Plenipotentiary of Italy overseeing the "5+1" format, visited Westminster International University in Tashkent to explore the country's higher education system and discuss opportunities for bilateral cooperation.

The discussions centred on expanding academic collaboration,

with the Italian side inviting WIUT representatives to participate in summer schools and scientific conferences in Italy. Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to joint research initiatives, particularly in sustainable development and water resource management.

#### **Water Stations**

Staying hydrated is essential not only for our health but also for our environment. At WIUT, our new Water Stations across the Campus provide convenient access to clean, fresh water, encouraging the use of refillable bottles and reducing single-use plastic waste. Every refill counts—join us in making our Campus greener. As 2025 has been declared the Year of Environmental Protection and Green Economy, now is the perfect moment to embrace eco-friendly habits and build a sustainable future.



#### SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy



## WIUT and Juru Energy Forge Strategic Partnership for Academic and Industry Collaboration

On July 22, 2024, WIUT signed a Memorandum of Understanding with leading energy company Juru Energy. Founded in 2015, Juru Energy is an international energy consulting and engineering firm headquartered in London, UK, with a full office in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, and operations in Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, India, and Maldives. The company is dedicated to promoting sustainable development in Central Asia and the Caucasus.



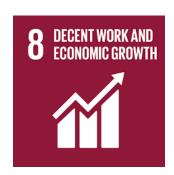
This agreement marks the beginning of significant cooperation between WIUT and Juru Energy, including the organisation of joint academic events, scholarships for the MSc in Research Methods for Social Sciences (<a href="https://www.wiut.uz/research-methods">https://www.wiut.uz/research-methods</a>) course at WIUT, and internship opportunities for the students. This collaboration is crucial in strengthening the relationship between academia and industry, with WIUT and Juru Energy leading the way.

#### **Publications**

Malikov, A. and Ostrowski, W., (2025). Energy Rents, Remittances and Regional Trade Cooperation in Central Asia. Europe-Asia

Studies. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/09668136.2025.2512119">https://doi.org/10.1080/09668136.2025.2512119</a>





# SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

WIUT places a lot of emphasis on the recruitment, support and development of its academic and professional staff. In 2024, efforts were concentrated on improving the performance management system and on creating and implementing a grade review policy. Over 150 members of staff were awarded merit-based salary increases before the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year. Other WIUT benefits offered in 2024-2025 include the agricultural produce allowance, leave allowance and financial aid paid on special occasions (marriage and others). WIUT also offered other resources to help its employees maintain their well-being and cope with stress such as flexible working hours, free of charge art, vocal and drama clubs and yoga lessons.

As WIUT keeps growing by increasing the number of its students and courses, new positions are also being introduced. In 2024-2025 more than 75 permanent and 140 temporary employees were recruited and on board.

In 2024, the university provided paid internship opportunities for 35 WIUT students.

#### **WIUT Business Forum 2024**

On 21 November 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent hosted the Business Forum 2024, a significant event in the fields of business, economics and entrepreneurship, bringing together representatives from leading companies, as well as experts and professionals.

At the Forum, participants discussed key issues in modern business, industry trends, and future development prospects. Interactive Q&A sessions provided valuable insights and facilitated professional networking.



Special focus was given to practical case studies by WIUT faculty, illustrating the application of theoretical knowledge in real-world contexts and highlighting the importance of a practice-oriented teaching approach. The Forum underscored the university's role in addressing real business challenges and supporting economic development.

The Forum welcomed key figures, including:

- · Sandro Rtveladze, CEO of Ipoteka Bank
- · Kazumasa Mukae, CEO of Coca-Cola Uzbekistan
- · Wei Qingwei, Deputy Director Huawei Uzbekistan
- Denis Roman, Founder of We Digital Agency
- · John Zaidi, Regional Manager at ACWA Power

## The III Forum on Global and National Economic Trends: A Vision for Central Asia 2030

On October 17-18, 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent, in collaboration with Tashkent State University of Economics (TSUE), hosted the III Forum on "Global and National Economic Trends: Uzbekistan – 2030."

As part of this event, WIUT held the highly anticipated conference, "Central Asia 2030: The Future of



Regional Cooperation and Connectivity," on October 18th. Bringing together international and local experts, academics, policymakers, and industry representatives, the conference addressed key issues in regional cooperation, economic integration, and sustainable growth across Central Asia.



Participants discussed strategies to overcome cooperation barriers, enhance connectivity, and shape a prosperous regional future, aligning with Uzbekistan's 2030 socio-economic vision and its leadership in regional development.

# WIUT Launches Freelance Bazaar Platform – Empowering Future Entrepreneurs!

We're thrilled to announce that the Opening Event for the Freelance Bazaar Platform was a tremendous success!

Special thanks to all who attended and contributed to the realisation of this platform, crafted exclusively for WIUT students and staff. Aligned with the Presidential Decree DP-6208, issued by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Freelance Bazaar platform supports initiatives aimed at fostering entrepreneurship, enhancing employment opportunities, and providing meaningful avenues for young people to engage in skill-building activities during their free time.

Attendees examined how the Freelance Bazaar platform facilitates connections with clients and projects, receiving guidance on utilising its features for optimal outcomes. Discussions addressed both global and local freelance opportunities, presenting freelancing as a flexible and enriching path for students to gain practical experience. Success stories offered inspiration, demonstrating how freelancers have transformed their skills into thriving careers, while practical advice was provided on crafting distinctive portfolios to appeal to prospective clients.

This initiative is a meaningful step toward fostering entrepreneurship at WIUT! Visit freelance.wiut.uz to start your freelance journey!

#### Guest Lecture by His Excellency Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno



Westminster International University in Tashkent had the honor of hosting His Excellency Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy of the Republic of Indonesia, who is leading the Indonesian delegation at the 4th World Conference on Creative Economy (WCCE) — held for the first time in Uzbekistan.



Mr. Uno delivered an insightful guest lecture on the topic "Future Tourism Industry", offering valuable perspectives on the evolving tourism landscape and the growing importance of the creative economy in today's world. This event provided a unique opportunity for students and faculty to engage with one of the leading figures in global tourism.

#### **Career Development Centre Digest**



Latest events hosted by WIUT's Career Development Centre! (https://t.me/wiutcareers) Here's a look at some of the exciting career development opportunities our students have recently experienced, from field trips to interactive sessions with leading global companies.

#### Field Trip to the National Bank of Uzbekistan (NBU)

WIUT students had the chance to visit the NBU, where they learned about the bank's history, strategic goals, and services during a presentation by talent manager Oybek Djuraev.

#### **EY Company Insights**

EY representatives visited WIUT, providing an in-depth look into the company's internship programmes, core values, and career development opportunities.

#### **Beeline Career Opportunities Session**

Beeline's team gave a detailed presentation on the company's vision, services, and career prospects. Students learned how to craft standout resumes and participated in group activities, analyzing real-life resume examples and winning exciting prizes.



#### **Boston Consulting Group Case Cracking Session**

BCG representatives led an interactive session, sharing insights into the consulting industry, recruitment processes, and offering live case-solving exercises.

# WIUT Internship Fair 2025: Connecting Students with Top Employers!

The Internship Fair 2025 at WIUT brought together over 50 leading companies, including Coca-Cola, KPMG, EY, Nestlé, Deloitte, and NBU, offering students an exceptional opportunity to kickstart their careers and gain industry exposure.

The event provided a platform to connect with top employers, explore internship opportunities, and gain firsthand insights into professional growth. Representatives from various industries engaged with students, discussing career prospects and guiding them toward future success.

#### WIUT and the Tourism Committee under the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection, and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding

This partnership is set to create new educational and professional opportunities for WIUT students and graduates while contributing to the sustainable growth of Uzbekistan's tourism industry.

The agreement focuses on the exchange of expertise, the promotion of Uzbekistan's tourism potential, and the development of innovative ideas by



young professionals. A key aspect of the collaboration is the provision of skilled talent—WIUT students and graduates will have the opportunity to engage in internship programmes within the Committee and its regional divisions, gaining practical experience and supporting the industry's development.

The partnership will encourage knowledge-sharing through lectures, seminars, masterclasses, and training sessions with tourism experts.

#### **Job Fair 2025**

On 30 April 2025, Westminster International University in Tashkent successfully hosted Job Fair 2025, the university's largest career event of the year.

The event brought together more than 120 employers from sectors such as finance, business, IT, law, and beyond — offering students and recent graduates the opportunity to explore internships, graduate roles, and build meaningful professional connections.

Participants had the chance to meet recruiters face-to-face, learn more about hiring processes, and take important steps towards shaping their future careers.

#### **Publications**

Hossain, M.B., et al. (2025). Financial Literacy and Behavioral Intention to Use Central Banks' Digital Currency: Moderating Role of Trust. Journal of Risk and Financial Management. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/jrfm18030165">https://doi.org/10.3390/jrfm18030165</a>

Kumar, A., and Singh, R.A., (2025). Role of Engagement Capabilities, Integration and Data Analytics: Implications for Supply Chain Agility and Resilience. International Journal of Productivity and Performance Management.

Hossain, M.D., et al. (2025). Halal tourism research in Indonesian context: a bibliometric analysis. Discover Sustainability. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s43621-025-00959-7">https://doi.org/10.1007/s43621-025-00959-7</a>

Memon, B.A. and Nusratova, G., (2025). Do Financial Markets and Safe-Haven Assets Affect CBDCs? Examining the Nexus between CBDC, Stock Index, Metal Commodity Futures, Oil Price, and Volatility. Journal of Central Banking Theory and Practice. <a href="https://doi.org/10.2478/jcbtp-2025-0017">https://doi.org/10.2478/jcbtp-2025-0017</a>



# SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



**innoWIUT** – the entrepreneurship lab of WIUT – supports student startups, forms innovative teams, and connects students & faculty with industry from Uzbekistan and across the region.

#### **Guest Lecture by Katalin Bokor at WIUT**



We had the pleasure of hosting guest lecture by Katalin Bokor, a leading economist from UNCTAD specializing in international trade and creative economies, as part of the 4th World Conference on Creative Economy. Katalin is a prominent voice at UNCTAD, known for her insights on the creative economy as the lead author of the Creative

Economy Outlook reports. She champions capacity-building initiatives on trade and creativity in developing countries, advocating for innovation worldwide.

This lecture provided a fantastic opportunity for our students and faculty to engage with Katalin and deepen their understanding of the vital role the creative economy plays in today's world.



#### WIUT Shines at Bloomberg Global Trading Challenge 2024



The Bloomberg Global Trading Challenge 2024 has officially concluded, and WIUT students have once again proven their excellence. Over six weeks, 34 students across 8 teams represented WIUT in a fierce competition against 13,029 students from 2,520 teams worldwide.

Our top-performing team, DT Capital,

achieved an outstanding 39th place globally, placing them in the top ~1% of all participants. They also ranked 1st in Central Asia and 4th in Asia (by country)—a monumental achievement that highlights their strategy, teamwork, and financial acumen.

A huge congratulations to all WIUT teams for their dedication and exceptional performance. Beyond rankings, the challenge offered invaluable real-world experience in portfolio management, risk analysis, and market strategy development.

Representing Uzbekistan for the third time, WIUT students have further honed their analytical and decision-making skills, setting themselves up for success in the world of finance and beyond.

#### WIUT, ACDF, and IT Park Launch Creative Incubator Programme

OnNovember 29, 2024, International Westminster University in Tashkent, the Art and Culture Development Foundation (ACDF), and IT Park Uzbekistan signed а Memorandum Cooperation, officially launching the Creative Incubator programme. This initiative aims to support young talent and advance the creative economy in Uzbekistan.



The Creative Incubator is designed to unite the efforts of the educational, cultural and technological sectors to create favorable conditions for innovation and development of creative industries. As a key step in implementing the law "On Creative Economy," it builds on ideas presented at the World Conference on Creative Economy 2024, offering crucial support for aspiring professionals and entrepreneurs in the creative sector.

#### **Publications**

Khosravani, H.R., Pulatov, A., Hajimani, E., et al., (2025). A Comprehensive Comparative Study of Quick Invariant Signature (QIS), Dynamic Time Warping (DTW), and Hybrid QIS + DTW for Time Series Analysis.

Mathematics. https://doi.org/10.3390/math13060999

Abduzhabbarov, M., et al. (2025). Error Analysis of the Second-Order Linear Fredholm–Stieltjes Integral Equation. Ricerche di Matematica. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11587-025-00975-9





#### SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries

#### **Inclusively Creative: a Shifted Reality**

On October 2nd – 4th, 2024, WIUT supported to host WCCE 2024 on the theme "Inclusively Creative: a shifted reality". The conference was organised by the Art and Culture Development Foundation under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This global event will explore the social and economic challenges posed by rapidly advancing technologies, focusing on the rise of artificial intelligence, intellectual property rights, and creative ethics.



#### WIUT Hosts the Inclusion and Language Teaching Conference

On 13 March 2025, Westminster International University in Tashkent had the honour of hosting the conference "Inclusion and Language Teaching in Central Asia: Opportunities, Experiences, and Challenges", organised in collaboration with Nottingham Trent University and the British Council Uzbekistan.

The conference served as a platform for educators, researchers, and practitioners to explore innovative approaches to language teaching through the lens of inclusivity. Bringing together experts from Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and the UK, the event fostered meaningful discussions on accessibility, equity, and international cooperation in education.



#### **WIUT Welcomes Children of Our Staff with Gifts!**

Westminster International University in Tashkent continues its tradition of supporting education and nurturing the younger generation.

This year, 32 children of our university staff, about to begin their first year of school, received unique gifts from the University. The Rector of WIUT gave a speech and personally presented the gifts.

This initiative highlights WIUT's unwavering commitment to educational excellence and its dedication to fostering a culture that values and invests in the future of education.

The event was organised in collaboration with the University's Labour Union.



### SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and

#### **Communities**

Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



#### **Explore WIUT: A Virtual Campus Tour!**

Visit the historic Istiqbol Building (IB), one of the oldest structures. Discover the Learning Resource Center (LRC), a treasured trove of knowledge. Explore the Sports Hall, where students stay active and healthy. Visit the vibrant student community center, Amir Temur Building (ATB). Step into the innovative and modern Shahrisabz Building (ShB).

Please visit <u>here</u> for video!

#### Mastery and Inspiration: Art & Photography Exhibition



WIUT Culture and Creativity Centre (<a href="https://t.me/wiutculture">https://t.me/wiutculture</a>) proudly hosted the «Mastery and Inspiration» Exhibition of Art & Photography at the Gallery of the Academy of Arts of Uzbekistan. This spectacular event brought together creativity, innovation, and artistry in a celebration of talent and inspiration!

As the first event of the Graduation Week 2024 celebrations, the exhibition featured stunning creative works by WIUT students, alongside exceptional pieces by members of the Academy of Arts. It also included a captivating fashion show, presenting innovative designs by students of the Republican Design School.

The event was a vibrant celebration of art, culture, and collaboration, reminding us of the boundless potential of creativity.

#### **WIUT Fashion Show 2025**

The runway came alive at Westminster International University in Tashkent as we hosted the long-awaited Fashion Show 2025 — a spectacular evening showcasing bold concepts, original designs, and unforgettable performances by WIUT students and staff.

Guests were treated to a vibrant display of originality and self-expression, where creativity met confidence under the spotlight.

#### **Publication**

Umarov, H., (2024). Introduction of ESG Principles in the Insurance Market of Uzbekistan. E<sub>3</sub>S Web of Conferences. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1051/e3sconf/202457403003">https://doi.org/10.1051/e3sconf/202457403003</a>





# SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

#### **Energy Efficient Appliances Usage**

WIUT pays a big attention to energy saving. The energy saving directions / instruments include use of energy-efficient appliances, implementation of smart buildings/automated buildings/intelligent buildings, elements. green building greenhouse emission reduction gas policies and carbon footprint. At the policy level, activities for further years include renewable energy policy, overall electricity consumption energy saving programs, climate change adaptation and mitigation programs. The campus and dormitory buildings are equipped with solar panels. Energy efficient appliances usage is higher than 75%. All lights are transformed into





LED systems, with moving and light sensors where applicable.

#### **Publications**

Kiran, P., et al. (2025). Influence of Advertisement's Controversial Element and Emotional Appeal on Customer Intention to Buy. International Journal of Business and Globalisation. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1504/IJBG.2025.144861">https://doi.org/10.1504/IJBG.2025.144861</a>

Hossain, M.B., et al., (2025). Does Supplier Development Matter for Procurement Performance in the Textile Industry? The Moderating Role of Contract Management Difficulty. Industria Textila. <a href="http://revistaindustriatextila.ro/202502.html">http://revistaindustriatextila.ro/202502.html</a>



### SDG 13: Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



## WIUT Hosts International Conference on Climate Change, Water Scarcity, and Migration in Central Asia



On October 15-16, 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent proudly hosted the international conference "Beyond Borders: Central Asia in the Face of Climate Change, Scarcity, and Migration Challenges," in collaboration with the Leibniz Institute (IAMO). This significant event convened scientists, policymakers, and experts from across the globe to examine the

urgent challenges facing Central Asia, such as acute water scarcity, rising temperatures, and migration issues. Through informed discussions on adaptation, resilience, and sustainable strategies, the conference fostered regional collaboration and formulated recommendations aimed at ensuring a sustainable future. WIUT is committed to fostering global partnerships to address the region's most critical environmental and socio-economic challenges.

#### **Publications**

Artemenkov, A., Ganiev, O., et al (2025). The Issues of Carbon Pricing in the Russian Federation: The Local and International Perspectives Under the Cost Approach and the Role of Afforestation Projects. Sustainability. <a href="https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/17/3/1088">https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/17/3/1088</a>





SDG 14: Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

### SDG 14 in the context of Uzbekistan

Although, Uzbekistan is double landlocked country and have no access to oceans and seas, our university has relevant research and discussions to water resources management, which is crucial for the region.

### Uzbekistan is one of the most water-stressed countries in the world

The water stress level, or the ratio of water used relative to available water, has significantly increased in the last 20 years from around 50% to almost 70%. The agriculture sector uses over 90% of the freshwater withdrawn. This and other findings have been reported in the national assessment of designing and implementing green and inclusive economic development measures - "Green Recovery in Uzbekistan Project" together with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Ministry of Economy and Finance.



SDG 15: Life on Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainability use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reserve land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



### **Contributing to a Greener Future**



In support of the "Yashil Makon" national project, Westminster International University in Tashkent has planted new trees on campus, contributing to a greener and more sustainable environment for our community.

This initiative not only enhances the natural beauty of our campus but also reflects WIUT's commitment to Uzbekistan's national goals for

environmental sustainability. We are proud to play our part in creating a greener future for generations to come.

### WIUT Joins the Green Marathon for a Sustainable Tomorrow

Westminster International University in Tashkent proudly joined the nationwide "Green Future" marathon, organised as part of the "Yashil Makon" initiative.

The tree-planting campaign was held on the University campus, with active participation from WIUT Rector Komiljon Karimov, Professor Peter Bonfield, President and Vice-



Chancellor of the University of Westminster (UK), the students, and members of WIUT's Eco Club.

This initiative aligns with the proposal made by the President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to declare 2025 as the "Year of Environmental Protection and the Green Economy," contributing to Uzbekistan's efforts to enhance environmental sustainability. It also reflects WIUT's commitment to ecological values and its dedication to creating a greener, more sustainable future.





# SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

### Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2025



WIUT's Jessup Team has made history at prestigious Philip C. lessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2025 in Washington, D.C. This year, our team reached the Top 16 — a historical result in the history of WIUT. They advanced through the Preliminary Rounds, Top 48, and Top 32 before reaching the Round of 16, competing esteemed alongside

institutions such as Harvard, Oxford, and Moscow State University.

The team was represented by our Commercial Law students: Mariya Sattieva, Karimaxon Khabibullaxo'ja, Rukhshona O'ralova, Sevarakhon Abdusaidova, and Jahongir Bahodirov. Notably, Karimaxon Khabibullaxo'ja was ranked among the Top 30 Oralists worldwide.

This achievement is a true testament to our students' talent, hard work, and dedication. A special thanks to the coach and the mentor of the team, Meyirbek Abdikadirov, external coach Dilshodbek Orifjonov, and the Commercial Law Department for their support.

### **WIUT Celebrates the Homeland Defenders Day**

Westminster International University in Tashkent, together with the Academic Lyceum of WIUT, proudly marked Homeland Defenders Day with a meaningful ceremony that united students and faculty members.

A standout moment was the stirring performance by the Military Orchestra, which filled the atmosphere with pride and reverence.



The event inspired a deep sense of patriotism, encouraging everyone to honour the courage and unity of those who defend our homeland.

## The Largest Model United Nations Conference in Central Asia – TIMUN 2025 was held in Tashkent

From 23-25 May 2025, one of the largest youth conferences in Central Asia — the Tashkent International Model United Nations Conference (TIMUN 2025) was held in Tashkent. The conference is traditionally organised at the initiative of Westminster International University in Tashkent in partnership with UN offices in Uzbekistan and the Youth Affairs Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This year, the event has brought together over 400 young delegates from Uzbekistan and abroad to discuss pressing international issues through a simulation of the United Nations conference.



### **Fostering Cybersecurity Awareness**



Westminster International University in Tashkent, in partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, hosted an insightful lecture on cybersecurity. The event featured Lieutenant Colonel Armon Aidarov and Major Bekzod Tillakhujaev, esteemed representatives from the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, who shared their expertise on this critical subject.

The lecture provided students and staff with an invaluable opportunity to gain practical knowledge about countering cyberattacks and ensuring the secure storage of digital data. The experts offered actionable guidance on protecting virtual assets and emphasised the increasing significance of cybersecurity in the modern digital era.

This initiative served as a platform for raising awareness among young individuals and the wider community about safeguarding their online presence, thereby promoting a culture of digital security and responsibility.

## Roundtable on "Data-driven research and policymaking in Uzbekistan" Successfully Held at WIUT

Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) successfully hosted the roundtable discussion on "Data-driven research and policymaking in Uzbekistan", which brought together representatives from the World Bank Uzbekistan, the National Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan. the



International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), UNICEF Uzbekistan, other

international and government organizations, and WIUT faculty members, and researchers.

The roundtable provided a platform to discuss the growing importance of data-driven approaches in public policy and academic research. Key discussions highlighted the role of publicly accessible datasets—such as the Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan (L2CU), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), and other data — in promoting evidence-based policymaking in Uzbekistan and the wider Central Asian region.

#### **Publications**

Salahodjaev, R., Azam, S., et al. (2025). Military Spending and CO2 Emissions in the Era of Knowledge Economy. Journal of the Knowledge Economy. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13132-024-02421-x



### SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



#### WIUT Hosts Roundtable on "Uzbekistan After WTO Accession



On September 10, 2024, the Center for Policy Research and Outreach (CPRO) at WIUT hosted a roundtable on "Uzbekistan After WTO Accession: Path to Regional and Global Integration Through Trade."

The event gathered distinguished experts, policymakers, and academics to discuss the opportunities and challenges of Uzbekistan's accession to the WTO.

Key outcomes included the development of practical recommendations for Uzbekistan's WTO journey, an analysis of the country's integration into global markets, and the official launch of the Jean Monnet Module on "EU and Competition Law" - a significant step in advancing research on European economic standards.

### WIUT Takes Center Stage as Knowledge Partner for the 4th World Conference on Creative Economy!

Westminster International University in Tashkent is proud to participate as a knowledge partner at the 4th World Conference on Creative Economy (WCCE), held for the first time in Uzbekistan. This significant event is dedicated to accelerating the growth of the country's creative economy.

As part of the conference, WIUT presented its creative achievements and cuttingedge student projects at the Creative Village exhibition, demonstrating the



University's key role in driving creativity and innovation within the creative industries.

WIUT, as a knowledge partner, emphasized the crucial role of educational institutions in fostering and advancing the creative economy, preparing the next generation of innovative leaders.

## WIUT at IREG 2024 Conference: Exploring the Impact of AI on Higher Education and Rankings

Dr. Komiljon Karimov, Rector of Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), participated in the esteemed IREG 2024 Conference in Bucharest, Romania. This year's theme. "Artificial Intelligence (AI) Altering Rankings," HE and brought global experts together university leaders to discuss the transformative effects of Al on higher education and its influence on university rankings.



Dr. Komiljon Karimov delivered a compelling address in the session, "Strategies Universities Apply Towards Rankings," offering insights into the approaches WIUT and other institutions employ to navigate the evolving academic landscape.

Additionally, we are delighted to announce that, following a members' vote, WIUT has officially joined the IREG Network as a recognised member institution. This milestone reflects our commitment to academic excellence and a proactive stance on educational advancements.

## Transnational Education at the Centre of Discussions at the Deep Dialogues Event Organised by the British Council in Manchester, UK

The British Council's Deep Dialogues event on "Transnational Education: A deeper insight into TNE regulatory and policy environment", an initiative under the British Council's Going Global Partnerships, is taking place this week in Manchester, UK.



Conceptualised as global conversations, Deep Dialogues is an event series that brings together higher education practitioners, leaders and experts from across the world to enable focused discussion around key thematic areas that influence higher and further education worldwide.

The target audience for Deep Dialogues includes policymakers and



regulators, heads of apex bodies and regulatory bodies, and higher education institution leaders.

This year, WIUT was represented at the Deep Dialogues event by its Rector, Dr. Komiljon Karimov, who was invited as a keynote speaker. In his keynote, Dr. Karimov shared insights on Uzbekistan's higher education reforms and WIUT's experience in advancing transnational education (TNE) within Uzbekistan and beyond.

The event also features panels on the liberalisation of higher education and its impact on TNE, relevance and education quality, as well as a session dedicated to enhancing inclusivity and outcomes in TNE.

### III Tashkent Business and Economics Conference (TBEC)

On November 21, 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent successfully hosted the III Tashkent Business and Economics Conference (TBEC), a prestigious event that brought together scholars, industry leaders, and practitioners from around the globe to discuss pressing issues in economics, finance, and business.

The conference featured 33 speakers from 13 countries, including experts from Belarus, Kazakhstan, India, Pakistan, Cyprus, Malaysia, UAE, Japan, Indonesia, and Italy. Among the distinguished participants was Marco Vivarelli, Full Professor of Economics at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano, and Director of the Department of Economic Policy.

### My Erasmus+ Exchange Experience Storytelling Competition at WIUT

On December 10, 2024, Westminster International University in Tashkent hosted the "My Erasmus+ Exchange Experience" Storytelling Competition as part of Erasmus+ Day, celebrating 30 years of EU-Uzbekistan cooperation in higher education.



The competition gave students who participated in the Erasmus+ International Credit

Mobility (ICM) programme the chance to share their exchange experiences through creative storytelling. Two Jean Monnet projects, namely the Jean Monnet Module EUCAD and the Jean Monnet Chair CACETL, were presented by their respective project coordinators. The top three winners, selected by the audience, received certificates, gifts, and the opportunity to be featured in the upcoming International Credit Mobility - 2024 publication.



### Strengthening Academic Ties Between Uzbekistan and Poland



Westminster International University in Tashkent proudly participated in the Rectors' Forum Poland-Uzbekistan 2025, took on 23–24 April 2025 in Poland.

Rector Komiljon Karimov represented WIUT among over 100 participants from leading universities, ministries, and scientific institutions from both countries.

The Forum provided a dynamic platform for dialogue on dual degree programmes, academic mobility, and international

research partnerships. Key outcomes of the Forum include the signing of several Memorandums of Understanding, aiming to expand cooperation in areas such as digital technology, biomedicine, and joint research initiatives — all closely aligned with WIUT's educational mission and research priorities.

WIUT is proud to be at the forefront of building educational bridges between Uzbekistan and Europe, and we look forward to deepening these partnerships through collaborative teaching, research, and innovation.

#### **Publications**

Kumar, A., et al. (2025). Digital Entrepreneurship: Foundations, Trends, and Future Directions. Global Business and Organizational Excellence. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/joe.22300

