



AL-FARABI KAZNU UNAI HUB ON SUSTAINABILITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Al-Farabi UNAII Global Hub on Sustainable Development

Ban Ki-moon Institutes for SD



BAN KI-MOON CENTRE
for Global Citizens

International project:
The formation of
sustainable and
virtuous society.
University Mission 4.0



Global Engagement &
Empowerment Forum
A platform for world leaders
and experts on the
implementation of the UN
Agenda for Sustainable
Development 2030





The UN program “Academic Impact” on Sustainability in al-Farabi KazNU is the main world education platform on sustainable development that is able to generate specialists with the new way of thinking. For this purpose, there is created a new transfer in the university which allows solving global issues and model plan proposed sustainable development criteria. The UNA1 is a global initiative that aligns all the world’s universities with the UN in the realization of the targets and mandate throughout the activity and researches, creates and intellectual culture of the social responsibility in the academic sphere. Ten UN programs of “Academic Impact” supervise appropriate number of universities throughout the world.

KazNU is one of the leading universities in the world that creates and realizes the ideas on sustainable development. The academic community of al-Farabi KazNU has been a member of the United Nations Academic Impact Initiative for the last 5 years:

1. Al-Farabi KazNU became a member of the UNA1 in 2015.
2. Al-Farabi KazNU became a member of the UNA1 for 2016-2017 academic years.
3. Al-Farabi KazNU became a member of the UNA1 for the 2018-2020 academic years.
4. Al-Farabi KazNU has extended its membership for the UNA1 by October, 2021.

Therefore, the program of the UN Hub offered by al-Farabi KazNU is equal to the main UN principles, such as “Commitment to the maintenance of peace and conflict solving, poverty issues and the implementation of sustainable development through education and partnership”.

SDGs covered





January 22, 2020

COMPETENCY IN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Al-Farabi KazNU held a joint meeting of educational associations of the University of Narkhoz and KazNU, which was attended by representatives of the RUMS and the heads of universities of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The subject of discussion was the movement of UMO RUMS from a collegial body to a design office and the competitiveness of universities.

The session “Competitiveness of the higher education system and individual universities” was devoted to strategically important issues of the development of higher education.

The session discussed issues of increasing the competitiveness of universities, ways to enter the WUR and QS WUR international ratings, measures aimed at improving the quality of higher education.

Currently, in order to increase the competitiveness of universities, various state programs are being developed and implemented. Most of the programs to increase the competitiveness of leading universities and their consortia are aimed at improving the level of integration of universities with the real sector of the economy. This will accelerate the transfer of knowledge and technology to the economy in order to ensure long-term economic growth and ensure sustainable socio-economic development of the country.





January 23, 2020

DIGITAL WISDOM

As the UN Academic Impact Hub on Sustainability, Al-Farabi KazNU has been actively implementing the program «Invitation of Foreign Scientists and Specialists». In this respect, Professor of the Jyväskylä Business School (Finland), Ayzhaz Sheikh visited the University in order to give lectures and conduct joint scientific research.

Professor Aijaz Shaikh is a world-renowned scientist, famous for his research in digital technology in the field of marketing. His research interests include digital technology, mobile applications, and digital marketing. He is the author of more than 30 scientific papers, 24 publications in the Scopus database, including papers with a high impact factor, (h-index: 9). In addition, he is the foreign supervisor of the PhD students at the Faculty of the Higher School of Economics and Business.

In Al-Farabi KazNU, Professor has been working with colleagues on a plan for joint publications, research projects and teaching materials. The main purpose of his visit is to give lectures and conduct seminars on the topic «Writing and publishing articles in journals with a high impact factor» («Scientific Writing», «Academic Writing», and «Scientific Methodology») and consultative lectures on the preparation and sending of scientific papers in high impact factor journals for PhD students.





January 24, 2020

AMBASSADORIAL HOUR

Within the framework of the UN principles on Academic Impact Al-Farabi KazNU organized a round-table which is devoted to strengthening of friendly relations between the peoples of Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan, and to promote the dissemination of culture of Turkic-speaking countries.

The event was held at the «Center for History and Culture of Azerbaijan». Its main goal was to develop educational and cultural ties between Al-Farabi Kazakh National University and Azerbaijani Universities.

After a welcoming speech by Dr. Ykhtiyar Paltore, Dean of the Faculty of Oriental Studies, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Republic of Kazakhstan Rashad Mammadov Einaddinoglu gave a lecture on «Tragic January» about the events that took place in 1990.

The speaker's thoughts on friendship, cultural dialogue between Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan aroused great interest of the audience. The Ambassador touched upon the issues of providing textbooks and fiction in the Azerbaijani language as well as conducting joint scientific conferences and student research.





January 27, 2020

KAZNU LAUNCHES «QAYIRIMDY QOGAM» CHALLENGE

According to the UNAI principle on Sustainability and Global Citizenship students of Al-Farabi KazNU have held a grand flash mob, marking the launch of the «QAYIRIMDY QOGAM» challenge, the goal of which is to form a virtuous society within the mission of the Initiative “Formation of Virtuous Society. University 4.0”.

More than 5 thousand students from different Faculties have gathered at the University campus in front of the monument to the Great thinker, whose 1150th anniversary is being celebrated by the whole world under the auspices of the UNESCO. An unprecedented project has started the national good-deed relay in the country to remind us of the values that Al-Farabi considered the main for humanity: kindness, decency, honesty and justice.

The project is aimed at developing a volunteer movement among youth, strengthening social solidarity and organizing initiative groups to solve not only global problems, but also local communities as well as to help specific people. The initiators of the challenge believe that participation in it will allow filling the media space with positive content and recalling the importance of being compassionate and helping people, who are in a difficult life situation, by real actions and deeds, showing mercy and sympathy for each other.



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#AlFarabiQQ



January 28, 2020

«TURKSOY» SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDING

As a Global Hub of the United Nations Academic Impact Program Al-Farabi KazNU held a ceremony for awarding scholarships of international organization «TURKSOY» to students of the university.

At the beginning of the event, Askar Turganbai, the representative of the organization in Kazakhstan welcomed the participants on behalf of the Secretary General of the TURKSOY International Organization Duysen Kaseinov. In his speech, Duysen Kaseinov highlighted that TURKSOY has been a reliable partner of Al-Farabi KazNU since 2015. This year, the organization allocated a scholarship to the best students of the Faculty of oriental studies, the total amount of which is 1 million tenge.

It stands for the contribution to the development of historical and cultural continuity between the Turkic peoples in the era of globalization causing constant cooperation with the University. This award is a special scholarship to stimulate students.





January 29, 2020

KAZNU LAUNCHES THE YEAR OF AL-FARABI

Al-Farabi KazNU celebrates the “The Year of al-Farabi” as a Global Hub of the United Nations Academic Impact on Sustainability. It is symbolic that one of the leading universities in Kazakhstan bears the name of al-Farabi and KazNU in its activities pays attention to the problems of cognition, promotes the development of the desire to reveal the possibilities and abilities of man. The celebration of the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi will give a powerful impetus to the study of the great scientist’s heritage, his understanding of the development of world civilization both in our country and abroad.

Within the framework of the anniversary of al-Farabi, scientific symposia are planned at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, Nur Sultan and the Turkestan region, in which leading Farabi scholars from more than 40 countries will take part, and there will be organised international expeditions, historical cultural objects will be reconstructed, scientific works of the scientist will be published and translated, a cycle of documentaries will be created, and Al-Farabi centers will be opened abroad, etc.





January 30, 2020

JOINT PROJECT

Al-Farabi KazNU and King Saud University (KSU) (Saudi Arabia) signs a cooperation agreement. This decision was made during a meeting of the KazNU leadership with a delegation from Saudi Arabia headed by Nasse Muhammed Al-Aqeeli, Deputy Minister of Science and Innovation.

It should be highlighted the friendly relations of the two countries, which contribute to the implementation of joint projects in the economy, science and education. In the age of globalization, introduction of new technologies contributes to the rapid growth and acceleration of the process of successful development of the state and society. Cooperation in the field of science and education is important for everyone. Universities, jointly exploring and discovering new directions in science and technology, will be able to achieve great results.

The guests showed interest in the Supercomputer and the International IT Technology Park of the University Alliance of the Silk Road, which is being implemented under the University 4.0 model jointly with the UN Alliance of Civilizations.

It should be noted that the IT-Technology Park and the Center for Supercomputer and Cloud Computing, that are created according to the Silicon Valley model, will be located in the High-Tech Zone of KazNU. The parties also expressed mutual interest in implementing joint scientific and innovative projects in the field of IT, Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Nanotechnology.





January 31, 2020

FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Within the program of the International Forum «Digital Almaty 2020», Rector of Al-Farabi KazNU Academician Galym Muthanov has met with the UN Under-Secretary-General Fabrizio Hochschild, and the Representative of the United Nations Department of Global Communications Vlastimil Samek.

The parties discussed issues of participation of KazNU, as the Global Hub of the UN «Academic Impact» Programme on Sustainable Development, in events dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the United Nations.

Fabrizio Hochschild expressed appreciation for the activities of KazNU as the head of the Global Hub, emphasizing the importance of international initiatives and projects of the Kazakhstani University in the implementation of the UN sustainable development goals. He also highlighted the importance of events dedicated to the anniversary of Al-Farabi, and the need to popularize his virtuous ideas, which are relevant for the sustainable development of human civilization.





February 3, 2020

COOPERATION ISSUE

On the Initiative of the UNAI on Sustainability al-Farabi Kazakh National University held a meeting with the Secretary of State of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Dr. Nadim Shafiq Malik at the faculty of Oriental Studies.

During the meeting, the universities of Kazakhstan and Pakistan, cooperation in the field of academic mobility, the prospects of an agreement between Pakistan and Kazakhstan and the future process of cooperation between the two countries were discussed. The dean of the faculty, Mr. Yktyiar Paltore, thanked Dr. Nadeem Shafiq Malik for his visit and expressed confidence that many years of friendly relations between Kazakhstan and Pakistan would be impeccable. It must be also emphasized that such meetings provide great motivation for learning a new language and strengthen international collaboration in two countries in the future.





February 4, 2020

KAZNU OPENS ITS BRANCH IN SYRIA

Within the framework of the United Nations Academic Impact Initiative the leading Kazakhstani University, Al-Farabi KazNU, will open its branch in the Syrian capital, Damascus. This initiative was declared at the start of the celebration of the 1150th anniversary of Abu Nasr Al-Farabi, which was held in Almaty.

This initiative was discussed at a meeting of the Rector of KazNU, academician Galym Mutanov, with the President of the University of Damascus, Professor Mohammed Maher Kabakibi, who arrived at the celebration of the opening of the Year of Al-Farabi.

«We fully support this idea and will assist in the establishment and development of the branch. This will be a good example of international collaboration, and it will help to strengthen Kazakhstan's bilateral relations with Syria in the field of science and education, and will also contribute to the conduct of in-depth studies of Al-Farabi's heritage», - emphasized the Rector of the University of Damascus.





February 6, 2020

AN HOUR WITH AN AMBASSADOR

«Ambassador Hour» with participation of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to Kazakhstan, Mr. Prabhat Kumar was held at the Faculty of Oriental studies of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University. The event was dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Republic of India and the spiritual leader of the Indian people, Mahatma Gandhi.

It was organized by the Mahatma Gandhi Center at the Department of Middle East and South Asia. The purpose of such events is to develop educational, scientific and cultural relations between Al-Farabi KazNU and the higher education institutions of the Republic of India. The event was attended by the Director of the Center for Indian Classical Dance Kainazarova Akmaral, faculty and students of the Department of Indology.

In his speech, the Ambassador of the Republic of India, Mr. Prabhat Kumar, congratulated the staff and students of the Faculty of Oriental Studies on the occasion of the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi. In his speech, the Ambassador spoke about the development of friendly, cultural and scientific ties between India and Kazakhstan. He also shared his opinion on providing Indian language students with textbooks and literature, organizing joint scientific conferences, and supporting students' research.

During the meeting, students of Indology read aphorisms of M. Gandhi, performed scenes from his life, and sang songs, told about the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi. The event, organized jointly with the Department of the Middle East and South Asia together with the Embassy of India in the Republic of Kazakhstan, was held at a very high level. The Ambassador of India expressed gratitude for the work done by the Department of Indology and for the activity of students in learning the Hindi language and studying about India, noting that in the future it will help to strengthen relations between KazNU and Universities of the Republic of India.





February 11, 2020

COOPERATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

As the Global Hub on sustainability al-Farabi KazNU held a meeting with a delegation from France led by Mr. Gilles Thibault where both sides discussed the possibility of opening the Kazakh-French Institute of Science and Technology.

During the visit to KazNU, foreign guests got acquainted with the activities of the Kazakh-French Center of «GeoEnergetics», established on the initiative of Presidents N. Nazarbayev and N. Sarkazi in 2010. During this time, many undergraduates and doctoral students of the leading Kazakhstani University were trained at HEIs in France, including under the double-degree program.

The Center is constantly expanding its activities, involving new Universities and French companies in the process of training specialists for Kazakhstan.

Representatives of the inspectorate of the French Foreign Ministry praised the activities of the Center of «GeoEnergetics» and put forward a proposal on its transformation into the Kazakh-French Institute of Science and Technology.

The creation of such a joint Institute will attract investment from French companies operating in Kazakhstan to the implementation of mutually beneficial projects, and it will increase the level of scientific and practical training of students, and will also facilitate the employment of graduates.





February 12, 2020

INTERNATIONAL METHODOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

Within the framework of the United Nations Academic Impact Initiative Al-Farabi KazNU held the 50th International Scientific and Methodological Conference «Modern Interpretation of the Pedagogical Concept of al-Farabi in the Context of Digitalization of Education» in which actual problems of the modern educational process was discussed.

This major international forum included issues relevant to modern higher education such as the creation of popular educational programs based on the development of the competency model of the graduate of Al-Farabi KazNU; the problems of interaction between education, production and business; and the formation of unique attributes and skills of modern graduates that can make them relevant in the labor market and many others.

On the agenda of the International Methodological Conference, a master class entitled «Developing a graduate model in the framework of harmonizing educational programs by training levels» was held at the Higher School of Economics and Business of Al-Farabi KazNU, which was initiated and prepared by the Department of Business Technologies.





February 18, 2020

MODERNIZATION OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION IN CENTRAL ASIA

As the Global Hub of the UNAI on Sustainability, al-Farabi KazNU organized an International Conference «Modernization of Engineering Education in the Central Asian region in the context of digitalization» jointly with the Kazakhstani Association of Engineering Education (KazSEE) and the European Network for Accreditation in the Field of Engineering Education (ENAE).

On the agenda there were workshops on «Review of international accreditation systems. Methods for ensuring the quality of engineering education» which was made by Vice President of ENAE Jose Carlos Quadrado. Of great interest was also the presentation «Problems and Prospects for the Implementation of the Khujand Agreement in Central Asia» by the President of the Central Asian Federation of Engineering Education Communities Dr. D.K. Suleev.

Following the meeting, a decision was made, preserving the ideology of the Khujand agreement, to expand the framework of cooperation in Central Asia and to attract for this purpose various institutions and business structures dealing with accreditation.





February 18, 2020

THE 1150TH ANNIVERSARY OF AL-FARABI LAUNCHES IN INDIA

The events dedicated to the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi has been launched in India. Al-Farabi KazNU, with the support of the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in India and the Jawaharlal Nehru University held a Round table in New Delhi dedicated to the 1150th anniversary of Abu Nasr Al-Farabi.

It should be highlighted that the anniversary of Al-Farabi is included in the calendar of memorable dates and events of the UNESCO, and its celebration will give a powerful impetus to the study and understanding of the world heritage of the «Second Teacher» of humanity. Today, the name of the thinker of the Great Steppe is of vital interest to scientists of various countries, including India. The holding of such events at the international level contributes to the popularization of the creative heritage of Al-Farabi and Kazakh history.

During the Round table, the delegation of KazNU made scientific reports and presentations about the life and work of Al-Farabi, the significance of its heritage in modern times. A model of the University of the new generation «University 4.0» was also presented, which was developed on the basis of the ideas of the thinker, including spiritual, moral, and scientific and technological platforms.

Speakers from academia, heads of scientific centers and institutes in India also highlighted the significance of Abu Nasr al-Farabi's legacy and stressed the importance of such events for bringing together the cultures of two friendly countries.





February 21, 2020

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS IN GLOBAL HEALTH

Al-Farabi KazNU hosted the Director of the Center for Sustainable Development of the Earth Institute at Columbia University Dr. Yanis Ben Amor who visited the university within the framework of the MDP Global Classroom Program and there was a meeting with the leadership of the university, a campus tour and a round table on the topic “Pressing issues on Global Health”.

The event was organized by the United Nations Academic Impact Hub on Sustainability at al-Farabi KazNU, Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development jointly with the Earth Institute at Columbia University.

The round table dedicated to “Pressing issues on Global Health” included Master’s and PhD students of the Faculty of Medicine and Public health, scholars, experts of the public committees and the media. In turn, the director of the Center for Sustainable Development at the Earth Institute Dr. Yanis Ben Amor gave an informative lecture and shared his experience on pressing issues in the field of medicine and healthcare and answered all the interesting questions of young scholars. Apart from, the parties exchanged views and agreed to strengthen cooperation on implementing 17 SDGs, in particular, with the Center for Sustainable Urban Development at the Earth Institute within the framework of the scientifically innovative project: “Smart City on the Silk Road”.





February 21, 2020

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Kazakhstani scientist and the head of the country's leading University, the Rector of Al-Farabi KazNU academician Galym Mutanov has been honored with international award in India «Amity Global Academic Excellence Awards». This award is actually presented to leaders, innovators and prominent scientists in the field of science, management and entrepreneurship at a global level.

This was announced at the INBUSH ERA-2020 World Summit «The Challenge of Change: Strategies for Managing Business in Technology Driven Societies», which was held at Amity University in Noida.

At the Summit, which brought together representatives of more than 100 countries, the results were summed up and the winners of the international award in various categories were determined.





March 4, 2020

ONLY GIRLS IN UNISAT

Within the framework of the United Nations Academic Impact Initiative Al-Farabi KazNU, together with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has launched an educational project for girls on the development of UniSat nanosatellites.

In fact, 20 girls were selected to participate in the project. These are students of Kazakhstani Universities and high school students. They will have a unique opportunity to study courses on creating a nanosatellite based on the Scientific and Technological Park of Al-Farabi KazNU. The training will last five months and include such important stages of creating any spacecraft as projecting, design, programming, assembly, testing and launch. By the time the training is complete, girls should create models of nanosatellites and launch them into the upper atmosphere.

The project is interesting for its gender focus. Destroying the usual stereotype, it proves that the sphere of nanotechnology, programming and design of spacecraft is subject to the fair half of humanity.





March 5, 2020

JOB FAIR

To promote sustained and sustainable economic growth and productive employment al-Farabi KazNU, the United Nations Academic Impact Hub, has held a job fair, which is annually organized for its students. This year, more than 30 enterprises and organizations, large companies from different regions of the Republic took part in it.



The purpose of this event is to promote the employment of University graduates. The Fair is designed to reduce unemployment in the country, promoting youth employment in the chosen specialty. Graduates get an opportunity to communicate with numerous employers, and get acquainted with new large companies, study the labor market and job offers.

The Fair showed that currently the following specialties are especially in demand on the labor market: Process Engineer, IT specialist, Teacher, Doctor, Biotechnologist, and Marketer, etc.

The fair was attended by various international and tourist companies, medical centers and financial banks, as well as the Employment Center of Almaty. Graduates studied the list of vacancies of such employing organizations as: «Grata international», «Takeda», «Atasu group», «Halyk Bank», «ATB Bank», LLP Medical Assistanc Group, BCD Travel, International travel plus and etc.





March 10, 2020

GLOBAL HEALTH: SCIENCE RING ON EUTHANASIA



Students of the Faculty of Medicine and Healthcare at al-Farabi KazNU demonstrated brilliant erudition and great scientific potential on the intellectual game «Science Ring», organized by the teaching staff of the Department.

In the modern world, the problem of euthanasia is one of the most discussed in society. It is located at the intersection of a huge range of disciplines - medicine, law, psychology of philosophy, and religion. For a full discussion of it, the participation of specialists from all these areas is necessary. Therefore, our undergraduates did not remain aloof from the fully discussed issue, to which it is difficult to find a single point of view and a humane comprehensive answer. Modern youth in medicine has erudition and great scientific potential. This was vividly demonstrated by undergraduates in the intellectual game «Science Ring». The competition was attended by two teams such as called «Researchers» and «Life Formula».

At the beginning of the event, the organizers announced the rules according to which the game took place in 2 rounds, the teams were given 1 minute to think about the answer, the countdown began after the host's command: «Time», and in the event of a false start for one of the teams, the right of reply passed to the opposing team. In case of an incorrect answer, the right to answer was transferred to the opposing team with the addition of 20 seconds.

According to the results of a rather intense game, the team «Life Formula» was recognized as the winner. In the process of intellectual battle, the participants were able to demonstrate worthy knowledge not only in the field of medicine, but rather emotionally presented the arguments for and against the legal, economic,

religious, and social euthanasia. In general, Science Ring was dynamic, exciting, and bright, which aroused the interest of young scientists.





March 27, 2020

«MEN ZHASTARGA SENEMIN» REPUBLICAN STUDENT COMPETITION LAUNCHES

A republican competition organized at al-Farabi KazNU has been a significant platform throughout the country for eight years. The competition is aimed at the development of patriotism, civic responsibility, intellectual and creative potential of youth.



Traditionally, the competition program includes nominations for the best student innovative project and start-up on the topic «My real contribution to the innovative development of the country», and the social project «Qayirymdy Qogam», as well as the best essay contest «What can I do for the prosperity of the Homeland», and poetic work and song contest on a patriotic theme.

The first qualifying round will be held remotely from 10 to 30 April this year. After online registration, participants should send video and their work in electronic form to the organizing committee. Participation in the competition is a great opportunity for students to prove themselves, share their socially significant initiatives and creative projects. Based on the results of the remote qualifying round, the participants who qualified for the final will be determined. The videos and creative works of the finalists are planned to be posted on social networks, where anyone can vote for their favorite work.

The final of the competition will be held as part of the VIII forum «Men Zhastarga Senemin!» in November 2020 at Al-Farabi KazNU. Participants will have the opportunity to present and defend their projects at meetings of thematic sections. An independent jury will provide an objective assessment of the work of the contest participants. It will include authoritative experts – public figures, representatives of science, culture and art, business, government agencies and the media. The competent jury will determine the best works at each stage - from the remote qualifying round to the final competition in Almaty.

The main prize refers to Al-Farabi KazNU's grant for a year of tuition free education. According to the results of online voting, a prize of audience sympathy will also be awarded.

Good luck to all participants!



March 27, 2020

DISTANT LEARNING ALL THE WAY



The UNAI Global Hub of al-Farabi KazNU is one of the first among universities of Kazakhstan completely switched to remote form of studying due to the COVID-19 Pandemic lockdown. Lectures, seminars and practice sessions at hundreds of thousands of university students are held online. For the purpose of acquaintance and check of the organization of distance learning in the conditions of a quarantine the university was visited the project manager «Sanaly urpaq» by Kayyrzhan Tokushev and the head of prevention and respectability of Department of the agency on anti-corruption on Almaty Elnar Igilikov.

Since March 16, 2020, KazNU has implemented remote educational technologies (DOT) in two information and educational systems - «Univer» (univer.kaznu.kz) and remote education «MOODLE» (dl.kaznu.kz). In the course of training, auxiliary digital services «ZOOM,» Microsoft Teams, «DL,» etc., are also used.

As the Vice-Rector of KazNU for Educational Work Askar Hikmetov claimed that the developed IT-infrastructure of the university allows today to cover remote education of all students of 16 faculties. The distance learning process is overseen by three university structures. Thus, in the «Univer» system it is possible to track the activity of the educational process. The staff of the CSO monitor the schedule of each teacher and can check the classes in real time.

Today, mass events and meetings have been suspended on campus and in the KazNU students houses due to the state of emergency in the country. In all buildings and student dormitories there are information sheets and stands for the prevention of COVID-19 and dispensers with disinfectant are installed.





April 9, 2020

THE «FARABI WORLD» CONFERENCE



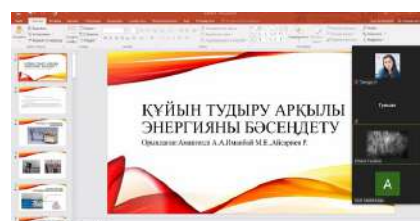
The annual International Conference of students and young scientists «The Farabi's World» and the contest «Best Young Scientist» were held online this year. In connection with activities aimed at the non-proliferation of coronavirus infection COVID-19, Al-Farabi KazNU carries out activities in a remote format with the use of modern information

and communication technologies. From April 6 to 9, 2020, the traditional annual International Scientific Conference of students and young scientists «The Farabi's World» in online format was held at the University. The Conference was organized at a high level. Undergraduate and graduate students, and PhD candidates and young scientists of Universities and Institutes, Scientific Centers of the Republic and near and far abroad countries took an active part in the work of various sessions of the Conference.

As a whole, 3094 reports of participants were heard, 383 from other higher education institutions of RK, 117 from the countries of near and far abroad. 122 sections, 70 round tables and scientific seminars were held within the framework of the Conference at the Faculties of KazNU. Following the results of Conference, Rector of University, Galym Mutanov, awarded 48 students with Diplomas and money prizes.

In addition, the traditional contest entitled «Best Young Scientist of Al-Farabi KazNU» was held as part of the Conference that is aimed at organizational and methodical support of young scientists of the University, who are actively engaged in scientific and innovative activities, popularization of their scientific achievements, introduction of the results of research into educational and production processes.

The main criteria for determining the winners of the competition were indicators of publication activity, including in international ranking publications, the availability of legal documents (patents, copyright certificates), participation or management of the scientific project, etc.





April 17, 2020

COMPETITION «BEST YOUNG SCIENTIST»

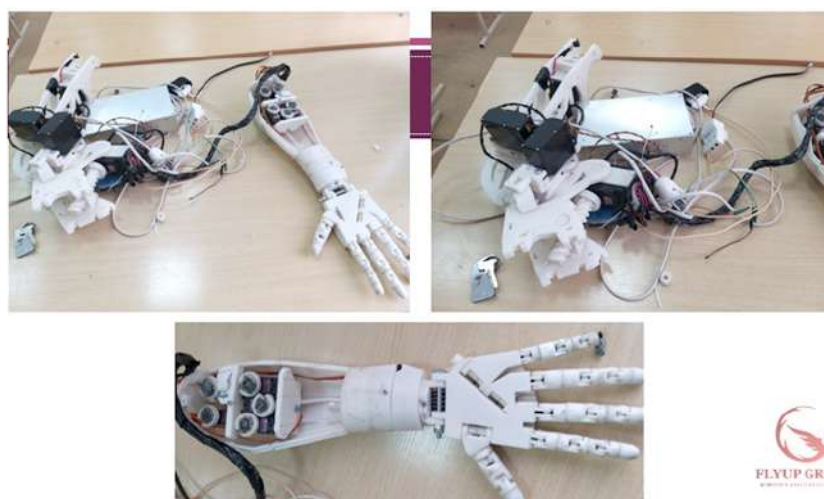


The annual contest of the best innovative projects and business incubators of the University was held at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, the United Nations Academic Impact Hub on sustainability, within the framework of the International

Scientific Conference of young scientists and students «The World of Farabi». According to results of online listening to presentations of scientific works made by developers, the authors of nine projects were recognized as winners. They will be awarded with diplomas and monetary certificates.

In particular, the First-degree Diploma and cash prize will be awarded to Alena Starodubtseva and Radmira Shiyanova, students of the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of Al-Farabi KazNU. They have presented the project «Production of Antiseptics Based on Sodium Hypochlorite (Under Conditions of Limited Raw Material Resources)».

Second and Third Degree Diplomas were awarded to students of the following faculties: Physics and Technology, Mechanics and Mathematics, History, Archaeology and Ethnology, Philology and World Languages, Geography and Nature Management, Biology and Biotechnology and the Higher School of Economics and Business. They will also receive cash prizes and memorable souvenirs.





April 21, 2020

ONLINE WEBINAR SERIES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development under al-Farabi KazNU organized a Series of Webinars on SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 16 and SDG 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which took place online on cisco.webex platform as a part of the UN Agenda 2030. A series of webinars is organized to highlight and solve current global issues on and the impact of the COVID-19 and its consequences.

The speaker of the first session was Professor Laura Kuanova, Director of the Scientific and Educational Center of Islamic Finance in KazNU named after al-Farabi who talked about «Challenges and Advantages of Sustainable Economic Development during the COVID-19 Period.» It was followed by Ms. Krista Pickat, Director of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan who presented the role of the education system and the impact of COVID-19 on international education.






SDGs WEBINAR SERIES: the Impact of COVID-19 and possible outcomes

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

SPEAKER

Krista Pickat
Director of the UNESCO Cluster Office for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

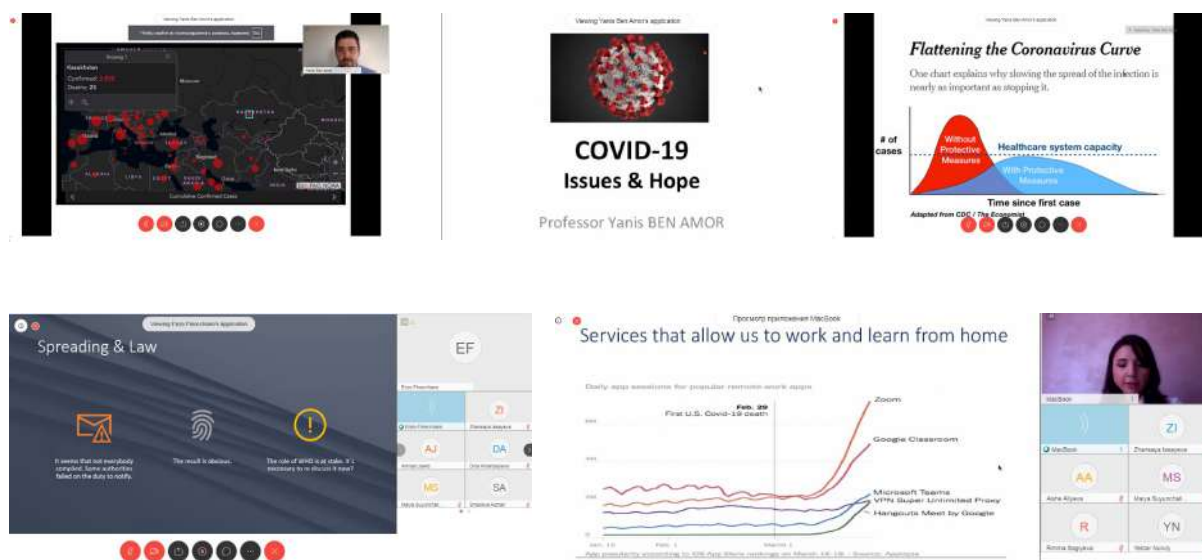
TOPIC
THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

PLATFORM
Cisco Webex

DATE
21 April, 2020
14:00-15:00 Hrs KazST




According to the COVID-19 Pandemic issues the global health is crucial topic to discuss and drive solutions. Dr. Janis Ben Amor, Executive Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at the Earth Institute at Columbia University, spoke about the world situation with the COVID-19 pandemic and the prospects for health care after such a large-scale crisis. Also, in this session participants listened to the presentation on «Problems and hopes with COVID-19» and asked interesting and relevant questions. Special session dedicated to SDG3 was briefly summarized by Dr. Carolyn Clarinwal, Head of the World Health Organization Office in Kazakhstan. Covering the presentation about “COVID-19 Stress Test for Healthcare Systems. Government and Society” she spoke about the current situation and possible scenarios of coronavirus development in Kazakhstan and around the world. This webinar series also conclude workshop about «The world crisis and international law» by Enzo Finiciaro, a professor on international criminal rights, director of the international journal ICL Journal from Buenos Ayeres, Argentina, who spoke about the global crisis, international rights, their influence and prospects from coronavirus and its consequences in law.



April 25, 2020

HIGH RECOGNITION BY THE UN



By decision of the United Nations, Al-Farabi KazNU will continue to lead the Global Hub of the UN Academic Impact Program on Sustainable Development for the fourth consecutive term. This is evidence of the high international recognition of successful activities of the leading Kazakhstani University, which is making a significant contribution to

realization of the goals of sustainable development.

The Academic Impact Program on Sustainable Development was initiated by Eighth Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. After leading the Global Hub in 2014, KazNU became the first and only University in the CIS to be awarded such a high position at the international level. Having become one of the 10 world Hubs of the United Nations, KazNU coordinates and actively involves the world academic community in the realization of the 17 goals on sustainable development of mankind, aimed at preserving the resources of the planet, ensuring the availability of quality education and well-being, developing innovations, and preserving ecosystems, etc.

Heading the Global Hub, KazNU has developed and introduced a model of a new generation of higher education institution – «University 4.0». It is based on a symbiosis of technological and spiritual-moral platforms and is aimed at the formation of responsible citizens of the world. Together with the Alliance of Civilizations, the Model was presented at the UN headquarters in New York and recommended as promising and relevant for wide distribution among Universities around the world.

The UNESCO Chairs on Sustainable Development, as well as International Journalism and Media in Society, have been successfully operating at the University. In addition, the «MDP Global Classroom» training programme on sustainable development is being successfully implemented with Columbia University (USA). The University is also part of the world student project «UN Model – New Silk Road».



April 28, 2020

MDP GLOBAL CLASSROOM KAZNU SPRING-2020 AGENDA

The UN Academic Impact Hub KazNU has successfully conducted MDP Global Classroom Program for the spring semester 2020 designed lectures and seminars coordinated by Ban Ki-moon Institute for sustainable development.

This term's agenda includes 10 weeks' classes on five modules such as «Education» «Public Health», «Innovation and Entrepreneurship» «Government, statelessness and human rights», «Ecosystem», among which there are four large-scale round tables with keynote speakers from UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty – Mr. Santosh Khatri, International Cooperation Department of KazNU – Mrs. Aknur Zhydybek, the Representatives of the UN Women in Kazakhstan – Mrs. Nazgul Shyngysova, and the Representatives of the International Bureau of Human Rights in Kazakhstan – Mr. Denis Givaga. The program also includes Discussion Questions on «The Age of Sustainable Development» course by SDGs Academy. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the classes run lately online on platform Zoom. The MDP Class has developed a scientific project «MDP Project-4» on “One Belt One Road” Initiative, which include recent researches on sustainable development of Kazakhstan in global communities within the context of SDG 4, SDG 8, SDGs 12 and SDG 17.





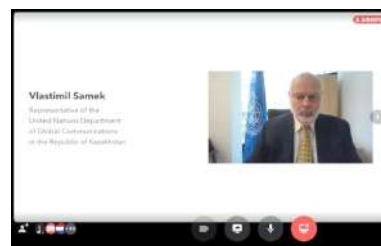
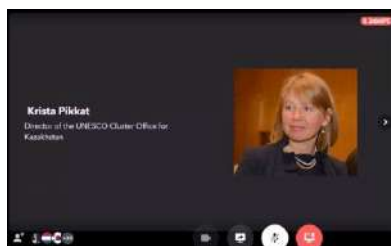
May 7-8, 2020

«MODEL UNITED NATIONS» IN ONLINE FORMAT



For the first time, the International Conference «Model UN – New Silk Way» was held in an online format. The event, dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the UN and the end of the World War II, was organized by Al-Farabi KazNU on the UN Academic Impact Initiative with the support of the United Nations Information Bureau and the Representative Office of the MFA of the RK in Almaty. The «Model UN – New Silk Way» is a large-scale international project for students and high school students, who act as diplomats of different countries and model the work of the UN. Al-Farabi KazNU, which heads the Global Hub of the UN «Academic Impact» Program for Sustainable Development for the fourth consecutive term, holds this event in an online format for the first time. The project is aimed at attracting the attention of youth to the global problems of the present, formation a vision of a holistic picture of the world, developing research skills, the ability to overcome conflicts through intercultural communication and establishing a dialogue.

The world-wide online conference brought together more than 200 students and schoolchildren in 5 committees from Asia, Africa, America and Europe, as well as international experts, representatives of the UN and diplomatic circles. During two days, the young speakers discussed topical issues of peacekeeping and the implementation of 17 sustainable development goals for humanity, as well as measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19, restore the global economy, ensure access to quality online education, social support during the pandemic, and others.





May 30, 2020

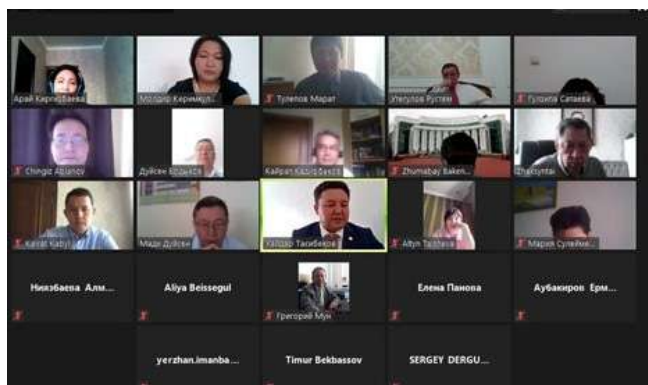
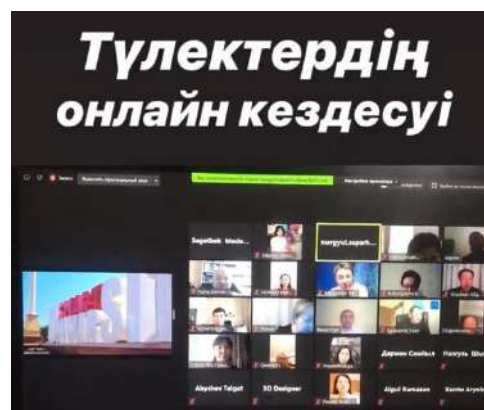
MAY 30 – KAZNU’S ALUMNI DAY!

This academic year became special for Al-Farabi Kazakh National University as the Global Hub of the UN Academic Impact Initiative. It is marked by events of international scale in connection with the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi, the name of which the university worthily bears.

One of the significant events of the jubilee year is a general university holiday - the Day of graduates of KazNU. It is held annually on the last Saturday of May and falls on the 30th this year. Preserving and developing traditions of the university, as well as taking into account the difficult epidemiological situation in the country, it is planned to hold Alumni Day in a new format - online.

The remote format of the Alumni Day is being tested for the first time, and we are confident that the team of many thousands of teachers, students and graduates at such a difficult time, as in previous years, will once again show their unity around the values of independent Kazakhstan and the importance of education, science, sports and culture.

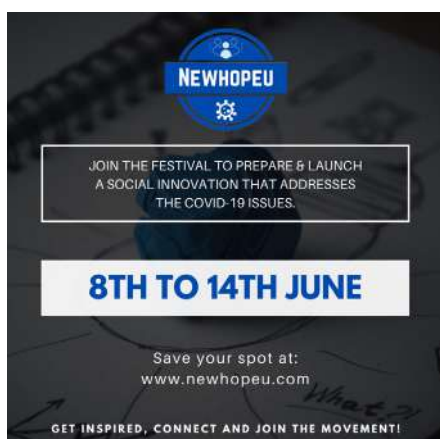
Materials and videos of congratulations of graduates, online meetings of anniversary editions with their chairs and faculties will be placed for wide access in social networks.





June 8-14, 2020

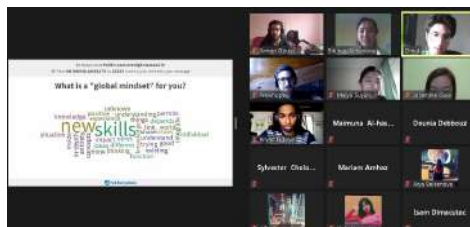
JOINT FESTIVAL



Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi KazNU co-organized a Virtual Social Innovation Festival jointly with NewHopeU youth platform from June 8 to 14, 2020.

This European Social Innovation Festival is designed to inspire, connect and create projects to tackle the impact of COVID-19 in partnership with Peace First, We Make Change, Sharing Perspectives Foundation, Erasmus + Virtual Exchange as well other partners.

The Virtual Social Innovation Festival is organized in a format of 8 online sessions with over 300 participants all over the world for 7 days. Participants address the COVID-19 Issues and Consequences on mental health, hunger, work perspectives, education access, domestic violence, disinformation, elderly situation due to isolation as well as social distance entertainment. This event hosts 15 keynote speakers in its network sessions from global thought leaders to inspirational business trainers.



June 10, 2020

KAZNU ENTERED THE WORLD'S TOP-200 BEST HEIS

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University has made a phenomenal breakthrough, advancing in the QS global ranking to 165 place. Thus, the leading Kazakhstani University has successfully completed the task set by Elbasy N.A. Nazarbayev, as well as laid down in the State Program on Development of Education and Science of the RK, on entering by 2020 at least of two Kazakhstani Universities in the top-200 best HEIs of the world. KazNU has confirmed its compliance with the high level in the world scientific and educational space.



The most well-known and authoritative internationally recognized rating agency Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) has published new research results on the world's higher education institutions. As emphasized in the analytical report of QS, this year Al-Farabi KazNU, rising up to 42 positions, took 165th place in the global ranking and «became the first Kazakhstani University, which made the breakthrough to the top 200 best HEIs in the world». In the post-Soviet space only two universities has been included in this group – Lomonosov Moscow State University and KazNU.

Demonstrating an unprecedented rapid dynamics in the history of higher education of the world, the University has advanced almost by 500 positions in 9 years. Such progress achieved in a short period of time in the world ranking has attracted the attention of foreign experts, who call this unique breakthrough as an «Al-Farabi KazNU's phenomenon». In the international academic environment it is actively discussed as the most striking example of the dynamic development by the University, many representatives of foreign HEIs have been adopting KazNU's positive experience.

Behind the high position in the world ranking is a huge work of the University staff headed by Rector, academician Galym Mutanov to improve the global competitiveness of KazNU. Based on the cluster approach, a comprehensive structural modernization was carried out, and a results-oriented management system was introduced, which facilitated its transition to a fundamentally new quality of education and science. In cooperation with leading foreign universities, double diploma programs and educational programs are being implemented in

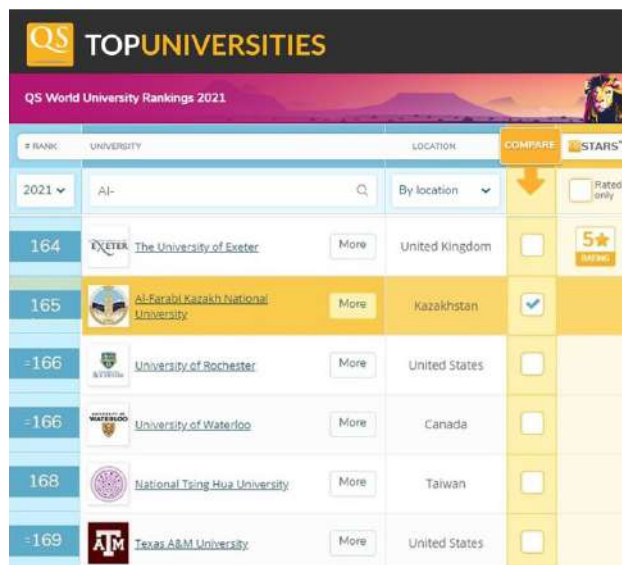
English, thanks to which the largest number of foreign students in Kazakhstan is studying at KazNU. Their number has increased by 15 times last year alone.

Microsoft Company has recognized KazNU's digital development model as one of its best practices. The University has opened scientific and educational centers of world-known high-tech corporations, and created a scientific and technological corridor «from idea generation towards commercialization». Its effective use allowed KazNU to increase the volume of scientific projects more than 2.5 times within five years. Every fifth publication of Kazakhstani authors in international ranking scientific journals belongs to KazNU's scientists. During the same period, the University infrastructure has grown almost by 50 percent.

As the Global Hub of the United Nations Academic Impact Program on Sustainable Development, KazNU has developed and implemented a model of new generation HEI – «University 4.0», which was presented at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and has been recommended for wide international dissemination. KazNU has established Al-Farabi Centers in 12 foreign countries.

The leading positions of Kazakh National University in the world educational and scientific space have been also confirmed by other international rating agencies. Thus, KazNU is among the top 200 most environmentally friendly and top 50 technologically advanced HEIs in the world. Having received high estimation «AA+» by the European Scientific and Industrial Chamber, the Kazakhstani University is in the same row with leading universities of Europe. All these achievements contributed to the recognition of KazNU as the best HEI of the Turkic and Islamic world.

The Massachusetts University of Technology is ranked first in the QS ranking, Stanford and Harvard Universities respectively (all are the US HEIs) took the second and third places. The top ten world universities are almost entirely composed of American and British institutions of higher education.



# RANK	UNIVERSITY	LOCATION	COMPARE	STARS*
2021	Al-	By location		Rated only
164	The University of Exeter	United Kingdom		5★
165	Al-Farabi Kazakh National University	Kazakhstan		5★
166	University of Rochester	United States		
166	University of Waterloo	Canada		
168	National Tsing Hua University	Taiwan		
169	Texas A&M University	United States		



July 15, 2020

KAZNU – ICESCO: FIGHTING TOGETHER WITH COVID-19

Al-Farabi KazNU – Global Hub of the UN Academic Impact Program on sustainable development – has received a grant from the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) aimed on implementing a project to fight coronavirus.

Since the beginning of the pandemic ICESCO has held an international call for scientific and technological projects aimed at fighting COVID-19 among the universities of the organization's member countries.

KazNU's project has been recognized as one of the best and selected for funding. It is aimed at the production of universal antiseptics and disinfectants of the new generation. The funds allocated by ICESCO will be used to purchase part of the equipment to equip the production, which is planned to be launched in the near future.

Developed by KazNU chemists, antiseptics based on sodium hypochlorite will be produced by electrochemical method and will have a wide range of applications in the medical, municipal and household spheres. The undoubted advantage of disinfectants is their cost, which is much lower than foreign analogues, since Kazakhstan raw materials are used in production. The production will also use patented developments of KazNU scientists, including highly resistant ruthenium oxide titanium anodes, the use of which significantly reduces the cost of production.

The disinfecting product obtained in the frames of the project will be used for the treatment of University buildings, distributed among students and employees, as well as other social strata in need.

ICESCO with its headquarters in Rabat (Morocco), is a structure of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Its activities are aimed at developing education, science, culture and new technologies and expanding cooperation between the OIC countries in these areas.





July 27, 2020

KAZNU - UNAI: 75 MINUTES OF DIALOGUE

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, which is heading the Global Hub of the UN «Academic Impact» Program, took part in the international online conference «Environmentally Friendly Cities and Economic Solutions for Academic Community to Achieve the Goal». The event, dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, has brought together prominent experts from UNEP (UN Environment Programme), UNIDO (Industrial Development) and scientists from leading world universities.

Today, the University implements such breakthrough innovative projects as «Green Bridge for Green Campus» aimed at turning the world University campuses into centers of green economy and «Smart Universities in the center of Smart Cities». For the purpose of practical realization of its own concept for development of smart cities, KazNU has launched a unique scientific and innovative project «Al-Farabi University Smart City», aimed at finding new ways to solve modern problems of urban communities.

In order to summarize the most important research results of the University scientists and foreign partners in the field of sustainable development of cities, in 2019 there was published a monograph «Smart Cities on the Silk Road: International Experience of Sustainable Development of Cities». It reflects original science-based approaches and vision of the «Smart» Cities concept, taking into account the most probable transformation of the spatial organization of the territory in the future.

In the course of the online conference, participants have discussed current issues of social development and environmental impact, implementation of a global strategy for urban development in the framework of the implementation of 17 Sustainable Development Goals for Humanity, as well as measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to restore the world economy in the post-crisis period. The event was ended with a fruitful discussion and exchange of views.



July 27, 2020

UNIVERSITY 4.0: TRAJECTORY OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University shared its experience in implementing corporate social responsibility in an international online webinar. Representatives of the QS authoritative rating agency, the Union of Arab Universities and the ACSR member-universities, have attended the event, organized by the Arab Council for Social Responsibility (ACSR).



The practice of social responsibility is being implemented in KazNU at several public levels. At the primary level, a task has been set to ensure that each member of the University community makes commitment to improve the internal and external environment. Projects such as «Ainalandy Nurlandyr», «KazNU – Greencampus» and others are aimed at this. An Integrity Education Programme is being realized, of which special training courses on the ethics of integrity and the activity of the University's «School of Integrity» are important components.

KazNU as the UN Global Hub, showing social responsibility at the international level, has been implementing the model «University 4.0» jointly with the UN Alliance of Civilizations in the framework of an international project «Formation of citizens of a virtuous society. Mission of modern universities». Al-Farabi centers established in the 12 leading HEIs in the world have now been involved in its implementation. Being the only representative among the HEIs of the post-Soviet space in the international University Social Responsibility Network (USRN), KazNU conducted a seminar for the members of this organization – «Towards a Virtuous Society: Inclusion of Social Responsibility for the Activities of the Social and Humanitarian Centers of Universities».



July 29, 2020

THE: HIGH EVALUATION OF KAZNU MANAGEMENT

According to the results of the research of the world-known agency, «Times Higher Education», Al-Farabi Kazakh National University has entered the top 10 leaders of Asian universities with the best management.

The leading Kazakhstani University has been marked in the rating «THE Asia Award-2020» in the nomination «Outstanding Leadership and Management Team». KazNU confirming its high competitiveness and management efficiency, has become the only higher education institution of the post-Soviet countries that is included in the top ten among more than 10 thousand leading universities of the continent.

Introduction of process management and result-oriented administration, rating system for evaluating the performance, automation of all business processes, creation of modern digital infrastructure using Smart-Technologies and Big Data, as well as information intellectual-analytical system became the key to successful and dynamic promotion of KazNU in many world ratings in which it occupies a leading position. Currently, the advanced experience of KazNU is being studied and adopted by foreign HEIs, and Microsoft Company has recognized the digital model of the University's development as one of the best practices.

It should be noted that this year at the world summit INBUSHERA-2020 in Delhi Rector of KazNU Academician Galimkair Mutanov was given the international prize «Amity Global Academic Excellence Awards», which is presented to leaders, innovators and prominent scientists in the field of science, management and entrepreneurship of global level.



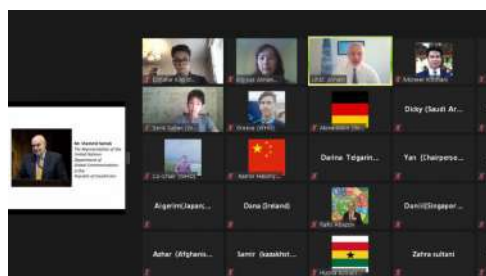
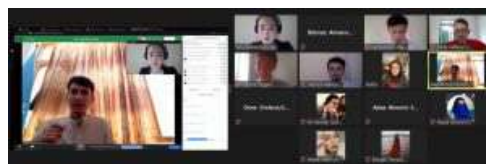


August 12, 2020

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

New Silk Way Model United Nations in Kazakhstan and Pamir Model United Nations in Afghanistan jointly organized an international online conference on August 12, 2020. This online conference was dedicated to the International Youth Day. More than eighty delegates from Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Italy, Thailand, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Afghanistan took part in the conference. The event was designed to bring a younger generation together to discuss the impact and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the implications of the ceasefire during the pandemic, which were discussed in two large sessions on the Zoom platform.

This event took place as part of the UN Academic Impact Initiative (UNAI), coordinated and supported by the Kazakh National University. Al-Farabi in close cooperation with the United Nations Information Office (UNIC) in Almaty. The keynote speaker of the event was Mr. Vlastimil Samek, Representative of the United Nations Department of Global Communications in the Republic of Kazakhstan, who congratulated the young leaders on International Youth Day and sincerely wished them a productive discussion. In addition, the international conference was attended with a welcoming speech by Mr. Ahmad Javid Kazizade, who is an adviser to the Minister of Health of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. He dwelled on the current situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences for the population of Afghanistan. Wishing the young politicians fruitful discussions and resolutions, he expressed gratitude to the organizing committee for such a wonderful platform. Also, the event was attended by guests from UNDP in Kazakhstan, Mr. Askhat Zhumabaev and Mr. Hamza Muhammad Ikhtiar from the Embassy of Afghanistan in Kazakhstan.





September 5, 2020

JINALYS ROOM

It is no secret that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the shift of educational institutions to distance learning, many users face problems when using a foreign video communication system. The Kazakhstani web-based videoconferencing application «Jinalys Room», developed by IT specialists from Al-Farabi KazNU, aims to solve this problem.



The new video conferencing service allows for online conferences, meetings, distance learning and includes recording and messaging functions as well as support for various API services for integration with corporate information systems.

One of the main goals of the application is to provide students and lecturers with a user-friendly video conferencing platform with an intuitive interface during their online training. It should be noted that the installation of the web application does not require any additional software and is possible on devices with minimal technical requirements, and data security is ensured by the possibility of installation on the University server infrastructure.

The «Jinalys Room» information system is available at <https://jinalysroom.kz>.



September 16, 2020

BEST UNIVERSITY IN ISLAMIC FINANCE

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University was awarded the prestigious international award «Global Islamic Finance Awards 2020» (GIFA) in recognition of its achievements and contribution to the development of education in Islamic finance. The leading Kazakhstani University became the best in the category of «The Best Emerging Islamic Finance Education Provider». The award ceremony was held in Islamabad (Pakistan). The GIFA is one of the most prestigious awards in the world in the field of Islamic finance, a mark of excellence, which is awarded to governments, institutions and individuals who have achieved outstanding achievements in this field. Among them are heads of the states, famous political leaders, and scientists.



The receiving of the prestigious GIFA-2020 award is the recognition by the international community of the initiatives taken by Al-Farabi Kazakh National University to develop and disseminate Islamic finance.

Kazakhstan was one of the first countries in the post-Soviet space to begin the development of Islamic financing with the establishment of Islamic banks and legislative support of their activities. At the initiative of Yelbasy N. Nazarbayev, the International Financial Center of Astana (IFAC) was established and successfully operates, in the future it is expected that it would become a Hub for Islamic Finance in the region of EAEC and Central Asia.

KazNU in cooperation with leading foreign Universities and the AIFC opened a unique scientific and educational center of Islamic finance, which is equipped with the latest technology and modern software. It became a base for training highly qualified specialists in Islamic banking and finance. It provides training in the skills of exchange trading, the basics of fundamental and technical analysis, and financial engineering. Islamic banking and finance sector is an attractive sector that is increasingly gaining popularity at the international level, which requires appropriate staffing. For the first time in the post-Soviet space, KazNU started the training of Master and PhD students on the educational trajectory «Islamic Finance».



September 22, 2020

THE VISIT OF THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR

Al-Farabi KazNU hosted Mr. Ufuk Ekici, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to Kazakhstan in the course of which the parties discussed the prospects for mutually beneficial cooperation in science and education.

The Rector thanked the distinguished guest for his visit and for the interest shown in the University's activities. During the talks, he highlighted that Turkey was the first country that recognized the sovereignty of Kazakhstan after its independence. Today the political and economic relations established between the two countries have had a positive impact on all areas of activity. In Kazakhstan, the Turkish companies and investors are successfully operating, including in scientific and educational spheres.

During the meeting, the sides also discussed the work of Al-Farabi centers, one of which has been opened in Istanbul. Today, 12 international centers promote the principles and ideas of Al-Farabi's writings on a virtuous and civilized society, which according to experts and scholars are essential for all humankind to rethink moral and spiritual values.

The Ambassador, in turn, thanked the Rector for his warm welcome and attention. He highly appreciated the level of cooperation between KazNU and Turkish universities and expressed readiness to provide support to promote joint projects and programs in science and education, as well as to promote further active cooperation between the two countries. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Ufuk Ekici showed an interest in delivering a lecture for KazNU students in an online format.





September 24, 2020

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

There was a bilateral meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the French Republic to Kazakhstan, Mr. Philippe Martinet at Al-Farabi KazNU.

During the meeting, the parties discussed issues of further development of joint new projects in various directions, in particular, in the field of green and digital technologies, academic mobility, the establishment of the Institute of Science, Technology, and Energy, etc.

In the course of the negotiations, the Rector thanked Mr. Philippe Martinet for his great contribution to the development of strategic partnership and friendly relations between the universities of the two countries and for the promotion of joint projects. One of such projects is the French-Kazakh Educational and Research Centre «GeoEnergy» based on KazNU. Thanks to this project, new educational programs have been introduced for a dual master's degrees and MBA.

Discussing the scope of further plans for joint work, the Ambassador proposed to develop cooperation in the field of industrial gas, and the initiative was supported by the leadership of KazNU. It was noted that the new areas will facilitate the transition to a higher level of training, the creation of innovative projects, and the introduction of digital technologies.

The two sides emphasized that by promoting Al-Farabi's work and ideas about a virtuous society, the world will develop in a new format free of negativity and aggression.





October 2, 2020

KAZAKHSTAN ESPORTS STUDENT LEAGUE

We are delighted to bring good news to all students of eSports fans! For the first time in Kazakhstan, there is created a cybersports student league! The «Halyk» Charity Fund, the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and Nursultan Nazarbayev's Education Fund with the support of the Qazaq Cybersport Federation, has launched the National Esports Student Association, a national project on student e-Sports.



The Kazakhstan Esports Student League has been established to promote eSports in the country among the younger generation. This is a significant step in the development of cybersports in Kazakhstan, now the best higher education institutions of the country for the first time will take part in the tournament on cybersports disciplines.

The Student League on Cybersports will be held on a permanent basis and consists of four seasons, in each of which the game disciplines will change. The first season of the Student League will be held from 10 October to 12 November 2020 in the disciplines – PUBG Mobile, CSGO, and Starcraft II. Registration for tournaments opens on 2 October 2020. The prize fund is 1 million tenge!

The first season will bring together teams of seven Universities: Al-Farabi KazNU, UIB, Astana IT University, KBTU, AUES, IITU, and Satbayev University, which will be formed based on the results of internal competitions. From the second season of the tournament, all other Universities will be able to join the National Esports Student Association.

The Kazakhstan Esports Student League will give a systemic boost to the development of the cybersports community in the country and will certainly open up many young talents. The project initiative of the «Halyk» Charity Fund and the National Olympic Committee of Kazakhstan, which unites the largest and most prestigious HEIs of the country, aims to promote Olympic values amongst students and creates conditions for the popularization of modern sports culture.



October 6, 2020

THE «BEST DEBATER» IS A KAZNU STUDENT

Aigerim Borangazy, a student of Al-Farabi KazNU, has won the Internet Olympiad «Electoral Systems of the World» among the students of higher education institutions of Kazakhstan, in the competition the «Best Debater».

Ten students attended the second round of the Internet Olympiad from six HEIs of the country. The competent jury considered the skills of debating on such urgent issues as: advantages and disadvantages of functioning of bicameral parliament in a unitary state; principles of formation of election commissions and voter lists; voting with the use of Internet and postal communication etc.

According to the results of the competition, Aigerim Borangazy, a 4th year student of the Law Faculty of Al-Farabi KazNU, gained the victory. The jury highly appreciated her great intellectual potential, her deep analytical skills, as well as the content and form of presentation.

We congratulate Aigerim on her deserved victory and all participants of the Olympiad with such a wonderful event!





October 13, 2020

GREEN BRIDGE THROUGH GENERATIONS

The teachers of the UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Development of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University took an active part in the International Scientific and Practical Conference: «Social Partnership for Environmental Protection and Green Growth», which was held in the online format.



The Conference was also attended by representatives of the Ministries of Ecology of Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Education, and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the UNESCO Cluster Office for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, scientists and students of Russian and Central Asian Universities (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, etc.), representatives of public organizations and the religious community, etc.

The Conference was held in the following areas: animal and plant life, habitat conservation, climate change, the role of the clergy in environmental conservation, youth initiatives in the field of ecology, and green growth.

The Conference was attended by Shokan Ualikhanov Kokshetau University, Public Environmental Admission Office of the Deputy of the State Duma of the Russian Federation A.E. Karpov, Tyumen Industrial University, State National Natural Park «Burabai», Presidential Administration of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Public Association «Ecological Center «Eco-Kokshe».



October 15, 2020

NEW GLOBAL HUB OFFICE OF THE UN PROGRAM OPENED IN KAZNU

On the 75th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, a new office of the Global Hub of the United Nations «Academic Impact» Program on Sustainable Development (UNAI) has been opened in Al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

The new office was officially presented to Secretary of State Krymbek Kusherbayev, who during a recent visit to KazNU got acquainted with the activities of the University, which has been heading the UN Global Hub since 2014 for the fourth consecutive term. He highlighted the importance of the work being done and the need to use this platform in promoting Kazakhstani initiatives aimed at solving problems of sustainable development of mankind.

The best practices of Al-Farabi KazNU as the world coordinator of the scientific and educational community on sustainable development issues are in demand and have received high international recognition. For example, the leading Kazakhstani University was the only one of the CIS universities to open its section at the UN World Summit «RIO+20» in Rio de Janeiro, presenting the project «Green Bridge through Generations» in support of the initiatives by Yelbasy N.Nazarbayev «Global Energy and Environmental Development Strategy» and «Green Bridge».

Bright evidence of the active position of the University in implementing the ideas and principles of the UN at the international level became the international conference «New Paradigm of Sustainable Human Development. G-Global – Format for Global Dialogue». At this event in November 2014, for the first time, President Tokayev presented the 10 principles of the new paradigm of sustainable human development to the public. The holistic view of the Head of State on overcoming civilizational faults and building a new world order, taking into account current and future threats, was highly appreciated by experts and the international community. Even today, KazNU, as the head of the UNAI Hub, continues to work purposefully on the implementation of this global initiative, involving broad academic circles. Noteworthy, within the framework of the AEF, KazNU organized and held the 3rd Forum of Asian Universities «Eurasian Diversity and the Role of Universities for Sustainable



Development», which discussed the issues of consolidation of HEIs in addressing new threats and challenges of our time, increasing their role in energy security and sustainable development of society. In 2018, a successfully operating Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development was established at KazNU, which was opened with the personal participation of the former UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon.

KazNU conducts active work in the anniversary year of Al-Farabi, promoting his ideas in synergy with the UN Global Citizenship program. The University in collaboration with the UN Alliance of Civilizations is implementing the international project «Formation of Citizens of a Virtuous Society. Mission of Modern Universities», which is based on the ideas of a great thinker on a virtuous society.

On the eve of the UN Day, which is celebrated on 24 October and within the framework of the Decade of Sustainable Development Goals, the international conference «Reason for Peace» will be held to mark the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi, the 75th anniversary of the founding of the UN, the 15th anniversary of the UN Alliance of Civilizations and the 10th anniversary of the Academic Impact Program. This high-level event aims to address the creative heritage of Al-Farabi in synergy with UN programs on global citizenship and sustainable development. It is expected to be attended by the heads of UN structures and programs, world-renowned scientists, prominent political leaders and public figures, representatives of the academic community and the media.





October 16, 2020

RESULTS OF AL-FARABI ANNIVERSARY YEAR SUMMED UP IN ALMATY

In Almaty, several events have been held in Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Global Hub of UNA1 on Sustainability, with the participation of the State Secretary of Kazakhstan, Chairman of the State Commission for the preparation and holding of the 1150th anniversary of Abu Nasr Al-Farabi Krymbek Kusherbayev. These events were attended by the Minister of Education and Science Askhat Aimagambetov, Minister



of Culture and Sports Aktoty Raimkulova, representatives of the academic community and mass media, teachers and students of the University.

The opening of a bust of the famous scientist and farabiologist Akzhan Zhaksybekuly Mashanov, known in the world as Al-Mashani, took place at Al-Farabi International Center of Al-Farabi KazNU. In his welcoming speech at the ceremony, the Secretary of State highlighted the special contribution of the founder of the Kazakhstani school of farabiology, who scientifically proved to the world that the Second Teacher of Humanity Al-Farabi was born in Kazakhstan in Otrar, the largest center of the ancient culture of Kazakhstan and Central Asia, which used to be called Farabi. Recognition of the invaluable work of the Kazakhstani scientist was also the decision taken half a century ago to hold in Kazakhstan the International Forum within the framework of UNESCO, dedicated to the 1100th anniversary of Al-Farabi, which was held in Almaty in 1975.

At the meeting with scientists, which was held in the format of a round table, Krymbek Kusherbayev summed up some of the results of the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi, noting that the anniversary year is being celebrated under the auspices of UNESCO at the international level. Despite the pandemic, the Kazakhstani farabiologists and the scientific community have done great work to popularize and promote the heritage of the great scientist in the country and around the world.

A wide range of international public and academic circles, including representatives



of the UN and UNESCO, OIC, TURKSOY, diplomatic missions, as well as leading foreign farabiologists, have been involved in the anniversary events. With the support of the Embassies of Kazakhstan and Al-Farabi Centers abroad, a number of international conferences have been organized in cooperation with leading foreign universities - Oxford University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, the University of Istanbul, the Kapodistrian National University of Athens, the University of Sofia, the University of Damascus, the University of Egypt

and others. The anniversary of Al-Farabi was celebrated in India, Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Over 12,000 people from more than 100 universities and other organizations representing 50 countries attended the international events.

More than 60 conferences, round tables, and scientific seminars were held online in the Republic. For example, the nationwide campaign «Integrity Hour», a video lecture «Al-Farabi and Virtuous Society» and a series of online webinars «Second Teacher» were held with open access on social networks. About 14 thousand students of Kazakhstani HEIs, including foreign students from seven countries, took part in the Challenge «Qayirimdi Qogam». Over 9.5 thousand schoolchildren from 10 countries of near and far abroad became participants of the international «Al-Farabi» Subject Olympiad. The winners of the Olympiad have been awarded 40 educational grants to study at Al-Farabi KazNU.

In addition, seven monographs dedicated to Al-Farabi have been published, as well as a collection of Al-Farabi quotes and a collection of thoughts and sayings «Qayirimdilik» in Kazakh, Russian and English. Three previously unpublished treatises of Al-Farabi have been translated from Arabic into Kazakh.

As part of the meeting, a presentation of the «Al-Farabi» encyclopedia, first published in the world, was held. The content of the encyclopedia includes historical facts, information, geographical objects, biographical data, life path, and scientific heritage of the thinker (treatises and comments on them), concepts and terms, works of famous scientists of the Arab-Muslim Renaissance period. It contains bibliographic information on modern researchers, Kazakhstani farabiology, and all those involved in Islamic philosophy, religion, culture, science, and education.

It is planned to open a branch office of KazNU in the Syrian capital Damascus on the basis of Al-Farabi Historical and Cultural Center. By cultivating the ideas of a great

thinker, the University is expanding the spatial, temporal, communicative, and civilizational boundaries of science, education, and culture. For this purpose, 10 Al-Farabi Science and Education Centers have been established in leading universities worldwide as well as two Museum houses of the Second Teacher in Delhi and Istanbul. The Centers carry out wide-ranging work on studying the creative heritage of Al-Farabi, as well as promote the study of Kazakh language, culture, and traditions of the Kazakh people, and acquaint foreign citizens with the history and achievements of Kazakhstan.



Scientists of Science and Technology Park of Al-Farabi KazNU have demonstrated the work of an autonomous intellectual system for non-contact measurement of human body temperature and recognition of the presence or absence of a mask in the areas of high passability and crowded places. The developed system has a number of advantages in comparison with its foreign analogs. It can be integrated into the existing «Onai» electronic ticketing system, which will enable maximum monitoring of mask compliance in public transport, identify intruders and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Young scientists and IT specialists of Al-Farabi KazNU have developed the Android application «Tracker COV|KZ», which helps to recognize symptoms of the coronavirus and see a doctor in time to diagnose and treat the disease. The mobile application includes a dynamic survey system that provides a detailed report on the presence of coronavirus symptoms. It also makes it possible to send these results to a medical institution or doctor. In addition, the application can track current statistics on the situation with COVID-19 in Kazakhstan. It is now available in two languages – Kazakh and Russian, and it is planned to create versions in English and for OIS. The Android application can be downloaded from Play Market and installed on a mobile device.

Special attention of guests was drawn to samples of antiseptics with extract of chamomile and wormwood to prevent the COVID-19 virus with a wide range of actions. Of particular interest were medicines developed by employees of the Scientific Research Center of Medical Plants of the University using the extraction of new natural compounds from plant raw materials of Kazakhstan.



October 17, 2020

Presentation of popular science edition “Al-Farabi KazNU for shaping common future”

In this very special year of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, 10th anniversary of UNAI, as well as the Decade of Sustainable Development Goals, AlFarabi KazNU has prepared an ambitious and comprehensive plan of actions and events to adequately honor the unique activity of the United Nations Organization, devoted to the maintaining of peace on the planet, sustainable development and progress of Human civilization. Therefore, our University has published a popular science edition on the topic “Al-Farabi KazNU for shaping common future”.



For many years Al-Farabi Kazakh National University is active in all the areas consistent with education and partnership goals and, most importantly, it has been functioning successfully as Global Hub of the UN Academic Impact program (UNAI) on Sustainability since 2014 to improve sustainable development related educational programs through collaboration with relevant partners worldwide. Because of this unique global academic cooperation, Al-Farabi KazNU accomplished a great number of successful educational, research and science projects of great significance. We, at Al-Farabi KazNU primarily focus on the academia related segment, understanding the importance of the engagement of the academic circles and the youth in this important and global mind-shaping mission. In this respect, we focus not only on education and international cooperation, but also on the research development and related cooperation. All missions and actions within the framework of the UN Academic Impact Initiative are widely demonstrated in the book.



October 23, 2020

MIND FOR PEACE

On the eve of the United Nations Day, Al-Farabi KazNU held a global conference dedicated to the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi, the 75th anniversary of the UN, the 15th anniversary of the UN Alliance of Civilizations and the 10th anniversary of the UN Academic Impact program. The conference was launched with a video address to the world community made by the Secretary General António Guterres on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the UN.

The main leitmotif of the address of the UN Secretary General was the call for unification in the name of peace. Global solidarity and cooperation can help to overcome the colossal challenges that humankind faces and build a better future. This thought and the theme of the conference «Mind for Peace» are consonant with the ideas of the great thinker Al-Farabi about uniting people to build a virtuous society.

The UN Under-Secretary General Fabrizio Hochschild-Drummond, UN High Representative of the UN Alliance of Civilizations Miguel Angel Morratinos, Head of the UN Academic Impact Program Ramu Damodaran, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Yerzhan Ashikbayev made welcoming speeches at the international online meeting. The high-level event, which aims to consider the creative legacy of Al-Farabi in synergy with the UN programs on Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development, brought together heads of UN structures and programs, world-famous scientists, prominent government and public figures, representatives of the academic community and the media.

UN Under-Secretary General Fabrizio Hochschild-Drummond and Head of the UN Academic Impact Program Ramu Damodaran thanked the organizers of the forum and congratulated Kazakhstanis and the world community on the 1150th anniversary of the great thinker of civilization Al-Farabi. They also noted the active work of KazNU, which has the status of the Global Hub of the UN Academic Impact Program since 2014 for the fourth term in a row and promotes Kazakhstani initiatives in this direction.

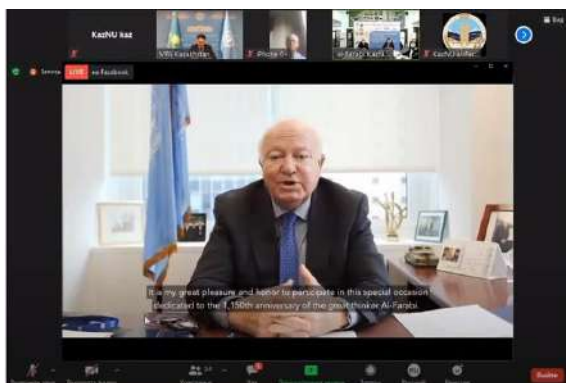
«Speaking at the UN General Assembly this year, President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Zhomart Tokayev put forward a number of important and constructive proposals for joining efforts in solving global problems. For example, create an international biosafety agency and an international food safety organization», Ramu Damodaran said. According



to the speaker, these and other initiatives in the name of peace deserve the closest attention of the world community.

Welcoming the participants of the international online meeting from New York, the High Representative of the UN Alliance of Civilizations, Miguel Angel Morratinos, emphasized that it was a great honor for him to be with them at the anniversary conference. ««Knowledge without education, without a moral principle, can do harm, not good» said Al-Farabi. This quote of the philosopher is the gist on which Global Citizenship education programs around the world can rely. Al-Farabi KazNU took over the heritage of the great humanist, advocating for global citizenship. The UN Alliance of Civilizations is proud of its partnership with the university as well as the common values that we continue to promote together», said Miguel Angel Morratinos.

The participants of the international meeting expressed common opinion on the need to unite efforts in ensuring security, peaceful and sustainable development of the mankind. It was highlighted in this regard, the humanistic heritage of the great philosopher Al-Farabi acquires special relevance. Emphasizing the great role of youth and the academic community in this process, the conference participants supported the proposal of the rector of KazNU to jointly consider the plan to unite the universities of the world to achieve the development of the «University 4.0» level in accordance with the UN Global Citizenship concept.





November 3, 2020

CONQUER SPACE SOON

The joint educational project of KazNU Technopark and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has been successful - participants in the UniSat educational program have conquered outer space by launching the nanosatellite developed by them into the upper atmosphere.

In the framework of the joint educational program, 20 girls aged 14 to 35 from different regions of Kazakhstan have undergone the training for eight months in courses on nanosatellite development based on KazNU Technopark. The girls went through all stages of nanosatellite development and creation, starting with project planning, 3D modelling of the hull and various subsystems, on-board computer programming, satellite assembly and testing, and ending with the launch of the nanosatellite into the upper atmosphere.

This is a kind of unique project initiated by UNICEF to develop science and innovation among girls, and it has shown that girls have coped well with the challenges they faced.

Nanosatellites are an excellent tool for space exploration and development. The advantages of nanosatellites also include their small size, short development time, relatively low financial costs for creation and, most importantly, the involvement of a wide range of students at all stages of spacecraft development. Thanks to these advantages, nanosatellites have become very popular among universities as an educational tool, as evidenced by the exponential growth in the number of launches each year.





November 5, 2020

URBANIZATION PROBLEMS IN GLOBAL SOUTH COUNTRIES

In honor of World Urban Day, the COMSATS Climate and Sustainable Development Center (CCCS) in collaboration with the Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Organization (TIRDO) held a webinar on «Challenges of rapid development and urbanization in the global South» with participation of professors from the UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Development of the Department of Geography and Nature Management of Al-Farabi KazNU.

Al-Farabi KazNU is the only higher education institution in the CIS that has become a member of the authoritative international intergovernmental organization «COMSATS» (Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South).

The goal of World Cities Day, established by the UN General Assembly, is to draw the attention of the international community to the issues of urbanization and to promote cooperation between countries in addressing urban issues in order to ensure sustainable development. The webinar on the «Challenges of Rapid Development and Urbanization in the Global South» focused on key urbanization issues facing the Global South.

The participants showed great interest in the report by Associate Professor of the UNESCO Chair for Sustainable Development at Al-Farabi KazNU B. Yedilbayev entitled «Problems of Urban and Road Ecology».

Experts from the Global South attended the webinar. Their reports suggested ways to solve the problems of sustainable development, urbanization, projects and solutions in such areas as health care, access to clean drinking water, poor drainage system, air and environmental pollution, solid waste management, and carbon dioxide emissions.





November 11, 2020

IT COMPETITION HUAWEI ICT-2020

For the first time in Kazakhstan, the «Huawei» Academy of Infocommunication Technologies, which operates under the auspices of Al-Farabi KazNU, jointly with «Huawei» ICT Solutions Kazakhstan, is holding a competition aimed at supporting young talents and future leaders of the IT industry.

The main purpose of the competition is to support innovative initiatives of students of secondary, special and higher educational institutions aimed at solving socially significant problems with the application of modern technologies, increasing interest in the information and communication environment as a tool for solving real problems facing society. The competition is held jointly with the leading global company «Huawei», which is the general sponsor of the project. The competition is held in 3 stages:

1st stage – acceptance of applications from 5 to 15 November. Applicants wishing to take part in the competition should fill in and send an application with a description of the proposed project at <http://forms.gle/aP4PQaFSV686aQGc6>.

Stage 2 – a video presentation of the project will be held from 16 to 22 November. A special committee selects the most relevant and innovative ideas from the registered list. Participants who have passed the 2nd stage will be notified by email or phone number specified in the application. Participants must record a video presentation of their project with a detailed description of the idea and the expected result.

Stage 3 – summing up will take place from 23 to 26 November.

Based on the video material, the Competition Committee will select 10 finalists. They will need to prepare and present a detailed presentation at the final ZOOM meeting on 26 November, and they will need to convince the jury members why their idea should be implemented. All 10 finalists will receive memorable prizes from Huawei, and the winners will receive a grant for their own projects (1st place – 1 million tenge, 2nd and 3rd places – 500 thousand tenge).





November 19, 2020

OPENING OF THE AVEVA ENGINEERING DESIGN CENTER IN KAZNU

At the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of Al-Farabi KazNU at the Teaching Laboratory for Computational Methods in Chemistry the official opening ceremony of the AVEVA Center for Engineering Design of Chemical and Technological Processes, organized jointly with the British company «AVEVA Group plc» took place.



The opening ceremony was attended by the first vice-rector of al-Farabi KazNU Professor Burkitbayev Mukhambetkali Myrzabaevich, Vice-President for Strategic Development of AVEVA Products, Mr. Julien de Beer (Paris, France), Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technologies Tassibekov Khaidar Suleymanovich, as well as heads of departments, laboratories and doctoral students of the faculty. The project is being implemented with the support of AVEVA Group plc - the largest developer of integrated IT solutions for design, engineering and project management in the oil and gas, energy, chemical and shipbuilding industries. The main goal of the project is to improve the knowledge and skills of students and teachers through modern training programs based on AVEVA technologies.

In his speech, the representative of AVEVA company, Mr. Julien de Beer, spoke in detail about the company's activities, partners and the capabilities of the computational program for the design of chemical-technological processes AVEVA PRO / II Simulation in training future specialists. First Vice-Rector Burkitbayev M.M. on behalf of the university, expressed gratitude to AVEVA for providing a license to use the PRO / II Simulation program and noted that Al-Farabi Kazakh National University became the first university in the Central Asian region, where "AVEVA Group plc" opens its representative office and spoke about the possibilities our university for further mutually beneficial cooperation.



November 20, 2020

MINI- GLOBAL ASSOCIATION MDP SUMMIT

Al-Farabi KazNU as the Global Hub of UNAI on Sustainability has attended the Global Association MDP Summit. Usually, a global association mdp summit is held over five days, face-toface, on the campus of one of the mdp programs. on november 20, an abbreviated form of the Summit was held online in a little over



three and a half hours In its 12 years, this is the first time the Summit was not held in its traditional form. Covid-19 has challenged all of us to innovate, and one benefit of this innovation is that more than 160 people, from all six MDP regions, were able to participate in our meeting, and most stayed for all of it. This is a notable increase from the 30 or so that usually attend the MDP Summit. The prohibitively high cost involved with travelling, lodging, and meals have limited the number of people who could participate face-toface in previous years. This is true not only of faculty members, but also of students, who participated in the large numbers this year.

Jeffrey D. Sachs, one of the intellectual authors of the MDP program, opened with a talk called “How might the MDP program build on successes, innovation and creativity during COVID-19 to strengthen the Global Association moving forward?” Following Dr. Sach’s Q and A session, the SDSN’s SDG Academy, an online education platform, presented on free educational resources for teaching and learning about sustainable development, that can be used to support specific pillars of the MDP program.



November 20, 2020

KAZAKHSTANI “AL-FARABI CENTER” IS TO BE LAUNCHED IN THE USA

The scientific and educational center is to be established in Maryland (USA) by the mutual agreement between Al-Farabi Kazakh National University and Civilizations Exchange & Cooperation Foundation (CECF).

This will be an important event in the development of cooperation between the United States and Kazakhstan in the year of celebrating the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi, the Great Philosopher of civilizations.



The Center will become a unique international platform for the implementation of joint projects in the field of promoting the golden encyclopedic heritage of the outstanding thinker of humanity Abu Nasr Al-Farabi, whose name the Kazakh National University bears with dignity.

The main mission of Civilizations Exchange & Cooperation Foundation is the development of cooperation between peoples of different confessions and cultures.

Lately, KazNU jointly with the George Washington University in America, and with the support of the Embassy of Kazakhstan in the United States, held an online round table dedicated to the anniversary of the great thinker. The University has established and actively operates 12 Al-Farabi centers and houses in different countries around the world. This is the first time this kind of center will be launched in America.

The agreement to open the first Al-Farabi Center in the United States is regarded as a sign of high respect to the personality of the thinker of humanity and special interest in his humanistic heritage. Dynamic international activity of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, its effective interaction with American partners will allow the Al-Farabi Center in Maryland to become an advanced center for studying and promoting the heritage of the great philosopher as a brand of our country, as well as the language and culture of Kazakhstan in the western hemisphere of the Earth.



November 24, 2020

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The prospects for cooperation in the field of science, education, and innovation development were discussed during the meeting by the rector of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University Galimkair Mutanov and Ambassador of Austria to Kazakhstan Willy Kempel. Welcoming the guest of honor, the Rector noted that Austria is a country committed to the “green economy”, with a developed science and education, rich history and culture. Cooperation between the two friendly States in the field of science and education has been developing dynamically in recent years and has a great potential for growth. The rector also spoke about the close collaboration of KazNU with universities in Austria, in particular with the Vienna University of Economics and Business, the universities of Innsbruck and Klagenfurt, where Kazakh students take training course and internship in academic exchange and research. The Institute of European studies successfully operates in KazNU and joint projects with foreign partners are being implemented. He highlighted that there is a great potential for expanding cooperation with universities in Austria.



In turn, Ambassador of Austria Willy Kempel extended his gratitude for the reception and noted that, being a man of science, he ardently supports initiatives and projects in the field of education. His special attention was drawn to the experience of the University in the sphere of Sustainable Development. KazNU has been one of the ten universities in the world to lead a Global hub of the UN “Academic impact” program in the given direction since 2014. Kazakhstani University has become one of the initiators of the Ban Ki-moon institutes for sustainable development international network creation. At the Global Forum held in Alpbach, Austria, KazNU as a strategic partner signed an agreement on cooperation in implementing the UN-promoted Sustainable Development Goals. Highly appreciating the activities of KazNU as a Global hub, Willy Kempel noted that this is, firstly, a responsible mission, which successfully carried out on an international scale. He expressed confidence that KazNU and universities in Austria can actively cooperate in this important area and initiate joint projects on Sustainable Development Goals. The parties expressed their readiness to provide extensive support and contribute to their promotion. An international conference on sustainable development was agreed to be held in cooperation.



November 27, 2020

THE EURASIAN NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES IN SUPPORT OF KNOWLEDGE CULTURE

An international online meeting of heads of higher education institutions was held at Al-Farabi KazNU, where the establishment of the «Eurasian Network of Universities in Support of Knowledge Culture without Borders» has been officially announced. The event was organized by Al-Farabi KazNU and the International Centre for the Rapprochement for Cultures under the auspices of UNESCO.



The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed the period 2013-2022 as the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures. In this context, the goal of founding the Eurasian network of universities, which is aimed at creating a culture of knowledge among student youth as a beneficial environment for sustainable development of humanity, becomes particularly relevant. A new generation of highly qualified specialists - individuals with high ethical and civic attitudes will be able to make a worthy contribution to the development of civilization.

The Eurasian network of universities has been founded under the patronage of the International Centre for the Rapprochement of Cultures under the auspices of UNESCO, which is headed by Olzhas Suleimenov. The Centre is located in Almaty and is a unique international institute specially established to give a new impetus to dialogue and education of planetary consciousness through the development of science, education, strengthening of universal values and cultural diversity.

This year, the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi and the 175th anniversary of Abai are being celebrated internationally with the support of UNESCO. The international community has appreciated the outstanding contribution of thinkers to the development of civilization. In this regard, the initiators of the online meeting suggest naming the Eurasian University Network after the educators and humanists – Al-Farabi and Abai.

The official opening ceremony of the «Eurasian Network of Universities to Support the Culture of Knowledge without Borders» resulted in the adoption of the final communiqué and charter of the association.



December 4, 2020

WINNERS OF THE COMPETITION AMONG YOUNG SCIENTISTS TO SOLVE THE CONSEQUENCES OF COVID-19

The Council of Young Scientists of the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, jointly with the Nursultan Nazarbayev Foundation, organized and conducted an online Republican competition of scientific projects for young scientists on the topic «My vision of resolving the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic».



On November 6, 2020, the Council of Young Scientists of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University announced a republican competition of scientific projects among researchers up to 40 years old within the framework of the grant of the Nursultan Nazarbayev Foundation won in 2019 as the «Best Council of Young Scientists». The main goal of the Competition is to provide a platform for young scientists to discuss solutions to the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for various spheres of life in Kazakhstan. Carrying out a similar sort of actions stimulate the scientific and innovative activities of young scientists helps their professional growth, pooling efforts to solve urgent scientific and practical problems.

50 scientific projects from various universities and organizations of the regions of Kazakhstan were submitted to the Competition. The submitted works were aimed at solving the social, economic aspects of the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state of the environment, and public health, and also proposed comprehensive approaches to minimize the impact of the negative consequences of the spread of coronavirus infection.

Based on the decision of the Commission, consisting of experts in various scientific areas, the three best scientific works were determined. The winners were awarded diplomas and bonuses.

The I Degree Diploma - Narmuratova Zh.B., Al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

The II Degree Diploma - Zhubanova Sh.A., Satbayev University.

The III Degree Diploma - Kudaibergenova L., Maratova A., Akimova M., Narxoz University.



December 5, 2020

THE MAIN ISSUE IS THE STATE OF THE PLANET

At the World Leadership Forum, organized by Columbia University (USA), a speech by the Secretary-General of the UN Antonio Guterres on «The State of the Planet» took place. Al-Farabi Kazakh national University, which leads a Global hub of the UN «Academic impact» program on sustainability, was invited as a partner to participate at the online high-level meeting.

During the speech at Columbia University, the Secretary-General of the UN Antonio Guterres called on world leaders to make 2021 the year when humanity ends its “war with nature” and commits to building a future free from planet-heating carbon. Commenting on new reports on record-breaking weather conditions in 2020 and the growing volume of fossil fuel production that is causing global warming, Antonio Guterres urged curbing climate change. Referring to the fact that countries around the world are spending trillions of dollars to recover from the downturn caused by the pandemic, he stressed the need to do so with a focus on clean energy. The UN Secretary-General paid special attention to the role of educational institutions in solving urgent problems of the state of the Earth.

The international high-level forum is held annually by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) of the United Nations, established in 2012 at the initiative of the United Nations SG and led by Columbia University Professor Jeffrey Sachs. The main mission of the SDSN is to promote integrated approaches to achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement on climate change through education, research, policy analysis, and global cooperation.

KazNU has a long-standing partnership in this area, having joined the Global Association of MDP and SDSN in 2012, along with such leading world universities as Harvard, University of California Berkeley, Columbia, Tsinghua and others, initiating the only in the CIS graduate program on “Sustainable development” MDP Global Classroom based on world-class University training programs.





December 9, 2020

YOUTH FOR SDG 6

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi KazNU in cooperation with the Central Asian Youth Association for Water Resources “CAY4W” (Central Asian Youth for Water), the online platform WaterCafe, the club of political scientists PhD Welt and the Representative Office of the Foundation. Friedrich Ebert in Kazakhstan organized a meeting-discussion on the theme «Youth and SDG 6 as accelerators of the Sustainable Development Goals: Initiatives in Kazakhstan».



The purpose of the discussion meeting was to provide a platform for the presentation of already implemented projects aimed at achieving SDG 6 in conjunction with other goals, as well as discussing further plans for the implementation of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework by UN-Water and strengthening the coordination of various initiatives supported by young people active in the water sector. Over 80 members joined online on the Zoom platform.

The event aimed to highlight the role that young people - students and female students, young researchers and researchers, enthusiasts and volunteers - already play and can play in the implementation of the SDGs on the ground, through carefully planned presentations and facilitated discussions. As a result of the discussion meeting, the experts proposed a number of recommendations to strengthen the role of youth in achieving SDG 6 and other Sustainable Development Goals.

In her report, Bazarbayeva Tursungul, Head of the UNESCO Chair for Sustainable Development in Al-Farabi, KazNU, noted the special role of youth in the implementation of SDGs, in particular, SDG 6. Besides, Zafar Makhmudov, Director of the Regional Ecological Center in Central Asia and Central Asian Environmental expert Bulat Yessekin attended the discussion of young leaders.





December 10, 2020

I INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

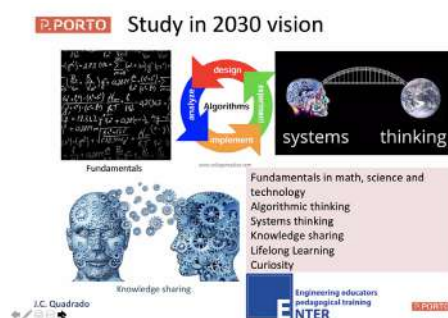
The first international scientific and environmental forum «Environmental protection and rational use of natural resources» was held at the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University in the online mode, where ways to solve the main problems of environmental protection were discussed, scientific and practical recommendations for ensuring Sustainable Development were presented.

The forum was organized by al-Farabi Kazakh national University, Research Institute of environmental problems, Eurasian National University named after L.N. Gumilyov, ALE «Association of Environmental Organizations of Kazakhstan», NJSC «International Center for Green Technologies and Investment Projects».

The large-scale event was attended by scientists, representatives of public organizations, government agencies of the Republic of Kazakhstan and countries of the near and far abroad.

A plenary session with presentations on current topics were made by: Chairman of the Board of oyul «Association of ecological organizations of Kazakhstan» A. S. Solovyeva, Chairman of the Board NJSC «International Center for Green Technologies and Investment Projects» J. A. Casanova, Dean of the faculty of natural Sciences, doctor of medical Sciences, Professor, Eurasian National University named after L.N. Gumilyov, N. L. Supekova, the representative of the Ministry of ecology, Geology and natural resources of Kazakhstan A. Shirinov and others.

The breakout sessions covered a wide range of areas, such as: «International cooperation in achieving the sustainable development goals»; «Sustainable nature management and environmental management»; «conservation of biodiversity and environmental factors of human health»; «Environmental innovations and green technologies», etc.





December 10, 2020

BETTER RECOVERY: STAND UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AT KAZNU

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Global Hub of UNA-I on Sustainability, held an online round table on the topic «Better recovery: Stand up for Human Rights» dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the UN, the 10th anniversary of the UNA-I Hub KazNU on sustainability and the 25th anniversary of the Faculty of International Relations at al-Farabi KazNU. This year's Human Rights Day theme is linked to the COVID-19 pandemic and focuses on the need for more effective recovery by ensuring that human rights play a central role in the field. The agenda of the round table was topical, which found its expression in the interested and enthusiastic speeches of the participants, they also manifested themselves in the discussion of the problems of the UN activities on the implementation of the principles of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The round table was held online in Kazakh, Russian and English. The discussion was attended by the heads and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, UN, UNESCO, UNDP, UNA-I in Almaty, young scientists, undergraduates, Master's and PhD students of universities in Kazakhstan.

In his report, Chairman of the Presidium of the Anti-Terrorism Committee, Amanzhol Urazbayev spoke about the work of the Committee, which has enormous potential in the person of unique experts, general practitioners and theoretical scientists with vast professional experience. The purpose of the Committee is to consolidate the efforts of citizens, society and government bodies in countering terrorism, extremism, drug-related crime, illegal migration and other global threats to the Republic of Kazakhstan. Also, he shared the prospects of counteraction during and after COVID-19 in the country.

The youth who gathered in the round table exchanged their points of view and predicted current cases on human rights in examples from other regions, including Central Asia. We will achieve common global goals only if we can create equal opportunities for all, address the gaps identified by COVID-19 that contribute to the spread of infection, and apply human rights standards to combat entrenched and systematic intergenerational problems of inequality, exclusion and discrimination.





December 16-17, 2020

VATICAN YOUTH SYMPOSIUM GOES VIRTUAL IN 2020

Ban Ki-moon Institute for sustainable development at KazNu took a part in traditionally held at the Casina Pio IV in Vatican City, the 2020 VYS which took on a virtual format due to the constraints of the global pandemic. The seventh annual symposium, but first of its kind as a digital space, created access for those who otherwise may have not be able to participate or attend such



a momentous event. The theme, “New Encounters on Humanity’s Path Forward: Youth, Education, Nature, and Culture” would frame sessions devoted to the dimensions of youth empowerment and intergenerational leadership with discussions on how COVID-19 presents both an enormous challenge and opportunities for advancing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The global pandemic has caused major hardships for citizens around the world, especially for young people who are grappling with the constraints placed upon their futures, including that of access to education and employment. Core sessions have been categorized into thematic areas split over two days:

Day 1 focused on Education for Sustainable Development from primary schools through professional settings and include the launch of Mission 4.7.

Day 2 hosted discussions on Human Rights, Dignity & Fratelli Tutti, Sustainable Cities & Communities, and Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Technology presenting inspiring messages of how the synergy between the creativity of younger generations and the expertise of older ones curate progressive change. The 2020 Symposium was opened by Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, the Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Ban Ki-moon, Chair, Ban Ki-Moon Centre for Global Citizens (BKMC). The solutions discussed and generated at the Vatican Youth Symposium were wide-ranging and multifaceted. It had a special focus on the following themes:

- Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development
- Education for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship, and 21st Century Skills
- Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Human Rights, Human Dignity & Fratelli Tutti
- Role of Universities and Academia in Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Cities & Communities



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