

GRAND OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE
OPENING DISCUSSION: FINANCING THE GREEN TRANSFORMATION
PLENARY DISCUSSION: EUROPEAN BUSINESS TOWARDS ESG. THE ASSUMPTIONS OF THE GREEN DEAL VS. ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

PARALLEL SESSIONS

POLAND

The example comes from the top. Polish ESG leaders.

During the discussion, we will look at Polish ESG leaders who are setting trends and inspiring others to take action. We will learn about their best practices and what challenges they have encountered along the way. We will also consider the role of leaders in promoting sustainable development in Poland and how each of us can contribute.

Green finance as investing in the future.

Financial institutions are a major source of funding for green investments, which are essential to combat the climate crisis and build a more environmentally friendly economy. The discussion will focus on analysing the current landscape of green finance in Poland. We will study the availability of green financial products for different audiences, as well as how to use them effectively.

Poland towards the implementation of the Green Deal

The European Green Deal is an ambitious plan for the European Union's energy and climate transition that aims, among other things, to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. As one of the largest CO2 emitters in Europe, Poland faces a number of challenges in its implementation. At the same time, Poland, like other countries in the European Union, has to contend with opposition from some sectors of the economy that see the Green Deal as a threat to their interests.



Business-NGO alliance - fiction or reality?

Business partnerships with third sector organisations are a popular practice. NGOs are seeking funding, and business is using NGO resources and competencies for social action. But to what extent are these alliances viable and their potential fully realised? What guides social organisations in selecting partners, or is their situation so difficult that they cannot afford the luxury of choice?

Non-policy. Why Poland still has no migration policy in September

In September 2023, just over 30% of Poles surveyed rated Poland's migration policy as "bad". Of course, their assessment was not about our country's migration policy per se, but about attitudes toward migration as such. Meanwhile, Poland still lacks a coherent policy, which should come as a surprise, especially since migration is one of the hottest topics in our country. How is it possible that although we talk about migrants all the time, still no concrete action has been taken?

Non-policy. What's next for Energy Policy of Poland 2040?

The Energy Policy of Poland 2040 (PEP2040) sets the directions for the development of the energy sector in Poland until 2040. Since its adoption in 2020, many events have impacted the global and national energy landscape, forcing a revision of the original assumptions. The new government has already announced a revision of previous assumptions.

Climate change and the mental health of Poles

The third Sustainable Development Goal is "Good Health and Quality of Life". What is it with the world that nearly half of Poles suffer from anxiety disorders? As many as 4 million Poles are affected by depression, and the media wonder if so-called "eco-anxiety" is a new global epidemic? What went wrong that, according to some data, in Poland there is one psychotherapist for every 2.7 patients? At the same time, British researchers have counted that, left untreated, anxiety and depression contribute up to 4% to GDP. So what can the State do for the mental health of Poles? And what can companies do for their employees? How can children and young people be supported to function in this much-feared world we have created for ourselves?

Polish energy transformation.

Poland faces a huge challenge in transforming its energy sector from coal-based to low-carbon and sustainable. Poland's energy transformation is a process that requires everyone's involvement. The government must create an appropriate legal framework and incentives for investors. Business must invest in new technologies and solutions. In turn, the public must be involved in the decision-making process and accept the changes.

Culture for sustainable development

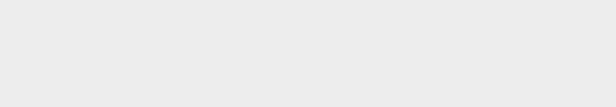
Art and creativity can become powerful tools to inspire change, educate the public and promote pro-environmental attitudes. On the one hand, culture can reflect and criticise sustainability issues. Artists touching on topics such as climate change, pollution and overconsumption, force us to reflect and act. On the other hand, culture can also offer solutions and visions for a better future.

The art of breathing in Poland. Why do we have to live in smog?

No one should have to live in smog. We have a responsibility to ensure clean air for ourselves and future generations. Air pollution has a negative impact on human health, causing respiratory diseases, heart diseases and cancer. Smog can also worsen asthma and allergy symptoms, and increase the risk of premature births and birth defects in children. So why do we still agree to breathe it?

Gen - Z. What kind of world do we want?

The world is on the threshold of great change. Generation Z is growing up in a time of uncertainty and instability, but also in a time of tremendous opportunities. What are their hopes and dreams for the future? What kind of world do they want?



EUROPE

Where are we, if it comes to ESG? Situation of enterprises in the EU.

Investors, customers and governments increasingly expect companies to behave responsibly and incorporate environmental, social and corporate governance factors into their operations. Both the "old EU" countries and those in Central Europe must comply with the latest regulations. Is European business ready to meet ambitious regulatory challenges and societal expectations?

AI and ESG. Ideal match?

ESG and AI have been two of the most popular abbreviations in the business world in recent months. More and more tools are being developed to support the implementation of sustainable development based on artificial intelligence. Could AI and ESG be the perfect duo, leading us toward a more sustainable future? Or, as some argue, is AI a threat to equality and human rights? We will look for answers to these and many other questions during this discussion.

How do cities help to drive sustainable business?

Today, the issues of sustainability, ecology, new technologies and adaptation of migrants cannot be ignored in the governance of agglomerations. The question of how to reconcile the "tranquility" of citizens with economic development seems particularly timely. Meanwhile, new Mega Cities are being built around the world. Saudi Arabia is building Neom, a city based on sustainability and smart city solutions. Egypt is building a new Capital to be a better place to live through better planning and use of technology. European cities, on the other hand, focus on greenery and social solutions.

The panel's moderator is: **GRID** In partnership with **UN Environment Programme**

V4: Can we be a Group of Green Speed? ESG within the Visegrad Group.

In recent years, the V4 countries have begun to be perceived by the rest of the EU as obstacles to reforms. This concerned migration regulations, the Green Deal, and now the problem returns with the proposal to change the European treaties. At the same time, the V4 countries, because of their history, have shown that they can smoothly carry out economic transition and participate in the European market. It's high time to reflect on the priorities for the V4 group, and to take actions that will make us called a Green Speed Europe, not a second one.

Energy in Europe. Hydrogen, nuclear, RES. Decarbonisation.

How to reconcile European energy security with climate policies? Decarbonisation of the economy is an extremely hot topic, but in lieu of a rational discussion of the future of energy, we too often fall into the trap of simplification. Why are we afraid of nuclear energy, are we investing enough in hydrogen, and is there a renewable energy source that will meet European needs?

Green transport industry - is it possible?

According to the European Environment Agency, about one-quarter of the EU's total CO2 emissions in 2019 came from the transport sector, 71.7% of which came from road transport. Is the transformation of transportation toward sustainability possible and will it include all transportation sectors? Finally, are there real benefits for the industry itself from implementing green solutions?

Blue Deal. Protecting water resources in Europe.

Faced with growing challenges to water availability and quality, the European Union launched the European Blue Deal in 2023. This is an ambitious program to protect Europe's water resources and ensure their sustainable management in the future. How to protect the water without which there is no life, and why such an obvious topic regarding our existence still has no adequate place in public discourse? These are some of the issues we will discuss with our speakers.

Homo plasticus. The European's plastic footprint.

Plastic has become an integral part of our lives. We use it every day, almost everywhere, from packaging to clothing and electronics. Unfortunately, its overproduction and mismanagement lead to disastrous consequences for the environment and human health. The statistics are alarming. On average, a European generates about 50 kilograms of plastic waste each year. This amount is steadily increasing, and plastic is polluting the soil, waters and oceans, threatening biodiversity and endangering human health.

Class division versus climate division. The richest and the most emissive.

Climate change is becoming an increasingly pressing problem, and at the same time it is exacerbating social inequality. The world's richest people account for a disproportionate share of greenhouse gas emissions, while the poorest are the most vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change. Will the old division of class rivalry replace, or has it already replaced, a model in which privileged groups, on the one hand, do more harm to the environment, and on the other, through accumulated capital, are more resistant to the consequences of their actions?



Europe of Green Speed. 20 years in the European Union.

Has Central Europe become a leader in sustainability? What challenges and successes does the European Union, and especially the countries of the new Union, face in implementing the European Green Deal?

GREENPACT
EUROPEAN ESG SUMMIT

GRAND OPENING OF DAY 2
PRESENTATION OF THE SGH REPORT: ESG GOVERNANCE MATURITY AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS. ENTERPRISES - FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS - LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS
PLENARY DISCUSSION ON THE SGH REPORT.

PARALLEL SESSIONS

VALUE CHAINS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Sustainable supply chains and due diligence.

How do companies ensure ethics and sustainability in their supply chains? In an era of globalisation, growing consumer awareness and a rapidly changing legal environment, these questions are becoming increasingly important. Sustainable supply chains and due diligence are not only a challenge, but also an opportunity to build a stronger, more resilient and responsible business.

#People. Consumer rights

We are the consumers. Being a conscious consumer is a challenge, especially when more and more companies are trying to tempt us with their sustainable products. Purchasing choices, although price still plays a major role, are also beginning to bear ideological marks. How to be an informed consumer and ensure the exercise of your rights? This is, among other things, what we will talk about at the GREENPACT congress.

#People. Equality - a key to sustainability

One of the cornerstones of building a sustainable world is equality. More social groups are emancipating themselves by emphasising their distinctiveness. It may seem that our reality has never been so multidimensional. On the one hand, supporting equality is the key to sustainability, on the other hand, equality also needs to be managed, often reconciling conflicting interests.

#People. Difficult topics in the workplace: gender, politics and religion.

In today's diverse work environment, we increasingly encounter situations where difficult topics such as gender, politics and religion are raised. These topics can arouse strong emotions and lead to conflict if not discussed properly. Thus, there is a new challenge on the employer's side: how to make the workplace welcoming and open to everyone.

#People. Neurodiversity, disability and mental health in the workplace

We spend a significant part of our lives at work. No wonder, then, that employers are striving to create conditions where we feel at ease and, consequently, become more effective. How to be yourself in the workplace, how to effectively use diversity in an organisation so that it is not just an occasional slogan - we will seek answers to these questions together with our speakers and presenters.

Is there truly no forced labour in Poland?

Poland prides itself on its image as a country free of exploitation and forced labor. However, reports of irregularities in supply chains and cases of worker exploitation shock the public from time to time. Does modern slavery also occur in Poland? And if so, where is it and how to counteract it?

Sustainability trends and antitrends

For many, ESG is still something new or an acronym that doesn't mean much yet. We often get the impression that certain sustainable trends come to us with a delay. What to focus on when creating an organisation's sustainability strategy? What is a hard trend and what is an ephemeral fad?

B-CORP Companies

Certified B-Corp Companies declare that they focus on more than just profit. They declare that they want to operate in a sustainable, ethical manner and with respect for people and the environment. During the discussion, we will look at what the Polish ecosystem of B-CORP companies looks like and the prospects for its development.

Responsible shopping. How to manage suppliers in supply chains?

Companies face the challenge of ensuring a sustainable supply chain that includes both environmental and social issues. Responsible supplier management is becoming a key element in building a company's image and satisfying growing consumer expectations.



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CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

CE in companies - an opportunity for growth.

The circular economy model is not only a challenge, but also a real opportunity for innovative development and increased profitability through more efficient use of resources. With circular economy, companies can achieve significant savings by recovering energy and materials that would be lost in traditional models.

Biodiversity. Local and global challenge.

Since 1970, wildlife populations have declined by about 70% (Living Planet Index) at the global level, and in Poland many species are being killed by climate change, poaching, low genetic diversity, limited habitat, etc. Animals such as the bison, bauer, wolf and lynx are a few of the many endangered species in Poland. What steps can we take to support biodiversity in our communities and around the world?

Polish companies vs. pollution management.

The topic of pollution management is causing controversy. In 2022, hundreds of poisoned fish, and tons of dead animals were fished out of the Oder River. With growing environmental awareness and tightening regulations, Polish companies need to come to a consensus on their role in pollution. What strategies can help companies minimise their environmental impact while remaining competitive in the market?

Emissions Trading

The emissions trading system has become a key tool in the global fight against climate change, offering companies the opportunity to reduce their carbon footprint. Is this mechanism an effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, or is it just another regulation that companies have to deal with?

When will there be a water shortage? Poland and hydrologics.

Poland is not one of the countries rich in water resources. Although the debate about Polish hydrologics has been going on for several years, not much has changed. In the face of climate change and increasing demand for water, conservation is becoming a key challenge.

Ecodesign.

At the end of the European Parliament campaign, everyone started discussing eco-design, although they often did not even know about it. All because of the caps attached to the bottles. Eco-design is an approach that encourages rethinking and designing products in a way that minimises their environmental impact at every stage of their life. Sometimes, for the sake of our planet, we need to completely reinvent how we create our everyday objects.

Carbon footprint - let's calculate it!

On average, each person produces four tons of carbon dioxide per year. Calculating the carbon footprint is a key step in understanding and reducing our impact on the planet. However, before we start reducing our emissions, let's check what and how much we should reduce.

Due diligence in terms of the OECD and UN Guidelines and the CSDD - how to implement it in an organisation? Practical workshops.

Learn how to effectively implement international guidelines and EU business due diligence standards. During the meeting, we will discuss specific steps and strategies to help your organisation fully implement the requirements of responsible supply chain management and human rights protection.

Double relevance. Practical workshops.

Discover how to assess and manage two key dimensions of materiality: financial (from an investor's perspective) and impact on people and the planet. During the meeting, you will learn what steps to take to integrate both perspectives into your company's strategy, not only increasing capital value, but also contributing positively to the community and the environment.

From the cradle to the grave. Waste and recycling.

We all generate waste - at home, at work, while shopping. What happens to them? After all, not all of them are recyclable, and the amount of garbage is constantly growing. And yet, using modern technology, many products can be designed in a way that gives them a second and third life.



WORLD

Whistleblowers and their role in enterprises.

The action of whistleblowers can help identify and prevent irregularities, corruption and other abuses, thereby protecting the company's reputation and the interests of its employees and customers. Nevertheless, many entrepreneurs treat whistleblowers as a problem far greater than the irregularities in the company they report.

ESG for Fintech. Fintech for ESG.

Combining innovative fintech solutions with ESG principles opens up new opportunities for both business and society. In fact, it is difficult to imagine the implementation of the principles of sustainable development without technological innovation, including, or perhaps especially, in the financial sector.

What are we looking for in space? Will space resources balance our economy?

Mankind has been looking at the stars with fascination and curiosity for centuries. Today, this curiosity is becoming the driving force behind the space race, which involves both states and private companies. But what are we looking for in space? Is it the satisfaction of our thirst for knowledge and exploring the unknown, or is it material benefits? One of the main arguments for space exploration is the potential for obtaining raw materials. There are huge amounts of valuable elements in space, which are becoming scarce on Earth. Asteroids and other space objects may contain gold, platinum, cobalt and other rare minerals, the extraction of which could balance our economy and provide us with raw materials for years to come.



Carbon footprint of war

The victims of wars are not only people, although it is their tragedy that requires the most support. Unfortunately, armed conflicts have far more far-reaching consequences that go beyond the place and time of hostilities. According to a new report by Scientists for Global Responsibility, the world's military emitted 2.75 billion tons of CO2 in 2022. The war in Ukraine alone emits nearly 22 million tons of CO2 annually. To this climate balance, other conflicts and their consequences should be added, for example refugee camps, the chronic existence of which also has a negative impact on the environment.

SDG 18. Sustainable life in space.

With the presence of humans, the amount of space pollution increases. The development of space technology gives us new opportunities, but also challenges in ensuring sustainable life in space. Although the real key to our discussion will not be a science fiction vision of a utopian space in space, it is a good starting point for reflection on what is worth protecting and why. What is the ethical, philosophical and purely practical basis of our concern for "life" even the extraterrestrial one? We will look for these answers in our ideological expedition to the edge of the known world.

Migration. Get ahead of the disaster.

We are facing an unprecedented migration crisis. Wars, climate change, poverty and persecution are forcing millions of people to leave their homes and seek refuge in other countries. This situation poses enormous challenges, both humanitarian and socio-political ones. To what extent is the existence of our homogeneous world merely a conservative notion, which in the hands of radicalism takes on the character of dangerous political projects? Finally, where and how to act to stop the disaster.

Hunger. Will FoodTech feed us?

Despite advances in technology and increases in food production, there are still many people who do not have access to enough nutritious food. In the face of this challenge, FoodTech, a technology sector dedicated to solving problems in the food system, is becoming increasingly important.

Climate crisis management.

Managing the climate crisis requires a coordinated effort at all levels - from governments and international organisations to local communities and individuals. However, managing the climate crisis is not just a matter of technical and economic measures. We also need to make profound changes in our ways of thinking and acting. We need a new development paradigm based on sustainable use of natural resources and respect for the environment.

Save your conscience and plant a tree. But why?

In recent years, we have been hearing more and more about "eco-friendly" actions, encouraging tree planting. Can this simple activity really have such a significant impact on the environment and our well-being? Is planting trees just an empty gesture to alleviate the guilt of destroying the planet? And if we decide to take this type of action, are we really acting ecologically and taking appropriate care of biodiversity?

USA. Will the Republicans stop the ESG?

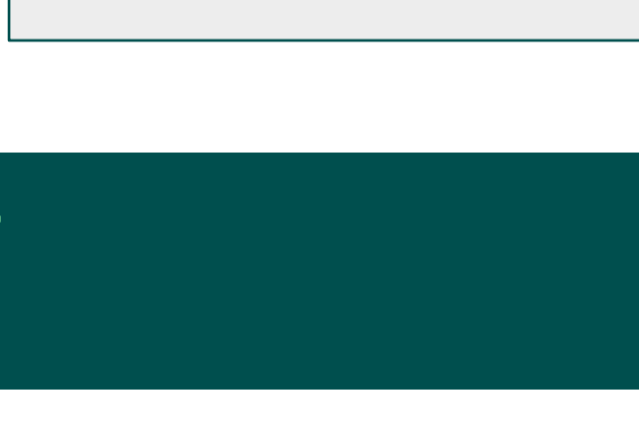
The U.S. perspective on ESG differs significantly from that of Europe. Trusting in the American dream, the impression is that sustainability issues are much more controversial to the US economic paradigm. Is it possible for a sustainable revolution to succeed without the United States? Or perhaps the approach of U.S. companies to the transformation is much more pragmatic than we think. Let's see!

China - a sustainable Middle Kingdom?

We often hear that climate action makes no sense because the most carbon-intensive economy is not going to transform itself to a greener one. Meanwhile, China has its own taxonomy and invests more in it than any country in the world. What role will China's economy play in the global transformation, and how will this translate into the Middle Kingdom's grand geopolitical projects - we will discuss this with our experts.



MANAGEMENT & ORGANISATION GOOD PRACTISES PATH.



How do you build a sustainable image for your organisation?

ESG is also a challenge for PR and communications departments. Changing expectations of consumers, business partners, and EU regulations are causing companies to look for new narratives. Often, however, chasing trends without understanding them can end up having the opposite effect. How to demonstrate your sustainable practices and whether you should always do it - this is what our guests will discuss.

CEO. Responsibility of management boards.

Yes, CEOs and management boards need to be responsible! The new EU regulations not only urge but actually compel them to do so. The management board is responsible for all business decisions it has made, including those in the area of the company's environmental and climate compliance. What may be the consequences of lack of involvement of management bodies in ESG activities? Let's see!

CEO. Inclusive composition of management and supervisory bodies.

In Poland, the number of women CEOs is 19.5%. Among board members, the ratio is not much better - 25%. At the same time, gender equality is only one of the many challenges of inclusivity. How to manage a diverse organisation and how to ensure that representatives of various groups have an appropriate place in its management - we will look for answers to these questions in our inclusive discussion.

CEO. ESG, or what to expect from the team?

Every one of us has heard in their professional life that the company they work for is strong because of its employees. How much truth is in this slogan? What can and should management expect from the team, especially in terms of creating sustainable solutions for the organisation?

How not to get caught up in greenwashing?

Who is not afraid of greenwashing? In recent months alone, LUKOIL has fined more than a dozen large companies for more or less practices. At the same time, more and more products are either eco-friendly or bio. How much truth is there in that? Let's look for a way to reliably build a narrative about the company and the product, showing real environmental advantages.

How much does a green transformation cost?

Changes, changes, changes. But who will pay for them? ESG transformation undoubtedly means a cost for organisations. Often, the opportunities that sustainable development opens up to companies are presented as compensation for these costs. This time, however, let's just talk about money: what, for how long, and where to get such funds?

CEO. How to be a leader of green change?

Demand drives supply. The number of courses, trainings, studies on ESG is almost unimaginable. But how much of the theoretical skills, or the knowledge gained from an online course, can actually be useful in professional life? What are employers looking for, and what do employees have to offer? The discussion will also look at how the market for ESG experts is changing.

HR. How do you find a good ESG specialist?

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Proper ESG report. From process planning to the final result.

What are the characteristics of high-quality sustainability strategy (ESG) reports? What is the process behind their creation - from planning to the final touches? In this session, we will discuss the key elements of creating effective ESG reports, pointing out best practices and cautioning against the most common mistakes.



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