REPORT

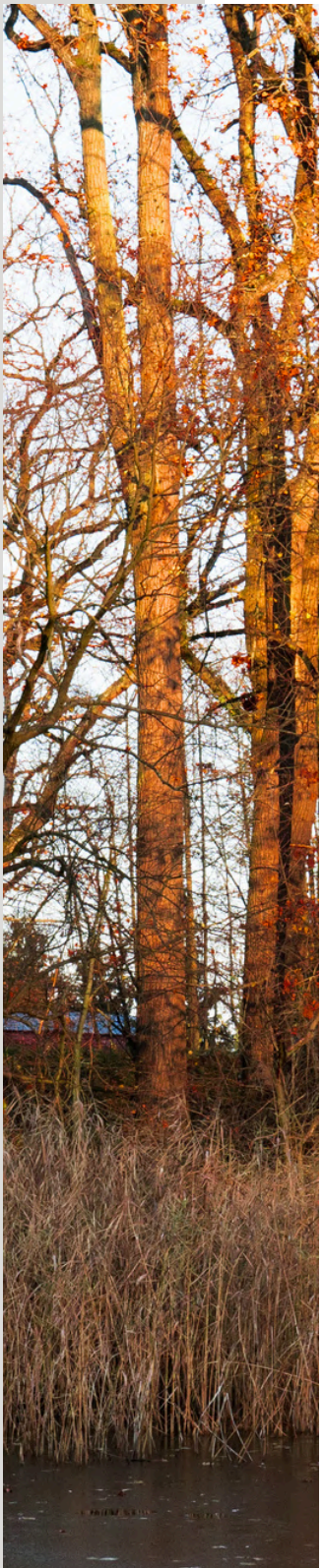
III Conference of the European Hub of the International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR)

Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland

11-13 September 2025

02

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

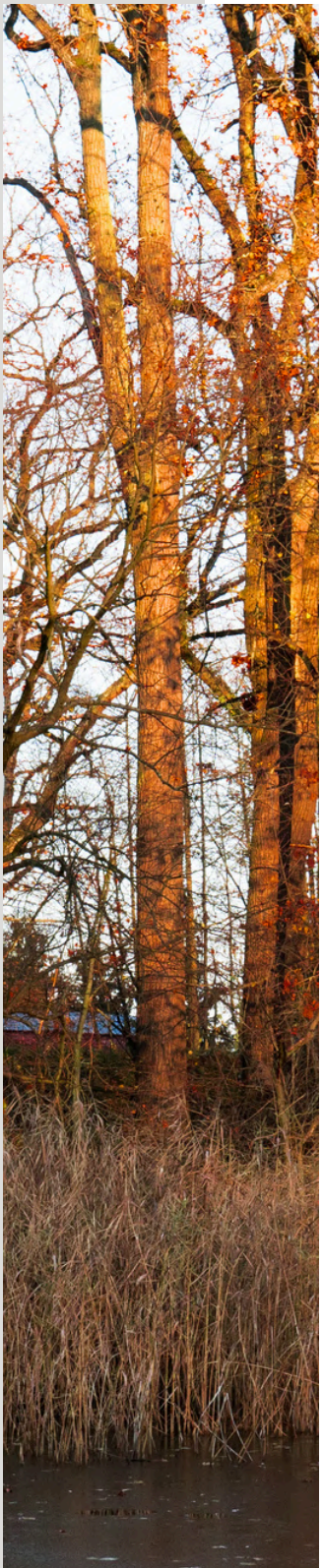


On September 11–13, 2025, Krakow hosted the *III Conference of the European Hub of the International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR)*. The conference was organised by the **Socio-Environmental Research Team** (ZBSiŚ) from the Institute of Environmental Sciences at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, the **Institute of Philosophy and Sociology** of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warszawa, and the **Faculty of Sociology** at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. The conference was prepared and conducted mainly by employees, doctoral students, master's students of ZBSiŚ, and volunteers from student societies.

The conference was prepared **in the spirit of sustainable development**, in accordance with the *Guide for Organizers of Sustainable Conferences at the 600th Anniversary Campus of the Jagiellonian University*, which was communicated to participants in advance. They were able to familiarise themselves with advice on choosing low-emission means of transport, plant-based meals, etc.

03

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



The conference program was rich, but not overloaded, with **adequate breaks** during which participants could take part in **yoga classes**, **walks** around the Jagiellonian University campus, a **game about the circular economy**, and a **mindfulness session**. In line with the idea of **less waste**, gadgets and plastic ID badges were abandoned and replaced with paper stickers, while the program and book of abstracts were made available exclusively in electronic form.

Water and beverages were only available in **reusable containers** (some participants brought their own cups and/or thermoses), and meals were prepared on site at the university café, with meat and vegetarian options available. Although the number of meals was estimated and ordered in advance, some of them remained. They were distributed among the students. The first day of the conference ended with an **integration bonfire** organised at a designated spot on the Jagiellonian University campus. Light refreshments were provided by conference participants and enjoyed to the sounds of a **singing bowls** concert played by a local band.

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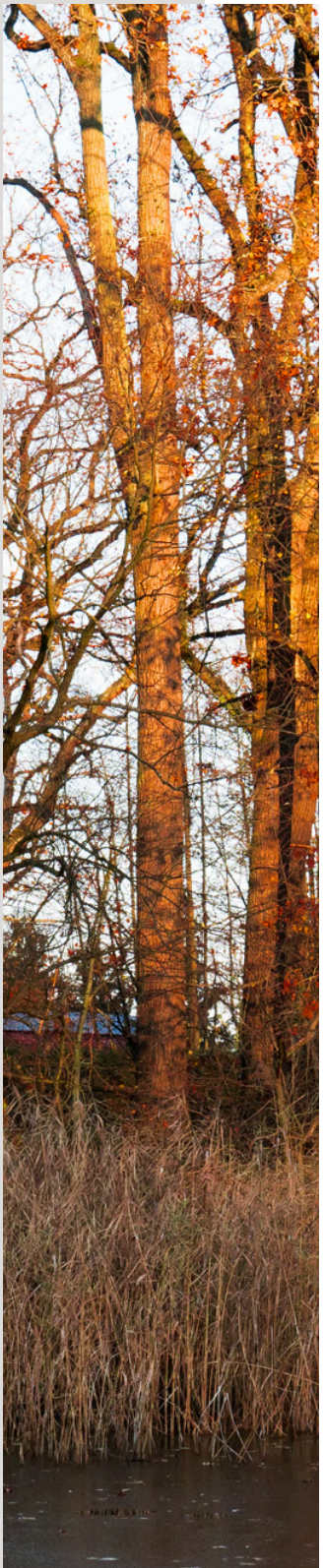
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE CONFERENCE



Based on surveys distributed to conference participants via QR code (70% response rate) and scientific and industry data, it was estimated that **the total carbon footprint of the event was approximately 11.7 tons of CO_2.** The calculations took into account both participant-dependent factors, such us travel to and from Krakow, transportation within the city, accommodation, length of stay, and meal choices, and organizational factors such as material and electricity consumption and refreshments.

Travel-related emissions were estimated based on data provided by participants, using the **EcoPassenger** tool (International Union of Railways, Institute for Energy and Environmental Research Heidelberg, Sustainable Development Foundation). For urban transport in Kraków, data from **Zarząd Transportu Publicznego w Krakowie** on average CO_2 emissions per person were used. Emissions from **accommodation** were calculated based on the **Cornell Hotel Sustainability Benchmarking Index 2024**, and for non-hotel accommodation, data from the **Central Statistical Office** (2023), Gromada and Trębska (2024), and **UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting** (DEFRA & BEIS 2024) were used.

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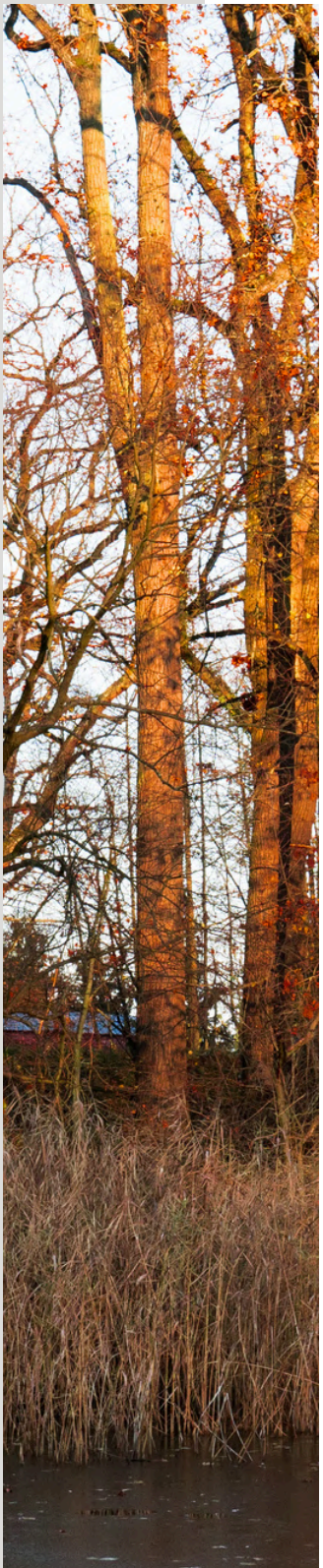
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE CONFERENCE



The **carbon footprint of food** was estimated based on the results of **dietary studies** (Scarborough et al. 2023; Choręziak and Rzymski 2025) and the **Agribalyse 3.1 database** (ADEME 2022) for products consumed during coffee breaks. **Electricity consumption** during the conference (including computers, projectors, dishwashers) was also included, using data from **KOBiZE** (2024). However, the digital carbon footprint associated with website maintenance and electronic communication of the event was excluded from the calculations.

Travel accounted for the largest share of total emissions (71%), followed by accommodation (21%) and food (7%). As many as **65% of participants chose plant-based meals**, and o**ver 60% arrived in Krakow by train**. Most participants traveled around the city **on foot or by public transport**. **The average carbon footprint per participant was 0.2 tons of CO_2 – about five times less than the lower limit of estimates for typical international scientific events** (Perga et al. 2024).

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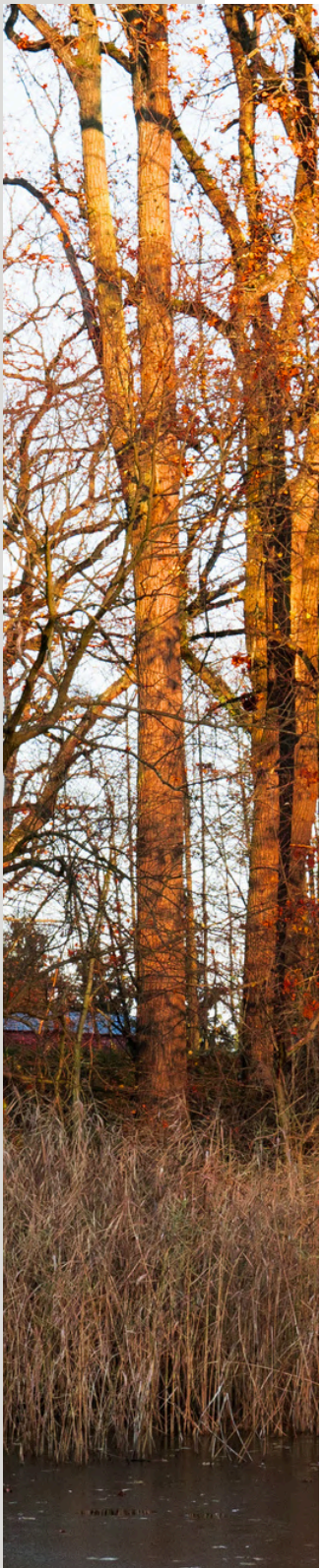
CONCLUSIONS



According to the Paris Agreement targets, by 2030, the carbon footprint of a single person should be reduced to approximately 2.3 tons of CO_2 per year. This means that participation in a typical week-long international conference can account for up to half of the annual emission limit that would need to be achieved in order to keep global warming within safe limits. Against this backdrop, the results of the *III IASNR European Hub Conference* – with an average carbon footprint of 0.2 tons of CO_2 per person – show t**hat thoughtful and responsible decisions by organisers and the promotion of sustainable choices among participants can realistically reduce the environmental impact of scientific events**.

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PHOTO REPORT

1. Yoga classes held during the break.
2. Presnetation session, some of the audience sitting on yoga cushions.
3. Guest lecture by Dr Mila Orlińska on mindfulness.
4. Walk around the Natura 2000 area next to the Jagiellonian University Campus.

Photos by: Beata Dziob, Agata Warchalska-Troll

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ORGANISING COMMITEE

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Piotr Matczak, Zuzanna Kurowska – Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań
Krzysztof Niedziałkowski – Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

PATRONAGE

His Magnificence the Rector of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow
Mayor of the Royal Capital City of Kraków, www.krakow.pl
International Association for Society and Natural Resources
Environmental Sociology Section, Polish Sociological Association

The conference is co-financed by the JU Student and Graduate Foundation "Bratniak"

Faculty of Sociology

Sekcja Socjologii Środowiska Polskiego Towarzystwa Socjologicznego

Jagiellonian University in Krakow

Kraków

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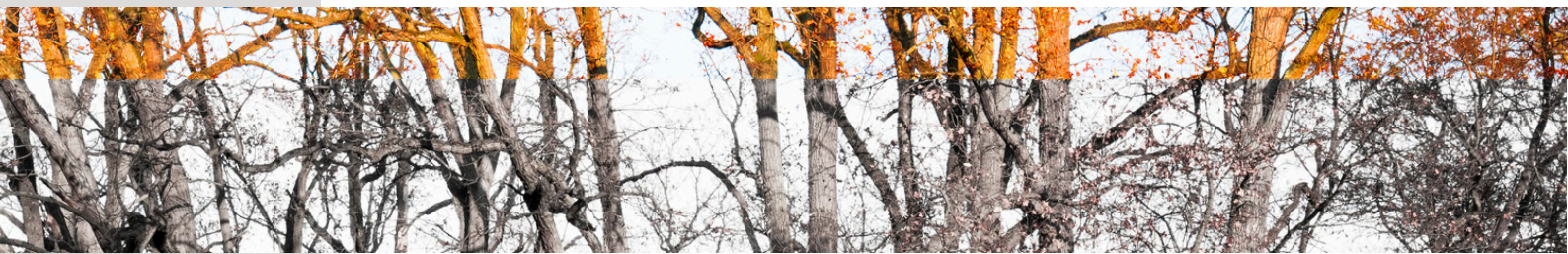

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