

**UNIVERSITY OF  
BIELSKO BIAŁA  
(POLAND)**

**9-13 OCTOBER  
2023**

## **International Week**

### **University of Bielsko Biała (Poland)**

### **9-13 October 2023**

*Education that develops competences  
and skills of the students*

*Our experience shows that any international exchange is of great value. We hope that our International Week will be an opportunity to discover our country, our region, and to get to know the university up close. Our goal is to promote both our institution to representatives of other universities, but we also want to give the opportunity to present the offer of our partner universities directly to our students and teachers.*

#### **ABOUT US**

The University of Bielsko-Biala was founded in October 2001 as an independent governmental academic institution. At present, about 5,000 students study at five faculties: Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science; Faculty of Materials, Civil and Environmental Engineering; Faculty of Management and Transport; Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Faculty of Health Sciences. The University employs about 400 people, including 200 experienced professors and other academic staff. As the only state educational institution in the Podbeskidzie region which provides tertiary education, the University of Bielsko-Biala has a vibrant community of ambitious individuals who contribute to the University's research and didactic potential by constantly attaining their professional, educational and social goals. The University is firmly rooted in the region which is reflected in various enterprises with members of the community and also in its research interests.

**Come and join us for our International Week in October 2023!**





Dear Colleagues,

We are very pleased to invite you to our International Week which will take place in October 2023!

The year 2023 has been announced the European Year of Skills by the European Commission. The proposed thematic scope of the International Week tackles the issues of involving the university not only in the formal education process but also in the informal one, realised by a lifelong learning programme. The lectures and workshops cover the wide scope of topics: from online teaching, development of digital skills according to the *2030 Digital Compass* strategy, activities of the university connected to raising the qualifications through training, short teaching cycles, to the activities intended to address the study offer to dynamically changing labour market.

The programme has been designed for administrative and academic staff in charge of international affairs. Our main goal is to discuss and exchange good practices among our guests, and maintain and intensify existing relationships with the University' of Bielsko-Biala partners, but applications from other universities can also be submitted.

### **Practical information:**

- Venue: University of Bielsko-Biala
- Dates: 9-13 October 2023
- Registration: available here: <https://forms.office.com/e/ij3y5xfzn8>  
Registration will be open until 31.08.2023. The number of participants is limited to 30 and we will not accept more than 2 persons per institution. All applicants will receive the results of the selection by email by no later than September 10<sup>th</sup>, even those who are not selected.
- There is no registration fee. Coffee breaks, lunches, dinners, and cultural events are paid for by the UBB. The only cost to participants is the cost of travel. For the first 20 participants we offer accommodation at UBB's expense.





## **PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME** (subject to slight changes)

### **Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> October**

- 10:30-11:00 Registration and morning coffee
- 11:00-11:15 Official opening of the International Week and welcome of the guest
- 11:15-12:00 Presentation of the University of Bielsko-Biala and its academic campus
- 12:00-13:00 *Get to know each other* – integration workshop
- 13:00-13:30 *Bielsko-Biala – a city of many possibilities for foreign students*
- 13:00-14:30 Lunch
- 15:00-16:30 Guided city tour
- 19:00 Official dinner

### **Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October**

- 09:30-10:15 Survival Polish – warm-up//We speak Polish – what's your superpower?
- 10:15-10:45 *Blended Intensive Programmes – exchange best practises – workshops*
- 10:45-11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00-11:30 *Raising professional students' skills within internship and specialist trainings - discussion*
- 11:30-12:00 *How the elastic mobility of the Erasmus+ programme has influenced the students' engagement in the process of raising their qualification – workshops and discussion*
- 12:00-12:30 *Modern educational tools in online teaching – workshops*
- 12:30-13:30 Lunch
- 13:30-18:30 Visiting the town of Pszczyna and the Castle Museum in Pszczyna

### **Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October**

- 09:00-12:00 Mini educational fair with presentations of the guest universities' Erasmus+ offer for the students of the UBB
- 12:00-14:00 Visit to the Municipal Museum of Żywiec and the Castle Park
- 14:00-15:00 Lunch
- 15:15-17:00 Visit to the Żywiec Brewery Museum





### Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> October

09:00-0:00 *Erasmus without papers – exchange of experiences and sharing good practices of introducing the system to the universities*

Optionally: workshops for incoming teachers

10:00-16:00 “Little Loop of Szczyrk” – a guided mountain excursion including lunch in the mountains

Free afternoon

### Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> October

09:00-10:30 Summarising of the International Week, formal issues, documents

11:30 Departure of the participants

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## **Briefing on the places to be visited during the International Week**

**Bielsko-Biała** is a middle-sized (ca. 175 thousands of citizens) Polish city located at foothills of the mountain ranges of Beskid Śląski and Beskid Mały, in southern Poland, in the historical and cultural borderland of regions of Lesser Poland and Silesia. The river Biała which valley divides aforementioned mountain ranges used also for ages to divide two separate administrative entities of Bielsko (established in XIII century) and Biała (established as a city in 1723), before they were officially merged into one city, in 1951. Today, the city of Bielsko-Biała is a regional cultural and industrial centre, profiting from its picturesque and convenient location (close to the borders of Czechia and Slovakia, with Bratislava, Budapest, Vienna and Warsaw within a 400 km range) reinforced by well-developed road and railway connections. Although historically the source of the prosperity for both cities was the textile industry, the most developed branches here are now automotive, machine and IT.

**Pszczyna** is a town of medieval origins 20 km north from Bielsko-Biała, inhabited by ca. 25,5 thousands of people. From XV century to XX century it was a capital of a Duchy of Pszczyna, covering the town and nearby settlements. The last dynasty ruling there was the family of Hochberg von Pleß. The castle that they used to reside in and the adjacent Castle Park are currently the landmarks of the town, alongside the old town main square, neighbouring the castle from the other side. The town itself is located in an agricultural neighbourhood, close to the forest in the north and neighbouring a resort village Goczałkowice-Zdrój in the south.

**Żywiec** is a small city (ca. 30 thousands of people living there), located in the middle of Żywiec Basin, surrounded by the mountain ranges of Beskidy. Established at the turn of XIII and XIV centuries, Żywiec is a centre of distinct local culture.