

## Summary

According to the official data of the Central Statistical Office (GUS), 529.4 thousand people lived in Poznań in 2021. However, there were nearly 100 thousand unregistered people living in the city, which were not included in the GUS statistics. They were mainly schoolchildren and full-time students from outside Poznań and temporary workers from abroad (mainly Ukrainian citizens). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some of them stayed in Poznań only for part of the year.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of foreigners living in Poznań has not decreased. It is estimated that Poznań is inhabited by 50 thousand citizens of Ukraine, mainly temporary workers, whose number increased in 2021. They constitute the largest group of foreigners residing the city. In 2021, the Poviast Labour Office registered 97.7 thousand declarations on entrusting work to a foreigner from employers in Poznań and the Poznań Poviast, 78 thousand of which regarded citizens of Ukraine, and issued 1.9 thousand seasonal work permits for people with foreign citizenship, including 1.6 thousand for citizens of Ukraine. More than 6.8 thousand foreigners attended higher education institutions in Poznań, either on a permanent or a temporary basis, as part of the Erasmus + programme. Nearly 1.7 thousand students were citizens of Ukraine. In 2021, there were 7.7 thousand people with foreign citizenship from over 100 countries, including 4 thousand Ukrainian citizens, registered for permanent or temporary residence in Poznań for more than 3 months.

The presence of Ukrainian citizens and the growing number of citizens of other countries makes Poznań become an increasingly international city. 6.3 thousand students from other countries, including 4.3 thousand students from Ukraine, studied in schools in Poznań. In 24 primary schools, a total of 24 preparatory departments were opened with additional Polish lessons for students from foreign families and people returning from abroad. For teachers of foreign students, packages of educational materials "Meet the people of Poznań!" have been developed.

In 2021, activities to support and integrate foreigners were continued. As part of the EU project titled "#ACTIVATOR WLKP – support for the integration of migrants in the Wielkopolskie Voivodship" financed by the FAMI fund, a Poznań Integration Centre POINT was managed, which the City of Poznań runs together with the Foundation Centre for Migration Research and the International Organisation for Migration, and there was also a helpline for foreigners available at Migrant.info. There was also a non-governmental centre – Migrant Info Point – cooperating with the City of Poznań at the headquarters of POINT, offering information and advisory support. A multilingual mobile application for migrants was available under the name "Activator WLKP". The Migrant Assistance Point operated in Poznań until September 14, run by Caritas of the Poznań Archdiocese, Caritas Polska and the Wielkopolskie Voivode as part of the "Wielkopolska Common Matter" project financed by the EU FAMI fund.

The municipal programme "Study in Poznań" that is directed to current and potential foreign students, was expanded. The city actively supported repatriates from Kazakhstan and students from Belarus and Syria, as well as foreigners implementing an individual integration programme. THE CASTLE Culture Centre launched the "Ukrainian Book Castle Club", while the Polish Theatre organised the "Close Strangers: East" Theatre Meetings. The next edition of the "Ukrainian Spring" Culture Festival and the "Days of Czech Culture" took place. There was a Ukrainian-language city helpline available. The Local Team for Policies for the Integration of Immigrants started its activity.

Young foreigners, number of which is estimated at over 20 thousand people, increased the number of young people living in Poznań. Poznań is a city of young people – approx. 150 thousand people aged 15-29 live here. When children under 15 are included, more than a third of the population are young people. The implementation of "The Policy for Young People of the City of Poznań for 2019-2025" was adopted by the Poznań City Council, which assumes increasing the involvement and co-responsibility of young people for the development of the city and creating a space for them to actively join the city's life. Another edition of the competition for secondary schools "Fund for Student Self-Governments" has been announced. The Youth City Council of Poznań, that initiated its own projects for young people, was actively operating.

In Poznań 105 thousand students attended 24 higher education institutions, most of them (one third) studied at the Adam Mickiewicz University (UAM), which has the status of a research university. Over 80% of students were people from outside Poznań, most of them from the Wielkopolskie Voivodship. The level of internationalization of studies has increased. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students mostly studied remotely or in hybrid mode. The students had a choice of 300 fields of study, including over 50 that were carried out in foreign languages, also with the MBA level. The largest number of students were educated in the following fields: business and administration, medical, linguistic, social, pedagogical, engineering and technical, IT and legal. In 2021, 28 faculties run in Poznań universities received a positive assessment of the Polish Accreditation Commission. Poznań universities have been included in international rankings, including: Times Higher Education World University Rankings (SWPS University and Adam Mickiewicz University), Shanghai Global Ranking of Academic Subjects (SWPS University), U-Multirank 2021 (SWPS University, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań University of Technology, University of Life Sciences, Medical University), U.S. News Global Universities Ranking (SWPS University). In 2021, eight public universities signed a letter of intent regarding the establishment of the Poznań federal university. Four Poznań universities: Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań University of Technology, SWPS University and the University of Banking signed an updated version of the world Magna Charta Universitatum 2020 – a declaration of principles and values on which the didactic, scientific and social mission of universities is based.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many activities, carried out in cooperation with the academic and scientific community in Poznań, took place online or were suspended. The City of Poznań co-financed the organisation of open lectures by outstanding scientists from around the world and led programmes aimed at students and employees of Poznań universities, such as: the Awards of the City of Poznań for an outstanding doctoral dissertation and the Award of the City of Poznań for an outstanding master's thesis, scholarship programmes for winners or finalists of national subject contests and for students preparing to work with employers implementing innovative investments in Poznań, internship programme and paid student internships at the Poznań City Hall, Scientific Award of the City of Poznań and scholarships for young researchers of the Poznań scientific community, programmes: "Study in Poznań", "Poznań Attracts", "A Flat for a Graduate". The city cooperated with non-governmental organisations implementing projects aimed at activating the integration of the student community of Poznań universities. Activities aimed at integrating foreigners studying in Poznań were continued. As part of supporting investments of Poznań universities, the University of Arts received a 99% discount on urban land with an area of 2.250 m<sup>2</sup>. In 2021, the City of Poznań took 2nd place in the ranking "Best Student Cities in Poland".

In 2021, work was performed on the document entitled "Policy for Families of the City of Poznań for 2021-2025". The City of Poznań participates in the international UNICEF programme "Child-Friendly Cities Network". An interdisciplinary Team for a child-friendly city was appointed. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many projects of the Centre for Family Initiatives (CIR) and the Centre for Child Art were implemented online. In cooperation with partners and non-governmental organisations, CIR implemented projects in the area of pro-family policy and intergenerational integration, including educational, developmental and artistic activities for children, such as: "I Read and Feel", "Traffic in the City", "I Read and Know", "Academy of Health for Parents", "We Have Rights", "Good Question", "Good Talks", "Get To Know Yourself", "Baby starter kit", "We Have Support!", certificates of a Family Friendly Place, Big Family Card with the "Comfort 3+" programme. As part of the nationwide campaign "Rewind Poland" in the CIR headquarters, "Komfortka" was opened – a nursing room for adults with physical disabilities and their caretakers. Cultural projects organised by the Children's Art Centre included, among others: International Festival of Young Audience Films ALE KINO! "The Travelling ALE KINO! Festival, National Review of Animated Films Created by Children" Eye of the Kaleidoscope ", International Workshop on Creative Distress" Vincent's Pocket ", Biennial of Art for Children, Animator for Children, the theatre offer of the Common Stage. Animation Theatre organised the MAPPING FESTIVAL. Numerous competitions and workshops, concerts and thematic forms of sightseeing dedicated to families were held. In the summer season, children and youth could benefit from the offer of activities, including: "Summer in Madalina", "Castle Summer for Children", "Winter with a Book "In the Land of Snow and Ice", "Winter Educational Meetings: "Meetings with a Story", "Artistic Residence in the Enigma Cipher Centre",

"#ZZAKULIS – Holidays in Poland", "Winter and Summer Emergency Arts", "Winter with Culture", "Imagination Library", outdoor cinema. Dedicated activities were aimed at large families and single parents. Families with young children could obtain financial support, among others: one-time allowance for the birth of a child, "Poznań nursery benefit", "Poznań benefit for multiple children born", one-time material support "Baby linen for Gzubek". The City of Poznań implemented government programmes for families, including: "Educational benefits – Family 500 Plus programme", "Good start" and a comprehensive support programme for families "For life". In 2021, online events for families were organised in Poznań, including: Poznań Family Days, Family Gala, Poznań Bethlehem. The following projects were implemented: "Poznań Centre for Family" and "We have the right to a support".

Actions to support families with parenting problems were implemented within the municipal framework "Programme for supporting the family and development of foster care for 2020-2022". The care and educational functions of the family were supported by 15 care and educational centres, including day support, carried out in the form of care, specialist or outdoor activities support. As of 1 January 2022, all care and parenting facilities in Poznań meet the standards required by the Act of 9 June 2011 on supporting the family and the foster care system. Six, new 24-hour educational care facilities were opened. Children and adolescents, completely or partially deprived of care and support from biological families, were provided with care and custody through the institutional foster care system. In 2021, the Club for Foster Families at the Swoboda Family Support Centre was available to provide psychological, pedagogical and legal support. The programme "Volunteering for foster families" was implemented. Biological parents could benefit from support in the Good Parents Club. Social services were provided as part of the EU programme "Improving access to social services supporting the family and family foster care in the Municipal Functional Area of Poznań" – such as family assistant and family foster care coordinator, as well as specialist services – psychological, educational, mediation and legal counselling. Among others, the projects "Centre for Mediation", micro-grants for families as part of the "Poznań Centre for Family" were implemented.

In 2021, "Poznań childcare programme for children up to the age of 3 for 2022-2025" was being developed. 111 nurseries, including 15 public nurseries operating as part of the "Poznań Nursery Complex", 11 children's clubs and 33 day caregivers, providing a total of nursery care places for over 5 thousand – provided Institutional nursery care in Poznań. The city budget co-financed the costs of care in non-public nurseries as well as the Poznań Nursery Benefit. In 2021, the implementation of the "Standards of Care for Children up to the age of 3" was continued. The city obtained funds from the government programme "Maluch+" (Baby+) and received a grant from 5 neighbouring municipalities as part of the participation in the costs for 150 children from these municipalities attending nurseries in Poznań. The EU project "Returning to the labour market – professional activation of people returning or entering the

labour market after a break related to childcare until the age of 3" was continued in the Metropolis of Poznań.

In 2021, work on the documentary "Educational Policy of the City of Poznań" was continued. Institutional preschool care was provided in 336 preschools and kindergarten units in primary schools and kindergarten points. They offered a total of 21.8 thousands places available at preschool care institutions. Three new kindergarten departments were put into operation in the modified Kindergarten No. 121 in Strzeszyn. Additional activities for children were co-financed from the City budget, including dance, physical activities, art, theatre, sports and language learning. Under the slogan "Little Pre-schooler in the Land of Great Emotions", another edition of the event "National Pre-schooler's Day" was held. Poznań kindergartens participated in the 2nd online edition of the "Veoliada 2021" Pre-schoolers' Contest.

In 2021, 91 thousand students attended schools in Poznań. More than half of them were learning in primary schools. The City of Poznań received a grant from 5 neighbouring municipalities as part of the participation in the costs of children from these municipalities attending Poznań schools. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, school education was conducted remotely or in a hybrid mode for part of the year. During remote learning, students and parents could use the psychological and pedagogical support system. The EU programme entitled "Improving the quality of the vocational training process conducted remotely" was continued. As part of the funds obtained from the COVID-19 Prevention Fund, a project supporting the development of school infrastructure "Laboratories of the Future" in primary and art schools was implemented. Government programmemes "Meal at school and at home", "Active board", "National Reading Development Programme 2.0 for 2021-2025" were implemented. Urban advisory teams operated: for education at the office of the Poznań Mayor and – established in 2021 – for the implementation of tasks in the field of psychological and pedagogical assistance. Matriculation exams, taken by 6.7 thousand students only covered the written part. High school graduates obtained the best results in modern foreign languages, and achieved the poorest grades in Polish and Mathematics. Students received the Awards of the City of Poznań for outstanding scientific, artistic and sports achievements. The city budget co-financed additional classes for students: subject, sports, language and anti-discrimination projects. EU projects were continued, including: "Increasing competences in the field of mathematics and computer science by secondary school students of the Municipal Functional Area of Poznań", "ENIGMA – Support for teaching mathematics and computer science in secondary schools of the Metropolis of Poznań", "Development of infrastructure of the Centre for Vocational and Continuing Education", "ON BOARD\_Connecting Cities through Education". In order to improve the educational conditions, the construction and modernisation of the existing educational infrastructure was carried out, partly financed as part of the Government Local Investment Fund. The largest investments included, among others: expansion of Primary School No. 62, construction of school gymnasiums, modernisation of school

playgrounds and partial thermal modernisation works of school and kindergarten buildings. Preparatory work was underway to build a school in Strzeszyn. In 2021, 42 student projects selected in the 4th edition of the "Student Local Government Fund" contest were implemented in schools. The City of Poznań co-financed city semi-camps organised by 40 primary schools in Poznań.

In 2021, the "Senior Policy of the City of Poznań for 2017-2021" was implemented. Seniors could benefit from support the following support programmes: "Senior at home", "Support Senior", "A kind call", "Senior talks", "A digital advice call", "Digital Senior in Poznań". Actions were continued to ensure adequate living conditions and activity for the growing group of seniors and to counteract social exclusion and passivity of this age group. As part of the city package entitled "Poznań VIVA Senior", the following projects were continued: "Handyman for Seniors", "Taxi for Seniors", "Book for Seniors", mobile beauty services, "Poznań Medical Armband", "Poznań Life Box", rental of municipal rehabilitation equipment, cleaning windows at home, transport to municipal cemeteries. The following city programmemes were implemented: "Apartment for a Senior", "Senior in Muse", "Senior Trainer". Older people could benefit from municipal programmes: "Rehabilitation 65+", "Pharmaceutical Care Point 75+", "Municipal Rehabilitation Equipment Rental", free seasonal flu vaccination, exercise classes for seniors. As part of the municipal Centre for Senior Citizens' Initiative many initiatives were carried out or supported to activate the environment of the elderly and information and education activities aimed at social integration and intergenerational dialogue, including: "Tytka Seniora", "Senioralni.Poznań", Poznań Volunteering 60+, "Senior Card – Poznań Golden Card", "Senior-Friendly Place" certificate, "Poznań Security Academy", "Academy of Senior Club Leaders", "Senior Animator", "Information Point 60+". The Municipal Council of Seniors was functioning. There were 6 Social Welfare Houses and 2 Day Social Welfare Houses with more than 800 people, as well as PETRA Senior Short Stay House. In 2021, the construction of a new headquarters for the Nursing Home at Bukowska Street located at Żołnierzy Wyklętych Street was completed. As part of the urban programme "Microgrants for Seniors", Poznań seniors could obtain a grant for their own integration and promotional activities as well as intergenerational initiatives.

In 2021, the "Strategy for Solving Social Problems for the City of Poznań for 2019-2025" was implemented. The City of Poznań managed assistance programmes aimed at selected people at risk of social exclusion: with disabilities, facing homelessness and mental disorders. Actions were taken to counteract various forms of social exclusion, domestic violence and poverty. The City of Poznań participated in partner projects, including: "Fenix Bis", "Fenix the Third", "Specialist support programme", "Specialist counselling and therapy", "Supported housing – training". The City of Poznań was a member of the Union of Associations of the "Wielkopolska Food Bank".

As part of supporting people with mental disorders, there were, among others, projects entitled: "The Key", "Testing the support model to empower young people

with mental disorders – My Matter!", "Promotion of mental health and prevention of mental disorders", "Assisted housing programme for people with intellectual disabilities from the City of Poznań", "Local Self-Care Houses". The implementation of the EU project entitled "Environmental Centre of Mental Health Poznań North" has started.

Activities aimed at addicts and their families were continued, carried out as part of the "City Programme for Prevention and Resolution of Alcohol Problems and Prevention of Drug Addiction in Poznań in 2021", including, among others, projects in the field of social education on counteracting addiction and helping addicts and their families, for example: "We combat drug addiction with sports mania", "Stimulants destroy life", "24-hour Trust Phone for people with alcohol problem", "Sports youth – sobering the future", "Specialist Support Programme", "Supporting the psychophysical development of children with FASD symptoms, children from families with alcohol problem and those at increased risk of alcohol addiction", "Poznań addicted to prophylaxis". The City of Poznań managed a 24-hour Detoxification Centre.

People who face the crisis of homelessness or face a difficult life situation could obtain support from social economy entities operating in the city, such as the Barka Mutual Aid Foundation, which manages the Wielkopolska Solidarity Economy Centre, and the Social Emergency Association. In 2021, nearly social cooperatives were functioning in Poznań, including Poznanianka Social Cooperative, co-created by the City of Poznań for the purpose of professional activation of the unemployed and disabled people, belonging to the Association for Social Cooperatives operating in the city, managing the Wielkopolska Centre for Social Economy. The "Nice Things" Social Economy Workshop and Social Integration Centres were functioning here as well.

In 2021, the City provided support to 1.4 thousand people facing homelessness. Individual programmes and projects aimed at ending homelessness were implemented, including: "Mobile Support Point", "Mobile Medical Help Point", monitoring of homeless camps, street work activities, organising places where the homeless and the poor can warm up and eat. Homeless people could use the city bath and receive emergency aid. In 2021, there were places of temporary sanitary isolation for those people. The Municipal Police controlled the places where the homeless were staying, distributing food and drugstore packages to those in need. Therapeutic and support projects for homeless people addicted to alcohol were implemented. In order to eliminate homelessness, the City of Poznań participated in an international ROOF project implemented as part of the URBACT European Action Planning Network.

Activities for people with disabilities were carried out as part of the urban programme called "Directions of activities and tasks of the City of Poznań for the social integration of people with disabilities for 2021-2025". The EU project "Social services and medical care for the residents of Poznań" was continued. Training flats functioned as part of the project "Supported housing for people with intellectual

disabilities in the City of Poznań", as well as other projects, including: "Active Self-Government", "Personal assistant of a disabled person", care services for people with disabilities, Municipal Rental of Rehabilitation Equipment. Social and vocational rehabilitation of people with disabilities was carried out, including co-financing training courses and workshops, creating jobs and starting a business. The Poznań Centre for the Support of Professional Development was functioning in the city. The City of Poznań received a grant for the implementation of the government "Programme of assistance to students with disabilities in the form of the purchase of textbooks, educational materials and training materials for 2020-2022". In 2021, "Accessibility Standards for the City of Poznań" and similar programmes were implemented to prevent architectural and functional barriers in the public space. The Municipal Team for Availability was appointed. The activity was managed by the City Social Council for People with Disabilities.

In 2021, the City of Poznań conducted health prevention programmes and information campaigns regarding a healthy lifestyle and encouraging regular control tests, as well as activities in the field of pro-health education, including: "Programme for the prevention and early detection of osteoporosis among women aged 50+ living in Poznań, for 2021-2023", "Securing fertility for the future in the residents of Poznań with cancer for 2021-2023", "Dental prophylaxis among children aged 7-11 in 2021-2023", "Health package for veterans of Poznań June 1956, for 2020-2022", "Intimate Prophylaxis Point 24h for the residents of Poznań for 2021-2023", "Programme for the treatment of infertility by the method of out-of-body fertilization for the inhabitants of the City of Poznań in 2021-2024", "Programme for the prophylaxis of seasonal influenza in people from 60 years of age, Poznań for 2019-2023", "Programme for the treatment of infertility caused by the bacterial infection (HPV) in the City of Poznań, for 2019-2023". As part of the activities related to counteracting the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Poznań General Vaccination Point functioned, supporting projects were implemented, including: "Rehabilitation after COVID-19 – prevention and reduction of the health consequences of COVID-19 among Poznań seniors", "Post-COVID-19 60+ care point", "Care services for people diagnosed with infection or suspected of SARS-CoV-2 infection", "Activities aimed at early detection and preventing the spread of COVID-19", "Post-covid syndrome – psychological, legal and medical assistance for women taking into account the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to the increase in the scale of violence and discrimination on the grounds of gender". The City of Poznań won an award in the contest entitled "Medal#Szczepimysie Commune". The City of Poznań implemented the EU project "HEALTHY STRENGTHENING of Municipal Laboratories of Better Health for All in the Baltic Sea Region – Stimulating Cross-sectoral Cooperation for Health and Wellbeing in Cities" and participated in the "Healthy Cities Programme" of the Association of Healthy Polish Cities, of which the City is a member. In 2021, the City of Poznań became a winner of the "Healthy Local Government" competition.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, sports facilities operated to a limited extent; some of the classes and sports competitions were held online, and some were cancelled. In



2021, 458 thousand people participated in 29 mass sports events in Poznań. As part of the programme of promoting physical culture and tourism, such projects as: "Youth Sports Centres", "Housing Trainer", "Senior Trainer", "Kindergarten Trainer", "Train with Olympic medallists", "Poznań Youth School Games", "Poznań School Sports Animator", "Our sports Fyrtel", "We also want to be fit", "My sports asylum", swimming lessons for children and youth, extracurricular activities, free sports activities for children and youth (including learning how to skate, ski and snowboard) were carried out. Regular sports activities for people with disabilities were organised. The organisation of 84 sightseeing events, attended by 3900 people, was subsidized from the City's budget. The Winogrady Municipal Swimming Pool located at the Zwycięstwa estate was handed over for use. Modernisation works of the sports complex at Droga Dębińska Street were carried out. In 2021, successes in sports competitions were achieved by Poznań athletes representing: the University Club of the Academic Sports Association of the Academy of Physical Education, the Posnania Sports Club, the Grunwald Military Sports Club, the University Club of the Academic Sports Association of the Adam Mickiewicz University, University Club of Poznań University of Technology, Poznań Hussars Ladies. Poznań athletes won 3 medals of the 32nd Summer Olympic Games and 4th place in the Paralympic Games in Tokyo. For achievements in the highest ranking competitions in 2021, the City of Poznań awarded scholarships to 24 athletes in the senior category and 50 athletes in the youth categories, as well as prizes for Olympic medallists and their coaches. Sport Awards and Sport Scholarships of the City of Poznań were awarded. The City of Poznań received the title "City of Sport" and the distinction "Friend of PZLA".

In 2021, an implementation of "Poznań Programme for Culture 2019-2023" took place when the possibility of conducting cultural activity in the formula of direct contact with the recipient was limited. Some of the events that took place were carried out online or in a hybrid formula. The City of Poznań continued to support Poznań cultural creators as part of the municipal local shield #Poznańwspiera (Poznań supports) in 2021, including: a special scholarship programme for creators and employees of culture, without age restrictions, purchase of works by Poznań artists for the collection of the Municipal Gallery Arsenal, a readership support programme in the form of a competition for Poznań bookstores, a scholarship programme for people associated with the Poznań artistic environment, training aimed at expanding knowledge, competences and practical skills. The Poznań Cultural Education Programme and the Educational Practice Centre were continued. There were 53 mass artistic and entertainment events. 122 thousand spectators and listeners participated in them. Municipal cultural institutions implemented 1.8 thousand projects in stationary and virtual form, in which 8 million people participated.

In 2021, the Enigma Cipher Centre with a Media Library, the new headquarters of the 2 branches of the Raczyński Library, was opened. The following EU projects were implemented: "Modernisation of the Raczyński Library building and the preservation and digitisation of valuable library resources", "Renovation and adaptation of Fort VII

for the preservation of cultural heritage". Work was ongoing on the launch of 11 bookshops of the Raczyński Library in 2022 and on the project of a new headquarters of the Musical Theatre. The project "Placement of archaeological materials from Poznań and Wielkopolska in museums" was implemented.

The project "Activator – culture for space, space for culture" and local projects were continued, including: "Cultural Old Market", "Lazarus Open Culture Zone" with the Piraeus Culture Incubator. The City of Poznań co-financed events and cultural initiatives organised for local communities of the settlements, including: "Summer with Stage", "Walks around Fest Fyrtle", "Sołackie Concerts", "Sołackie Souvenirs", "Lazarska Galeria Witrynowa", "Wilda Galeria Witrynowa", "Wilda Totem Multimedia", "Wilda Cultural Summer", "Souvenirs of the City", "Musica Minima Music in a Well", "Eki z Małeki", "NYE on Lazarus", "Panorama of the Poznań Lazarus", "Smochy Festival", "Podolany Concert", "GRANDA Poznań Criminal Festival 2021", "Social Theatre", "Common Theatre", "Dance when nobody's watching!", "Reading without barriers", "ENIGMA without barriers", cultural and integration events for people from all age groups, cultural and artistic workshops. The following projects were carried out, among others: "Dancing Families 2021", "Our Country for Real", "PODZIAŁAJKI – culture for children online", IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY 2021, European Heritage Days, Poznań Poet Festival, Arsenal of Seniors, "Book. Who's behind it?", "Stage online", "Read online", Morning book review", "Tuesday for seniors", "Intimate records", "What does Poznań read?", Theatre Meetings: "Close Strangers", Blue Note Poznań Competition, "Antraktowa Orchestra", "Warta Theatre 2021", Short Waves Festival 2021, #SPEAKINGCONCERTS – 2021, "#NaFalach", "Poznań – choir capital of Poland". Czech Culture Days were organised. The 20th edition of the Poznań Festival of Science and Art took place in a hybrid form. The City of Poznań continued the Poznań Film Commission project.

In 2021, the Raczyński Library participated in the international project entitled "Artificial intelligence in the service of the book". As part of the Culture 2.0 offer, resources were expanded at Poznań CYRYL Local Digital Repository and Poznań Spoken History Archive. The City of Poznań funded the Artistic Prize and artistic scholarships as well as scholarships for people associated with the Poznań artistic community, awarded in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the promotion of publishers about Poznań, the Poznań Literary Award and the Józef Łukaszewicz for the best Posnanian award were given.

In 2021, "The Municipal Revitalisation Programme for the City of Poznań" was implemented, which mainly covers the designated revitalisation area: city centre and some adjacent areas, including the area of the Old Town Culture Park. Activities were carried out to revitalize the space of city centre, supporting the local community, cultural potential and local entrepreneurship. The following documents were developed: "Local Recovery Plan of Dolny Lazarus – diagnostic part" and "Revaluation of the area of Dolny Lazarus". The city was implementing or preparing revitalisation projects covering the entire area of city centre or its parts. Some of the

projects were co-financed from EU funds. These were, among others, such projects as: "Centre Programme", "Revalorisation of Kolegiacki Square", "Revalorisation of the Old Market Square with the transformation of a fragment of the mid-market block into a cultural passage", "Modernisation of the Lazarski Market Square", "Development of the Jeżycki Market Square slab", "Revitalisation and expansion of the Madalina depot", construction of the Wartostrada pedestrian and bicycle route. The Enigma Museum with the Media library was opened. Architectural illuminations as well as new transport and organisational solutions were introduced to the public space of city centre.

The project "Christmas Tree Campaign" and the installation of Christmas illuminations were implemented. The Archdiocese of Poznań, in partnership with the City of Poznań, ended the EU project entitled "It all began here – exhibition of testimonies to the beginnings of Polish statehood in Ostrów Tumski". As part of improving the quality of public space and social integration and activation around the process of revitalisation and support of local communities, the following projects were implemented: "Friendly Courtyard", "Change Your Courtyard", "Welcome to Jeżyce", "Name Day of św. Marcin" with Kiermasz Świętomarciński, "Śródecki Medieval Market", "Days of the Poznań Fortress", "Poznań Bethlehem", Festival of Ice Sculpture, #nawolnym, Night of Museums, "Celebrations of św. Marcin in Poznań", "Summer in Madalin "; the programme "Revitalisation of park greenery in Śródmieście" and revitalisation of river areas. Projects within the framework of the Central Urban Housing Initiatives and the "Open Sphere of Culture Lazarus" with the Pireus Culture Incubator were continued. Impressive Maps of Ostrow Tumski, Śródki, St. Lazarus. The City of Poznań co-financed social revitalisation projects, among others: "Architectural activities related to public space in the Centre of the City", walks from the "Cinema, cafe and walk" cycle, "Warming up Garbary".

In order to preserve the city's cultural and historical heritage, renovation and conservation works of historic buildings were financed from the city's budget in the Central area and conservation subsidies for historic private buildings, including the most valuable Art Nouveau tenement houses.

As part of the project to activate the river areas in the summer, there were 4 urban beaches equipped with infrastructure and beach equipment, as well as: a temporary rental of motorboat and canoe equipment, a temporary yacht marina and the Poznań Water Tram. The riverside areas were kept clean and tidy. The project "Gate open to the river – ecological education in riverside areas in Poznań" has started and an EU project was implemented "Revitalisation of the concrete protection of the Warta River banks on the section from the Przemysła I bridge to the Warta river bifurcation in Poznań". The EU educational and information project "Gate open to the river – environmental education in riverside areas in Poznań" was continued.

In 2021, green areas constituted 27% of the city's area, including 52 public parks and 123 green areas covering an area of 439 ha. The green areas included such projects as: renovation of the park at Wodziczki Street, renovation of green areas at al.

Wielkopolska, construction of a honey garden in the Citadel Park, programmes: creating local squares in the city centre "Ambush on Fyrtle", "Revalorisation of street greenery", "Saving old, valuable trees and planting new ones" and inventory of trees with arbotag marking. 3 green squares were created: at Podkomorska, Jawornicka, Gostyńska/Milicka Streets and a pocket forest at Milczańska Street. In 2021, a new natural monument was established, i.e. the English Oak called "Poznań Cytadelowcy". On the ponds in the Berger Park and the K. Marcinkowski Park, floating gardens were created on the pond in Wilson Park, and a natural playground was created next to kindergarten 74. 15 ecological demonstrators were installed in 15 kindergartens. The "School among greenery" programme was implemented. Local projects were implemented, including: "Secrets of the Citadel for tourists and Poznań residents", "Green fyrtle – let trees connect us". The event "VIII Poznań Flower Carpets 25-30 May 2021" took place as well as the next edition of the "Green Poznań" competition and the competition for "The most beautiful harvest wreath" as part of the organisation of the city harvest festival.

In 2021, the development of the project entitled "Forest Management Plan for 2023-2032 along with the Forecast of the environmental impact of this plan for municipal forests of the City of Poznań" was initiated. Communal forest areas with a protective and recreational function covered an area of 2590 ha with 96 recreational and leisure facilities. 423 outdoor events for residents took place there. The "Jerzyki Programme" and the "Bird Asylum" project were continued. The City of Poznań funded the provision of veterinary intervention aid for injured or sick birds and small free-living mammals. New insect hotels were installed in city parks and a breeding platform for terns in Szachty. As part of the "EKO-ACTIVE" project, shelters for bats, birds and insects were created. The country's first standards for the protection of birds and bats in urban space were introduced in the planning and implementation of construction works, including renovation, thermal and modernisation works, as well as the restoration of their habitats. Poznań's activities in this area were presented during the online conference "Standards for the protection of birds and bats in cities – an example of Poznań" organised by the City of Poznań. The guidelines prepared by the "Team for preventive actions of the City of Poznań against threats to human safety caused by the migration of wild boars to urbanised areas" were the basis for the development of the "Programme of preventive actions of the City of Poznań against threats to human safety caused by the migration of wild boars to urbanised areas", which was adopted by the Poznań City Council in March 2022.

Despite the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, over 600 thousand people visited the Poznań Palm House and the Zoo. In 2021, the construction of a pavilion for giraffes and rhinos, a paddock for southern oryxes, an asylum for tigers was completed. The following projects were carried out: "Restoring species to nature – reintroduction", "School under palm trees", "Night in the Palm House". The City of Poznań continued the implementation of the "Kejter też Poznaniak" programme.

In 2021, the "Poznań for Bees" programme and the EU project "Health & Greenspace", consisting on the creation and opening of existing green areas for residents, were continued. The City of Poznań has joined the national project "Universal standards for the maintenance of green areas in cities". The City of Poznań took 3rd place in the ranking "Best Green Cities".

In 2021, in Poznań, there was a resolution of the Parliament of the Wielkopolska Province on the introduction of restrictions or bans in the operation of installations in which fuel combustion takes place in the city. As part of the activities aimed at reduction of pollutant emissions from low emissions, the City of Poznań implemented the following programmes: KAWKA BIS, "Keep Warm" and information and educational projects, including: "Atmosphere for Poznań", "Eco-forecast", "Green Service of Poznań", Eco Patrol of the Municipal Police, which carried out inspections of the legality of combustion. The project "Let's end smog in Poznań" with the use of a drone was continued. The City of Poznań continued the implementation of the "Clean Air" programme. In 2021, the document "Low-Emission Economy Plan for the City of Poznań" was evaluated and monitored. The City of Poznań participated in the EU project CONNECTING Nature – COproductionN with NaturE for City Transitioning, INnovation and Governance, which aims at popularising innovative solutions in cities based on the environment counteracting the negative effects of climate change; an international conference Connecting Nature Enterprise Summit was organised. The Poznań Heritage Centre participated in the Climate Heritage Network.

In 2021, at the Municipal Waste Transformation Plant in Poznań 209.5 thousand Mg of mixed municipal waste was processed, obtaining 414.4 thousand GJ of thermal energy and over 111.7 thousand MWh of electricity. In the Biocomposting Plant in Suchy Las, 26.7 thousand Mg of biodegradable waste was processed. In Poznań, 254.7 thousand Mg of municipal waste was collected, i.e. 599 kg per capita, including 104 kg of waste was collected selectively. As part of the selective waste collection system, in 2021, 16.6 thousand tonnes of waste paper and cardboard, 14.2 thousand tonnes of glass cullet and 15.3 thousand tonnes of plastics as well as 27.2 thousand tonnes of biodegradable waste were collected. There were 3 Selective Municipal Waste Collection Points, a Mobile Problem Waste Collection Point, and a Cleanliness Ambulance. Due to the epidemic situation, the Second Life by Reuse Point was temporarily excluded from use. By the end of 2021, the municipal waste disposal system was managed by the Poznań Agglomeration Inter-Communal Waste Management Association. Work was underway on the implementation of Resolution No. XLIII/750/VIII/2021 of the Poznań City Council regarding the withdrawal from the Poznań Agglomeration Inter-Communal Waste Management Association. The "Asbestos and Asbestos-Containing Products Removal Programme for the City of Poznań for 2021-2032" has been developed. In 2021, 323.3 Mg of asbestos-containing products was removed.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, educational and information activities on waste management and cleanliness of public space and improving energy-related

knowledge took place to a limited extent. The following activities took place: "Cleaning the World" campaign, competitions were organised: "I segregate waste – I act ECOlogically!", "Grandmother's and Grandfather's Day in the spirit of zero waste", "Little Fairy Tale Writers", educational project "Hit the right can!". The energy saving projects "Optimization of electricity distribution costs in public utility facilities" and "Optimization of heat supply costs in public utility facilities" were implemented. Group purchases of electricity and gas were continued within the generated purchasing groups. In 2021, the City of Poznań organised a hybrid conference "Energy and climate in cities in the 21st century". Poznań was a member of the Association of Energy Producers from Waste.

Security monitoring of public space was carried out as part of the Municipal Video Monitoring System, which in 2021, included 1026 cameras, after being expanded by 62 cameras. The Crisis Management Centre for the City of Poznań has undertaken 3.5 thousand actions and interventions. The police recognised 14.6 thousand crimes with a detection rate of 50.7%. The Municipal Police of the City of Poznań received 76.5 thousand notifications, most often regarding improperly parked vehicles, animals and negligence in public space. The Fire Brigade of the City of Poznań intervened 6 thousand times, especially in cases of local threats. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public security units carried out new tasks to reduce the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in public space. In 2021, preventive actions were implemented to a limited extent and partly online. They were educational and information projects in the area of counteracting threats to personal and social security, including: "Safe Poznań", "Safe District – Safe Resident", "Safe Life for Seniors", "Safe Holidays", "Stimulants Destroy Life", "Poznań Addicted to Prevention", "Blokiers", "Nielat", "Two sides of the web", "I know. I choose well", "e-prevention", "Safety first", "Detector on guard of your safety". The "Map of the Homelessness of the City of Poznań" has been updated. Residents could use the Internet service entitled "Map of Security Threats" and the mobile application "My Police Station", provided by the Police. As part of the activities of Ecopatrol, actions were taken to improve cleanliness of the city, the sanitary condition and environmental protection. The City of Poznań awarded prizes in competitions: "The Best District Police Office of the City of Poznań", "Poznań Fireman of the Year".

In 2021, 538.9 thousand motor vehicles, including 424.2 thousand passenger cars was registered in Poznań. In 2021 in the city there were commercial sharing systems for motorised passenger cars, scooters and electric scooters. Eco-friendly car-sharing systems used the convenience of reduced fees in the municipal Paid Parking Zone and parking on designated parking places. The Park & Ride system had 337 parking spaces. In 2021, the Paid Parking Zone was launched in Wilda, św. Łazarz, Ostrów Tumski, Śródka and Zagórze. In total, 13.8 thousand urban parking spaces were available in the Zone.

In 2021, the Poznań City Council adopted the "Transport Mobility Policy of the City of Poznań" together with the "Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the City of Poznań".

Actions were taken to reduce the road traffic in the city centre, including TEMPO 30 traffic calming zone, further traffic lights in the city centre were turned off, traffic light programmes were successively adjusted to improve pedestrian and bicycle traffic, new bus lanes were created. The project of lighting pedestrian crossings was continued. The "Strategy for the development of electromobility for the City of Poznań until 2035" was implemented. The EU programme "Electrification of selected bus lines in Poznań" was continued and 37 new Solaris Urbino 12 Electric buses were put into operation in 2021 as part of it. There were 49 charging stations for vehicles in Poznań. The City of Poznań meets the requirements of the Act on electromobility and electric fuels, 20% of all vehicles of the City were electric vehicles. In 2021, as part of the project "Reducing air pollutant emissions thanks to the use of hydrogen in the rolling stock of municipal buses MPK Poznań Sp. z o.o.", a contract was signed for the supply of 25 hydrogen-powered buses. The City of Poznań and Poznań-based entrepreneurs and scientists participated in the works of the Wielkopolska Hydrogen Platform. In 2021, the City of Poznań signed the Declaration of Appointing the Wielkopolska Hydrogen Valley.

The length of the bicycle path network increased to 301.6 km. The Poznań City Bike (PRM) system was expanded, which at the end of 2021 included 113 stations with 1742 bikes including 746 4G bikes. The number of PRM users increased to 199.2 thousand people. Over 300,000 rentals were made during the year.

In 2021, the number of card users of the Poznań Electronic Agglomeration Card increased to 714.4 thousand. In the city area, solutions were implemented to improve the fluidity of public transport traffic, including: introduction of a priority for public transport at subsequent intersections, permanent reconstruction and renovation of public transport infrastructure. A new Wilczak-Włodarska-Lechicka/Naramowicka tram route was opened; a tram track on Głogowska Street from Berwińskiego Street to Górczyna Street was separated; two stops on Sielska Street and Rynek Jeżycki were opened. Among other things, construction of: Nowa Naramowicka communication junction, section of Wawrzyńca Street was carried out as well as the extension of subsequent sections of św. Marcin Street along with the reconstruction of the fragment of Al. Marcinkowskiego, correction of the functioning of the communication system in the area of the Rataje roundabout, reconstruction of the overpass along Kurlandzka Street. Works or preparations for further works as part of large infrastructure projects were continued including: "Construction of the tram route to Naramowice", "Reconstruction of the tram route Kórnicka – Lecha – Rondo Żegrze", "Reconstruction of the tram route at Dąbrowskiego Street", "Construction of a tram route to Kopernika", "Expansion of public transport infrastructure in the Strzeszyn area", reconstruction of tracks in Wierzbiewice Street and 28 Czerwca 1956 Street, "Construction of the Grunwaldzka integrated transport interchange, at the point of crossing the E20 railway line".

In 2021, 6.5 thousand new dwellings in Poznań were completed, most built in the development system for sale or rental. As part of municipal housing construction, 218

dwelling at Hulewiczów and Opolska Streets and 180 social-rental apartments at Ceglowska Street. Construction of further municipal flats at Opolska Street was underway. The City of Poznań carried out projects aimed at residents of municipal buildings and social housing, including: "Meet POZnań and live there", "Lease with access to property", "Apartment for a Graduate", "Apartment for a Senior", "Studio Apartments for Seniors", "Pilot Bonus Programme for Persons Submitting Uninhabited and Sublet Premises", "Auction Project with Auctions of Large Communal Apartment", "Communal Apartment Rental Project in exchange for Renovation Works Made by Future Tenants", Municipal Rental Office, and social programmes, including "Social housing rental with support".

As part of the work on increasing transport accessibility and improving the capacity of commute, in Poznań, which is the base urban node of the trans-European TEN-T network, where two transport corridors intersect: Baltic – Adriatic and North Sea – Baltic, modernisation of the railway line sections connecting Poznań with Warsaw (E20), Wrocław and Szczecin (E59) was ongoing in 2021. Modification of the platform at the Poznań Główny station along with the reconstruction of the underground passage was underway. An agreement was signed to prepare the concept of development of the Poznań Railway Interchange. Passenger traffic at Poznań-Ławica Airport amounted to 1,055.2 thousand people. In 2021, connections to new destinations were launched, including: Antalya, Venice, Amman, Brussels, Helsinki. The City of Poznań was a member of the Communication Association and the District and Municipal Association of Wielkopolska Regional Transport.

In 2021, Poznań was visited by 518.5 thousand tourists staying in tourist facilities, and the number of overnight stays was 872.9 thousand. The utilization rate of accommodation was 23.5%. The next edition of the Poznań Tourist Card was published. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the tourist offer has been rebuilt and partially moved to the virtual space. Successive editions of tourist projects were held, among others: "Poznań for half price", "Days of the Poznań Fortress", activities as part of the Royal and Imperial Route in Poznań with the ICHOT Poznań Gate and the Genius loci Archaeological Reserve, "Śluza Gallery", "Fest Fyrtel". In 2021, the rooms of the Railway Caponier were made available again to visitors. As part of the support for cultural tourism, the first stage of the "Poznań Craftsmen" project was implemented. As part of the tourist promotion of Poznań, campaigns were conducted to promote tourist attractions and facilities, 25 study and press visits were organised. Poznań Local Tourist Organisation participated in the EU research project "Dissonant Heritage". The City of Poznań participated in the works coordinating the Piast Route within the Tourist Cluster "Piast Route in Wielkopolska".

As part of international cooperation, Poznań carried out cooperation with 15 foreign twin cities. In 2021, there was also a cooperation with non-twin cities, particularly intensive with Berlin. The restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in limitations in the organisation of meetings and the implementation by public benefit organisations of cultural, sports and scientific cooperation projects for



residents, especially young people, with partner cities. As part of the institutional cooperation, representatives of the City participated mainly online in the works of 10 organisations and platforms of international cooperation associating cities and regions: Cities for Cyclists, EUROCITIES, European Cities Marketing, International Congress and Convention Association, Le Club de Strasbourg, Open & Agile Smart Cities, WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities, Mayors for Peace, Oder Partnerschaft, Poznań – Ille-et-Vilaine Foundation, as well as the Polish-German Intergovernmental Commission for Regional and Cross-Border Cooperation. In 2021, Poznań joined the international organisation World Innovative Cities Cooperation Organisation. Organisations: Association of Polish Cities and Union of Polish Metropolises, to which the City of Poznań belongs, were representing the City in Council of European Municipalities and Regions, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in Europe and Congress of Regions. As part of the local cooperation, the City of Poznań actively participated in the works of Poznań Metropolis Association of communes from Poznań Poviát, Poznań Poviát itself and Oborniki, Szamotuły, Śrem and Skoki. In 2021, joint metropolitan projects were continued, including: Poznań Metropolitan Railway, "Preparation and conducting an educational and information campaign among the residents of the Metropolis of Poznań regarding the improvement of air quality". Work has begun on the construction of the Metropolitan Spatial Information System. The City of Poznań independently and as part of the Poznań Metropolis Association actively promoted the investment, tourist, cultural and sports offer. Despite the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the city's offer was presented on a stationary or online basis at prestigious trade fair events, such as: Tour Salon – Fair of Regions and Tourist Products in Poznań; ITB in Berlin, IMTM Fair in Tel Aviv, BIT2021 Fair in Milan, Brno Regiontour, IBTM Fair in Barcelona, Melody ROADSHOW Fair in Frankfurt, Munich and Dusseldorf, Meet the Bidder in Warsaw, MP Fast Date in Warsaw, ANTOR Norway Regional Workshops in Stavanger, Bergen, Trondheim, Oslo.

In 2021, the Poznań brand was promoted at large cultural and sports events. These included: International Animated Film Festival Animator, Millennium Docs Against Gravity Festival, International Documentary Film Festival OFF CINEMA, ETHNO PORT FESTIVAL POZNAŃ, MAPPING FESTIVAL, EduSoc, International Young Audience Film Festival Ale Kino!, Biennial of Art for Children, Malta Festival Poznań, Georg Philippe Telemann 8th International Violin Competition, Poznań Design Festival, International Children's Festival of Folklore KIDS FUN FOLK 2021, European Championship of Seniors in Canoeing, Poznań Athletics Grand Prix, 97th PZLA Polish Championship, European Junior Championship and U23 in Canoeing, International Equestrian Competition 4FOULEE CSI4\* Poznań, International Horse Competition Cavaliada, 13th PKO Poznań Half Marathon, urban thematic events, among others: Poznań Ice Festival, Poznań Wood Festival, outdoor campaigns, social media campaigns: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest, TikTok, as well as on portals and in magazines of the business tourism industry. The City of Poznań was the initiator of a joint promotional campaign of cities associated in the

Union of Polish Metropolises, carried out in social media under the slogan #MiastowMiasto. In 2021, Poznań was awarded the organisation of the World Cup in Fencing, which took place in January 2022, and the World Cup in kayaking and para-kayaking, which will take place in 2023.

In 2021, the Poznań International Fair (MTP) organised 33 events and exhibitions, in a stationary, hybrid or online formula, attended by 2.3 thousand exhibitors, and the number of visitors amounted to 195.4 thousand people. The largest trade fairs organised in 2021 are: ITM Industry Europe, Greenpower, Drema, Polagra International Fair for Environmental Protection Poleco 2021, Gardenia, Fair of Polish Wines and Vineyards, Caravans Salon Poland, Fit-Expo, Poznań Game Arena.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, events of the meeting industry were organised in a stationary, hybrid or online form. The largest ones included: IMPACT'21, SURE2021, 3rd World Conference of the Society for Urban Ecology, 9th International Conference of the Medieval Chronicle Society, 29th SECEC-ESSSE Congress, 15th International Congress on Logistics and SCM Systems, 20th Symposium "Burns 2021".

Poznań is characterised by very high economic potential on a national scale counted as one of the country's top economically well-developed cities. The economy of Poznań is structurally diversified and well-developed in terms of branches. It is dominated by the services sector, which accounts for nearly 73% of gross value added and is a workplace for 80% of all people working in Poznań. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of companies registered in Poznań increased to 123 thousand. Most of them are SMEs, including 3.2 thousand being companies with foreign capital. Most of the companies were owned by natural persons conducting a business activity. Most of the business entities were active in the field of trade, industrial and construction production, as well as professional, scientific and technical activities. The biggest number of companies with foreign capital were founded by Ukrainian and German citizens. It is estimated that as at the end of 2021 the volume of direct foreign investments in Poznań amounted to EUR 7.9 billion. Over 270 large foreign investors have invested in the city. Two-thirds of foreign capital came from France, Japan, Germany, the USA and Great Britain, and the largest investors were: Asahi, Beiersdorf, Bridgestone, Exide Technologies, GlaxoSmithKline, Kronospan, Mars, Neinver, Unilever, Veolia, and Volkswagen. In Poznań, there were 124 centres of modern business services, mostly in the field of IT and R&D, providing services in various languages and employing a total of over 24 thousand people. In 2021, 13 new projects were launched in the sector of modern business services, which will generate nearly 3,000 new jobs for specialists, including in the field of IT and F&A. Investors from 20 countries operated in the modern business services sector, mainly from the USA, Poland, Germany, Great Britain and the Scandinavian countries, including the following companies: Bridgestone, Duni, Franklin Templeton Investments, GlaxoSmithKline, IKEA, Jeronimo Martins, MAN, Mars, McKinsey & Company, Owens Illinois, Roche, Volkswagen, some of which are also investing in Poznań in production projects. The investment potential of Poznań was presented at

many important industry events, including: International Real Estate and Investment Fair MIPIM 2021 in Cannes, International Real Estate and Investment Fair EXPO REAL 2021 in Munich, CEE Services Summit&Awards, US-Poland Science and Technology Symposium, Silicon Valley Poland Days 2021, ABSL Summit 2021, Smart City Expo World Congress.

Office space resources in Poznań at the end of 2021 amounted to 620 thousand m<sup>2</sup>.

Innovation plays an important role in the economy of Poznań, including the strong start-up environment and the games industry, cooperation platforms and networks supporting the development of clustering and high-tech. Poznań was the second centre of fin-tech companies after Warsaw. Every sixth Polish company in this industry was based in the city. In 2021, 11.1 thousand companies from the creative industry were registered in Poznań. Most of them operated in the e-commerce industry. There were over 20 gamedev production studios. There have been successive editions of well-known, specialised events related to the gaming industry – PGA Poznań Game Arena and Game Industry Conference, as well as a new event – the Festival of Historical and Socially Involved Games. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Poznań completed the EU-funded project "Let's Play in Wielkopolska".

In Poznań, 9 thousand IT companies employed 22 thousand people. Some of them worked in business service centres conducting IT activities. The City of Poznań organised the next online edition of the Pozitive Technologies conference and the Smart City Wielkopolska conference. The City of Poznań was a member of the Wielkopolska ICT Cluster.

In 2021, there were over 200 start-ups, operating mainly in the sector of new technologies, AI, Internet of Things and big data. Periodic specialist meetings and workshops for start-ups were held to a limited extent, and most of them were suspended or held online. The start-up environment in Poznań could benefit from the support of the City of Poznań as part of the "PlusOne" municipal joint work zone offer. The City of Poznań was included in the international "Global Start-up Ranking".

The scientific and academic community actively participates in building a knowledge-based economy in the city. There are interdisciplinary inter-university research centres and Poznań technology parks. Research and development activities – apart from academic ones – were also conducted by Poznań universities. In 2021, SWS University became a partner of the innovative initiative of the European Commission New European Bauhaus. The City of Poznań organised another online edition of the international conference – the City Development Forum, where innovative solutions for cities were presented.

In 2021, work was underway on the launch of a system of services for residents of Poznań dedicated to people doing their taxes in Poznań. The system called "OK Poznań" has been in operation since April 2022.

The prosperity of the city and a very high potential for economic growth were confirmed by the high ratings of the largest international rating agencies. Poznań had the highest possible rating by the local government in the country: "A-" awarded by the Fitch Ratings agency. The creditworthiness of Poznań was assessed at the same level (A3 with a stable forecast) in 2021 by the Moody's Investors Service agency. In 2021, the Fitch agency placed all assessed Polish cities on the negative watch list, which reflects the agency's uncertainty, as to how the changes in the income system of local governments introduced by the tax reform "Polski Ład" will affect the financing system of Polish local governments and, consequently, the financial profiles cities.

High level of entrepreneurship was supported by the City of Poznań, which directed its activities to people starting their own business and already operating micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. The scope of activities aimed at the development of entrepreneurship in 2021 included, among others: training, advisory and information services, subsidies for starting a business by unemployed persons granted by the Poviát Labour Office, sureties for repayment of liabilities related to running a business, granted by the Poznań Credit Guarantee Fund, business support programmes, including innovative activities, services of the Poznań Technology and Industry Park, the offer of a joint work zone "+ one", the project "Craftsmanship Corner". The largest number of people benefited from training, advisory and information services, including internet services, offered by the municipal Consulting and Training Centre as part of the Business Mentor programme, Poznań Centre for Entrepreneurship Support, Micro-Entrepreneurs Club run by the Poviát Labour Office and Poznański Fundusz Poręczeń Kredytowych Sp. z o.o. During the year, this offer was used by a total of 177 thousand people. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all training and counselling sessions were held remotely. The theme of the next edition of the Poznań Entrepreneurship Days, which were also organised online, was "My company tomorrow". In 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Poznań entrepreneurs renting municipal premises could still use the Poznań Anti-Crisis Package, and all entrepreneurs could receive support under the government's anti-crisis shield.

346 thousand people worked in Poznań (the latest available data for 2020). Most of them, approximately 80%, worked in services. 19% of employees worked in industry and construction. To the largest Poznań employers hiring over 1 thousand people, included companies operating in the manufacturing, construction, transport, communications, financial intermediation, education, healthcare and administration sectors. The largest number of employees in Poznań worked for Volkswagen Poznań Sp. z o. o. and the Adam Mickiewicz University. Entrepreneurs had the greatest problems with finding employees with specialist vocational education and employees for manual work. This situation made employers from Poznań more and more willing to use the possibility of hiring foreigners. In 2021, in Poznań itself and the Poznań Poviát, 97.7 thousand employer's declaration of intention to employ an employee with foreign citizenship in Poznań and the Poznań Poviát were registered, including 80% of citizens of Ukraine. Almost half of them were employed by temporary employment

agencies. The level of unemployment decreased and in December 2021 the unemployment rate was 1.6% while the number of registered unemployed people was 5.6 thousand. Most of the unemployed people had the lowest education degree (lower secondary and below) and higher education. Unemployed people could use the assistance system of the Poviát Labour Office, including: intermediation in the process of seeking employment, referral to internships and vocational training and active job search, intervention works and public works, co-financing of projects related to starting a business and integration benefits for unemployed people attending workshops in the field of social integration and professional training, free career counselling, including group career information. Recurring job fairs and job exchanges were held. Unemployed people from Poznań participated in projects financed by the European Social Fund and national funds, including: "Activation of young people unemployed in the Poznań Poviát", "Vocational activation of the unemployed and job seekers in the Poznań Poviát", "New approach – new possibilities. My company – your employment", "Activation and integration". Through participation in the work of the Poviát Employment Council and the Partnership for the Development of the Wielkopolska Labour Market, the Entrepreneurship and Employment Support Network, and through the Observatory of the Economy and Labour Market of the Poznań Agglomeration, the City of Poznań monitored the local labour market, actively cooperated with employers, implementing joint ventures and implementing targeted projects to increase the competences of employees, including professional education in deficit professions and education in technical fields as well as training adults. The projects carried out in this respect by the City of Poznań included: "Estimation for Professionals", "Increasing competences in the field of mathematics and computer science by high school students of the Poznań MOF", "ENIGMA – support for teaching mathematics and computer science in secondary schools of the Poznań Metropolis", "SSC/BPO Week, "Development of the Infrastructure of the Centre for Vocational and Continuing Education".

Vocational schools for young people educated the largest number of specialists in services for the population, engineering and technical, ICT, as well as business and administration. In post-secondary schools, the largest number of students studied in business and administration and medical schools. The greatest number of university graduates graduated from the following faculties: economics, accounting, pedagogy and social sciences. Universities made changes in their education offer, mainly by introducing new specialisations and fields of study, more and more often conducted as part of an agreement of several universities and with entrepreneurs.

As part of the inclusion of residents in co-management and shared responsibility for the development of the city and open social dialogue, there were 42 housing estate units of the City, of which five – covering the area of the Centre – were associated in the Coalition of Central Housing Estates. In 2021, support units spent PLN 27.7 million. The highest amount, i.e. 67.4% was allocated to local activities in the area of roads, public transport and education.

Local investments in the construction of technical infrastructure carried out by residents' associations were co-financed from the City budget.

In 2021, the City of Poznań cooperated with NGOs on the basis of the document "Annual Programme of Cooperation of the City of Poznań with NGOs for 2021" adopted by the Poznań City Council. NGOs received funding from the City's budget for implemented projects, primarily in the area of social assistance, culture, art, protection of cultural assets and national heritage, and counteracting addictions and social pathologies. In Poznań, the following activities were conducted by: the Poznań Council for Public Benefit Activities, civil dialogue committees, the Poznań Centre for Supporting NGOs and Volunteering supporting non-governmental organisations and volunteering, and 20 Local and Neighbourhood Initiative Centres, one Re-Granting Local Initiative Centres, aimed at developing cooperation between the local government and non-governmental organisations, and activation of local communities. The City of Poznań organised subsequent editions of the competition for the Best Poznań Non-Governmental Initiative (INICJATORY) and the Poznań Volunteer of the Year competition. Under the slogan "Sow the Good", the Poznań Good 2021 Fair was held, which is a combination of the NGO Day with the Social Economy Fair. The City of Poznań co-financed tasks in the area of volunteering, implemented by NGOs, including projects: "Volunteering with class!", "WWW – Versatile Volunteer Support. Second Edition ", "Volunteering – it pays off", "Development and promotion of volunteering in Poznań".

Representatives of NGOs participated in social consultations and opinion-forming teams, appointed by the Poznań City Council or the Poznań Mayor, such as: Poznań Public Benefit Works Council, City Seniors Council, City Social Council for People with Disabilities, the Large Family Council, the Youth Consultation Council at the Poznań Mayor's Office, the Youth Council of the City of Poznań and civil dialogue committees. 40 public consultations were held in 2021. The public consultation was conducted online using the online Social Consultation Platform, by letter or stationary in the public space. Forms of social dialogue included: regular consultations when making planning decisions and road investments, and single consultations on various projects important for residents, such as the new "Study of the conditions and directions of development of the City of Poznań", eight online meetings of the Mayor with residents of housing estates, Poznań Civic Budget (PBO). The City of Poznań participated in the international project entitled #deliberateria. As part of the PBO, whose budget amounted to PLN 22 million, 210 projects were submitted, for which 85.1 thousand people voted. A new form of public consultation was organised – the Poznań Citizens' Panel. The City of Poznań continued the implementation of the EU project "Healthy Boost", the aim of which is to develop an effective model of cooperation with NGOs.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, social support points for residents operated online, including: an information and consultation point in the area of legal and financial advice for individual owners of private residential buildings, Free Legal Advice Points,

Client Point of the Ombudsman. The City of Poznań organised social campaigns and projects, including: "Read it.PL, "Let's do some good together... once again ", "jeDZIELNA, "Poznań for bees ", "Jeżycki Mural", " Strength in us", "Long live 42 FYRTLE", "Departure", "LAYERS", "Art Of Packaging" competition, a campaign promoting COVID-19 vaccination.

As part of the implementation of the principles of open administration, in 2021 the city managed the Poznań Contact Office, offering call centre and contact centre services based on municipal ICT services. The ChatBot and Virtual VoiceBot Assistant services have been launched. The Poznań City Hall received 991 requests for access to public information, most of them related to urban planning and architecture as well as land management. The open BaDaM City Database was expanded, presenting information and statistical data about Poznań on the Internet, and a spatial 3D model of the City of Poznań. E-services and modern solutions in the field of smart city were developed. In 2021, the Smart City Poznań mobile application was expanded. A new e-service called "Friendly Declarations" has been implemented. The process of introducing modern management standards using IT technologies by the City of Poznań was continued. The City of Poznań became a winner of the ranking "IT Wings in Administration".

The City Council of Poznań consisted of 34 councillors. In 2021, 17 sessions were held, during which 363 resolutions were adopted. Poznań City Hall is the institution supporting the implementation of the orders of the Mayor of Poznań and resolutions of the Poznań City Council, responsible for the implementation of most public matters of local importance. Own and commissioned tasks, which are carried out by the office, mainly relate to spatial order, budget, culture, education, health, education, greenery, road maintenance, municipal waste management. In 2021, the City Hall performed many additional tasks related to counteracting the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the end of 2021, there were 33 departments and equivalent organisational units in the Poznań City Hall, in which a total of 1862 people were employed. 341 municipal organisational units, commercial companies and cooperatives with the participation of the City as well as associations, inter-municipal associations and foundations of which the City is a member or founder functioned in Poznań. In 2021, the Poznań City Hall and municipal organisational units issued 547.7 thousand administrative decisions, and the Mayor of Poznań issued 1107 orders. Most of them related to civic matters and communication and tax rights, as well as social benefits and welfare. The City of Poznań organised the first edition of the nationwide "POZAP – Poznań on Public Procurement" congress in a hybrid form. In 2021, the city was a co-organizer of the Local Trends – the European Local Government Forum event.

In 2021, the City of Poznań was awarded the titles "The Most Dynamically Developing City in Poland", "City of the Year", "Medal for the Commune" and "Top Gold Commune!" It was included in the TOP5 competition "Commune of Good for

Life" and "Ranking of Polish Cities of the Future" and "Ranking of Polish Sustainable Cities".