

EN

YOUTH CITY

Lublin's Youth Policy



 EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL

 Lublin CITY OF INSPIRATION



Ladies and Gentlemen,

Lublin was the first ever city in Poland to receive the honorable title of European Youth Capital. Nearly one thousand events dedicated to the young residents of our city took place in 2023. Initiatives, projects, and ideas of the Lublin youth have exceeded our expectations. It was an amazing show of engagement, creativity, and diversity, which was an incredible source of inspiration. Therefore, we still aspire to develop a safe environment for the youth involved with our city, learn about new possibilities, and learn more about the need to support youth's activities.

We share with you the publication "Youth City: The Youth Policy of the City of Lublin." It will serve those who work in the interest of and with young people in offices, institutions, business units, and NGOs. Lublin's youth policy derives from the solutions developed for EYC 2023 and meets the need for a systemic approach to the change of mentality and attitude towards young people. The policy's mission is to devise the priorities, values, and principles setting the course for changes that we, as the city, strive for through shared action with the youth.

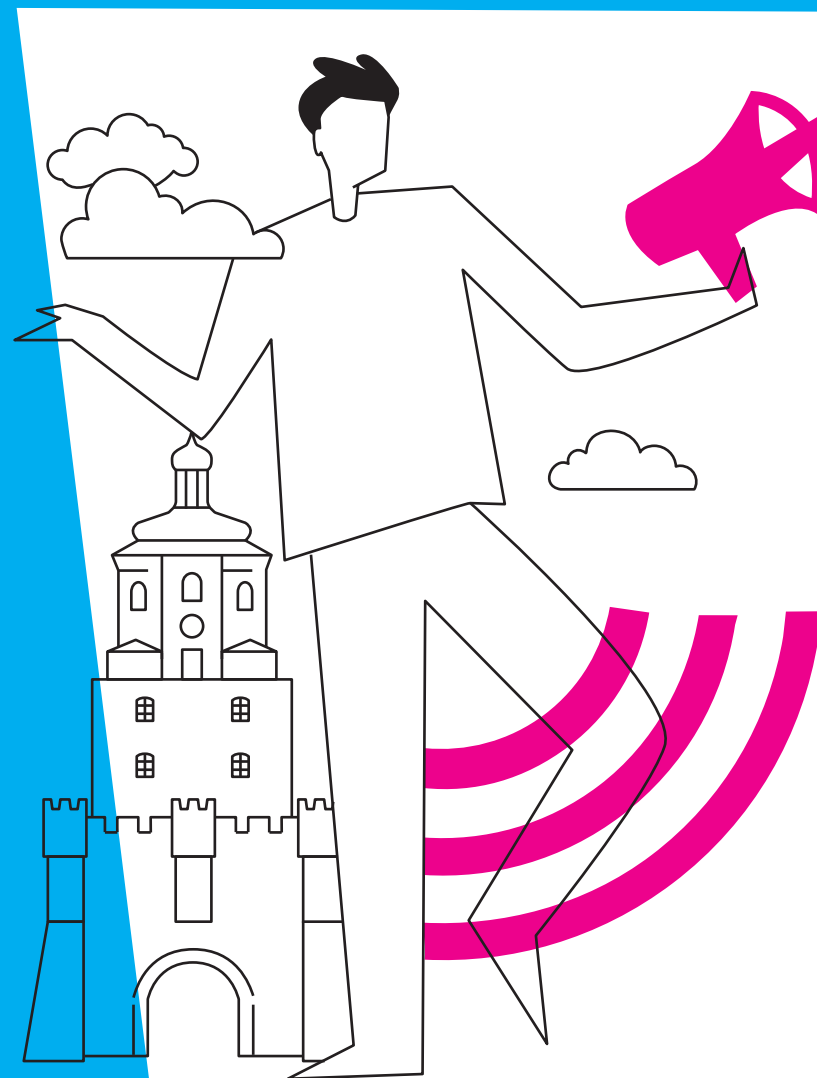
"Youth City: The Youth Policy of the City of Lublin" includes the vision and goals of the 2030 Lublin Development Strategy. The document aims to encompass and assure the cohesion of all activities for young people planned by the Lublin City Office and city units in the coming years.

Lublin European Youth Capital 2023 showed how big the potential of youth is. Together with them, we create a city in which dreams and ideas can become reality. We create a safe Lublin for everyone, where each person can fulfill themselves, develop, and feel safe.

**Deputy Mayor of Lublin for Culture,
Sport and Participation**
Beata Stepaniuk-Kuśmierczak

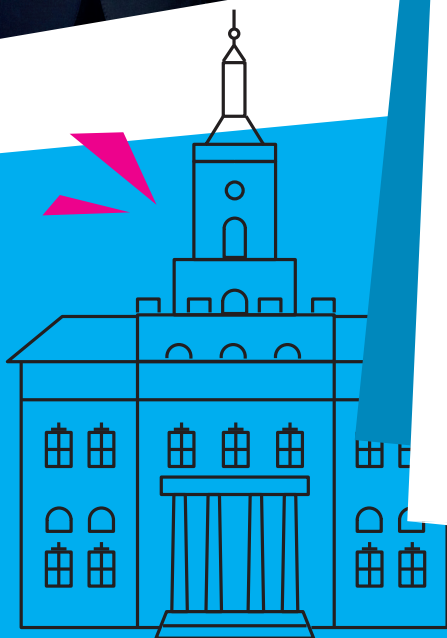
Mayor of Lublin
PhD Krzysztof Żuk

How Did We Develop the Youth Policy?



We have worked on this document since March 2023 with the involvement of young people who live and study in Lublin, experts, social activists, and local government officials.

We began with researching the world of the youth to understand their challenges and needs. For this purpose, we conducted a detailed diagnosis based on already existing results of studies on Lublin youth and other qualitative research.



After creating the first proposal for the contents of the youth policy, we had residents comment on it and give suggestions as part of public consultations. In total, we organized three open meetings for young people, those who work with young people, NGOs, the Lublin Youth City Council, the Lublin Student Board, and all interested residents. We also collected opinions through mobile consultation points.

PROGRAM:

1 Desk research – collection and analysis of what we know about young people in Poland and Lublin

2 Individual interviews with experts on the world of young people

3 Group interviews with the Lublin youth

4 Analysis of the collected material and writing the youth policy

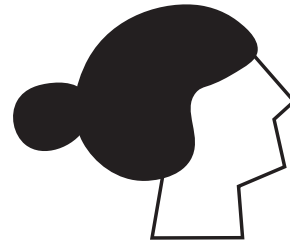
5 Internal consultations in departments of Lublin City Office and with city councillors

6 Public consultations

7 Analysis of the results of the consultations and polishing of the document

8 Presentation of the document to all interested

9 Voting by the Lublin City Council



Young Lublin in Numbers

330 447 registered
Lublin residents (1st half of 2023)

We are a city of the young and as a community, we take all the necessary steps to be a good place to live. Lublin is the city of inspiration and students (9 higher education institutions, 200 fields of study, almost 60 thousand students, over 8.5 thousand foreign students from over 110 countries) and the European Youth Capital 2023 (1000 youth-centered events in 2023, 9 Youth Spaces), which unleashed the youth's potential.

Over 30% of Lublin's residents
are people under 30.

Lublin

10-14 y.o.

25-29 y.o.

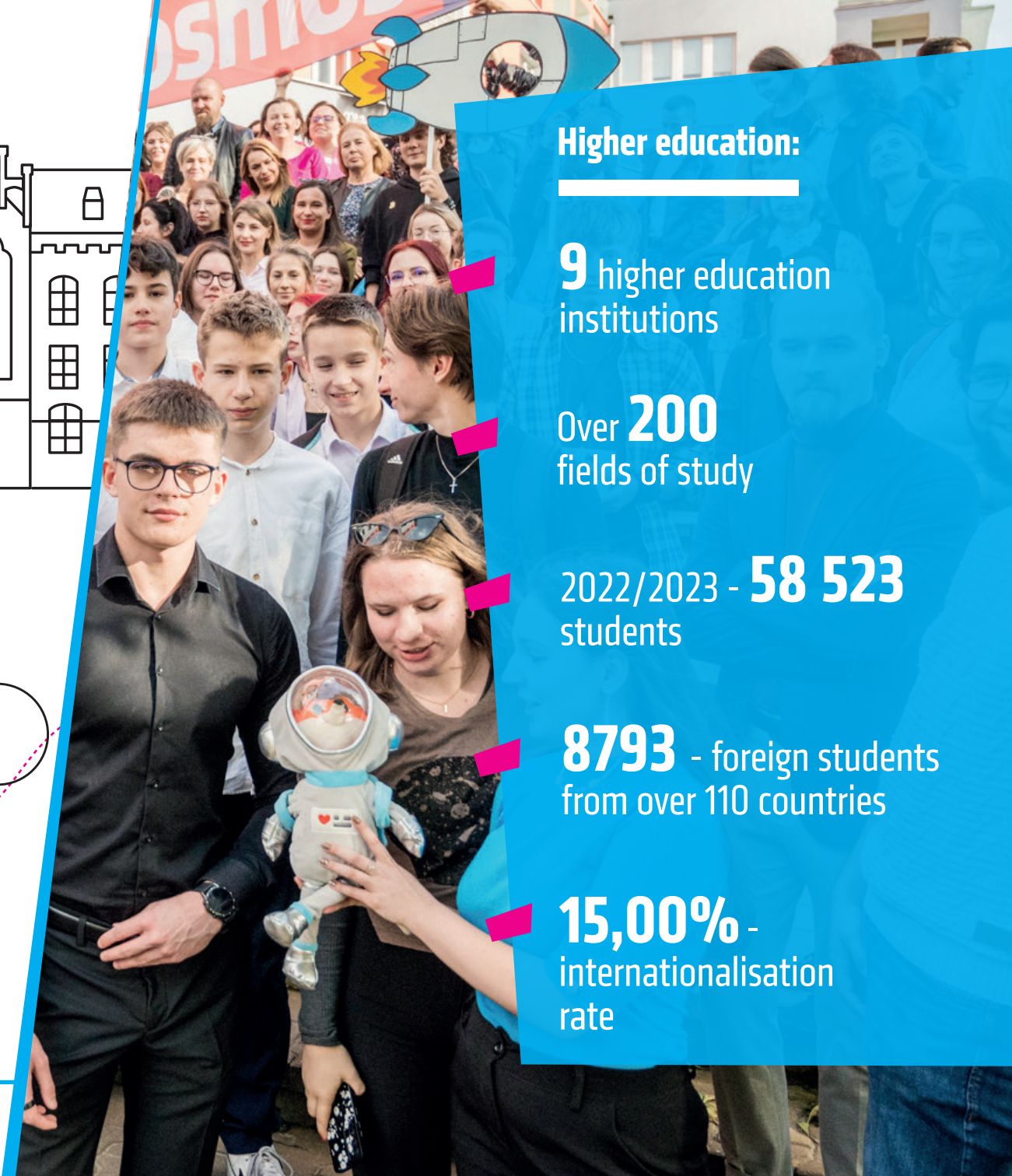
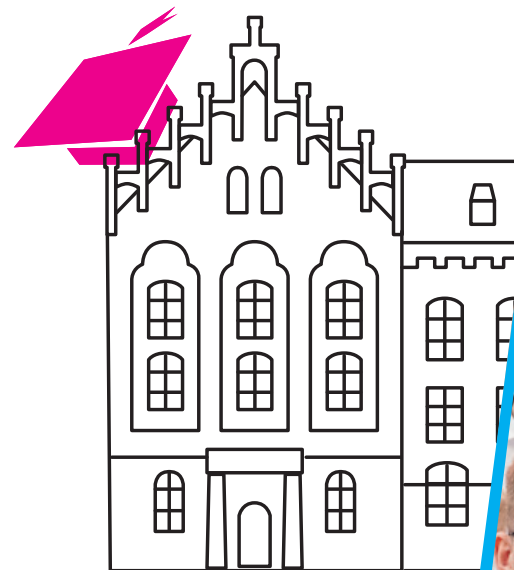
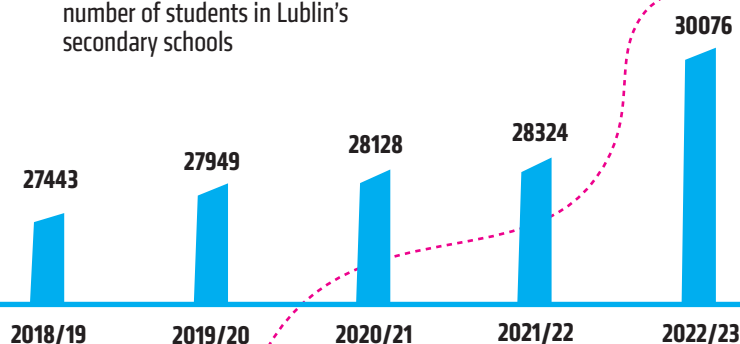
15-19 y.o.

20-24 y.o.

Education -

data showing the increase in
number of students in Lublin's
secondary schools

Education 2018 -2023
number of students in Lublin's
secondary schools



Higher education:

9 higher education
institutions

Over **200**
fields of study

2022/2023 - **58 523**
students

8793 - foreign students
from over 110 countries

15,00% -
internationalisation
rate

The Vision

We strive to not only be a youth-friendly place that listens to youth's needs and gives them the possibility to develop but, most importantly, to include them in the decision-making process regarding Lublin's future.

To make it possible, together, we created the

YOUTH CITY

The Youth Policy of the City of Lublin document.

Youth policy recipients:

Young people

aged 13 to 26 who live, study, spend time, work in Lublin, and benefit from Lublin's offer.


People who work in the interest of and with young people.



Principles


The major part of the youth policy is the principles. It is the foundation that should be part of all youth-oriented city initiatives. They are Lublin's public obligation to the values we consider key while working in the interest of and with young people.

They are also guidelines meant to simplify the execution of projects and build relations with the youth.




kocham
wspieram
akceptuję


Diversity principle - we understand that young people are diverse, and thus their needs and experiences are unique. We approach the youth without bias. We give people a clean slate – we do not perpetuate stereotypes and preconceived notions.




Agency principle - we treat young people as equals. We consider them experts in their world. We create possibilities so that they can decide on the issues that concern them and learn agency and responsibility.




Openness principle - we follow young people's lead and are curious about their perspectives. We watch and analyze behaviors, trends, and needs. We show our willingness for conversation.



Community principle - we create an intergenerational community, we cooperate, respect, and learn from each other.



Equality principle - we want everyone, regardless of barriers, to benefit from our city on equal terms. We implement inclusive measures through modern equal opportunities projects.



Safety principle - we create a safe community and wish for young people to see Lublin as a place allowing for a safe and comfortable life, and activity.

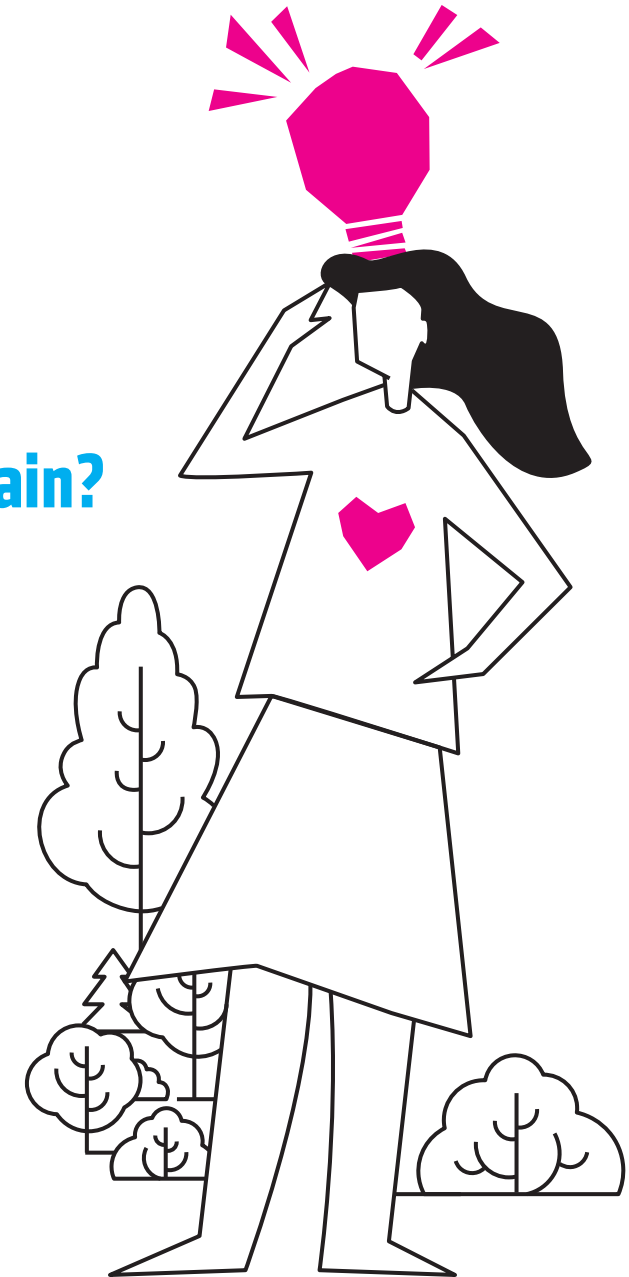
Goals

What Does the Youth Policy Document Contain?

An important part of the youth policy is the **GOALS** the city has set to achieve for **YOUNG PEOPLE TO FEEL SAFE HERE.**



Our goals are:





Goals

1. Youth with a peaceful present

Lublin pledges to create an environment in which young residents can enjoy a peaceful present, developing in a healthy, safe, and steady way.

#safety Providing safety for young people is the city's fundamental and most important task. It is the prerequisite for the youth's functioning today and also for the planning for their future and further life.

#well-being of young people Development of preventative healthcare, improvement of young people's well-being, increasing their motivation, strengthening and growth of social skills, a positive push to action, breaking the taboo of reaching out for help from mental health specialists.

#public transport We invest in eco-friendly, accessible, and low-emission public transport.

#accessibility of public services It is important to acknowledge the needs and limitations of people who study or work in Lublin.

#climate We are a green city, we arrange our city spaces in a way that enables spending time with nature.



Actions:

- Support of young people's mental health
- Child Advocacy Centre
- Eco-friendly and accessible public transport
- Development of cycle lanes
- Green Budget
- Green relaxation spaces
- Accessible infrastructure, events, and city spaces
- Climate education



Goals

2. Good Entry into Adulthood

We want to make Lublin the city of young people, where they want to develop and live in the future.

#jobmarket #family Lublin will support young people in their process of becoming independent and entering the job market by creating mechanisms satisfying their basic and most urgent needs

#housing Cooperation in the realization of an effective housing policy.

#universities We care about our relations and cross-sector cooperation (city-education-business).

#education School is the place for encouragement and initiation of social and civil activity. We support business development as well.

Actions:

- Practical professional support program
- Job fairs
- Vocational schools
- Strengthening Lublin's academicism
- Grant schemes for students
- Business studies



3. Engaged Future

Lublin creates a space for everyone's development and encourages active involvement in the local community.

#talent development We ensure that young people develop their potential. Young people should have growth opportunities in areas such as society, education, career, sport, passion, and interests.

#culture In Lublin, young people are not only the recipients of cultural activities, but also their creators – they co-create the city's offer and initiate activities.

#civic education We teach how city functions and create a safe space for the youth to express their opinions on the city's development and co-create activities and city policies.

#participation We include the youth in decision-making on the city through the Youth City Council, Lublin Student Board, and talks with youth organizations in Citizen Dialogue Commission for Youth.

#volunteering We believe in the development through action and participation in various initiatives. We build a coherent system and conditions for activity, volunteering, and action in organizations and local governments.

#sport We create conditions for public sports activities and recreation through appropriate and accessible infrastructure.

Speedway - POLISH TEAM CHAMPIONS 2022 & 2023

Volleyball	Canoes
Basketball	Sailing on the reservoir
Aqua Lublin (the glass ball)	Climbing
Arena Lublin	

#culture

5 big festivals (Carnaval, Night of Culture, Urban Highline, The Jagiellonian Fair, Different Sounds: East of Culture)

European City of Culture 2029 candidate
ACKIM Chatka Żaka – student culture and media center
11 cultural institutions

4. Youth's Local Activity

We strengthen the feeling of agency and responsibility for the surrounding spaces and community in which young people live, learn, and have fun.

#youth spaces We have created eight new open spaces for young people. We will increase access to the development and education offer and create space for social integration, building relations, and youth mobilization.

#districts Lublin's 27 districts encourage action and establishing a civic attitude as part of joint responsibility for one's school and district.

#cross-generational integration

#interculturalism Lublin notices the potential which lies in the residents' diversity and as the city with the highest internationalization rate in Poland, it supports intercultural dialogue and creates the framework for an integration policy.

#regional cooperation

Actions:

Youth Spaces
Youth-friendly places
Including young people in district-related decision-making
Intercultural integration
The Lublin Metropolitan Region cooperation



5. People Working with the Youth

We support adults who assist young people.

#youth workers We see that adults – their attitudes, approach, and actions – greatly influence how young people function and behave. We will prepare adults to build lasting relations with the youth and assess and quickly react to crises – this is the city's responsibility as well.

#cooperation network Building a cooperation network of institutions, organizations, and people working with youth and recognizing their work.

#NGOs Upskilling people and organizations that work with youth and are involved in establishing a civic attitude within them.

Actions:

- Definition of a youth worker
- Lublin youth worker code
- Upskilling people working with youth
- International cooperation – international partnerships

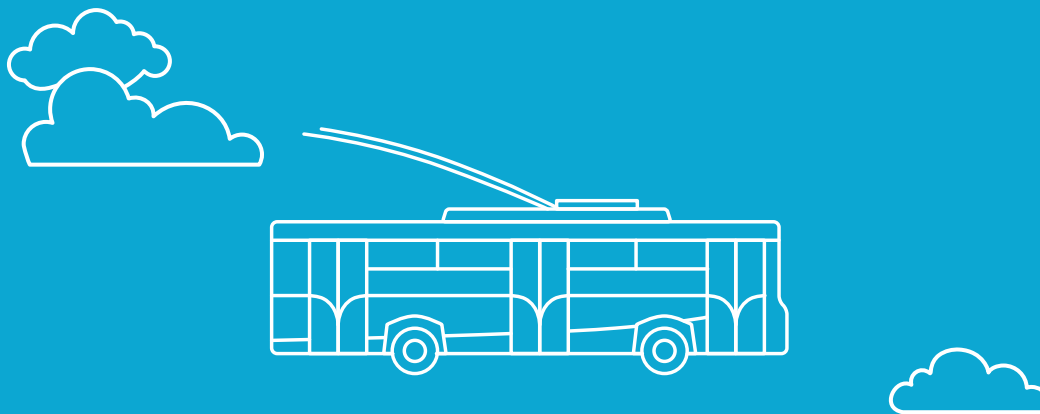


What's Next?

Let's make Lublin a city in which young people can develop in safe conditions, participate in social life, and actively shape and co-decide on the future of the city where they live, learn, work, and develop.

Let's make it a city where young people can explore their potential, feel connected to the city, and have a real influence on its future. A city where youth can dream, create, and achieve success in a friendly environment that they themselves created alongside community-minded adults.





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