



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

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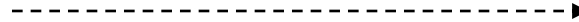
**Mälardalen
University**

MY JOURNEY

ALBANIA



2019



SWEDEN



Bachelor degree in Computer Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania.

Magister degree in Software Engineering from Mälardalen Hogskola, Västerås, Sweden.

Ph.D degree in Computer Science and Engineering from Mälardalen University, Västerås, Sweden.

HISTORY

- **Establishment:** Founded on July 1, 1977 as a University College (Högskolan i Eskilstuna och Västerås).
- **Initial vision:** From the beginning, the university college was designed to have a strong relationship with the surrounding community and local businesses. This collaborative approach remains a core part of the institution's mission today.
- **Change of name:** The name was changed to Mälardalen University College (Mälardalens högskola) in 1989.
- **University status:** In 2022, Mälardalen University College was granted full university status, becoming Mälardalen University (MDU).



(5 DISCIPLINARY DOMAINS)

Economics

Business Administration,
Economics and Political Science

Engineering & Technology

Master of Science in
Engineering, Bachelor of
Science in Engineering as well
as Computer Science, Energy
Engineering, Information
Design, Innovation and Design
and Mathematics/Applied
Mathematics Programmes

Healthcare Studies

Nurses, Specialist Nurses,
Physiotherapists, Public Health
Scientists, Behavioural
Scientists and Social Workers

Teaching & Education

Bachelor of Arts in Preschool
Education, Primary Education,
Secondary Education,
Supplementary Teacher
Education as well as Special
Needs Training and Special
Educational Needs
Programmes

Academy of Music & Opera

More than 50 full-time students
in Chamber Music and
Chamber Opera

(6 RESEARCH SPECIALISATIONS)

- Educational Sciences and Mathematics
- Embedded Systems
- Future Energy Center
- Health and Welfare
- Industrial Economics and Organisation
- Innovation and product realisation



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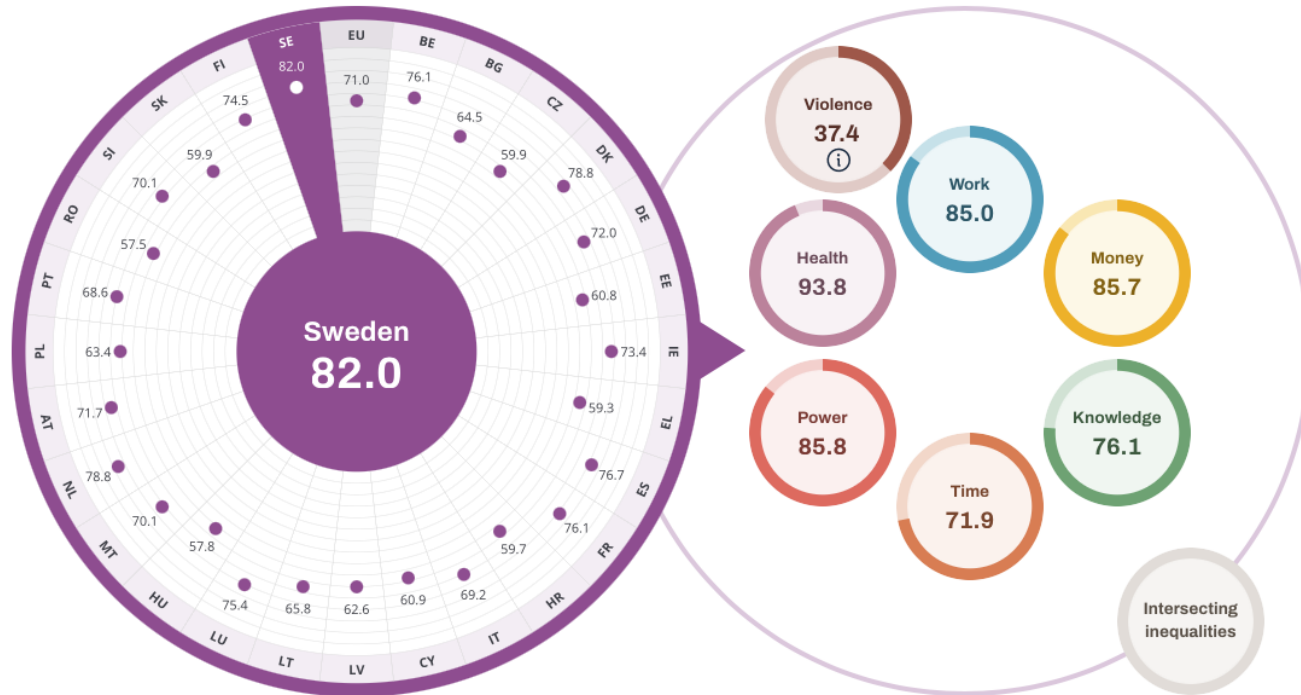
- Educational Sciences and Mathematics
- **Embedded Systems**
- **Future Energy Center**
- Health and Welfare
- Industrial Economics and Organisation
- **Innovation and Product Realisation**

Engineering @MDU



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES

GENDER EQUALITY INDEX IN SWEDEN



(MDU in numbers)

58

Programmes

1200

Staff

19000

Students (7800 full time students)

MDU

333

Doctoral students
42% women

900

Courses

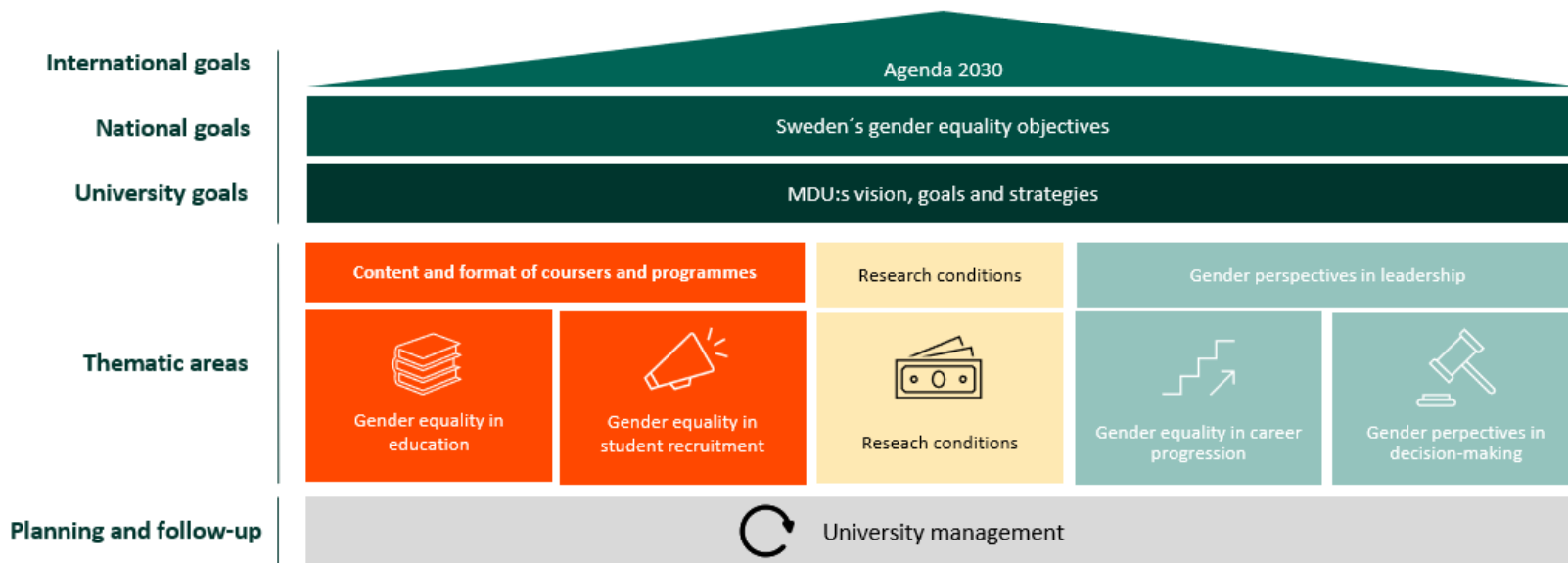
67

Professors
46% women

ca.130

International agreements in around 40 countries

GENDER EQUALITY PLAN



Role Model Award to IDT teacher

*#addher, one of Sweden's **largest networks for women in the IT/Tech** branch, has awarded an award to **Caroline Uppsäll**, who won in the Role Model category with the justification: "In addition to **inspiring women to develop in and study Computer Science**, Caroline is incredibly committed and **sees all students**. A real Role Model and cut in the staggered steps into the big tech world!" Congratulations, Caroline!*

“

When I first started teaching at MDU (2000), the student body was almost entirely Swedish.

-Gordana Dodig-Crnkovic

Professor of Computer Science

THE SUNRISE ALLIANCE

- Part of the European Universities Initiative, linking **nine regional** universities, including MDU, to strengthen cooperation in education, research, and innovation.
- Connects smaller and regional universities, and ensures that voices from diverse **and less central regions** are represented in European higher education.
- Through SUNRISE, MDU welcomes students and staff from partner universities, creating a more **multicultural campus**.
- Through **intercultural workshops** and collaboration across countries, SUNRISE **builds cultural awareness** and intercultural competence among students and staff.



*“raise **intercultural and global awareness** among students and staff and to increase their **intercultural competences**.”*

EDISS MASTER PROGRAMME

- Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree Programme on the Engineering of Data-intensive Intelligent Software Systems.
- Students from **across the world** study in **two** European universities, promoting intercultural exchange.
- Erasmus Mundus scholarships and tuition-fee waivers remove financial barriers and widen participation.
- The programme has attracted 108 top-tier students from **around the world. Tailored study plans** for students admitted to the programme, who based on individual physical, mental or health-related conditions need special support.



INCLUSION 4 EU

- **Research:** Investigate co-design methodologies for inclusion and to what extent they are taught in universities across Europe.
- **Co-design:** Organize sessions involving users from excluded categories (e.g. those with disabilities, marginalized groups) to co-design inclusive software development processes.
- **Resources:** Develop open access resources for computer science teachers to introduce students to co-design methodologies.
- **Training:** Organize courses / training for CS teachers so they can educate their students in inclusive co-design practices.



THE SUCCESS PROJECT

- Partnership between universities in Europe, Colombia and Panama for **capacity building** in computer science education and innovation.
- Establishes **smart labs** where students and teachers collaborate online using shared digital tools, resources and real-world projects.
- Strengthens teaching and learning through **joint training, co-developed curricula** and **student mobility** for practical experience.
- Promotes **global inclusion by reducing regional gaps** in opportunities, skills and participation for both students and educators in computing.





Diversity and inclusion can not survive on checklists or strategies alone. They **live through people**, through those who care enough to keep pushing, to listen, to build bridges where there were none. It takes passion to make space for others, and courage to keep that space open. The people who carry this work forward **see possibility where others see difference**. Their passion is what keeps our institutions humane, our science ethical, and our communities connected.

THANK YOU!