

Policy on Environmental Sustainability

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SAMHÄLLSVETARKÅREN

Purpose

The Social Sciences Student Union at Lund University's main purpose is to promote and monitor students' interests in relation to Lund University and other relevant actors. In doing so, we strive to be as environmentally sustainable as possible. In this document, further guidelines on purchases, recycling, sustainable food choices and transport can be found that shall be applied in the everyday operations of the Social Sciences Student Union.

Purchases, recycling and everyday operations

The internal everyday operations of the Social Sciences Student Union constitute a large part of the student union's environmental and climatic impact. The Social Sciences Student union shall therefore always consider the environmental sustainability of a product before purchase, and to the extent possible prioritize the more eco-friendly alternative. The student union shall also apply digital archiving to the largest extent possible, print double-sided and avoid unnecessary use of paper products. All separable materials shall be recycled according to the Lund municipality recommendations.

At events hosted by the Social Sciences Student Union, the use of disposable products should be avoided as much as organizationally possible, with special emphasis on plastic or non-recyclable products. At such events, the Social Sciences Student union shall always strive to offer the visitors, workers and staff the possibility to recycle relevant materials and product types directly, by for example having recycling bins at the venue.

Sustainable food choices

The Social Sciences Student Union adheres to a lacto-ovo-vegetarian norm, such that no meat, fish or seafood is served at events or meetings, with the exception of traditional events (Surströmmingen and Gåsen), where a meat option can be requested upon registration. The student union shall however always consider allergies in order for all active members to be able to participate in an inclusive manner.

Coffee is one of the most purchased and consumed food products within the Social Sciences Student Union. The student union shall prioritize ordering coffee that is organic and Fairtrade.

Transportation

Active members of the Social Sciences Student Union participate in events, meetings and co-operations on local, regional and national level. Although certain transportation is necessary to fully participate, the student union shall strive towards a use of transportation with the lowest negative planetary impact. When examining different means of transport, the student union shall always choose train, bus or other public transportation before car as the main method of transportation. Travels by flight shall be avoided to the greatest possible extent, and shall always be avoided in domestic travels to destinations south of Sundsvall, Sweden. Flight travels financed by the student union has to be approved by the board and include a carbon offset.