

# **REPORT OF SDGs 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS**

**Peaceful, Justice, and Strong Institutions: Fostering  
Peace and Inclusivity, USK's Dedication to Justice and  
Institutional Integrity**



**UNIVERSITAS SYIAH KUALA  
SUSTAINABILITY REPORT  
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# 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



## Peaceful, Justice, and Strong Institutions: Fostering Peace and Inclusivity, USK's Dedication to Justice and Institutional Integrity

As part of its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, Universitas Syiah Kuala (USK) has implemented various initiatives to foster peaceful and inclusive societies, ensure access to justice, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions. These efforts are evident in the university's partnerships, educational programs, and community engagement activities, aimed at enhancing societal cohesion and promoting fair governance in both the university and local communities.

### 1. Strengthening International Collaboration for Inclusive Education

USK has taken significant strides to strengthen its global presence and expertise by establishing partnerships with international institutions. Recently, USK engaged in discussions with the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which pledged support for collaboration between USK and Norwegian universities. This partnership is anticipated to facilitate the exchange of best practices and resources, particularly in the fields of inclusive education and social justice. By learning from Norway's advancements in equitable education and governance, USK aims to reinforce its commitment to inclusivity and create an environment where students from diverse backgrounds feel welcome and supported (Dialeksis, 2023).



To further these goals, USK organized an orientation program for new international students in the 2023-2024 academic year. This initiative not only familiarizes students with the university's policies and resources but also serves

as a platform to promote cultural understanding and inclusivity among the international academic community. By fostering an environment of openness and respect for diversity, USK supports the peaceful integration of students from various countries, aligning with SDG 16's objectives to create inclusive institutions (USK, 2023).

### 2. Collaborations with NGOs to Promote Human Rights

In its mission to strengthen human rights advocacy, USK's Faculty of Social and Political Sciences (FISIP) has partnered with Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR), a prominent non-governmental organization focused on promoting human rights across Asia. This collaboration includes organizing workshops, public discussions, and research projects that address pressing human rights issues, particularly within the local Acehese context. Through these initiatives, FISIP and AJAR aim to empower students with the knowledge and skills necessary to advocate for justice and equity within their communities (Meuseuraya, 2023).



The partnership with AJAR not only enriches USK's curriculum with real-world perspectives on human rights issues but also provides students and faculty with the opportunity to engage in critical dialogues on justice and reconciliation. This exposure is particularly relevant in Aceh, a region with a complex history of conflict and peacebuilding. By actively participating in human rights education and advocacy, USK contributes to the development of peaceful and resilient communities in Aceh and beyond.

### 3. Educational Programs on Governance and Accountability

USK is deeply committed to educating students on the principles of good governance and accountability, essential components of SDG 16. In a recent seminar hosted by the Faculty of Law, students were introduced to the importance of energy governance and its implications for social justice and sustainable development. This seminar aimed to equip students with the knowledge to understand how policy decisions in energy and resource management impact society at large, particularly marginalized communities (Berita Merdeka, 2023).

Additionally, USK's transformation into a Legal Entity State University (Perguruan Tinggi Negeri Badan Hukum, or PTNBH) has provided the institution with greater autonomy and responsibility in its governance structure. This shift allows USK to implement transparent and accountable management practices, setting an example of responsible governance within the higher education sector. The autonomy granted by PTNBH status enables USK to make independent decisions regarding academic and administrative policies, thereby strengthening the institution's accountability to its stakeholders and contributing to more inclusive and effective governance (RRI, 2023).

### 4. Promoting Inclusive Education and Accessibility

USK actively promotes inclusive education, working to make its educational offerings accessible to students from all backgrounds. In collaboration with American experts on inclusive education, USK recently hosted a public lecture aimed at enhancing the capacity of faculty and staff to support students with diverse learning needs. This lecture focused on strategies to create inclusive classrooms and provide equal opportunities for students with disabilities, aligning with SDG 16's goal to create inclusive educational institutions (USK, 2023).



This initiative underscores USK's commitment to developing a supportive academic environment that meets the needs of all students, regardless of their physical or learning abilities. By adopting inclusive teaching practices and fostering an accommodating academic atmosphere, USK ensures that every student has the opportunity to fully participate in academic life, contributing to a more inclusive society.