

**Introduction:**

De Montfort University (DMU) is proud to be the United Nations Academic Impact Hub for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)16: Peace Justice and Strong Institutions. The hub oversees initiatives to advance all SDGs both in teaching, research and outreach. To do this effectively, DMU collaborates with the United Nations and Economic and Social Council partners, universities and other institutions to promote local and global peacebuilding efforts, particularly in developing countries and areas of deprivation using research projects, educational opportunities, and policy advocacy aimed at strengthening governance and promoting peaceful societies. The university engages with outreach programs, workshops, and events that aim to address social inequalities and promote social justice within the local context by fostering strong community ties and encouraging civic participation. The university frequently organises campaigns and events to raise awareness about issues related to SDG16, such as human rights, justice, and peace. These activities engage both the university community and the broader public in discussions and actions that contribute to the advancement of peace, justice and strong institutions and all SDGs.

**1. Designation, Focus, and Ethos**

We are honoured to be the only UK Higher Education institution assigned to be a UN SDG Hub, and this ethos extends across our institution. De Montfort University as the 'Empowering University' has a cross-cutting theme which is dedicated to sustainability and the SDGs.

**2. Legacy in Action**

Our DMU campus hosts the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre, which enables our students, colleagues, partners and stakeholders, educational and research opportunities to promote social justice, debate critical issues, raise awareness, and advocate for positive change. With the support and generosity of Stephen's family we hope to provide a lasting legacy of hope in Stephen's memory. [Stephen Lawrence Research Centre \(dmu.ac.uk\)](https://www.dmu.ac.uk/stephen-lawrence-research-centre)

**3. Climate Action Awards**

In recognition of students and staff who embody working practices and research related to environmental concerns across the university.

**4. Environmental Management and Sustainable Estates Policy**

We are committed to working towards net-zero operations with key environmental areas including: biodiversity, waste, transport and energy.

**5. Students as SDG Hub Participants, Co-creators and Advocates**

We create opportunities for our students to experience SDG activities, create and share them too.

**6. Teaching and Learning**

Our curriculum embeds Education for Sustainable Development within teaching and learning activities, in a variety of forms in alignment to 'Systemic Thinking' as being integral to our DMU students' Graduate Attributes

**7. PGCEE: Post Graduate Certificate of Empowering Education**

DMU colleagues can undertake this qualification which has an embedded module entirely focussed on the SDGs

**8. Research and Knowledge Generation**

Sustainability is at the centre of our research activities in all 17 SDG thematic areas. We champion interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary working to maximise impact for the wider DMU communities. Our work has local, regional, national and international impact.

**9. Community Engagement and Outreach**

Our colleagues and students work with organisations and initiatives across our DMU communities and these include:

- Creating safer classrooms for prisoners to learn
- Sharing stories and advocacy for refugee and migrant communities
- Championing round-ended knives as a proactive measure to limit harm from knives
- Advocating handwashing to prevent transmittance of germs
- Producing chemicals with industry that reduce environmental harm within fingerprint development processes
- Developing an international football network with UN Football for the Goals

**10. SDG Hub Initiatives and Events**

We facilitate online and on campus events celebrating our SDG activities as an institution to encourage everyone to participate and engage. These include recognising international UN Days.