



**NKUA remains in the top 1.4% of Universities globally according to the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR)**

<https://cwur.org/2023.php>

The **Centre for World University Rankings (CWUR)** released the list of the world's 2,000 best Universities for 2023. This 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual edition of CWUR developed from the evaluation and rating of **20,531 Universities**, of which the top 2,000 stood out. This year's ranking reiterated the outstanding calibre of the **National and Kapodistrian University of Athens**, which **placed 278<sup>th</sup>** out of the world's 2,000 best Higher Educational Institutions, continuing in the top 300 for the fourth year in a row, i.e., in the **1.4% of top Universities worldwide**.

At the same time, NKUA received the **top national ranking out of the twelve (12) Greek Universities** included in the CWUR tables, with Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (429<sup>th</sup> place worldwide) and the National Technical University of Athens (578<sup>th</sup> place worldwide) following. The University of Ioannina (736<sup>th</sup> place worldwide) and the University of Crete (771<sup>st</sup> place worldwide) round out the top 5 nationwide (see Table 1).

NKUA's best performance indicator was '**Research**' (**228<sup>th</sup> place worldwide**), which has a weighting factor of 40% (see Table 2). It is important to note that CWUR ranks the world's Universities using seven objective and robust indicators grouped into four areas:

1. **Education:** This indicator measures the weighted number of a University's graduates who have received top awards, medals, and prizes relative to the University's size [25%].

2. **Employability:** This indicator measures the weighted number of a University’s graduates holding CEO positions at the world’s top companies relative to the University’s size [25%].
3. **Faculty:** This indicator measures the weighted number of faculty members and researchers of a University who have received significant awards, medals, and prizes [10%].
4. **Research:** Four indicators make up this area with a combined weighting factor of 40%:
  - i. **Research Output:** This indicator measures the total number of research papers [10%]. CWUR collects datapoints from the *Science Citation Index Expanded*, the *Social Sciences Citation Index*, and the *Arts & Humanities Citation Index* of the Web of Science database.
  - ii. **High-Quality Publications:** This indicator obtains journals from Clarivate Analytics’ Journal Citation Reports (JCR), which ranks in order of importance journals from 23 broad fields. It measures the number of research papers appearing in top-tier journals [10%].
  - iii. **Influence:** This indicator measures the number of research papers appearing in highly-influential journals [10%].
  - iv. **Citations:** This indicator measures the number of highly-cited research papers [10%].

**Table 1: Placing and Performance of the twelve (12) Greek Universities included in the table of the 2,000 best Universities in the world according to CWUR (2023)**

Institution	National Rank 2023	World Rank 2023	Score 2023
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens	1	278 (top 1.4%)	77.2
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	2	429 (top 2.1%)	75.1

<b>National Technical University of Athens</b>	3	<b>578</b> <b>(top 2.9%)</b>	73.5
<b>University of Ioannina</b>	4	<b>736</b> <b>(top 3.6%)</b>	72.2
<b>University of Crete</b>	5	<b>771</b> <b>(top 3.8%)</b>	71.9
<b>University of Patras</b>	6	<b>824</b> <b>(top 4.1%)</b>	71.5
<b>University of Thessaly</b>	7	<b>1068</b> <b>(top 5.3%)</b>	70.0
<b>Democritus University of Thrace</b>	8	<b>1377</b> <b>(top 6.8%)</b>	68.4
<b>University of the Aegean</b>	9	<b>1378</b> <b>(top 6.8%)</b>	68.4
<b>Agricultural University of Athens</b>	10	<b>1685</b> <b>(top 8.3%)</b>	67.1
<b>Harokopio University of Athens</b>	11	<b>1768</b> <b>(top 8.7%)</b>	66.8
<b>Technical University of Crete</b>	12	<b>1950</b> <b>(top 9.5%)</b>	66.1

Source: Website of CWUR <https://cwur.org/2023.php>

**Table 2: Placing and Performance of the twelve (12) Greek Universities in the ‘Research’ area according to CWUR (2023)**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>‘Research’ World Rank 2023</b>	<b>‘Research’ National Rank 2023</b>
<b>National and Kapodistrian University of Athens</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Aristotle University of Thessaloniki</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>National Technical University of Athens</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>University of Ioannina</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>4</b>

University of Crete	734	5
University of Patras	786	6
University of Thessaly	1018	7
Democritus University of Thrace	1319	8
University of the Aegean	1320	9
Agricultural University of Athens	1611	10
Harokopio University of Athens	1694	11
Technical University of Crete	1870	12

Source: Website of CWUR <https://cwur.org/2023.php>

The United States of America dominates the Center for World University Rankings tables, with 332 Universities overall and eight in the top ten worldwide. China comes in second with 319 Universities, followed by the United Kingdom and France, represented by 93 and 76 Universities, respectively. Harvard University places 1<sup>st</sup> globally, while the University of Cambridge (4<sup>th</sup> in the world) is the highest-ranking public University in CWUR for the 9<sup>th</sup> year in a row.

### **A few things about CWUR and its global rankings**

CWUR is a leading consulting organization providing services to governments, public organizations, and Universities to improve their educational and research outcomes. It publishes accurate global University rankings relied on by students, academics, University administrations, and government officials worldwide for their objectivity, transparency, and consistency.

The Centre for World University Rankings publishes perhaps **the only academic rating of global Universities that evaluates** the quality of education, level of faculty, and research performance **without depending on surveys, questionnaires, interviews, and data provided by the Universities themselves.**

Several facts that indicate CWUR's objectivity and impartiality are listed below:

- i. Some rankings, e.g., ARWU (aka The Shanghai List), focus on Institutions whose students or graduates have won the Nobel Prize and other awards

in specific fields but take no account of other prizes, medals, and personal honours. **CWUR, on the contrary, considers a continuously updated list of prizes and awards.** Illustratively, we mention the following: Abel Prize, Balzan Prize, Berggruen Prize, Breakthrough Prize, Charles Stark Draper Prize, Crafoord Prize, Dan David Prize, Fields Medal, Gruber Prize, Holberg International Memorial Prize, Japan Prize, Johan Skytte Prize, Kluge Prize, Kyoto Prize, Millennium Technology Prize, Praemium Imperiale, Pritzker Prize, Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering, Shaw Prize, Schock Prize, Stockholm Prize in Criminology, Templeton Prize, Turing Award, Vautrin Lud Prize, Vetlesen Prize, Wolf Prize, and World Food Prize.

- ii. In some rankings, e.g., QS, **reputation surveys** based on questionnaires account for 50% of a University's overall score. **That effectively favours world-famous Universities over those allocating less to advertising and promotion.** The same applies to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, where reputation surveys account for one third of a University's final score.
- iii. Unlike other rankings, **CWUR takes into account publications in Arts and Humanities.**

In closing, I would like to thank all members of our academic community for their everyday significant effort to maintain the high quality of teaching and research at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. This present distinction, like all the others achieved and announced in the past, is rightfully theirs. We pledge to continue our collaborative actions to promote our University's teaching, research, and social work across the globe.

**Thanos Dimopoulos**

**Rector of NKUA**