VŠTE.
Vysoká škola technická
a ekonomická v Prešove

Regulation No. **9/2026**	**Internal Regulation of the Institute of Technology and Business in Prešov**

Directive VŠTE No. 9/2026 Environmental Sustainability Strategy

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Approved by			Board of Trustees of VŠTE in Prešov on 29 October 2026		
			doc. Ing. Jakub Horák, MBA, PhD., Chair of the Board of Trustees		
Prepared by (submitted by)			Rector of VŠTE in Prešov (proposal under Section 31(2) of Act No. 300/2025 Coll.)		
			doc. ThDr. PaedDr. Marek Storoška, PhD., Rector		
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Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Institute of Technology and Business in Prešov

Directive VŠTE No. 9/2026

2026

Article 1 Introductory Provisions

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy (hereinafter the "Strategy") of the Institute of Technology and Business in Prešov (hereinafter "VŠTE in Prešov") is one of the significant documents of VŠTE in Prešov. It responds to the societal demand for the protection of the environment and represents a contribution to addressing the current requirements arising from climate change at the local level. Its principal aim is to set up the operation of VŠTE in Prešov in such a way that its individual activities minimise their negative impact on the environment and, at the same time, ensure the long-term environmental sustainability of its activities over the long term.

The Strategy is an internal regulation of VŠTE in Prešov issued pursuant to Section 31(1)(o) of Act No. 300/2025 Coll. on Higher Education and on Amendments to Certain Acts (the Higher Education Act) (hereinafter the "Act") and builds upon the Long-Term Strategic Plan of VŠTE in Prešov for the years 2026 – 2032 drawn up pursuant to Section 7(4) of the Act.

Article 2 Definition of the Current State

The principal vision of documents at this level in the field of the environment is to ensure a better quality of the environment and a sustainable economy based, to the greatest possible extent, on the use of renewable resources.

Higher education institutions as such cannot be classed among significant polluters of the environment. The nature of the key activities carried out by higher education institutions does not create direct risks of serious damage to the environment. Higher education institutions are, however, centres of learning, science, research and innovation, and significant actors and partners of entities in the economic and political environment. It follows from this characteristic that higher education institutions should gradually define themselves at least as regional leaders in the field of environmental sustainability.

A limiting factor for VŠTE in Prešov is that it is not within its power to influence all factors, since it is located in leased premises.

VŠTE in Prešov does not provide education directly in fields of study related to the environment; however, in some programmes it has implemented courses which are directly related to the topics of environmental sustainability.

Practically all study programmes prepare professionals who, within their profession, will have to master cross-cutting and global topics, which include, among others, issues related to the protection of the environment and the protection of the life and health of the population. Here we see not only scope but

above all the need to stimulate students towards a heightened awareness of the need for positive environmental conduct.

Article 3 Vision and Objectives

VŠTE in Prešov will, within its possibilities, build a functional system of environmental sustainability which will make it possible to systematically reduce the negative impact of the activities it carries out on the environment. It will endeavour to the greatest possible extent to contribute to proactive conduct in the field of environmental protection. In order to fulfil this vision, VŠTE in Prešov will endeavour to fulfil objectives which may positively influence environmental awareness.

VŠTE in Prešov will, within its possibilities, create conditions for a greater representation of sustainable development topics in all accredited programmes of higher education study, as well as in postgraduate and non-formal education, including educational programmes leading to a micro-credential under Act No. 292/2024 Coll. on Adult Education and on Amendments to Certain Acts.

When creating and modifying study programmes, VŠTE in Prešov takes into account the development of green skills within the meaning of Section 31(3) of Decree No. 205/2026 Coll. of the Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic implementing certain provisions of the Higher Education Act, following the procedure laid down in Directive VŠTE No. 4/2026 on the Creation, Modification, Approval and Cancellation of Study Programmes and the Submission of Applications for Accreditation (Smernica VŠTE č. 4/2026 na vytváranie, úpravu, schvaľovanie, zrušenie študijných programov a podávanie žiadostí o udelenie akreditácie).

VŠTE in Prešov will communicate to its business partners a change in the portfolio of services and goods supplied in favour of those more environmentally friendly. VŠTE in Prešov will gradually integrate elements of green procurement of goods and services into its purchasing processes and will, at the same time, encourage its employees to adopt a more economical approach to the consumption of materials required for their work.

Article 4 Control of Processes

VŠTE in Prešov will carry out, on a regular basis, a review of the fulfilment of the objectives laid down in this Directive. The results of the review are evaluated at least once a year and are reflected in the annual report on the activities of VŠTE in Prešov pursuant to Section 18(1)(b) of the Act.

Article 5 Related Regulations

This Directive builds in particular upon the following legal regulations and internal regulations of VŠTE in Prešov:

- Act No. 300/2025 Coll. on Higher Education and on Amendments to Certain Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended by Act No. 121/2026 Coll. (in particular Sections 7, 18 and 31),
- Decree No. 205/2026 Coll. of the Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic implementing certain provisions of the Higher Education Act,

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- Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance in Higher Education and on Amendments to Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended,
- Act No. 292/2024 Coll. on Adult Education and on Amendments to Certain Acts,
- the Statute of VŠTE in Prešov (Štatút VŠTE v Prešove),
- the Long-Term Strategic Plan of VŠTE in Prešov for the years 2026 – 2032 (Dlhodobý zámer VŠTE v Prešove na roky 2026 – 2032),
- the Internal Quality System of VŠTE in Prešov (Vnútorný systém kvality VŠTE v Prešove),
- Directive VŠTE No. 4/2026 on the Creation, Modification, Approval and Cancellation of Study Programmes and the Submission of Applications for Accreditation,
- Directive VŠTE No. 6/2026 Strategy for the Development of Education (Smernica VŠTE č. 6/2026 Stratégia rozvoja vzdelávania),
- Directive VŠTE No. 7/2026 Internationalisation Strategy (Smernica VŠTE č. 7/2026 Stratégia internacionalizácie),
- Directive VŠTE No. 8/2026 Strategy for the Development of Science and Research (Smernica VŠTE č. 8/2026 Stratégia rozvoja vedy a výskumu),
- Directive VŠTE No. 14/2026 Organisational Rules (Smernica VŠTE č. 14/2026 Organizačný poriadok).

Article 6 Repealing Provisions

Directive No. 9/2026 of 20 April 2026 repealed Rector's Directive No. 3/2020 Environmental Sustainability Strategy at the College of International Business ISM Slovakia in Prešov (Smernica rektora č. 3/2020 Stratégia environmentálnej udržateľnosti na Vysokej škole medzinárodného podnikania ISM Slovakia v Prešove) of 1 July 2020. No further internal regulation is repealed by this wording; it replaces the original wording of Directive VŠTE No. 9/2026 of 20 April 2026.

Article 7 Final Provisions

This Directive has no annexes. Related documents and current information on environmental sustainability are published by VŠTE in Prešov on its website (www.vste.sk).

This internal regulation was approved by the Board of Trustees of VŠTE in Prešov on 20 April 2026.

This internal regulation enters into force and takes effect on 20 April 2026.

This version was approved and issued by the Board of Trustees of VŠTE in Prešov on the proposal of the Rector (Section 31(2)(g) of the Act) on 29 October 2026. Effective from 29 October 2026.

Prešov, 29 October 2026



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Chair of the Board of Trustees of VŠTE in Prešov