



# GLOBAL CHALLENGES

at STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

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## Stockholm School of Economics reshapes its undergraduate program

The new Global Challenges track will foster the empathetic leaders of tomorrow

**Today, Stockholm School of Economics launches** a new orientation for its Business and Economics bachelor's program. The new course track, called Global Challenges, comprises an expanded curriculum designed to increase students' insights into the global challenges facing society, and to turn them into wise and empathetic leaders.

'Our students are a small fraction of this country's college students, but make up a large portion of Sweden's future decision-makers in business and society. We want to face up to that responsibility and make sure that our education is in line with a constantly changing world. Excellent professional skills are not enough to be the kind of leader that moves society forward; when our students leave the school, they also have to be well-rounded and have a deep understanding of cultural contexts', says Lars Strannegård, president of Stockholm School of Economics.

**The new initiative** is made possible by a generous donation of SEK 40 million from the Global Challenges Foundation, which was founded in 2012 by Laszlo Szombatfalvy, financial analyst and author of the book *The Greatest Challenges of Our Time* (2009). The aim of the Foundation is to increase knowledge of the major risks facing humanity today, and to spark discussion and proposals of how these problems can be handled, and, preferably, eliminated.

'The global community today faces a number of global issues and risks: climate change, other large-scale destruction of the environment, politically motivated violence, extreme poverty and continuing fast population growth. It is my hope that the Global Challenges track at Stockholm School of Economics will give future decision-makers knowledge and insight that enable them to contribute to a safer and more sustainable world', says Laszlo Szombatfalvy, founder and chairman of the Global Challenges Foundation.

**The Global Challenges track** is comparable to "contextual studies" programs at other leading international universi-



ties. It runs parallel to the two first two years of study, and forms a context for the remaining courses and content of the program. The teaching process is largely based on co-creation between researchers and students, but also on continuous participation by national and international companies and organizations.

The advisory group for the program includes such figures as Johan Rockström, Executive Director of the Stockholm Resilience Center and board member of the Global Challenges Foundation; Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University; and Joanna Mair, Professor of organization, strategy and leadership at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin.

For more information and images, go to [www.hhs.se/globalchallenges](http://www.hhs.se/globalchallenges) or contact:

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