



Rector

Commencement Speech Graduation Ceremony 14.11.2020

Honourable Guests!
Dear Graduates!

I am pleased to welcome you to the graduation ceremony – an important event in the life of our Alma Mater. I would like to especially warmly welcome the heroes of today's celebration: the graduates of the SGH Warsaw School of Economics. Let me congratulate you on your successful completion of your studies. You certainly deserve the credit for it, but I would also like to thank your academic teachers who did not spare their efforts in educating future social and economic leaders.

Today's meeting is exceptional: for the first time in the history of our university, the graduation ceremony is held online. I wish we could meet in person to celebrate together. I hope there will be many opportunities to do that in the future. I am happy that, despite the unexpected challenges that you faced, you succeeded in graduating and achieving another milestone in your education – hopefully one of many more that are about to come. Please, consider continuing your education at our Doctoral School or post-graduate courses.

Dear Graduates!

I congratulate you on obtaining the academic titles of Bachelor or Master of the SGH Warsaw School of Economics. The studies you have completed were not easy, as they required a lot of diligent work, self-discipline and being proactive. And you – you did it!

Let me also heartily congratulate your parents and all those who supported you in different ways throughout your studies, and during the most important time when you wrote and defended your diploma thesis.

You made the right decision to choose the SGH Warsaw School of Economics, as you may have already or will soon find out when you see that your diploma opens many possibilities for you on the labour market. During your studies, we gave you not only knowledge but also practical skills that will empower you to successfully overcome the challenges

of the rapidly changing reality. We encouraged you to be open to the diversity of the world, and we developed your ability to observe and understand the complex socioeconomic processes. You can work in teams, analyse and draw conclusions. You have excellent communication skills, and you can move freely around the digital world, which has proven to be an invaluable skill in recent months. You should not worry about the next stage of your life that you are about to begin – even despite the exceptional circumstances that the world is facing right now.

Our Alma Mater is not only a university but also a unique community, which I am sure you experienced during your studies. Remember, that you will always be a part of our huge academic family and that you are always welcome here. You are the ambassadors of our university both in Poland and internationally. You, SGH alumni.

Today, I spoke about development, good work and career, but I would also like to mention another very important thing. Follow your interests and passions, take care of your families and remember about your friends and colleagues from the university. If you do this, your professional and personal satisfaction will follow. And I wish you for this to happen from the bottom of my heart. Remember that to be happy, you need to keep a good work-and-life balance.

Dear Graduates!

Please, do not forget about your Alma Mater. We, too, will remember about you. It is important for us to stay in touch. We are working on a special program for graduates, and we will let you know when it is ready. Please, come to see us – we will be more than happy to hear about how bright is your future. Personally, I will be happy to have a cup of coffee with you at the Rector's office.

I wish you success and joy in life. Be proud to have graduated from the SGH Warsaw School of Economics, just as we are proud of you – our marvellous graduates.

Thank you all for participating in this ceremony!

SGH Rector
dr hab. Piotr Wachowiak, prof. SGH