

ING once again with the title of “Best Bank in Poland”

ING Bank Śląski has been named Best Bank in Poland for the fifth time in the international Awards for Excellence competition. The award was presented by *Euromoney*, a global financial magazine

In this year's Awards for Excellence, ING Bank Śląski retained its position as “Best Bank in Poland”. The jury recognised the efficiency of the bank's business model, the innovative solutions made available to clients, the growth in the area of sustainable financing, as well as the bank's commitment to helping those affected by the war in Ukraine.

“Despite the dynamically changing environment, we have consistently pursued our strategy and focused on our clients' needs. Receiving this award is confirmation that we are doing things the right way. I am very pleased that our activity has been recognised by the jury of such a prestigious competition. We innovate, we support environmental transformation, we respond to what is happening around us. These are just some of the factors that determined that the title of Best Bank in Poland goes to us once again”, said Brunon Bartkiewicz, CEO of ING Bank Śląski.

According to the jury, maintaining this position was possible thanks to, among other things, the highest profitability in the sector and state-of-the-art digital solutions. In 2021, return on equity (ROE) was 13.6%, compared with 7.6% a year ago, and the cost/income ratio decreased to 43.0% from 44.3%. The jury also noted the continued growth of the client base. By the end of 2021, the number of clients in retail banking had risen to 4.3 million and in corporate banking the bank had reached 503,000 companies. Moje ING mobile banking users have gained further functionality, including in the beyond banking category. The award chapter highlighted the impressive scale of aid that the bank has provided to victims of the war in Ukraine, together with the ING for Children Foundation. Between February and June 2022, contributions of PLN 5,381,480.29 were collected and the bank doubled this figure, bringing the total amount collected to as much as PLN 10,766,897.30. In addition, children from an orphanage in Zaporizhia found shelter at the ING for Children Foundation's centre in Wisła. Maintaining the title of Best Bank in Poland was also influenced by the bank's growing commitment to financing transactions that support environmental transformation and pro-environmental investments.

ING Group was also recognised as the best bank in the category: CEE's Best Bank for sustainable finance. In 2021, it carried out 317 sustainable financing transactions worldwide, which was also reflected in its high position in Central and Eastern Europe. Among the significant transactions in the region, the jury cited ING Bank Śląski's involvement in PKN Orlen's EUR 500 million 7-year green bond issue.

The Euromoney Awards for Excellence are prestigious awards in the banking industry. Since 1992, they have been awarded by the editors of Euromoney magazine for outstanding achievements in banking. The awards go to financial institutions that stand out for their innovation, are leaders in their business and have the highest growth rate in their respective market. Assessments are made on the basis of an analysis of objective indicators, i.e. profitability, growth and efficiency, but also subjective elements. The awards go to the banks that are growing fastest, are leaders in specific areas of their business and stand out for their innovation and stability.