Jakub Karnowski graduated from Warsaw School of Economics: PhD (2004) and Master (1997) as well as MBA (Master of Business Administration) program at the Carlson School of Management and the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota (1997).

He started his career as an Adviser and then Head of the Policy Cabinet of Leszek Balcerowicz, Minister of Finance in Poland (1997-2000), adviser on € - European common currency issues and Director of International Department in The National Bank of Poland as well as member of Foreign Reserves Investment Committee (2001-2003).

Jakub Karnowski served as Alternate Executive Director at the World Bank Group (2003-2008), CEO and Chair of Investment Committee in PKO TFI (investment mutual funds company owned by PKO Bank Polski) (2008-2012); CEO of Polish State Railways Group (PKP S.A.) in charge of major investment programs and privatization (2012-2015); CEO of the private investment group Luma Investment S.A. (2016-2019).

Jakub Karnowski served as independent supervisory board member and Chair of Risk and Audit Committeeof HSBC Bank Polska (2015-2019), Allianz Insurance Group Poland (2017-2024), PZU S.A. (2014-2016) and other publicity-listed companies. He holds a CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) distination. He was the Chairman of the Supervisory Board of JSC Ukrposhta (as a Member 2018-2024; Chair 2021-2024) and an independent member of the Supervisory Board of JSC Ukrzaliznytsia (2021-2024). He took the position of First Deputy Chairman of the Board of JSC KredoBank on August 19th, 2024 & was elected by the supervisory board to the position of CEO on February 21st, 2025, based on the approval received from the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine. He assumed the position on March 1st, 2025.

Since 1996 he has been parallelly pursuing an academic career at Warsaw School of Economics currently as a Head of Liberal Economics Unit and a Student's Association for the Recovery of Ukraine mentor.

Jakub Karnowski is a member of Ukraine Expert Panel at the World Bank.