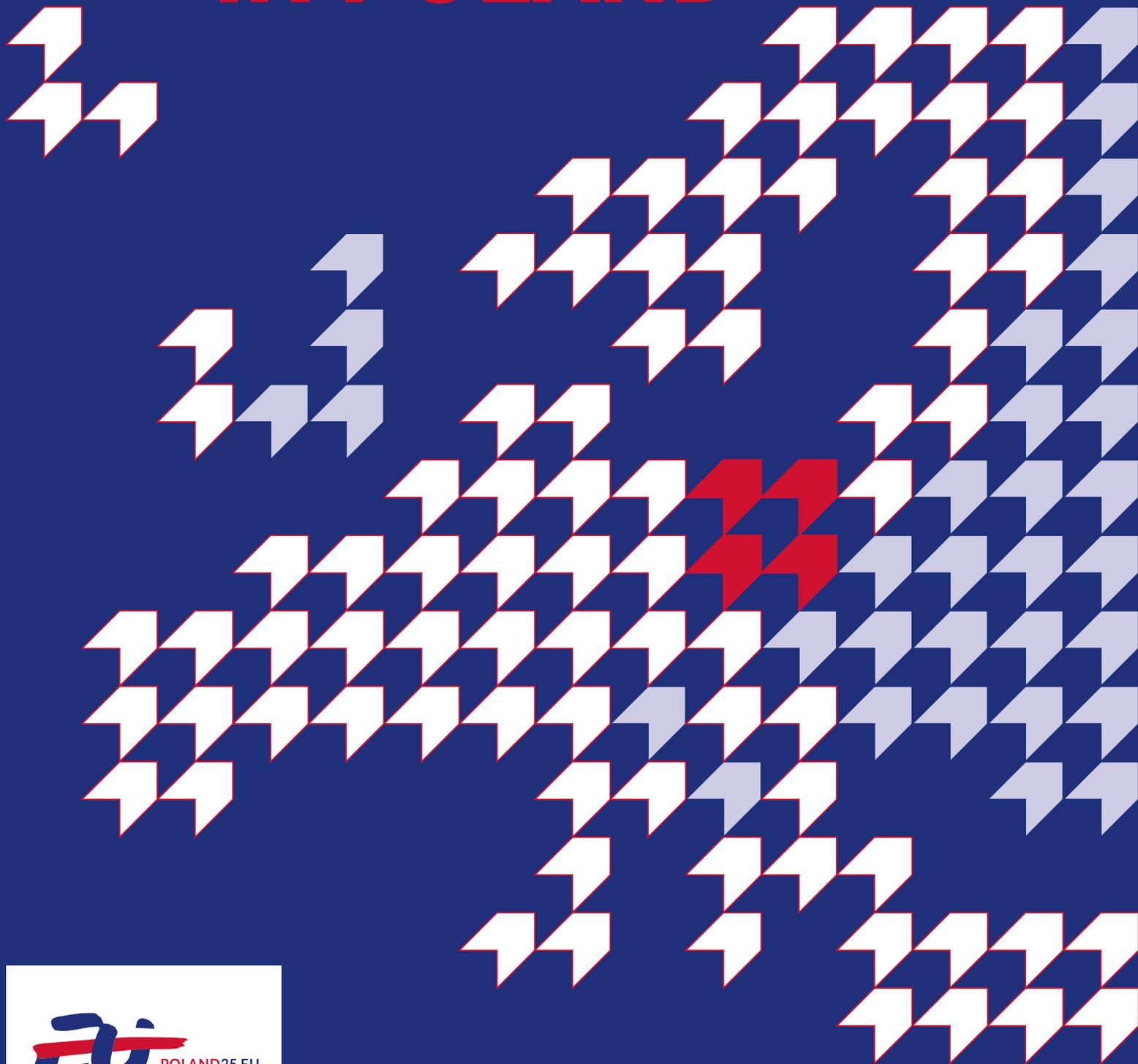


EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES IN POLAND



➤ European Universities in Poland

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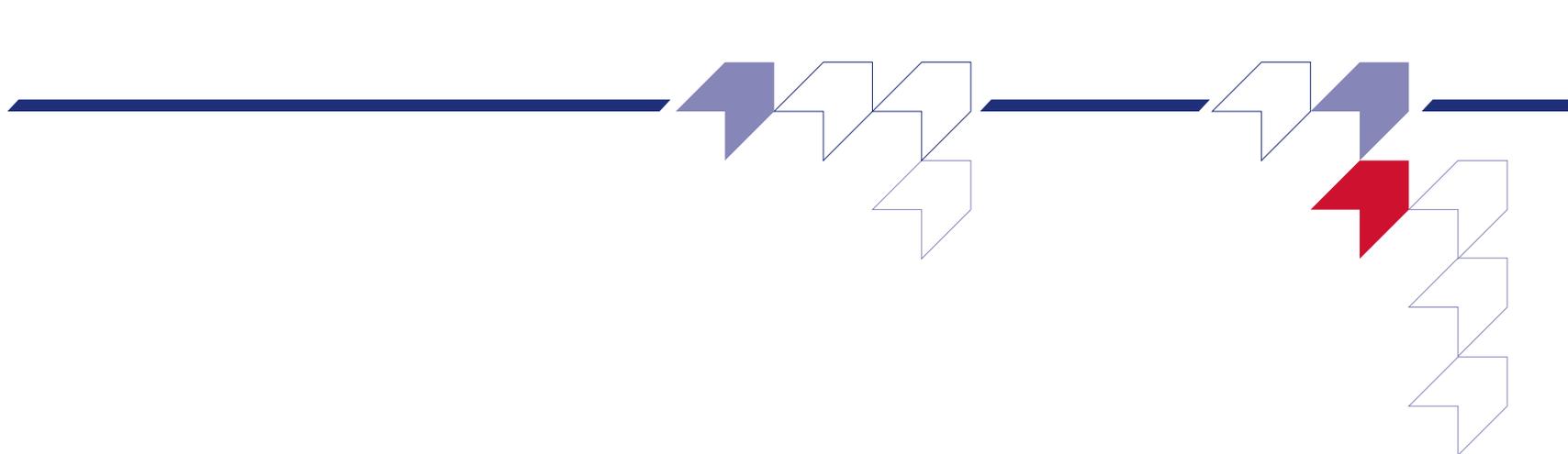
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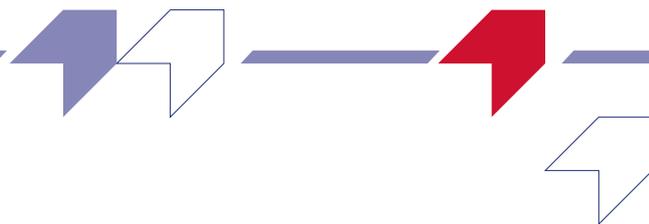
Together for success



Mirosław Marczewski
Director General,
Foundation for the
Development of the
Education System



European universities should be engines of innovation and the pursuit of excellence in education – this is what Emmanuel Macron said in 2017 about the tasks of international alliances of universities from the Old Continent. The French president's idea of creating cross-border consortia was put into practice extremely quickly. Today, thanks to funding from the Erasmus+ programme, there are already 65 European Universities. Poland has representatives in 30 of them – a total of 32 universities. Intensifying international cooperation is essential for our universities. The exchange of students, doctoral candidates and university staff presents an opportunity to raise the level of education, improve the teaching offer, pursue scientific excellence and obtain funding, e.g. under the Horizon Europe programme. As research shows, being part of EUIs can stimulate dynamic growth and improve one's position in the education market. The ultimate effect of alliances is to provide a strong economic boost. As Macron put it, this is about ensuring that Europe does not cease to be an economic powerhouse, and that the current generation of young people is not doomed to unemployment. This publication will tell you a little more about the plans of the Polish universities and their consortia. I keep my fingers crossed for all of them. Let us strive for excellence together!

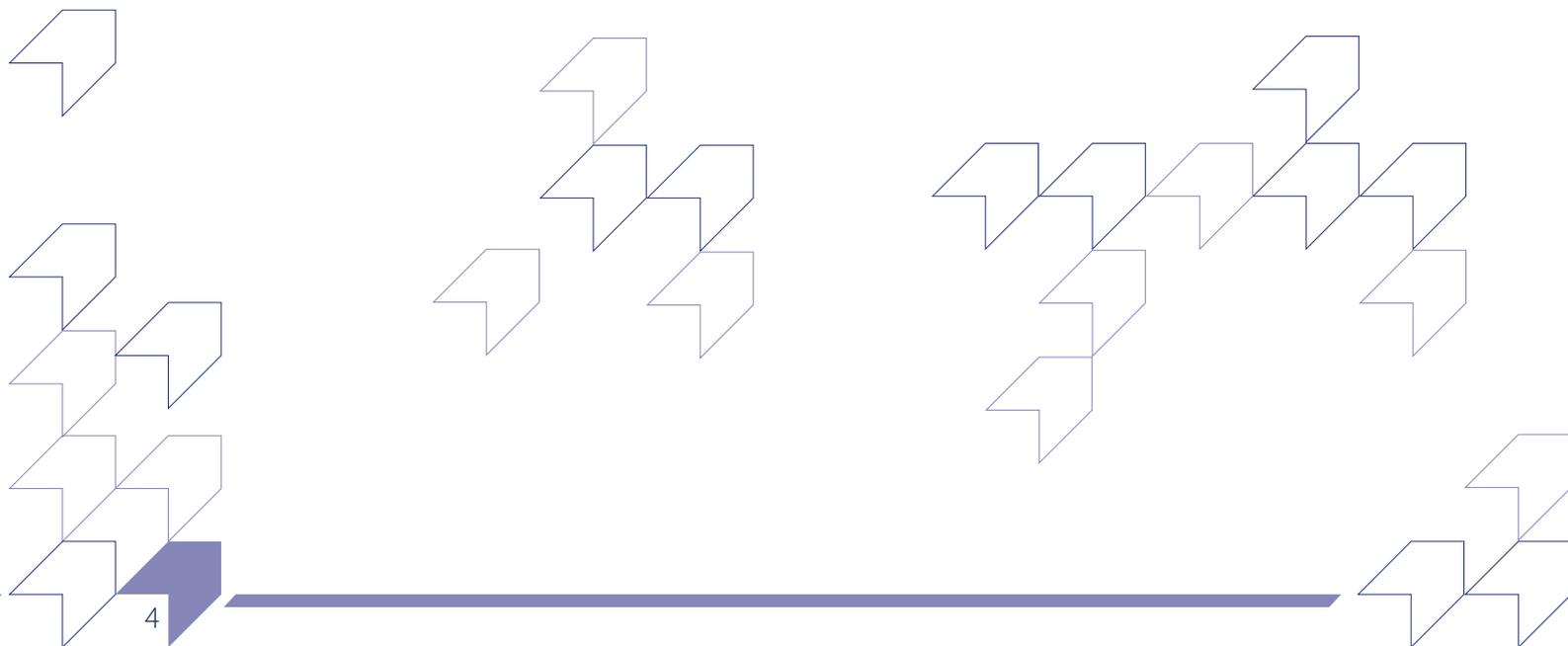


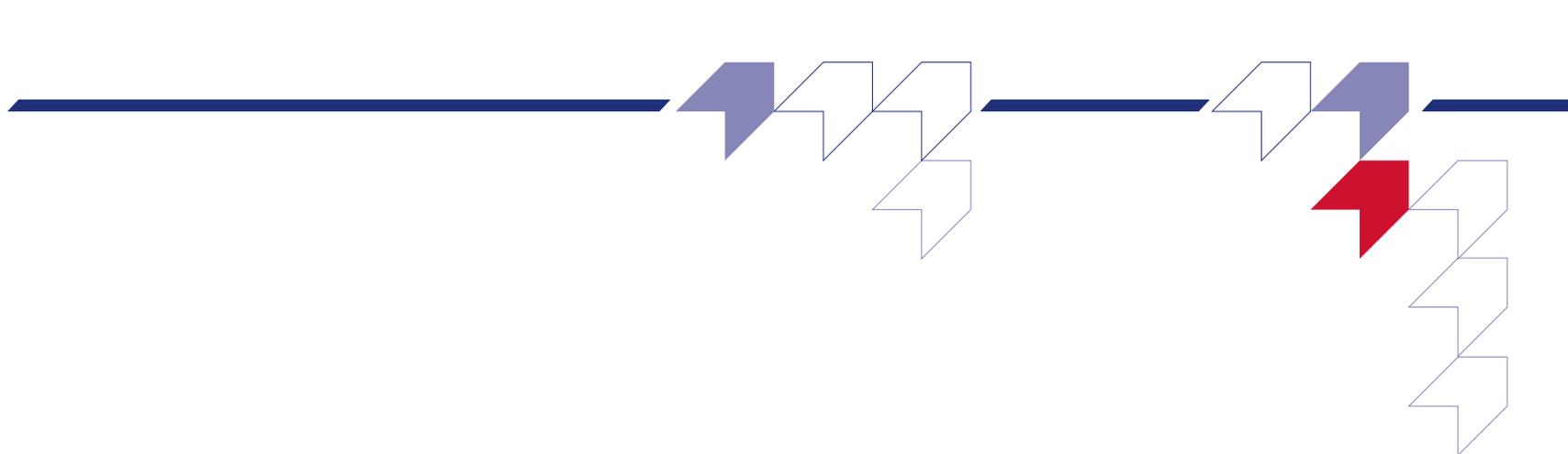
An honour and a challenge



Katarzyna Aleksy
Director of the Higher
Education Programmes
Department, Foundation
for the Development
of the Education System

We are delighted to present this publication introducing all Polish universities involved in the European Universities alliances. The European Universities initiative was introduced into the Erasmus+ programme to help universities with an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education to achieve harmonisation of education. It allows students to complete part of their studies at any university in the alliance, and staff to teach or work at any university in the consortium – in the capacity in which they work at their home university. The foundation of any alliance is cooperation between partners at all levels of the university's operation, including intensifying cooperation with the socio-economic environment. It should be emphasised that the participation of Polish universities in alliances is not only a great honour, but first and foremost an opportunity for further development, together with the best European facilities/units/institutions. It also provides a possibility to create innovative solutions and strive for scientific excellence, acquire new and reinforce existing competences, as well as shape civic attitudes among members of the academic community. An extension of the European Universities initiative is the European Diploma Project. It is a new type of degree awarded after international bachelor's, master's or doctoral programmes conducted at national, regional or institutional level, automatically recognised across the EU. The degree is awarded jointly and on a voluntary basis by a group of universities across Europe based on a uniform set of criteria agreed at European level. This is the challenge we will face in the coming years. Thanks to Poland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the voice of our universities on the European stage has become even more significant. Poland has the opportunity to play a key role in shaping the future of higher education in Europe, and active participation in the European University consortia provides the groundwork for realising this ambition. I wish you a productive reading that will inspire you to take further steps towards the internationalisation of Polish higher education.





Ambitious tool for creating innovations



**dr hab. Patrycja Matusz,
prof. UWr**

Vice-Rector for
Internationalisation,
University of Wrocław.
Proxy of the Minister
of Science for European
Affairs and the Presidency
of the Republic of Poland
in the Council
of the European Union

It is a great honor for me to present this publication on the present and future of European University Alliances, especially since both I and the institution I work for are part of this exciting, challenging, and impactful journey. I feel deeply connected to this large and growing European family, which works every day toward a strong, innovative, and united European Education Area. My perspective is shaped by personal experiences – successes and challenges – as well as relationships, collaborations, projects, meetings, and everyday work as a member of the executive council of the Arqus alliance.

I would like to begin with a quote from my scientific hero, Maria Skłodowska-Curie – a woman who successfully pursued her passion and changed the course of history: “Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.”

We have already seen the Report on the Outcomes and Transformational Potential of the European Universities Initiative presented by the European Commission. This extensive document, based on the evaluation of existing alliances and both quantitative and qualitative research, highlights a critical conclusion: “The initiative is supporting the setup of highly ambitious transnational alliances of higher education institutions that develop long-term structural, sustainable, and systematic cooperation in education, with synergies in research and innovation, at the service of society.”

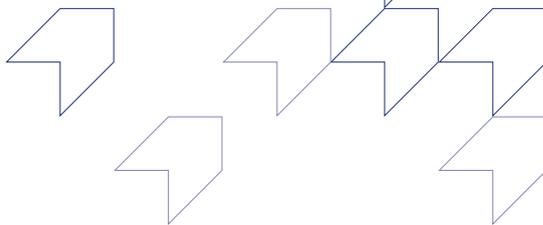
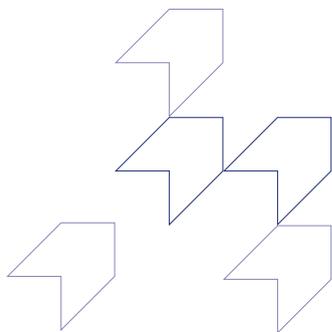
I would like to highlight three key words from this quote: ambitious, transnational, and at the service of society.

Ambitious initiative – developing and implementing new governance in transnational alliances

When President Macron introduced the idea of European university collaboration in 2017, he expressed his enthusiasm for a Europe that shares values and diversity while working together to face today’s fast-changing and demanding world. At the core of the European University Initiative are fundamental principles such as democracy, the rule of law, and human rights. The alliances are designed to reflect their diversity, multilingualism, and cultural heritage by developing joint programmes in education and research to equip students with the skills needed for the labor market.

European University Alliances serve as powerful tools for improving the quality of education and research by strengthening the capacities of higher education institutions (HEIs) across Europe. Long-term cooperation and strategic development within alliances contribute to the international competitiveness of European academia. There is no doubt that synergies between HEIs, the consolidation of funds and infrastructure, and the mobility of talent strengthen Europe’s capacity for high-quality research and innovation.

As Mario Draghi highlights in his report: “Competitive research and innovation systems are defined by several essential characteristics. Among them are sufficient funding for excellent research, its long-term stability, high-quality research and technology infrastructure, 



► a sufficient talent supply, an effective valorisation strategy, openness and inclusiveness. It also needs to devise the best policies and to implement them as effectively as possible.” The ambition of these initiatives to shape collective actors with impact and influence policy-making has already shown success. In almost all member states, HEIs engaged in alliances have established formal cooperation forums to exchange best practices and advocate for necessary legislative changes to bring about better and more effective education.

In all the recently published reports, we find statements emphasizing the importance of both research and teaching. However, due to the financing scheme of the Erasmus+ program, the activities incorporated into the strategies of the EUA were primarily related to teaching innovations, mobility programmes, student integration, and administrative cooperation. Due to limited financing, very few



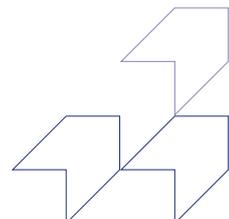
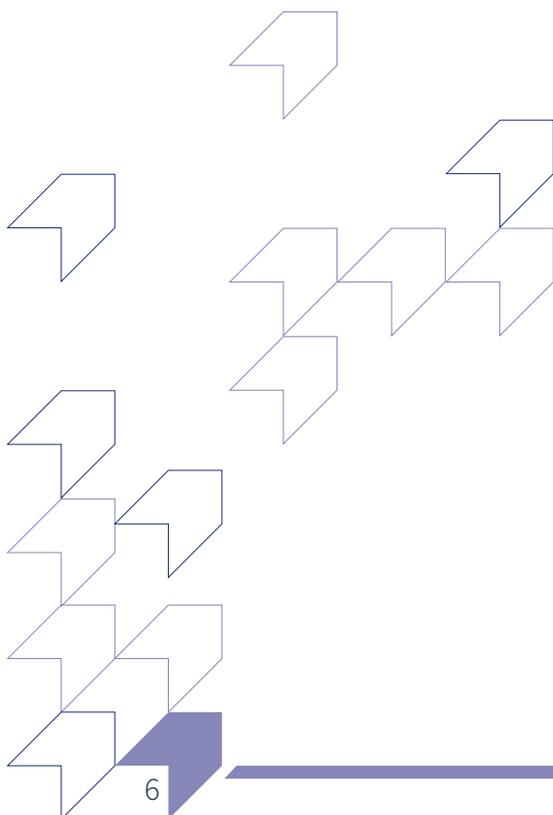
► *We cannot build a sense of belonging to the alliances and EU values without making student and staff exchange an everyday experience. It's time to work on joint programs at all levels, as well as joint teaching activities such as micro-credentials, winter/summer schools, joint courses, and co-tutelle PhD programs. By combining virtual and physical mobility, we can bring international perspectives and cross-cultural communication into our students' curricula.*

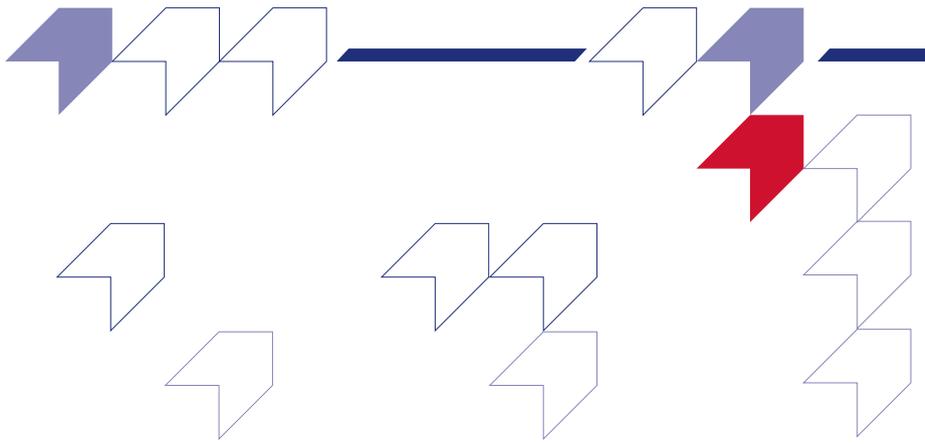
activities were directly linked to research. In my opinion, we need to start a discussion about the financial future of alliances concerning both teaching and research. There is no good teaching without good research!

There are also several other challenges. On the one hand, we speak about ambitious initiatives; on the other, we create a project-based funding approach that forces alliances to work within work package and deliverables structures. Changes to complex working plans must go through a complicated amendment process. Perhaps a better option would be a single application for the funding period, with an overall work plan, clear objectives, targets, and indicators, alongside periodic progress reporting. The future funding strategy of alliances is crucial to engaging more students, academics, and staff in building these alliances every day.

Some important comments on mobility, which remains at the center of all alliance activities, are due. The goal was set for 50% of all students to participate in mobility programmes. We cannot build a sense of belonging to the alliances and EU values without making student and staff exchange an everyday experience. It's time to work on joint programmes at all levels, as well as joint teaching activities such as micro-credentials, winter/summer schools, joint courses, and co-tutelle PhD programmes. By combining virtual and physical mobility, we can bring international perspectives and cross-cultural communication into our students' curricula. We should also encourage our students to learn languages and reflect on the multilingualism of the EU. To foster a sense of belonging to European values, language competence should be supported through diverse types and levels of courses.

To sum up: since the launch of the first call in 2018, we now have 65 alliances, gathering over 750 higher education institutions of all types from 35 countries. We should not forget the 2,200 associated





partners and 35 higher education institutions from Ukraine. This is a huge potential and a large group of ambitious people, doing their best to change and improve the European Education Area.

Transformation of teaching and the search for common research

The Competitiveness Compass of the European Commission identifies key areas where skill development is essential to meet future labor market demands and strengthen the EU's competitiveness. This document once again highlights the importance of competitiveness and innovation – both closely linked to higher education and research.

It particularly emphasizes the need for investment in education and training in fields such as artificial intelligence (AI), biotechnology, quantum technologies, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). The Commission plans to introduce educational strategies aimed at increasing the number of graduates in these fields and promoting digital and green skills.

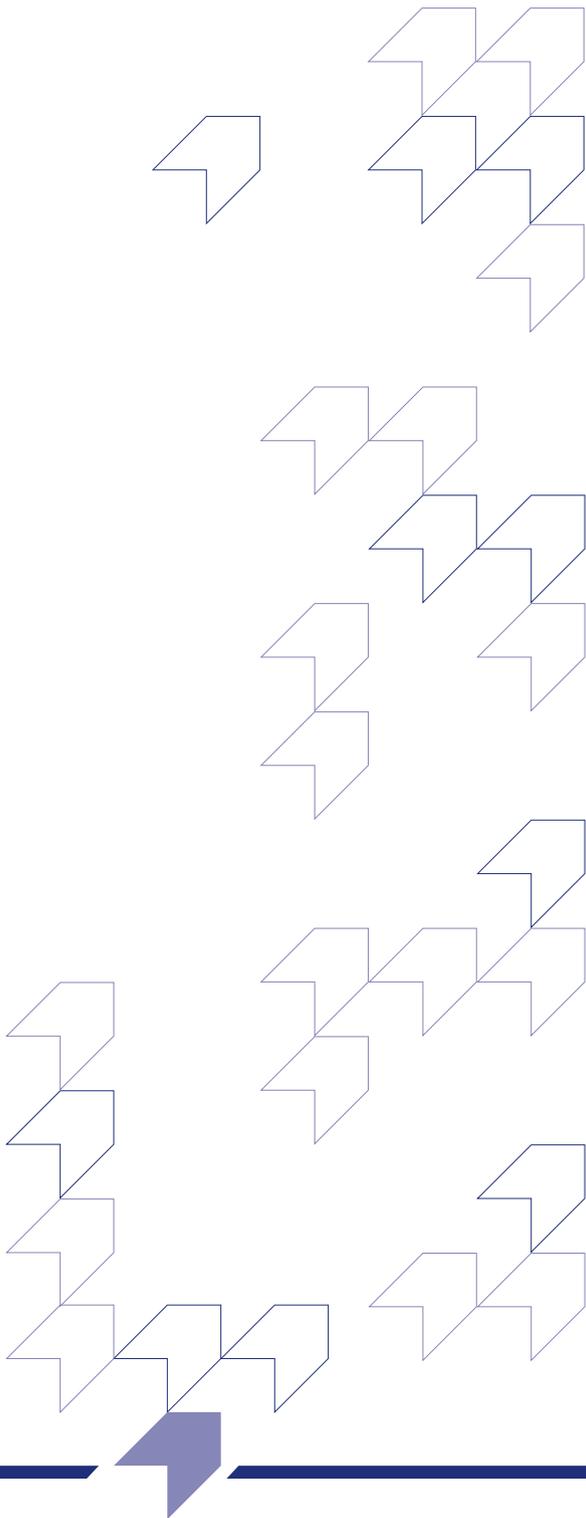
If we look at the report on the outcomes of the European Universities Initiative (EUI) and the summary of the main themes covered by the alliances, we see that sustainability and environmental concerns, along with digital transformation, were the most popular topics among alliances. However, other thematic areas also addressed a wide range of societal challenges faced by citizens across EU member states.

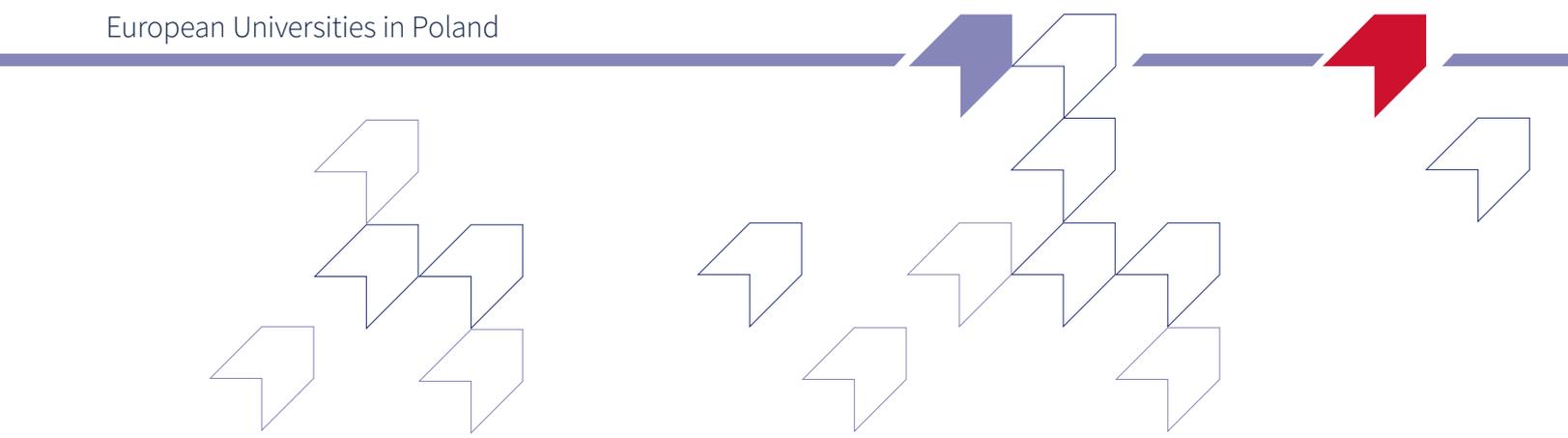
It is worth remembering that the partner universities involved in the European Universities Alliances represent over 11 million students. This means that nearly half of all students in Europe are now studying as part of European Universities.

Research shows that modern HEIs need flexible learning paths, including microcredentials, short-term programmes, virtual and blended mobility (such as BIPs). All these initiatives should be linked to labor market supply and demand at the local level. New joint programmes at all levels should be developed based on insights gathered from associated partners and local stakeholders. Cooperation in designing teaching strategies should ensure that students acquire the skills and competences required in the labor market.

The Competitiveness Compass states: “To ensure a good match between skills and labor market demands, the Commission will present an initiative to build a Union of Skills, focusing on investment, adult and lifelong learning, future-proof skills creation, skill retention, fair mobility, attracting and integrating qualified talents from third countries and the recognition of different types of training to enable people to work across our Union.” The Alliances have implemented more than 600 joint study programmes and courses, including 160 joint degree programmes and 430 short courses leading to microcredentials. These programmes have incorporated future-proof skills such as intercultural competencies, critical thinking, transversal skills, and interdisciplinary knowledge. It is crucial to build on this extensive knowledge and experience while developing future initiatives.

One of the key ideas behind the European Universities Alliances was mobility. Although reaching 50% mobility remains a challenge, alliances have reported a 400% increase in intra-alliance student mobility and a 200% increase in staff mobility. Various support measures – such as





financial assistance, multilateral mobility agreements, and a variety of cross-border activities – have significantly improved students' and staff members' ability to participate in mobility programmes. In my opinion, the added value of this initiative is the mobilization of new groups within universities – administrative staff, technical staff, and managers – who are now working in diverse teams and staying in touch with members of partner universities on a daily basis. This creates a change not only in the governance of the alliances but also in the governance structures of each participating university.

Fifth freedom – social responsibility

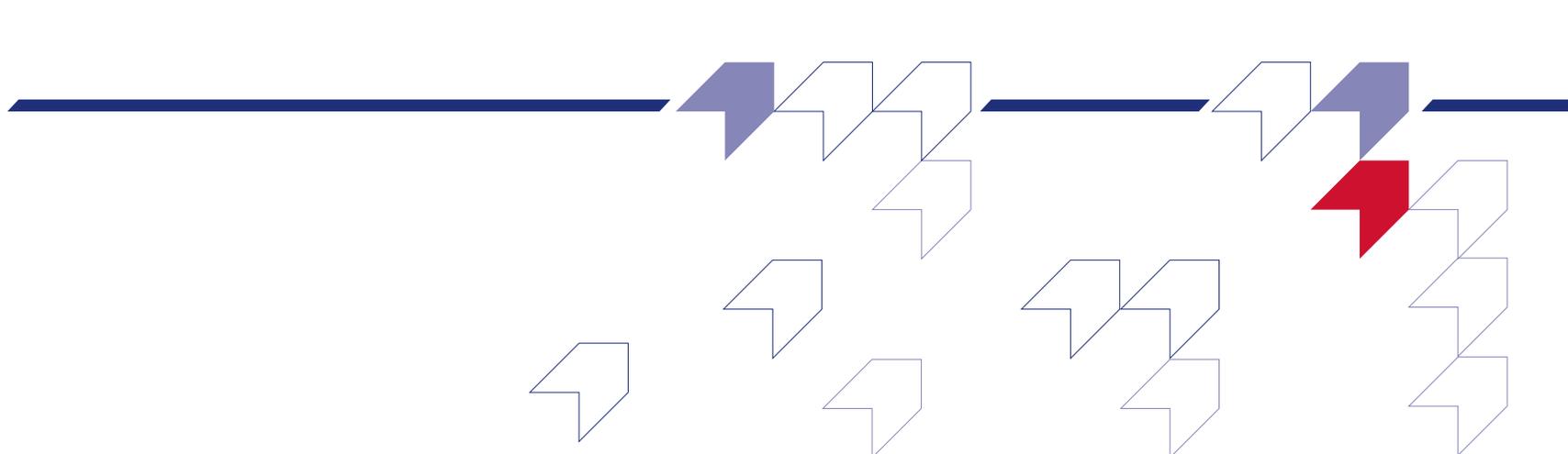
European University Alliances exemplify what Enrico Letta describes as the "Fifth Freedom" in his report on the future of the EU Single Market. This concept encompasses the freedom to learn, work, research, and share knowledge across borders.

On the one hand, we tend to think of universities as existing within a relatively similar cultural context. Across all HEIs in the EU, we do the same things: we teach our students, conduct research, seek innovations, and collaborate with ecosystems – not only locally but also nationally and globally. However, if we take a closer look – and the European University Initiatives have given us the opportunity to do so – we discover that despite working toward the same goals and being part of the same EU, we still differ considerably in institutional, administrative, and academic cultures. We operate within diverse regulatory contexts.

From my experience in alliances, I can say that this diversity affects both high-level strategic decision-making – such as financial management or academic protocols – and practical matters, like how meetings are conducted, how working days are structured, or even the times of day when different groups of staff are available for meetings. Awareness of these differences and learning how to address them is key to successful multilateral cooperation. Here's a simple example: if we want to schedule an early-morning meeting for all vice-rectors, we need to consider that our alliance includes both Lithuania and Portugal – a two-hour time difference. In practical terms, this means that when we schedule a call at 8 a.m., someone in our group is likely still commuting to work.

However, despite these organizational differences, when discussions turn to fundamental values, we share the same core beliefs. I firmly believe that European University Alliances serve as lighthouses of European values. At the same time, they should act as catalysts and agents of change for innovation in both teaching and research. To fulfill this role, we must invest resources and energy into strengthening cooperation and learning how to navigate cultural and organizational differences to achieve our goals.

After so many years of the Erasmus+ program and the availability of diverse mobility opportunities for academic and administrative staff, many partner institutions still struggle with proficiency in foreign languages. The structure of daily work routines for different categories of staff can directly impact these skills and influence the overall efficiency of cooperation.



↗ Across all HEIs in the EU, we do the same things: we teach our students, conduct research, seek innovations, and collaborate with ecosystems – not only locally but also nationally and globally. However, if we take a closer look – and the European University Initiatives have given us the opportunity to do so – we discover that despite working toward the same goals and being part of the same EU, we still differ considerably in institutional, administrative, and academic cultures. We operate within diverse regulatory contexts.

Summary

The European Universities Initiative has led to significant successes and challenges in higher education collaboration across Europe.

Among the concrete successes, the creation of joint educational programmes stands out, connecting universities from various countries to offer international courses across a range of disciplines. Furthermore, mobility and student exchange have been greatly enhanced. Additionally, innovative educational approaches have emerged, integrating well-being, health, and sustainable development into academic programmes.

However, the initiative also faced several challenges. One major difficulty was the creation of joint legal entities, as collaborating universities encountered obstacles in forming unified administrative structures due to differing legal systems. Recognizing qualifications across countries also posed a challenge, as mutual recognition mechanisms for diplomas and academic achievements were not always in place. Another issue was the integration of education and research. While some programmes enabled students to participate in research, many universities struggled to merge these two areas seamlessly due to insufficient resources and support. Differences in teaching methodologies and research traditions further hindered the establishment of unified standards and approaches across institutions.

Additionally, reaching broader target groups presented its own set of challenges. Ensuring equal access for underprivileged students, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, was difficult due to financial and language barriers. The linguistic diversity of Europe also limited access to international programmes, especially for non-English speakers. Moreover, universities struggled to meet the diverse educational needs and expectations of students, ranging from those with disabilities to adult learners, requiring logistical and content-related adaptations.

The sustainability and financing of the initiatives were further challenges. While EU funding supported the programmes initially, universities faced difficulties in securing long-term financial support once this funding ended. There were also disparities in the availability of financial resources at national and EU levels, along with complex application processes. Moreover, ensuring the sustainability of the initiatives beyond the initial funding was a significant concern, as long-term support was necessary to maintain the programmes' impact.

Lastly, cultural and organizational differences posed barriers to successful collaboration. Universities from different countries had varied approaches to teaching and research, making it difficult to harmonize practices. Resistance to change, particularly among university staff and administrators, also slowed the adaptation of new organizational methods and collaboration structures, especially in more traditional institutions.

Despite these challenges, the European Universities Initiative has demonstrated transformative potential, although its long-term success depends on overcoming these obstacles and ensuring sustainability in both financial and operational terms.

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4EU+ Alliance

The alliance comprises eight European universities educating in the fields of medicine, exact sciences, natural sciences and humanities. The work of this consortium is centred on developing joint study programmes, conducting research and implementing innovative technology transfer activities. The research and education projects cover four focal areas: health and demographic change in an urban environment; Europeanness: multilingualism, diversity, citizenship; data – models – transformation; and environmental change.

The alliance is currently running the “One Comprehensive Research-Intensive European University” (1CORE) project. It provides for deepening cooperation between partner universities and building a model of a European research university on the basis of a common interdisciplinary educational offer that uses methods of innovative pedagogy, learning mobility and modern digital infrastructure.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Sorbonne University (alliance leader)
- 4EU+ European University Alliance E.V. (legal entity of the alliance)
- Charles University
- Heidelberg University
- University of Copenhagen
- University of Geneva
- University of Milan
- University of Warsaw
- Paris-Panthéon-Assas University

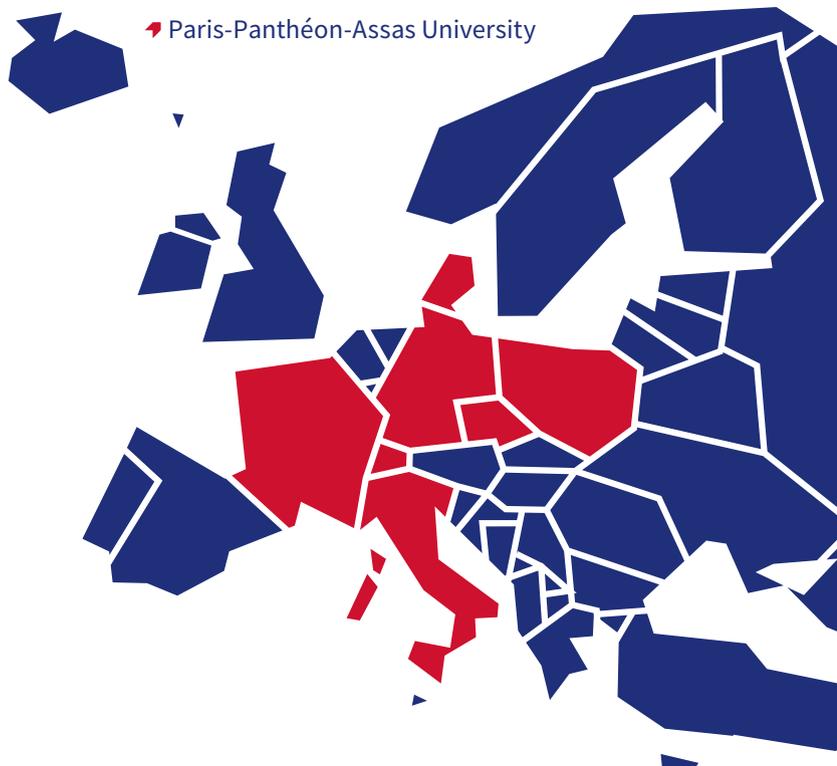
University of Warsaw



prof. Sambor Grucza
Vice-Rector for Cooperation and Human Resources, University of Warsaw

➤ *We are halfway through the second operational stage of the alliance, covering the 2022-2026 period. One of the tasks of the consortium was to prepare an interdisciplinary educational offer for students. How does the implementation of this objective look?*

In 2022, IT specialists from the University of Warsaw created the Student Portal, which serves all staff and students of the 4EU+ alliance universities. Teaching proposals for classes and joint academic projects are posted there. There's a lot of it! What's more, it's the students of the University of Warsaw who make up the largest group of participants in alliance courses. They are also increasingly willing to attend other universities. In total, as of the 2019/2020 academic year, we have recorded almost a thousand physical mobilities of our students and doctoral candidates (until 2024). I'm also pleased to see that students from all the universities in the 4EU+ consortium largely choose the courses offered by our university.



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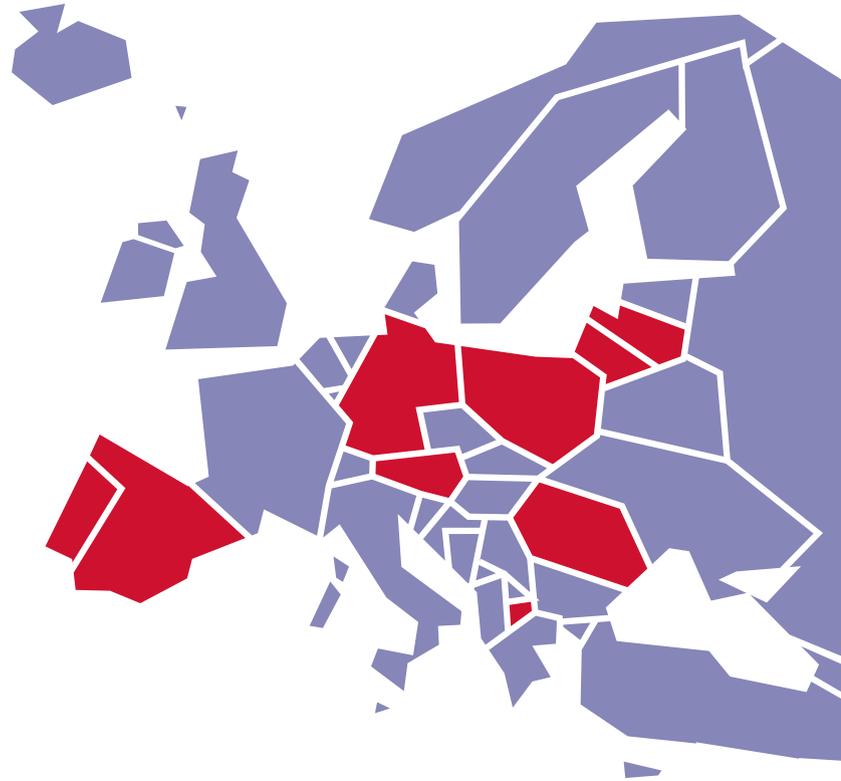
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Applied, Connected, Entrepreneurial and Engaged – European University

The ACE2-EU consortium of nine European higher education and technical institutes has been in operation since 2023. Its aim is to make preparations for a sustainable transformation of society in line with the guiding principle: "Addressing Future Challenges – Delivering Sustainable Societal Transformation Today". This mission is pursued by the partner universities through the creation of programmes and initiatives that support students, teachers and researchers, as well as the alliance's institutional associates, in developing the competences needed to address Europe's societal challenges. In addition, the consortium provides assistance to member universities in fulfilling their educational and research missions, as well as in implementing innovations and serving society.

The alliance has attracted 56 partners from across Europe, including government and industrial corporations.



Medical University of Gdańsk



prof. dr hab. n. farm. Michał Markuszewski
Rector, Medical University of Gdańsk

Does the consortium have a specialisation?

The main objective of the alliance is to prepare society for sustainable transformation. The fact that there are universities of a different nature in the consortium will allow us to develop the competences necessary to meet current societal challenges, such as in healthcare or ecology. We are not focusing on one research discipline or social field.

What forms of cooperation have been chosen?

International mobility is an important component. Our activities concern three pillars: teaching, research and intercultural exchange. We will develop a digital e-Campus platform and offer educational programmes at different levels of the qualification framework. In terms of scientific activities that stimulate research and entrepreneurship, we will establish an EU Applied Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Support Incubator. And in terms of intercultural exchange and social impact, we will work through the Social Partnerships and Cultural Engagement Centre.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Santarém Polytechnic University (alliance leader)
- Carinthia University of Applied Sciences
- Constantin Brâncuși University of Târgu-Jiu
- Francisco de Vitoria University
- Goce Delcev University
- Ingolstadt University of Applied Sciences
- Kaunas University of Applied Engineering Sciences
- Latvian Academy of Culture
- Medical University of Gdańsk

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 500 000

across

European University for Cross-Border Knowledge Sharing

The ACROSS alliance consists of differently profiled universities based in medium-sized border cities and an associated partner: Ivan Franko National University from Ukraine.

The universities have been working together in partnership for four years. Their guiding idea is also the consortium's slogan: "We believe in an educational future without borders". Through joint education, research and innovation, as well as regional engagement, these universities want to make an impact in the cross-border regions of Europe. The project involves the implementation of four Workpackages, or task blocks. The Bialystok University of Technology is leading the work under Workpackage 2: AcrossAlliance Borderless Education, which involves partner institutions creating a joint educational offer.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Chemnitz University of Technology (alliance leader)
- Angel Kanchev University of Ruse
- Bialystok University of Technology
- University of Banja Luka
- University of Craiova
- University of Girona
- University of Nova Gorica
- University of Perpignan Via Domitia
- University of Udine

Bialystok University of Technology



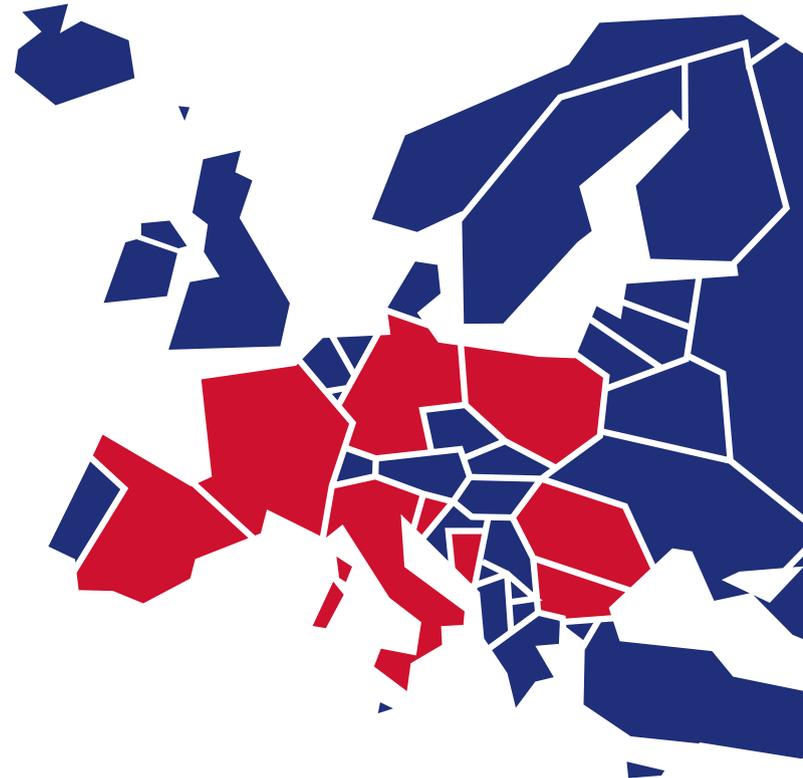
dr hab. inż.
Dorota Anna
Krawczyk,
prof. BUT
Vice-Rector for
International
Cooperation,
Bialystok University
of Technology (BUT)

➤ What is the main idea behind the university joining the alliance?

Our mission is to provide students with European education, to prepare them as community members and future engineers for the unique challenges faced in border regions while highlighting the benefits of cross-border cooperation. ACROSS aims to break down barriers: geographical, political, educational, economic, cultural and linguistic. We focus on unrestricted access to knowledge, free mobility of the academic community and an increased sense of European identity.

➤ What are the details of this cooperation?

We are focusing on promoting sustainable and inclusive teaching, training staff and people outside the academic community, conducting research and disseminating the results. In addition, we will create cross-border centres for collaboration between the academic community, the business sector and civil society: Engagement Centres, Incubator Hubs, University-Business Gateway.



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

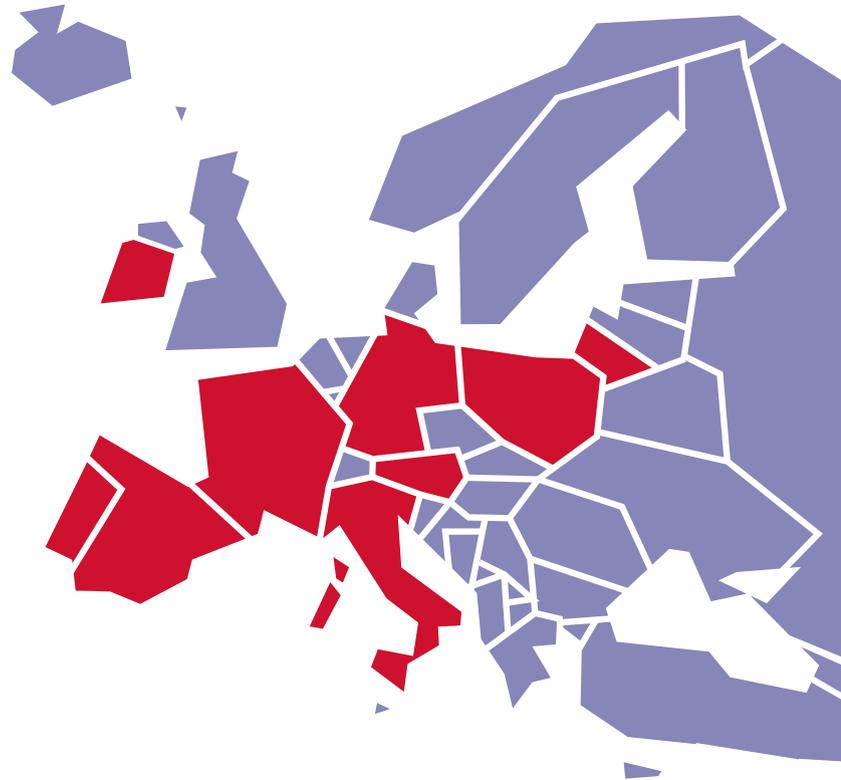


European University Alliance

Arqus European University

The University of Wrocław has been a member of the ArQus alliance since 2020, which was one of the highest-rated alliances by a competition committee in Brussels in 2018. The rectors of the nine partner universities located in the regional capitals have signed an Open Mobility Agreement, which means that exchanges for students and staff are possible between all the schools in the consortium in all fields without the need for additional agreements.

The aim of the alliance is to design, test and implement an innovative model of interuniversity cooperation and to create an integrated open European University. The partnership also focuses on three challenges of the future: climate change and sustainability, digital transformation and artificial intelligence, and European identity and heritage. In this last regard, the promotion of linguistic diversity is of great importance for the partner universities.



University of Wrocław



dr hab. Patrycja Matusz, prof. UWr
Vice-Rector for Internationalisation, University of Wrocław (UWr)

What unique value does the University of Wrocław bring to the alliance?

ArQus comprises three thematic areas, and researchers from the University of Wrocław are involved in all activities within them, both in terms of teaching and research. Our initiatives aimed at students, such as the organisation of Summer Schools, and at doctoral candidates, for whom we organise a Career Week for PhDs, are particularly noteworthy. We are also involved in activities designed to strengthen cooperation between university administrations, so that good organisational practices can be exchanged at this level. We are also very active in the Research and Innovation Board, which applies for European funds to strengthen scientific cooperation within the consortium. Thanks to the ArQus for Ukraine project funded by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange, we have also been able to get involved in some of the activities of our Ukrainian partners.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University of Granada (alliance leader)
- Leipzig University
- Maynooth University
- University Lyon 1
- University of Granada
- University of Graz
- University of Minho
- University of Padova
- University of Wrocław
- Vilnius University

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

BAUHAUS4EU Alliance

Ten universities from nine countries (Germany, France, Sweden, Portugal, Italy, Poland, Bulgaria, Greece and Albania) are involved in the alliance. It took more than three years for the BAUHAUS4EU consortium to obtain European University status. Last year, the project was awarded The Seal of Excellence of European Commission.

BAUHAUS4EU is based on the New European Bauhaus (NEB) initiative, adopting its core values of sustainability, aesthetics and participation. The cooperation is designed to benefit universities and their regions, but also to strengthen EU countries. The Alliance received funding of €14.4 million for the duration of the project (four years). Of this amount, the University of Economics in Katowice will have almost €1.5 million at its disposal.

University of Economics in Katowice



prof. dr hab. inż. Celina M. Olszak
Rector, University of Economics in Katowice

What is the main idea behind the alliance?

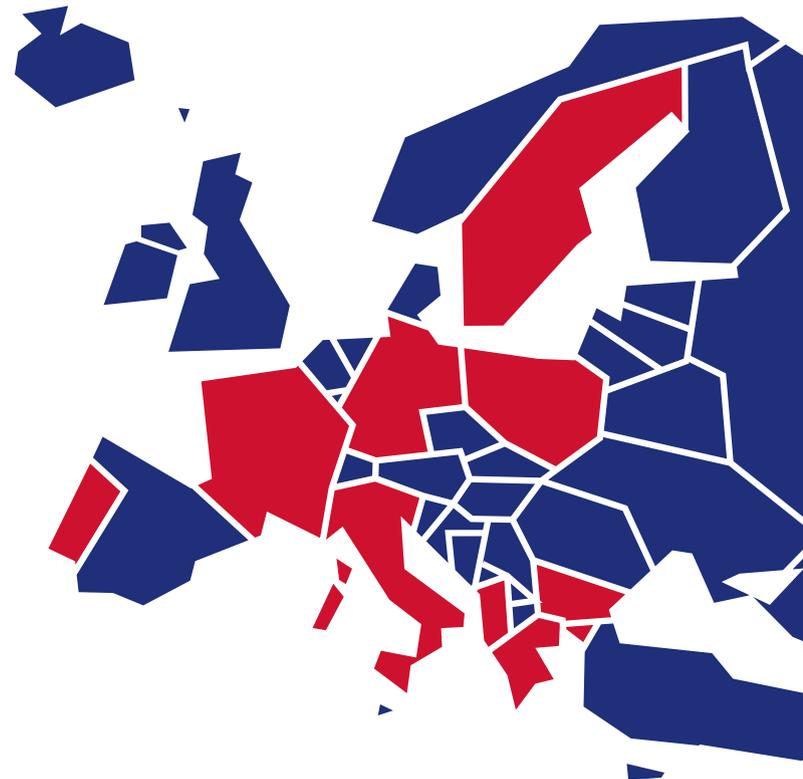
We refer to the ideas of the Bauhaus. We focus on the sustainable development of an open, creative European society by using interdisciplinarity: aesthetics, innovation, architecture and culture. The leader of the consortium is the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, where the idea of the Bauhaus originated more than a century ago. There are more than 120,000 students at our ten universities, with another 10,000 lecturers. It is a major European campus. The universities have different profiles: artistic, technical, economic or classical, and thanks to this diversity we can accomplish a lot. We are developing a strong programme of transnational cooperation.

What will the cooperation consist of?

One idea is to create digital regional innovation hubs in which universities and public institutions from the regions affiliated to the consortium will collaborate. We are keen to see more student and staff mobility.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Bauhaus University Weimar
- Blekinge Institute of Technology
- Polytechnic University of Castelo Branco
- University of Bergamo
- University of Picardie Jules Verne
- Lumière Lyon University 2
- University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy
- POLIS University
- University of Macedonia
- University of Economics in Katowice



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

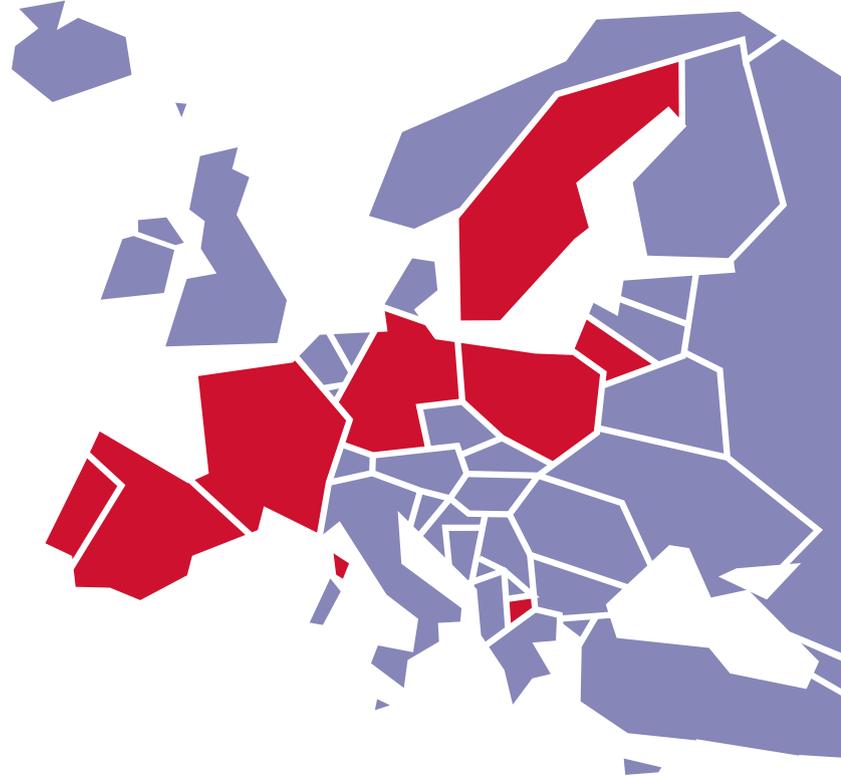


ChallengeEU Alliance

The ChallengeEU alliance universities share extensive experience in cooperating with local institutions and companies, as well as with local government and NGOs. In addition, they all implement innovative teaching and knowledge transfer programmes.

The partnership aims to foster technological, economic and social innovation in its regions. With regard to the latter, CHALLENGE.EU stands out from other European University Alliances for its strong emphasis on equality, as all partners have declared that they are committed to building inclusive academic communities.

Joint research will be an important element of the alliance's activities, which will translate into enhancing their research and teaching capacities.



University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn



prof. Jerzy Przyborowski
Rector, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn

What opportunity does being a member of the alliance provide for the University of Warmia and Mazury?
I am very pleased that we will be joining the family of European Universities. This is an incredible opportunity for the University of Warmia and Mazury community, especially for the students, who will be able to enjoy unlimited opportunities to take classes at different universities, as well as gain knowledge and additional skills thanks to micro-credentials. Our guiding idea is to create a large European campus that will provide them with greater diversity in creating their own careers.

And what institutional benefits does the consortium bring?
Being part of the community of European Universities allows us to boost innovation. It gives us new opportunities to improve our teaching skills, to bring pedagogy to a European level. It also allows us to collaborate more closely in conducting research projects.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Offenburg University of Applied Sciences (alliance leader)
- ECAM LaSalle
- European University of Lisbon
- European University of Valencia
- Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies
- Mid Sweden University
- South East European University
- University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

European University of Social Sciences

The CIVICA Consortium has been in place since 2019 and currently includes ten leading European universities in the social sciences. The Alliance offers its students, doctoral candidates and staff the opportunity to receive training, conduct research and engage in civic activities at an international level. Digital innovation and a mission to serve European societies are given particular prominence in these activities.

The 2030 vision for the development of the CIVICA Partnership includes broadening and deepening its activities in the following key areas of its operation: education, research, implementation of innovations, promotion of lifelong learning and service to society.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Sciences Po (alliance leader)
- Bocconi University
- Central European University
- European University Institute
- Hertie School
- IE University
- London School of Economics and Political Sciences
- National University of Political Studies and Public Administration
- SGH Warsaw School of Economics
- Stockholm School of Economics

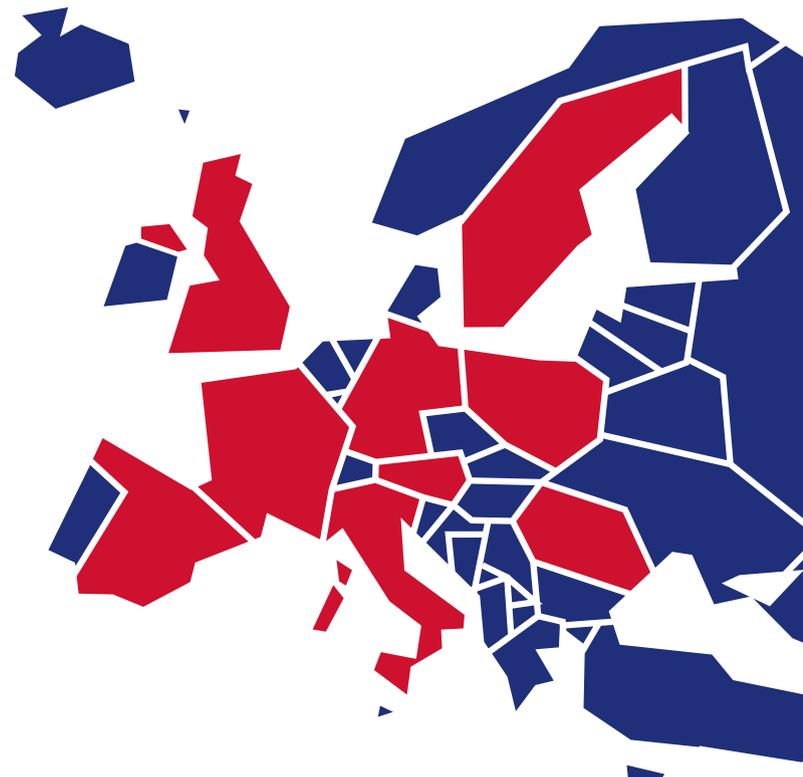
SGH Warsaw School of Economics



Małgorzata Chromy
Director of
International Centre,
SGH Warsaw School
of Economics

➤ What assets did the SGH School of Economics bring to the CIVICA alliance?

The SGH School of Economics, with its dynamic student community, has been selected to lead the Workpackage 9 initiative. Its main objective is to build an engaged student community and its shared identity, deeply rooted in European values and heritage. We deliver this package through a number of activities, such as designing and implementing a systematic support framework to increase CIVICA students' engagement, enhance their sense of belonging to the alliance and their sense of community through cross-university projects and initiatives. In addition, we support networking, joint projects and enhancing student capacity and competence. We have established a CIVICA student council, which participates in the consortium's advisory process.



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 399 998

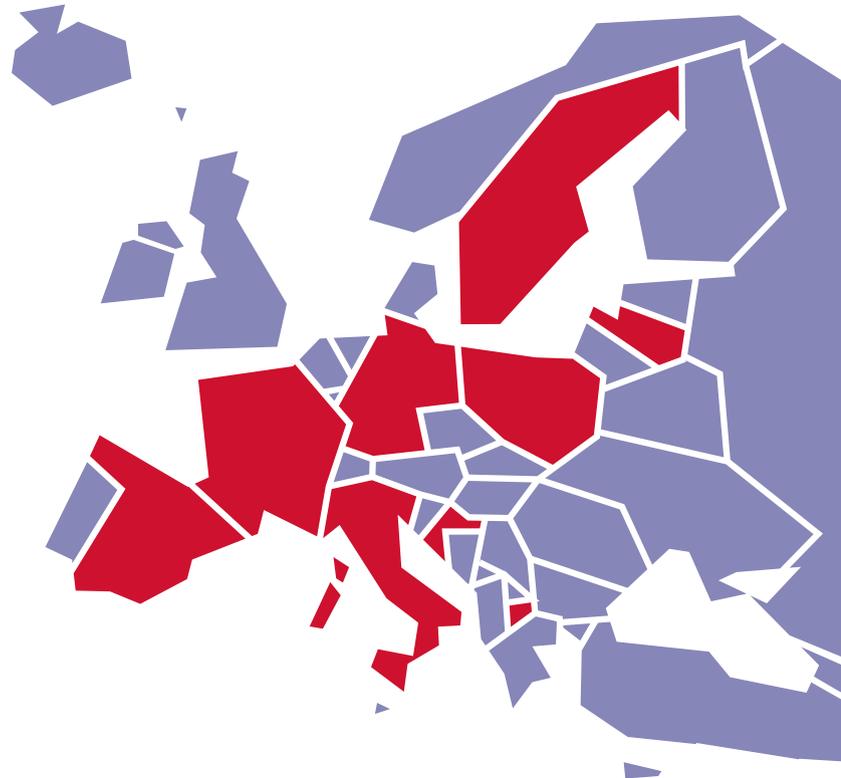


European University Alliance
COLOURS
 COLlaborative innOvative
 sUustainable Regional
 univerSities

COLlaborative innOvative sUustainable Regional univerSities

The COLOURS Alliance brings together nine universities with a total number of approximately 126,000 students. The participating universities cooperate with 55 associated partners in what are known as regional innovation ecosystems, including 12 Polish companies and institutions, as well as one university from Ukraine – Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University.

All institutions in the alliance are united by the desire to create a common, dynamically developing inter-university system. As such, the consortium partners focus on curriculum cooperation based on the sharing of teaching and learning resources, especially digital resources. They are also developing double and joint degrees in the fields of chemistry, physics, mathematics, economics, computer science, law and management, among others. The COLOURS consortium also enables political, economic, institutional and socio-cultural bridging.



Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa



Bartłomiej Kowalik
 Head of International Cooperation Department, COLOURS Implementation Office Lead, Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa

➤ *The Rector of Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, Professor Janusz Kapuśniak, has announced the creation of study programmes that respond to the needs of the socio-economic environment. What kind of programmes are these?*

We are working in multiple ways to develop joint study programmes and a system of micro-credentials. The joint degree programmes are already part of our teaching offer for the newly recruited students, and their number will increase with each academic year. At the same time, micro-credentials confirm the achievement of a given learning outcome. They are an innovative tool for certifying knowledge, skills, qualifications and professional competences acquired through formal and informal learning.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Paderborn University (alliance leader)
- Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa
- Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek
- Kristianstad University
- Le Mans University
- University of Castilla-La Mancha
- University of Ferrara
- University St. Kliment Ohridski Bitola
- Ventspils University of Applied Sciences

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 397 180



ECIU+ University

The alliance has been built on years of collaboration between experienced universities, and in 2019 was selected as one of the first university networks to be awarded European University status. Its main objective is to create a European ecosystem based on open and inclusive collaboration that brings together societal stakeholders, researchers and learners, in order to provide European answers to future societal challenges. The 14 consortium members are actively engaged in solving multidisciplinary challenges in an entrepreneurial and innovative way, while providing personalised learning and career opportunities at the European level, which are made possible by an innovative university model based on co-creation. At the end of 2021, Łódź University of Technology joined the elite ECIU network as the only Polish university.

Łódź University of Technology



dr inż. Dorota Piotrowska, prof. ŁUT
Director of the International Cooperation Centre, Łódź University of Technology (ŁUT), Institutional Coordinator of ECIU University

How does the ECIU plan to build the ecosystem of the future?

The Higher Education Strategy has introduced priorities related to building universities that act as “beacons” for the European way of life. The ECIU Alliance is working hard to implement them. The most prominent are digital and green transformation. The creation of competence centres for the competences of the future is also extremely important. The role of the European Universities is not only to analyse, but also to prepare an educational offer that will allow societies to retrain and adapt to technological changes so as to better function in new reality. This can only succeed if there is an innovative ecosystem of cooperation between university, business, society and the city, based on the mechanism of co-creation.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- European Consortium of Innovative Universities (legal entity of the alliance)
- Autonomous University of Barcelona
- Dublin City University
- Hamburg University of Technology
- Kaunas University of Technology
- Linköping University
- Łódź University of Technology
- National Institute of Applied Sciences in Toulouse
- Tampere University
- University of Aveiro
- University of Stavanger
- University of Trento
- University of Twente



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000



European Universities of Technology Alliance

The ENHANCE Alliance is a partnership of ten European technical universities that has been in operation since 2019. They aim to work towards innovative technological and social progress with sustainability in mind.

The consortium conducts research on current global challenges, such as environmental destruction caused by industrial activity, climate change, agricultural decline, regional depopulation or the need for sustainable urban development. The universities involved are convinced that it is possible to solve global problems through close cooperation between scientists and local communities, overcoming regional challenges.

Artificial intelligence in research and digitalisation are also of interest to the partner universities. A key initiative of the alliance is the creation of One Campus with the aim of developing a common educational strategy and innovative short forms of education, removing administrative barriers and supporting student and staff mobility.

Gdańsk University of Technology



prof. dr hab. inż. Krzysztof Wilde
Rector, Gdańsk University of Technology

Why did you choose this particular alliance in 2022?

It was a natural step, given our ambitions for international cooperation and development in the field of technical sciences. The ENHANCE partnership focuses on integrating universities with precisely this profile, allowing us to jointly develop innovative educational programmes and research. Joining this consortium was not only an honour for us, but also brought us the benefits of collaboration with leading technical universities in Europe. Joining the ENHANCE alliance meant a new impetus in the internationalisation process of our university.

What are these benefits specifically?

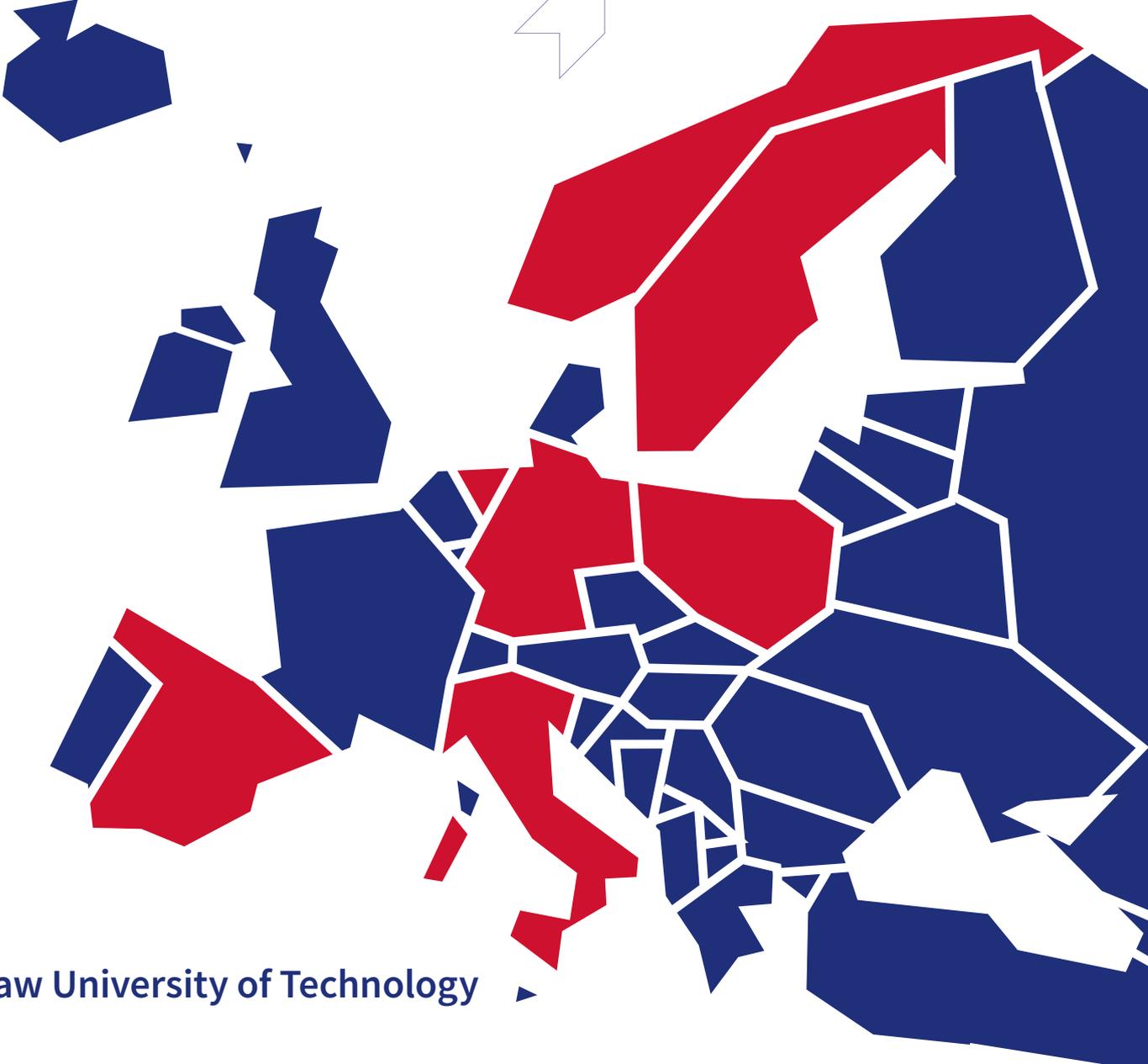
Thanks to the cooperation with partner universities, our students have already had the opportunity to participate in ten summer schools funded by Erasmus+. These events have allowed them to gain valuable educational experience. Institutionally, we have gained access to the expertise of specialists from other universities. Combining forces and resources fosters the creation of innovative research projects and technological solutions that have the potential to make a significant contribution to science.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ Chalmers University of Technology
- ▶ Delft University of Technology
- ▶ ETH Zürich
- ▶ Gdańsk University of Technology
- ▶ Norwegian University of Science and Technology
- ▶ Polytechnic University of Milan
- ▶ Polytechnic University of Valencia
- ▶ RWTH Aachen University
- ▶ Technical University of Berlin (alliance leader)
- ▶ Warsaw University of Technology

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000



Warsaw University of Technology



Grzegorz Robak
Director of the Centre
for International
Cooperation,
Warsaw University
of Technology

What are the main benefits of being part of the alliance? Participation in the ENHANCE consortium, which includes technical universities at the top of international rankings, such as ETH Zürich, Delft University of Technology and Polytechnic University of Milan, provides Warsaw University of Technology with significant image benefits, namely prestige and a better position in the European Higher Education Area. In addition, it allows us to expand our

educational offer by broadening the range of subjects and forms of education. At Warsaw University of Technology, we have developed and implemented many short forms of education in cooperation with partner universities, such as summer and winter schools, hackathons, training courses and workshops. Students gain access to ENHANCE's teaching offer and educational resources, gain international experience and improve their language

competences in tandem. The experience of coordinating activities leading to the implementation of a micro-credential system at consortium level became the basis for developing analogous solutions at university level. These solutions have secured the position of Warsaw University of Technology as a national leader in developing this new form of education that meets societal needs.

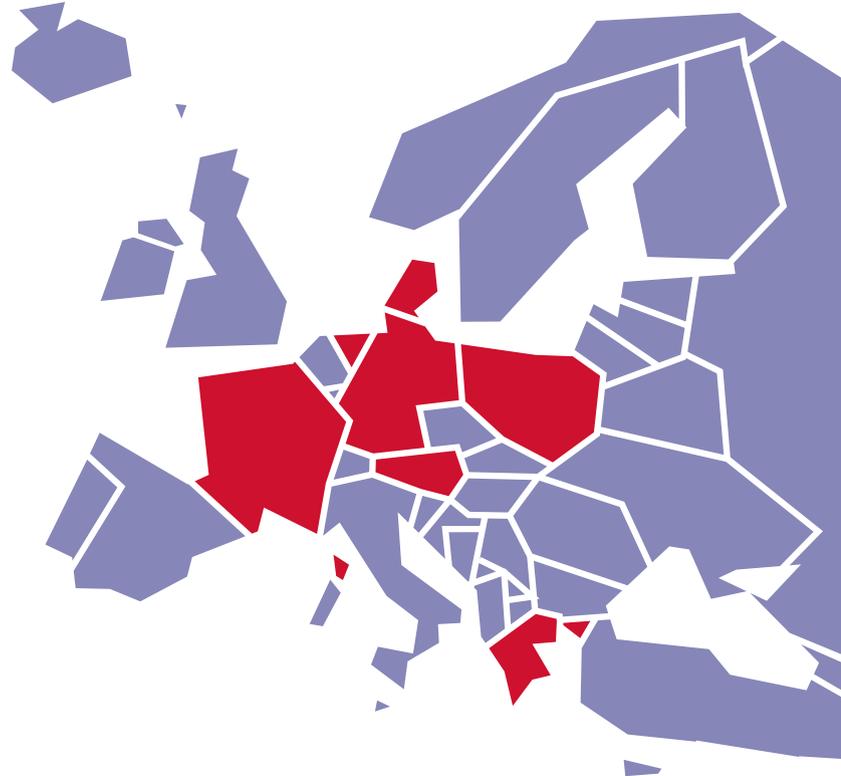


European Partnership for an Innovative Campus Unifying Regions

The EPiCUR consortium has been operational since 2019. Its aim is to strengthen cooperation between the academic and administrative staff and students of the partner universities with a view to becoming a fully-fledged federation of universities by 2026.

By implementing an interdisciplinary Liberal Arts and Sciences programme, the alliance is developing innovative student-centred teaching and learning models. The main task of the nine universities in the consortium is to promote mobility in all its forms: physical mobility, i.e. short-term or long-term stays abroad; virtual mobility, through the interactive EPiCUR Inter-University Campus platform; and mixed mobility, combining the two types.

Currently, the alliance is running the project "Shaping Higher Education in Transition" (EPiCUR-SHAPE-IT), which, in addition to developing a joint educational and mobility offer, will lead to the creation and expansion of a network of hybrid learning classrooms.



Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań



prof. dr hab. Rafał Witkowski
Vice-Rector for International Cooperation, University Alliance Coordinator, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

As part of the alliance, a joint Liberal Arts and Sciences programme was established, combining the humanities and sciences. Liberal Arts and Sciences is our consortium programme. Such study courses already existed at two of our partner universities. Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań is the third at which it has been launched, while at three others it will be available from the upcoming academic year. The structure and syllabus of the Liberal Arts and Sciences programme are similar at each of the alliance's partner universities, making student mobility within the programme very straightforward. Students can even pass an entire semester at another university without any issues. However, it must be made clear that this is not a joint course of study, rather a joint programme following a single scheme, but implemented by each university separately.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University of Strasbourg (alliance leader)
- Adam Mickiewicz University
- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- BOKU University
- Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
- University of Amsterdam
- University of Freiburg
- University of Haute-Alsace
- University of Southern Denmark

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 500 000

European Reform University Alliance

The cooperation of the eight universities in the ERUA alliance includes the development of innovative academic teaching methods and interdisciplinary approach to education and research in the social sciences and humanities, as well as a commitment to promoting European values. The consortium universities are jointly analysing the role and formula of universities in the face of global trends, taking into account their local characteristics. They are reflecting on new frameworks and objectives for staff and student mobility and, in this regard, exploring the issue of micro-credentials in their substantive, legislative and technical aspects.

SWPS University joined the alliance in 2023. It is the first non-public university from Poland to be invited to join the European Universities Initiative, an elite group of around 10 per cent of European universities affiliated to alliances aimed at developing the European Higher Education Area. This is a certification of the high quality of education provided by this university.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University Paris 8 Vincennes-Saint-Denis (alliance leader)
- European University Viadrina Frankfurt
- Mykolas Romeris University
- New Bulgarian University
- SWPS University
- University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
- University of Macerata
- University of the Aegean

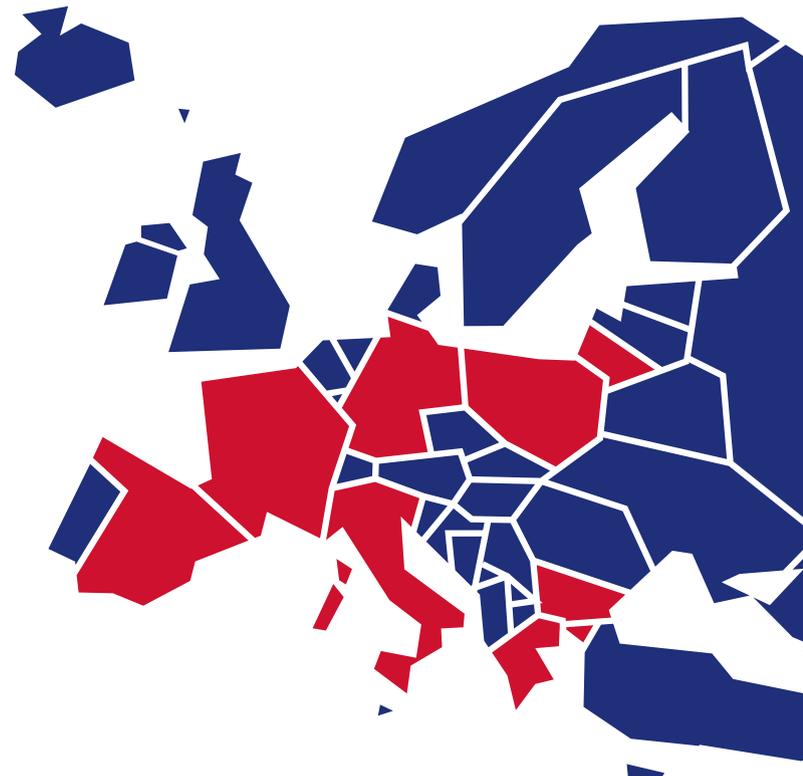
SWPS University



**dr hab.
Ewa Gruszczyńska,
prof. SWPS University**
Vice-Rector for
International Affairs,
SWPS University

➤ How is SWPS University preparing to introduce innovative learning pathways?

Above all, we aim to develop a framework for joint study programmes, to further develop innovative forms of teaching and learning and to organise the mobility of staff and students within the consortium, ideally with a view to obtaining micro-credentials. We are already at an advanced stage of developing a joint study programme in the field of migration with a particular focus on the social integration of children and young people from a migrant background. We are designing a programme that is not only modern from an academic perspective, but also responsive to the needs of the contemporary world. All partner universities are involved in this ambitious initiative.



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 12 799 933



The European Dual Studies University

European Dual Studies University

EU4DUAL is an alliance of nine European universities focused on dual and practical education, closely linked to the business and industry sectors. It is a modern educational model that combines traditional academic classes with professional work, responding to the needs of the labour market as an alternative form of recruiting employees – employers have the opportunity to offer students internships or employment in their companies. The task of EU4DUAL is also to develop practical education in technical, social, humanities and arts faculties, as well as to conduct applied and implementation research in cooperation with the industrial sector.

Koszalin University of Technology has been a member of the alliance since 2022. It aims to develop, together with its partners, programmes focused on practical education, and to strengthen cooperation with the economic environment.

Koszalin University of Technology



**dr hab.
Krzysztof Wasilewski,
prof. KUT**

Vice-Rector of
Education, Koszalin
University of
Technology (KUT)

What programmes and research geared towards practical training have been initiated at your university as a result of joining the alliance?

We implement both dual and practical studies. We conduct the former primarily at our branch in Szczecinek, which is co-run and co-financed by Kronospan Poland. It is a laboratory of sorts for dual studies at our university. In addition, practical courses are run at each faculty. We are also working on the creation of joint degree courses – the first to be created will be a dual master's course in Digital and Sustainable Manufacturing, which we will launch in the 2025/2026 academic year.

As part of EU4Dual, we are also developing a list of micro-credentials offered by all alliance members.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University of Mondragon (alliance leader)
- Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University
- ESTIA Institute of Technology
- FH Joanneum University of Applied Sciences
- John von Neumann University
- Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology
- PAR University of Applied Sciences
- Koszalin University of Technology
- Savonia University of Applied Sciences

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

European University Alliance for Sustainability: Responsible Growth, Inclusive Education and Environment

The EU GREEN alliance aims to create a European hub for education, research and innovation in the field of sustainable development. Some of the tasks implemented include the development of a common educational model, the promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship and a commitment to sustainable economies and societies, as well as the creation of a sustainable campus.

Among other things, the consortium will provide students with more opportunities for mobility, upskilling and reskilling, including through Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs), international tutoring and participation in environmental activities. Academic staff will gain opportunities for international cooperation, including the possibility to apply for research grants and participate in short research mobility programmes.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University of Extremadura (alliance leader)
- Atlantic Technological University
- Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg
- University of Angers
- University of Évora
- University of Gävle
- University of Oradea
- University of Parma
- Wrocław University of Environment and Life Sciences

Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences



dr Katarzyna Lech-Książkiewicz
Director of Student Affairs Center
Coordinator for EU GREEN Alliance

➤ *What is the main idea behind the university joining the alliance?*

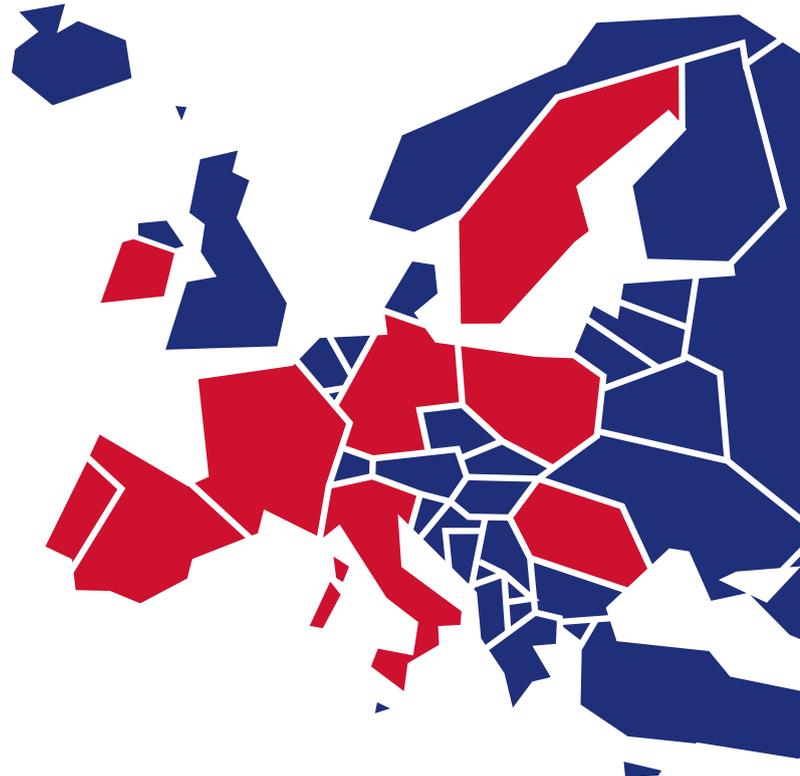
The main goal was to strengthen our role as a socially responsible, innovative, and internationally active institution. We got the opportunity to develop modern educational programmes – student-centered, sustainability-oriented, and research-driven. We aim to increase mobility and to build lasting connections.

➤ *You indicate sustainability as one of the main areas for alliance. What does it mean to you?*

For us and our partners, sustainability is not just a field of research – it is the foundation of our entire approach to education and collaboration. It means creating solutions that consider environmental responsibility and the careful stewardship of resources for future generations.

➤ *What are the main outcomes so far?*

We are developing a new educational model based on the UN sustainability development goals. We created several master's programmes, expanded microcredentials and updated existing degrees to better integrate sustainability.



GRANT AWARDED

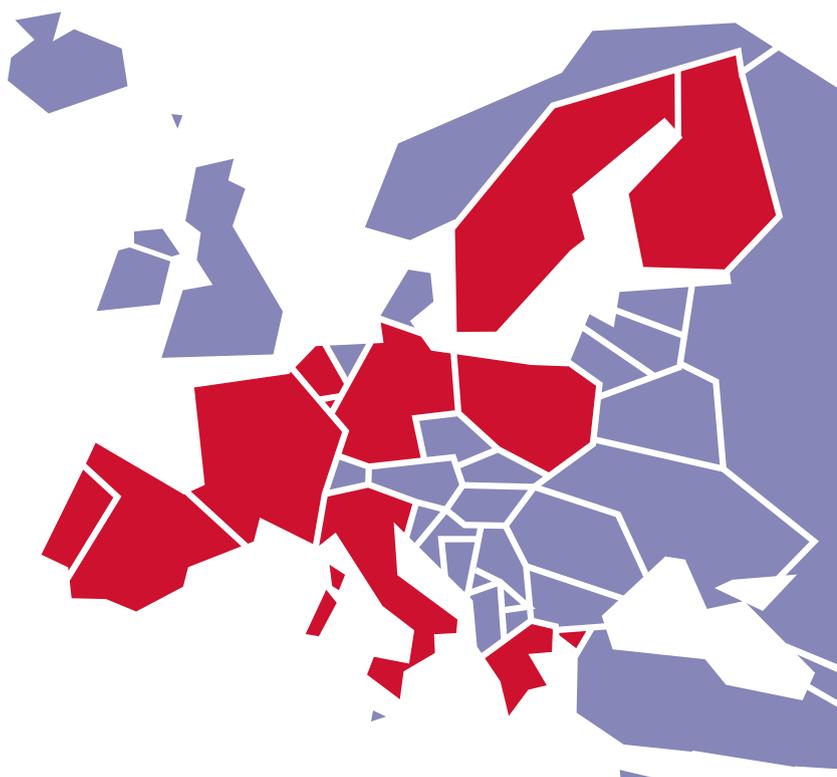
EUR 14 400 000



European University for Customised Education

The alliance has been operational since 2020. Initially made up of seven universities, currently – in the next project called EUNICE4U spread over the period 2023-2027 – it already comprises eleven partner institutions, including the Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif (AISBL): an international non-profit association and also the legal personality of the consortium.

The EUNICE European University provides a rich educational offer that enables students to develop their knowledge and competences. It includes remote multi-disciplinary courses – there are more than 70 in 2024 – and language classes. In addition, short-term exchanges, including Blended Intensive Programmes combining online training with short stays at partner universities, are becoming increasingly popular. The consortium's activities also include cooperation with the industry sector. As part of this collaboration, EUNICE offers students foreign internships in companies in the partner countries. More than 200 companies display their internship offers on the EUNICE International Internships and Research Stays Portal (EIR), a platform created by the alliance.



Poznan University of Technology



prof. dr hab. inż. Mariusz Głąbowski
Vice-Rector for International Relations, Poznan University of Technology

What are the main tasks of the EUNICE consortium?

As part of the alliance, we work to create personalised educational pathways for our students and support the process of their personal development. Our ambition is to educate 21st century professionals, fluent in the world of technological innovation and able to adapt to the changes of a constantly evolving economy. In order to do this, we must abandon the classical model of higher education, in which students are merely passive recipients of expert knowledge, in favour of an approach focused on flexibility. Our task is to prepare an educational offer that enables learners to gain lifelong access to quality knowledge (Lifelong Learning).

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Poznan University of Technology (alliance leader)
- Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif (legal entity of the alliance)
- Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Karlstad University
- Polytechnic Institute of Viseu
- Polytechnic University of Hauts-de-France
- University of Mons
- University of Cantabria
- University of Catania
- University of the Peloponnese
- University of Vaasa

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

European Alliance of Islands, Ports and Coastal Territories

Thirteen universities located in the islands and coastal zones of Europe form the EUNICoast alliance. Anchored in spirit and practice in the sea, the consortium seeks to emphasise its significance. For the alliance, the sea is not a physical border, but a source of shared experience, economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. The consortium will contribute to the increase of student and academic mobility, as well as to the development of research and the competitiveness of European higher education.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Le Havre University Normandy (alliance leader)
- Åland University of Applied Sciences
- Burgas Free University
- EMUNI University
- Stralsund University of Applied Sciences
- University of Patras
- University of Dubrovnik
- University of the Azores
- University of Sassari
- University of the Balearic Islands
- University of the Faroe Islands
- University of the French Antilles
- West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin

West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin



**dr hab. inż.
Przemysław
Korytkowski,
prof. WPUT**

Rector's representative for the European University, West Pomeranian University of Technology (WPUT) in Szczecin

➤ *EUNICoast European University will provide many new scientific contacts and access to inspiring educational solutions...*

We are the largest technical university in the region. We hope that we will find new impetus in the alliance for development in the field of education and science and cooperation with the economic and social environment. We hope that the cooperation within the consortium will grow and that more joint projects with our partners will be realised as a result. We are accelerating activities in the development of joint short forms of education and online courses. In the longer term, we want to develop joint educational programmes at first and second degree level.

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000



EUonAIR Alliance

Kozminski University and the Polish-Japanese Academy of Information Technology are members of the EUonAIR European University alliance. Kozminski University is also the only Polish leader of the consortium of European Universities among the ones selected for funding in 2024.

The project, which started in January 2025 and will last 48 months, aims to strengthen education in Europe through artificial intelligence and with the involvement of university cities, and to highlight the value of international mobility and assess its importance for human capital when returning from mobility. The alliance aims to develop the virtual MyAI Campus and to produce innovative solutions that promote AI-

based education and support open research and innovation. The project also involves collaborating with cities towards smart and green solutions and raising awareness of AI and education. It is of great importance academically, nationally and internationally.

The EUonAIR consortium consists of ten universities and five associate members from Poland, Germany, Croatia, Spain, Lithuania, France, Luxembourg, Greece, Ukraine, Switzerland, Estonia and Italy. The budget is €14.4 million. Kozminski University will administer almost €2.4 million and the Polish-Japanese Academy of Information Technology about €2 million.

Kozminski University



prof. dr hab. Izabela Grabowska
Kozminski University

How does the alliance plan to introduce AI into education and university management in Europe?

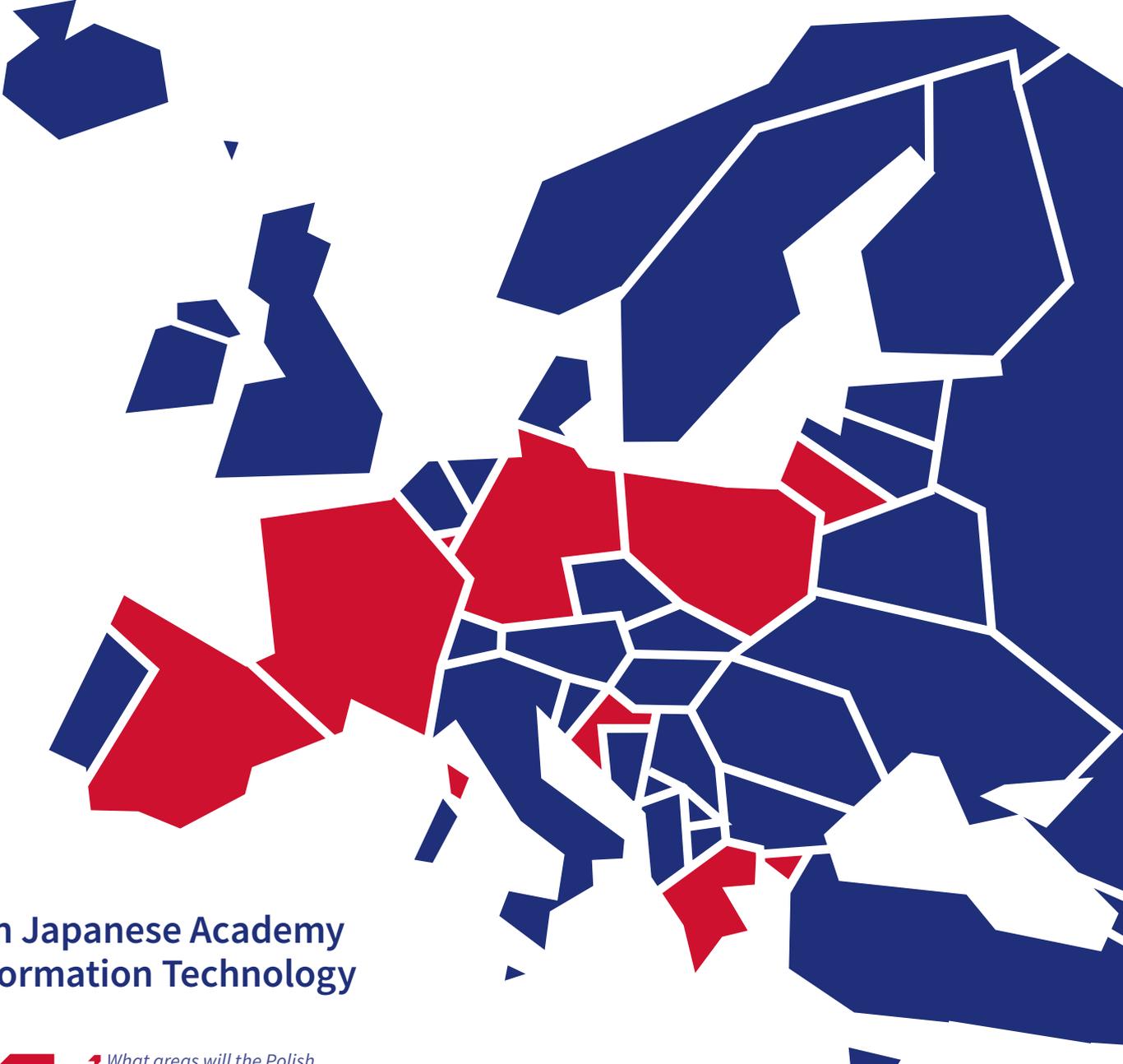
There are a lot of conspiracy theories around AI. We want to spread awareness of AI, to show how it can be used wisely. The AI we are referring to in the consortium is generative and collaborative: it is supposed to support the lecturer, the researcher and the teacher, not replace them. For the lecturer, it is meant to be an assistant, and for the student, a tutor. The first element of our collaborative effort is the modernisation of traditional education programmes. The second is the creation of My AI Campus, a campus operating in the virtual world based on streaming. We will be testing a new model of education with a multilingual avatar. The third part of the EUonAIR project will be two centres of excellence. The first will be reflected in a virtual campus, using AI in education. We will test various solutions that will help, for example, to evaluate educational outcomes and their suitability for the labour market. The second will be a centre for what we call holistic mobility. We will evaluate the effects of mobility and its impact on human capital.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Abat Oliba CEU University
- ESSCA School of Management
- Heilbronn University of Applied Sciences
- HTW Berlin University of Applied Sciences
- ISM University of Management and Economics
- Kozminski University (alliance leader)
- Luxembourg School of Business
- Polish Japanese Academy of Information Technology
- University of Piraeus
- Zagreb School of Economics and Management

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000



Polish Japanese Academy of Information Technology



prof. dr hab. Adam Wierzbicki,
Vice-Rector, Polish Japanese Academy of Information Technology

What areas will the Polish Japanese Academy of Information Technology focus on as part of the consortium? The Workpackage, which is led by our university, will address three research areas: the application of AI in education, the design of human interaction with AI and the issue of fair AI. A centre of excellence will be established for these three areas. Within the centre, the consortium will monitor the literature and create literature and data repositories. We also want to create a platform that will

enable the prototyping of ideas that serve education, using AI and language models. With the help of this platform, even people with non-specialised knowledge will be able to try out their own ideas. All these activities are expected to have an impact on the level of teaching.

Will academics collaborate within the consortium, or will it be students or administrative staff who are involved?

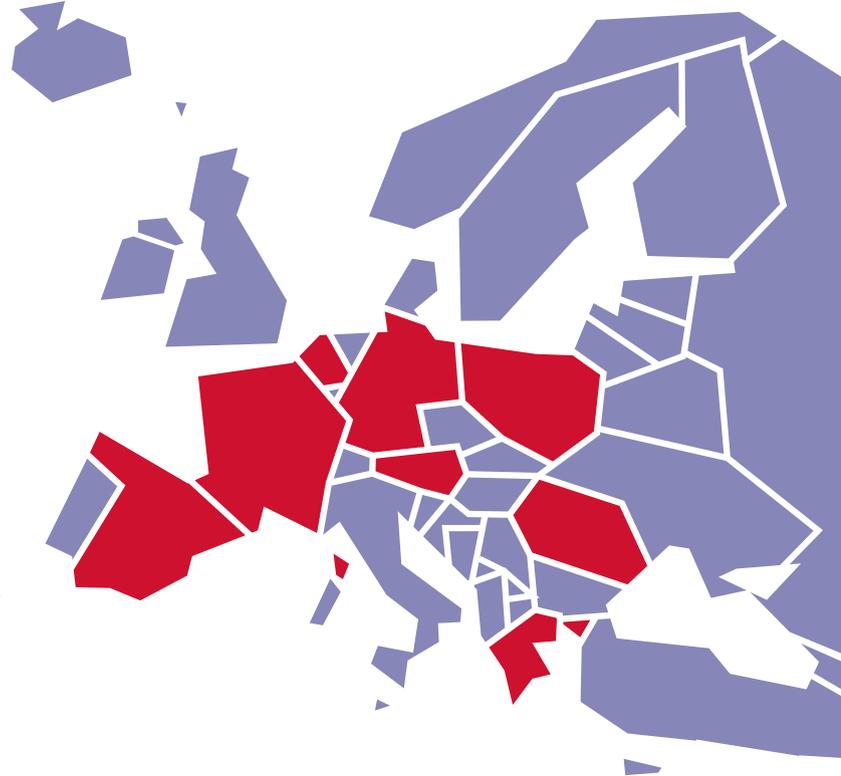
I am responsible for the package which primarily concerns research. It will mainly involve academics and doctoral candidates, but the research will also be open to students. One of the initiatives we are preparing will be the AI challenge, an annual competition aimed at all participants in the consortium, primarily students, but also academics. It is intended to activate young researchers in trying their hand at AI research.



European University Alliance on Responsible Consumption and Production

Established in 2019, the consortium is made up of nine universities operating in regions that were once dominated by heavy industry, particularly mining. The EURECA-PRO European University is an educational centre and a research leader for the broader field of responsible consumption and production of goods. It deals with technological, material, as well as economic, ecological, social and political aspects. In addition, the alliance's universities carry out a research programme to develop solutions aimed at tackling the negative effects of climate and environmental change and supporting the transformation of regions, among others.

Students at the partner universities can participate in a range of courses in such fields as responsible consumption and production, innovation and soft skills, as well as cultural issues and European values. The consortium is working on introducing a micro-credentials system, enhancing cooperation between doctoral schools, and undertaking various research topics and joint projects.



Silesian University of Technology



prof. dr hab. inż. Marek Pawełczyk
Vice-Rector for Science and Development, University Alliance Coordinator, Silesian University of Technology

Will the alliance's work result in a common course of study?
This is a big challenge and its full success depends on many factors, including the European Commission itself, as well as the national authorities of the member universities. First degree programmes at our universities are of different lengths, lasting between six and ten semesters. In addition, we have different laws on higher education, as well as our own deep-rooted traditions. However, we definitely have the will to run a joint education programme and we are already seeing the first results of this. Two years ago, we opened a new specialisation in the field of management and production engineering: responsible consumption and production. It gives students of the Silesian University of Technology the opportunity to complete part of their studies at a partner university. We are also preparing to launch joint degree programmes with a dual diploma in cooperation with German and Austrian universities. Furthermore, we are in talks with universities in Belgium and France about joint training in nuclear energy.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ University of Leoben (alliance leader)
- ▶ Hasselt University
- ▶ Mittweida University of Applied Sciences
- ▶ Silesian University of Technology
- ▶ Technical University Freiberg
- ▶ Technical University of Crete
- ▶ University of León
- ▶ University of Lorraine
- ▶ University of Petroșani

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 377 976



Fostering Outreach within European Regions, Transnational Higher Education and Mobility

FORTHM is a consortium of nine multidisciplinary public research universities with experience in running projects that aim to create a multifaceted innovative collaborative environment. As part of its activities, the alliance has established nine international research labs where researchers, students and external partners collaborate. Their areas of interest are the challenges facing Europe: from European identity through demography and migration to digital transformation and climate change.

As FORTHM's mission is to educate in the spirit of European values, the consortium organises European summer schools for school teachers and regional student placements. The exchange of knowledge among academic staff working in pedagogical disciplines is also of great importance. This cooperation is facilitated by the use of the Digital Academy platform.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- ↗ University of Burgundy (alliance leader)
- ↗ Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
- ↗ Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu
- ↗ University of Agder
- ↗ University of Jyväskylä
- ↗ University of Latvia
- ↗ University of Opole
- ↗ University of Palermo
- ↗ University of Valencia

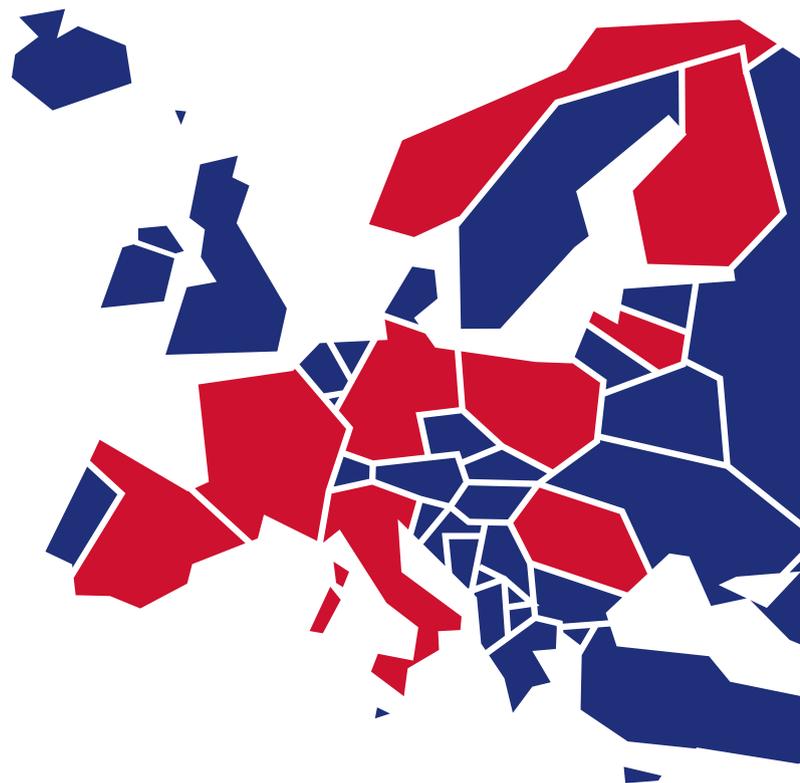
University of Opole



dr Barbara Curyło
University Alliance
Coordinator,
University of Opole

↗ *There are 225,000 students in the alliance's member universities. What benefits do they gain from having their universities form a European University?*

Within the labs, students have unique opportunities. Firstly, they can cooperate with their professors in ways that go beyond traditional teaching patterns, such as producing joint publications. Secondly, external partners join the collaboration, which strengthens the social dimension of such project and builds relationships between students and potential employers. Thirdly, students can initiate student-driven projects themselves, in which they decide on the topics and timing of the projects. If we add the fact that the consortium is working on the recognition of the results of the lab projects in the students' learning paths, the opportunities and benefits become even more apparent.



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000



Knowledge & Creativity European University

The KreativEU Consortium is an alliance of eleven universities with the goal of creating a European University focused on the creative potential of European cultural heritage. The alliance is working to use tangible and intangible cultural heritage, including national and local traditions, folklore and craftsmanship, for the purpose of researching identity, remembrance and heritage for social benefit. The partner universities are also including ecocultural identity in their activities. As a result, members of the consortium are working to develop cutting-edge educational and research programmes that combine cultural and scientific perspectives and take into account both ecological and digital age perspectives. All of these activities serve to address global issues such as climate change, including the disappearance of biodiversity.

Opole University of Technology



dr inż. Aneta Kucińska-Landwójtowicz
Vice-Rector for Cooperation with Social and Economic Environment, Opole University of Technology

What benefits does the university expect from joining the alliance and what goals has it set for itself?
Science and education have no borders. At Opole University of Technology, we place great emphasis on international cooperation. We will work together to implement an innovative educational model. There will be new interdisciplinary and international education faculties, courses providing the opportunity to obtain micro-credentials and summer schools on topics such as national heritage, architecture, cultural studies, ethnography, food science, materials science, immersive technologies, artificial intelligence, ecology and landscape planning, sustainable development, economics, marketing and management. We have also planned continuing education courses, open lectures and events to promote lifelong learning. We intend to build the KreativUE Centre of Excellence for digital education and AI. There will be an educational digital platform, a digital library, and we will record a series of podcasts.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ Polytechnic University of Tomar (alliance leader)
- ▶ Adana Alparslan Türkeş Science and Technology University
- ▶ Breda University of Applied Sciences
- ▶ D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics
- ▶ Opole University of Technology
- ▶ Södertörn University
- ▶ Trnava University
- ▶ University of Camerino
- ▶ University of Greifswald
- ▶ University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
- ▶ Valahia University of Târgoviște

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

European University of the Seas Alliance

The priority of the SEA-EU alliance is to develop new forms of cooperation to consolidate and expand the activities of its nine member universities.

The partner universities are located in coastal regions. Their main teaching and research objectives and the degree programmes they offer are in the maritime disciplines. As a result of the consortium's work, new education courses will be launched, the curriculum of which has been developed together with seaports, among others. The alliance's area of interest also includes sustainability policy, including the green transformation of higher education institutions, and work on a Green Charter that defines its environmental goals, such as the creation of community gardens or herbariums on campuses. As part of its green activities, the consortium has also organised a competition for the sustainable transformation of partner institutions. The best of the submitted projects will be implemented.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University of Cádiz (alliance leader)
- Christian-Albrechts University of Kiel
- NORD University
- University of Algarve
- University of Gdańsk
- University of Malta
- University of Naples Parthenope
- University of Split
- University of Western Brittany

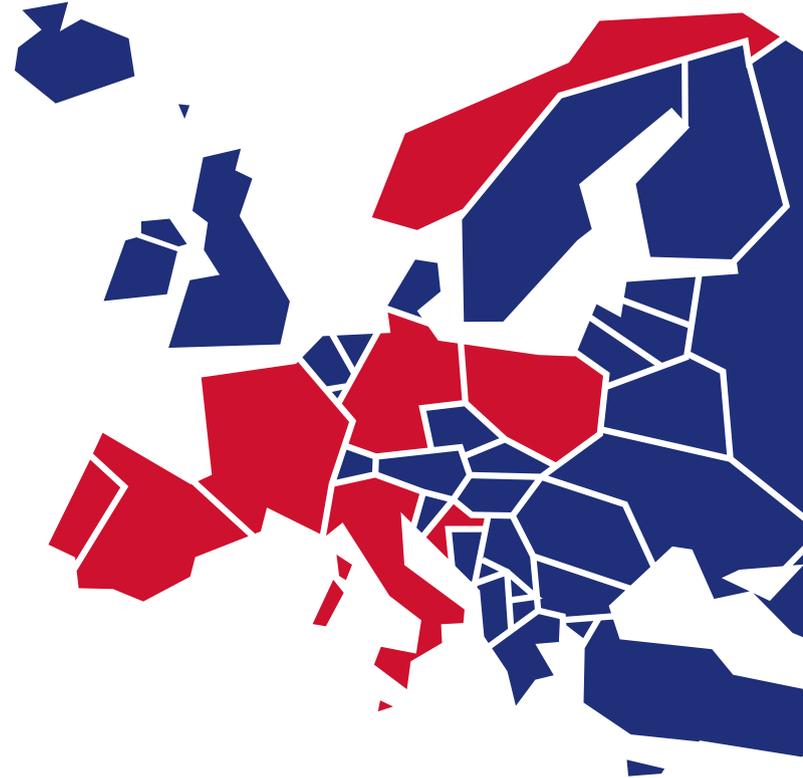
University of Gdańsk



Marlena Rutkowska-Myzyk
SEA-EU Project
Manager, University
of Gdańsk

➤ What tasks has the SEA-EU consortium undertaken?

The maritime sector needs a well-educated and skilled workforce. To this end, we are working on four new degree courses. The programme of one of them – the Joint Master's Degree in Port Management and Logistics – has been developed in cooperation with seaports, so that the competences it develops match the needs of the labour market. Education on this master's degree will start in October 2025 at all alliance universities simultaneously. Each of them will conduct its own recruitment, but we will create mobility schedules which will allow students to move between partner universities and complete the study programme in different places, e.g. the first semester in Cadiz, the second in Gdańsk, etc. This is what SEA-EU is all about – creating a multicultural and multilingual international campus.



GRANT AWARDED

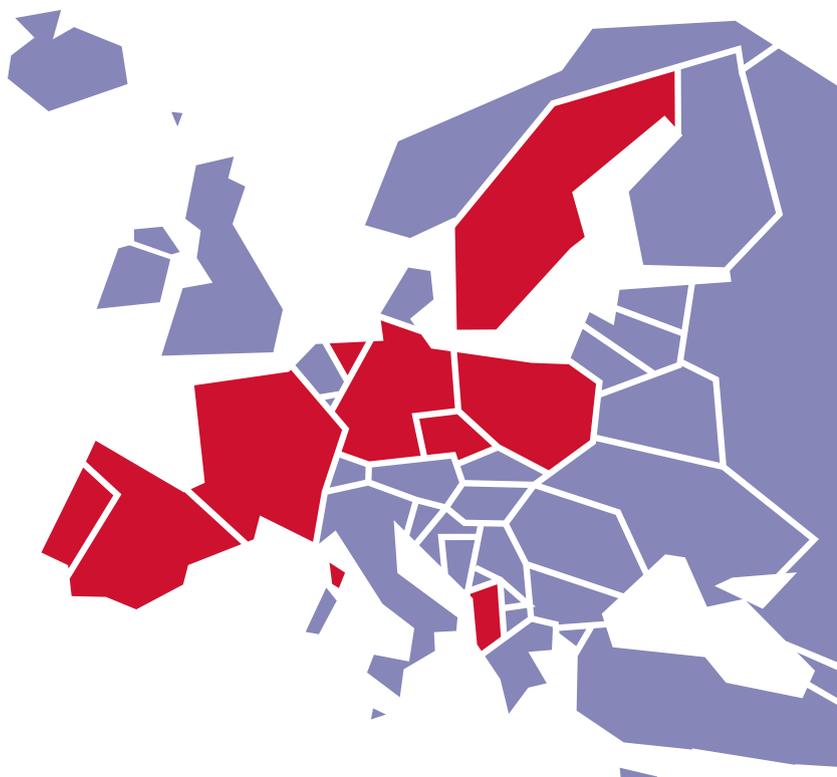
EUR 14 400 000



Strategic Alliance for Regional Transition – STARS European University

The STARS EU alliance consists of nine universities from all parts of Europe, working intensively with their regions. Through high-quality research and knowledge transfer, it provides industrial solutions for digital and green transformation, as they are – in addition to the transition to a circular economy and the use of critical enabling technologies – the biggest challenges in the partner university regions.

The scope of the consortium's cooperation also includes the implementation of European Research Area priorities, as well as the creation of innovative education and research systems. Among other things, the partner universities are also working on the introduction of joint degrees and micro-credentials.



Cracow University of Technology



prof. dr hab. inż.
Dariusz Bogdat
Cracow University
of Technology

What challenges is the STARS EU alliance addressing?

In terms of societal needs, we have in mind, for example, a more efficient distribution and use of experience from cross-university projects, as well as a better reaction to societal challenges and needs arising from situations such as pandemics, climate change and the war in Ukraine. STARS EU is particularly focused on student mobility, because we experienced how unrealistic the Bologna process was – there was a lack of appropriate structures and real student mobility could only take place with great restrictions. However, many of its elements, such as the European approach, the ECTS system, credit transfer and mutual recognition, as well as micro-credentials, etc., form the basis of a modern concept that can become the starting point for a new university model. The European University concept is linked, among other things, to the vision of finalising these structures.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ Hanze University of Applied Sciences (alliance leader)
- ▶ Aleksandr Moisiu University
- ▶ Bremen University of Applied Sciences
- ▶ Cracow University of Technology
- ▶ Polytechnic Institute of Bragança
- ▶ Silesian University in Opava
- ▶ University of Franche-Comté
- ▶ University of La Laguna
- ▶ University West

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 12 347 482



Smaller (Strategic) Universities Network for Regional Innovative and Sustainable Evolution

The SUNRISE alliance consists of nine European technical universities with extensive experience in running research programmes. The project partners aim to counter the disappearance of small universities, which face a number of challenges including the attrition of talent, difficulties in obtaining funding, limited international activities, the need to compete with large universities, as well as a lack of infrastructure, technology and training capacity. As a result, the consortium partners will focus on promoting innovative study programmes and encouraging student mobility, as well as on international research. The project also involves collaboration with more than 50 European industrial sector institutions.

University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszów



dr hab. Andrzej Rozmus
Rector, University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszów

➤ *Is the project on which the consortium will work ready?*

We already had to make many of the issues very precise when we submitted the proposal. The project lasts almost until the end of 2028; the tasks have been spread over four years. These include the creation of a learning platform and a work platform for teaching and administrative staff, as well as the development of joint educational programmes, the implementation of mobility and the establishment of cooperation with the business environment.

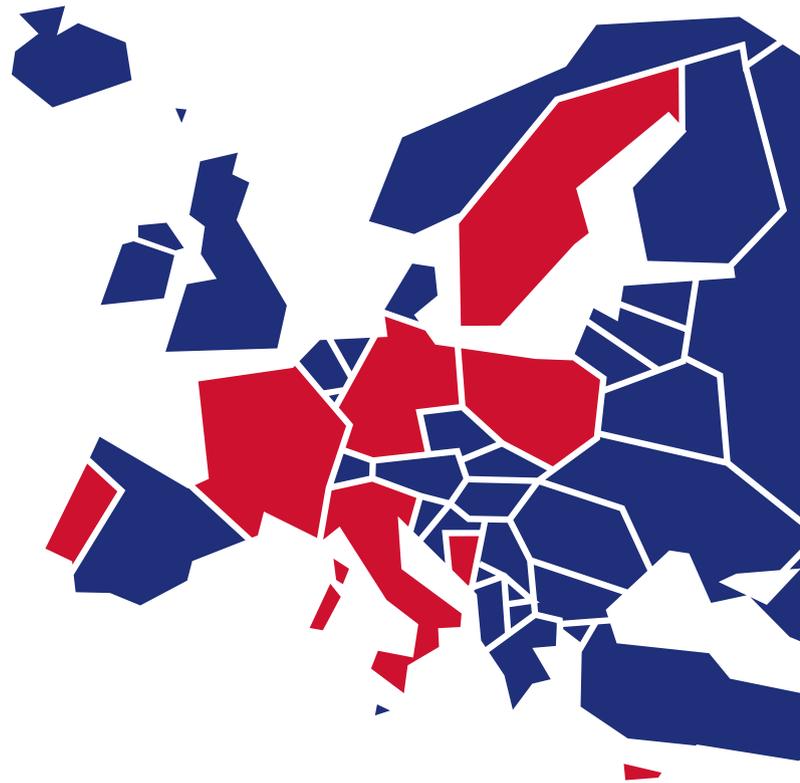
➤ *Participation in the alliance is both prestigious and challenging. What are you hoping for?*

We have submitted this project with universities with which we already had a relationship, so we are expecting great things and in a short timeframe. A huge opportunity comes with placements abroad and with research projects with our new partners from Europe.

➤ *What makes your consortium stand out?*
All our partners in the SUNRISE alliance have a very practical profile, with a large number of courses that are prospective on the labour market.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Dzemal Bijedic University of Mostar
- European University Cyprus
- Free University of Bozen-Bolzano
- Ilmenau University of Technology
- Marche Polytechnic University
- Mälardalen University
- Polytechnic Institute of Viana do Castelo
- University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszów
- University of Technology of Compiègne



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000



Transform4Europe – European University for Knowledge Entrepreneurs

Ten European universities, together with an associate partner from Ukraine – Mariupol State University – have joined forces in the T4EU alliance. Their guiding objective is to train entrepreneurs who will lead socio-economic transformation in their respective regions. As a result, the partner universities are developing joint teaching modules. Two new courses will be opened at the University of Silesia and the Vytautas Magnus University: international studies in political science and diplomacy, and aquamatics (water resources management), graduates of which will be awarded dual degrees. The two universities are also working on a joint teaching programme on climate and environmental change in collaboration with the University of Trieste. Similarly, as part of the Erasmus Mundus programme, the University of Silesia with the Jean Monnet University and the Catholic University of Portugal will launch a joint training programme in digital creativity.



University of Silesia in Katowice



prof. dr hab. Małgorzata Myśliwiec
University Alliance Coordinator,
University of Silesia in Katowice

Students, doctoral candidates and staff at the universities that form T4EU have the opportunity to learn different languages thanks to the alliance. Are they eager to make use of it?

The consortium's activities include numerous language courses conducted through our T4E Internet Platform, which are extremely popular. For example, the Vytautas Magnus University offers courses in as many as 30 languages! We also organise summer schools, which are an excellent opportunity to learn foreign languages. Another language learning offer is the Languages for Lunch series. It is a new teaching format that is being implemented and put into practice at the University of Silesia. When students from partner universities visit us, they teach their native languages to our students in between classes and receive extra ECTS credits for doing so. This works well for French, German and Spanish. Such informal conversations with peers from other countries, even if only during meal breaks, allow students to further their linguistic training in a relaxed atmosphere.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- ▶ Saarland University (alliance leader)
- ▶ Catholic University of Portugal
- ▶ Estonian Academy of Arts
- ▶ Jean Monnet University
- ▶ Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski
- ▶ University of Alicante
- ▶ University of Primorska
- ▶ University of Silesia in Katowice
- ▶ University of Trieste
- ▶ Vytautas Magnus University

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 399 641



UNA Europa Alliance

Established in 2018, Una Europa is an alliance of 11 leading European universities and associated partners, working together to build a cross-border campus and structures for in-depth institutional cooperation. The consortium has received EU funding for the 1Europe, Una.Futura and Una. Resin projects. Between 2019 and 2023, it has funded 44 joint research projects with a total value of more than €700,000 from its own funds, Una Europa Seed Funding.

The partnership focuses on five thematic areas: European studies, cultural heritage, sustainable development, data science and artificial intelligence, and health. The alliance has established pioneering joint degree programmes: in the field of European studies, the Joint Bachelor in European Studies (BAES); in the field of cultural heritage, the Una Europa Doctoral Programme in Cultural Heritage (Una-Her-Doc); and in the field of sustainability, the Joint Bachelor in Sustainability (BASUS); as well as the Future UniLab think tank acting to create a vision for the university of the future.

Jagiellonian University in Kraków



prof. Stanisław Kistryn
Rector's Proxy for Cooperation within the Framework of Una Europa, Jagiellonian University in Kraków

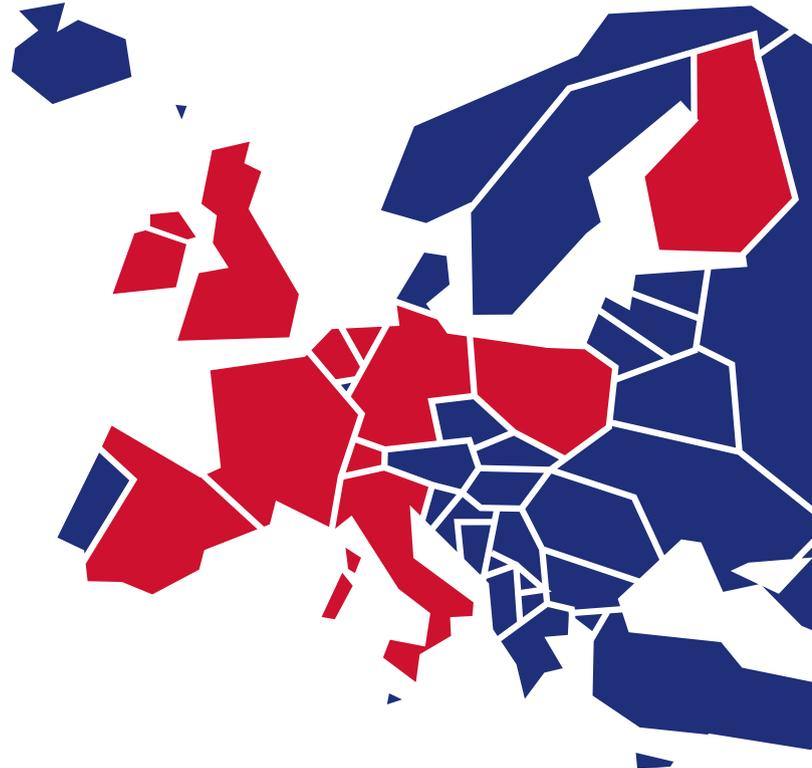
➤ *The Una Europa consortium has a "living laboratory". What does it do?*

It is a virtual space where people that we call visionaries can create futuristic, and in many cases even crazy, visions of the university of the future.

They wonder what the university should look like in 30 years, how it should operate in its environment and how new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, will change its functioning in a dozen or more years. People active in various areas of society have been invited to take on the role of visionaries: philosophers, astrophysicists, artists and businessmen. They are tasked with answering questions about the shape of the university of the future and its role, especially in the light of societal changes. Perhaps the visions they have developed will serve as a catalyst for the university to propose pathways for societal development that will, lofty as it may sound, ensure a better future for all of us.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Una Europa vzw (legal entity of the alliance)
- Catholic University of Leuven
- Complutense University of Madrid
- Free University of Berlin
- Jagiellonian University in Kraków
- Leiden University
- University College Dublin
- University of Bologna
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Helsinki
- University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
- University of Zürich



GRANT AWARDED

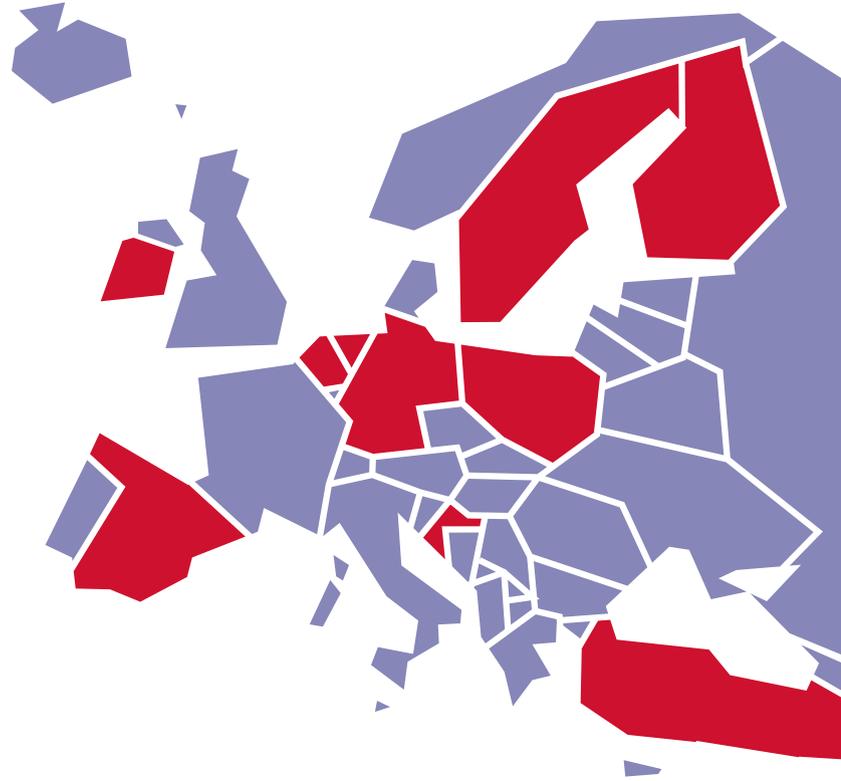
EUR 14 399 993



European University of Cities in Post-Industrial Transition

The university cities in the UNIC alliance are linked by an industrial past. They also face specific problems arising both from their historical backgrounds and from the globalisation process and related climate change. The main areas of the consortium's activities include addressing these challenges and the role of universities in transforming post-industrial urban areas. In addition, the partner universities are exploring urban capacity building in the key areas of inclusion and diversity, sustainable development and social impact and mobility.

The alliance provides an opportunity to make better use of the intellectual capital of the academic community by enhancing international cooperation in applied research, as well as creating joint solutions in planning and conducting policies for the development of European cities in line with the concept of sustainability.



University of Lodz



prof. dr hab.
Łukasz Bogucki
University of Łódź

What does joining the consortium change for those studying, working or pursuing a doctorate at the University of Łódź?

Thanks to the cooperation with the University of Bochum, students in two fields of study, mathematics and English philology, will soon be able to obtain dual degrees. We are also in talks with the University of Cork about concluding a co-promotion agreement, which is especially important for our doctoral students. Employees, including administrative staff, have been given the opportunity to remotely study almost all the languages used in the alliance countries free of charge. In 2024, several dozen of them went on short-term research placements. In addition, we have set up UNIC Open Courses covering subjects from various fields. We also organise seminars, summer schools, conferences and other initiatives, such as Staff Week for administration.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Erasmus University (alliance leader)
- Koç University
- Malmö University
- Ruhr University Bochum
- University College Cork
- University of Deusto
- University of Liège
- University of Lodz
- University of Oulu
- University of Zagreb

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 378 507



The green European University

The Warsaw University of Life Sciences is part of an alliance of eight European universities specialising in the fields of agriculture, life sciences, environmental sciences and biotechnology. The alliance aims to enable the free flow of knowledge, facilitate the acquisition of double or joint European degrees and attract talent from outside Europe. Dr hab. Karol Chrobak, Rector's Plenipotentiary for the Alliance, adds that UNIGreen's sustainability efforts can contribute to improving the quality of life through better management of natural resources and reducing air, water and soil pollution. Investments in green technologies and Nature-based Solutions (NBS) will help create new jobs and support local economies by promoting innovation and entrepreneurial development.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University of Almería (alliance leader)
- Agricultural University of Iceland
- Agricultural University Plovdiv
- Higher Education Institution of the Province of Liège
- Higher Institute of Biotechnologies of Paris Sup'Biotech
- Polytechnic University of Coimbra
- University of Modena and Reggio Emilia
- Warsaw University of Life Sciences

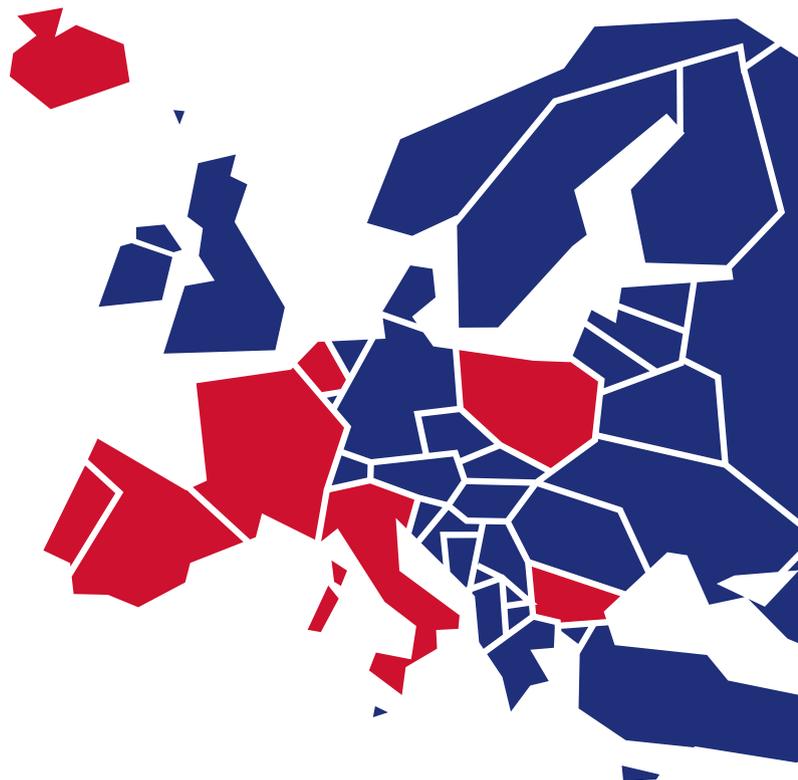
Warsaw University of Life Sciences



dr hab. Marta Mendel, prof. WULS
Vice-Rector for the International Cooperation, Warsaw University of Life Sciences (WULS)

➤ *What are the opportunities and possibilities for the UNIGreen European University in the years to come?*

The opportunities for the alliance lie primarily in the challenges that are linked to the current climate crisis. The scale of these problems confirms the need for a European University primarily geared towards natural and environmental sciences. The broad geographical scope of the UNIGreen alliance, which covers an area from Spain to Iceland and from Portugal to Poland, is extremely valuable for scientific and teaching activities, as it makes it possible to study global environmental phenomena from different angles. For example, global warming can be analysed from the perspective of extreme weather events in Poland, droughts in southern Spain or rising water levels around Iceland.



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 6 823 854



University Network for Innovation, Technology and Engineering

Unite! is a network of nine European universities that was established in 2019. It connects institutions located all the way from Finland to Portugal – in regions characterised by excellent economic prospects and high entrepreneurial and innovative development. The members of the network want to develop a new model for European university education, including through common curricula and flexible study paths.

Unite! connects engineering with industry and business as well as major societal challenges, creating solutions for a new generation of European and global citizens. Wrocław University of Science and Technology has been invited to join Unite! in 2022, as the first university from our part of Europe.

Wrocław University of Science and Technology



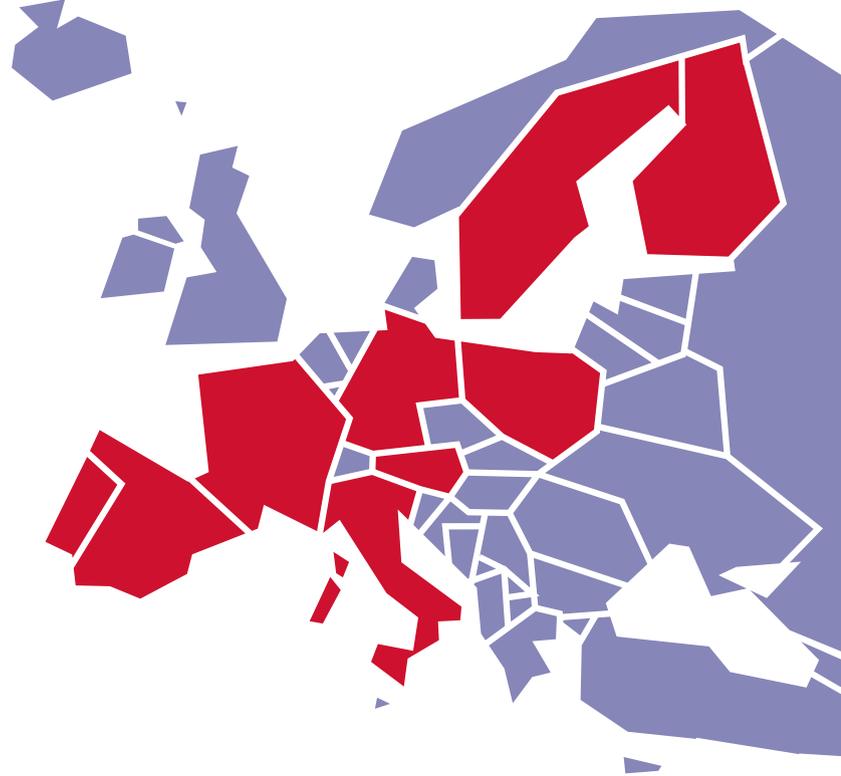
Anna Hejno
Network Office
Unite! & Academia
Europaea, Wrocław
University of Science
and Technology

➤ The aim of Unite! is to “build a new standard of learning to equip graduates with the knowledge and sensitivity to effectively engage with the challenges of the global contemporary world”. What are these challenges?

The Unite! alliance brings together technical universities from every corner of Europe – culturally diverse, but with a common goal: to educate the engineers of the future. Its global mission is to create such an environment for students, graduates, doctoral candidates and employees, so that they are equipped with the competences to overcome the challenges of today, with a special focus on green transformation, digitalisation and modern industry.

➤ What unique contributions does the Wrocław University of Science and Technology make to the Unite! network?

There are various working groups within the alliance – each university is a leader in one of the areas. Researchers from our institution set the tone in the area of green transformation. This package also includes micro-credentials, a modern form of education that will ultimately complement the university's offer.



PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Aalto University
- Graz University of Technology
- Grenoble INP-UGA
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology
- Polytechnic University of Catalonia
- Polytechnic University of Turin
- Technical University of Darmstadt (alliance leader)
- University of Lisbon
- Wrocław University of Science and Technology

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000

UNIVERSEH

European Space University of Earth and Humanity

The UNIVERSEH alliance, or European Space University for Earth and Humanity, consists of seven European universities. The first edition of this project took place between 2020 and 2023, and was subsequently extended until 2027.

The consortium is working to develop space exploration technology. One of the first tasks of the AGH University of Science and Technology within the alliance was to establish the Space Technology Centre in 2020, which has already signed its first contract with the European Space Agency (ESA) to organise an innovative mission at the International Space Station to study nanomaterials. The centre is also responsible for the UNIVERSEH Extended for Ukraine project, which aims to involve Ukrainian universities in the partnership's activities.

Innovative courses and educational methods are being developed for the students of the alliance's universities. This year, AGH will launch a degree course in space technology.

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- University of Toulouse (alliance leader)
- AGH University of Science and Technology
- Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
- Luleå University of Technology
- Tor Vergata University of Rome
- University of Luxembourg
- University of Namur
- University of Toulouse

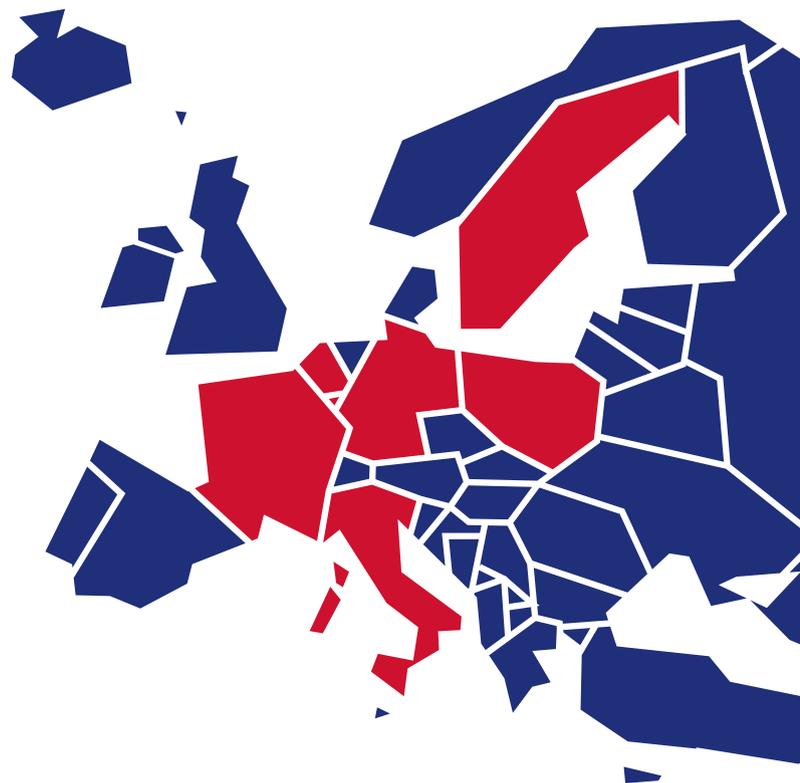
AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków



prof. dr hab. inż. Tadeusz Uhl
Director of the Space Technology Centre, AGH University of Science and Technology

➤ What are the benefits of participating in the UNIVERSEH alliance?

The result of inter-university cooperation is the creation of a new course at the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków: space technology. The formalities are still in progress, but we already have the curriculum and all the necessary documents, which we have developed in consultation with our partners. Two universities in our consortium, the University of Toulouse and the Luleå University of Technology, already have this course in place, and the other five universities in the alliance, including ours, have been working on developing it as well. At AGH, a second-degree course in space technology started in March 2025, while we will launch a first-degree course in October.



GRANT AWARDED

EUR 11 200 000



Young Universities for the Future of Europe Alliance

YUFE, or Young Universities for the Future of Europe, is an alliance of ten research universities that were established after the Second World War, as well as non-academic partners working on higher education, labour market and entrepreneurship issues. The aim of the consortium is to develop a model of the European university that goes beyond the traditional mission of a university, seen as conducting teaching and research activities and engaging with society.

As part of the OpenYUFE Programme, an educational offer shared by the partner universities, students choose courses that they can complete using the Virtual Campus platform at the various alliance schools. The social activities of the consortium, including the creation of a network of student counselling centres, are overseen by Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.

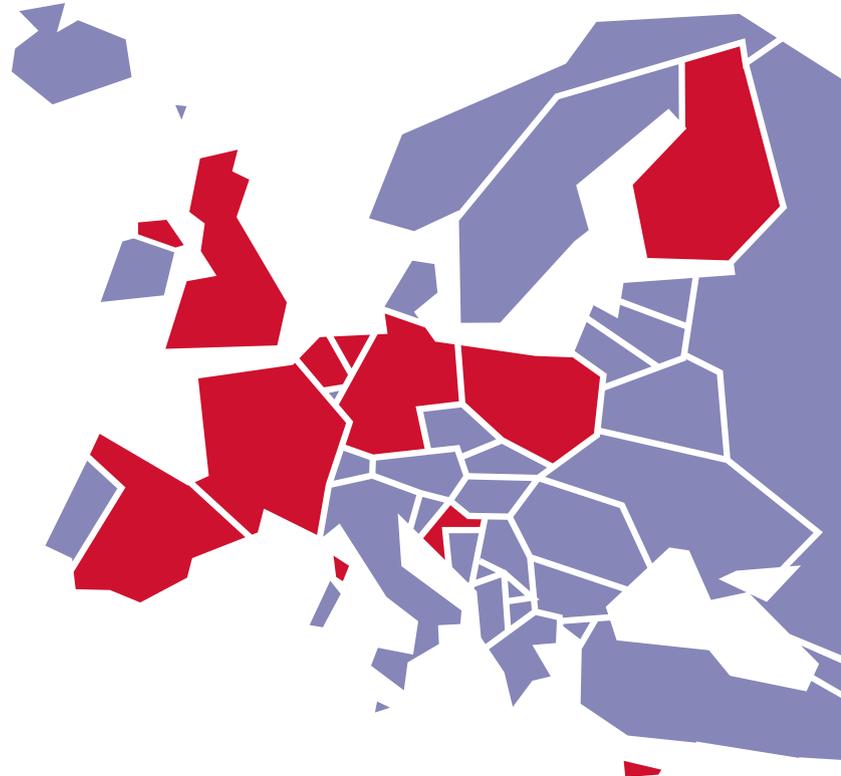
Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń



prof. dr hab. Przemysław Nehring
Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń

In October 2025, you launched a joint degree course as part of the alliance. What exactly can students expect?

We have been preparing for the creation of Sustainability Urban Studies – which can be explained as urban studies focused on sustainability issues – for the last few years. It will be an open-curriculum course, which means that each student will enter a common study programme only in the first year, while during the three subsequent semesters they will be able to choose from a pool of around twenty modules prepared by partner universities. Furthermore, each student will be required to complete at least two modules at one or two schools other than their home university. Graduates of this course will receive diplomas signed by seven partners from our consortium, including Nicolaus Copernicus University.

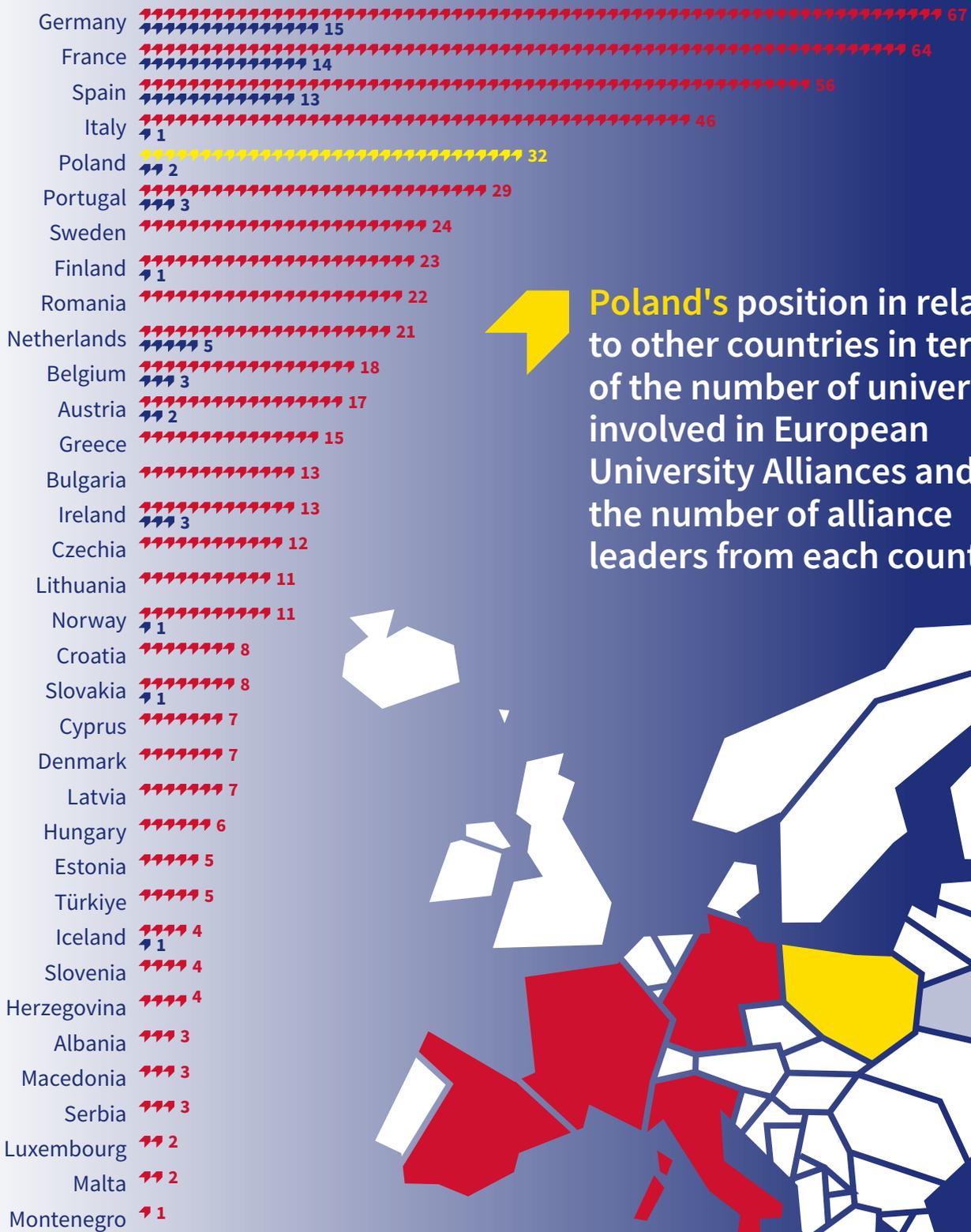


PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

- Maastricht University (alliance leader)
- Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń
- Sorbonne Nouvelle University
- University of Antwerp
- University of Bremen
- University Carlos III of Madrid
- University of Cyprus
- University of Eastern Finland
- University of Essex
- University of Rijeka UNIRI

GRANT AWARDED

EUR 14 400 000



Poland's position in relation to other countries in terms of the number of universities involved in European University Alliances and the number of alliance leaders from each country

Number of universities
 Number of leaders

Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE) operates since 1993. It is the Polish National Agency of the Erasmus+ Programme and the European Solidarity Corps for 2021–2027, also implementing projects of the European Funds for Social Development (FERS). The Foundation is responsible for other European educational and informative initiatives in Poland, such as eTwinning, Eurodesk, Eurydice, Europass, Euroguidance, EVET and EPALE. It supports cooperation with countries in the East via the Polish-Lithuanian Youth Exchange Fund, the Polish-Ukrainian Council of Youth Exchange, SALTO-EECA Eastern Europe and Caucasus Resource Centre.