



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

Information session

29 November 2022

Overall state of play to date

[European Universities initiative](#) | [European Education Area \(europa.eu\)](#)

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

A key pillar of the European Education Area

50 alliances
35 countries, including all 27 Member States

More than 430 higher education institutions

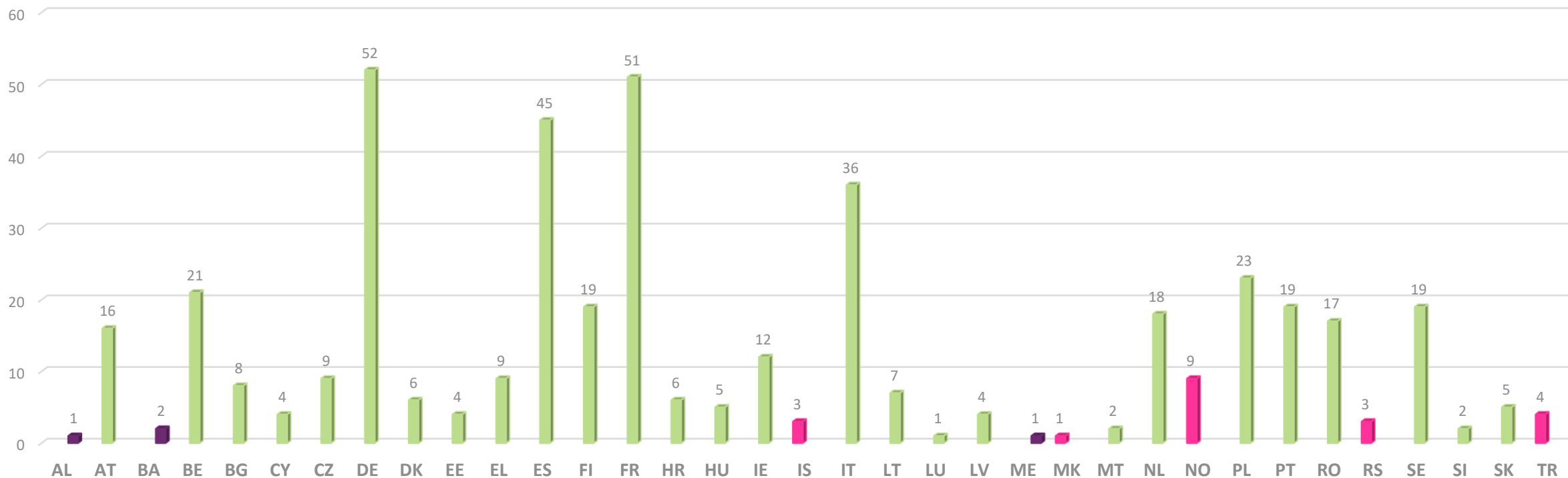
Up to EUR 14.4 Million from Erasmus+ per alliance for 4 years

Teaming up with almost 1700 associated partners, including higher education institutions from Bologna Process countries

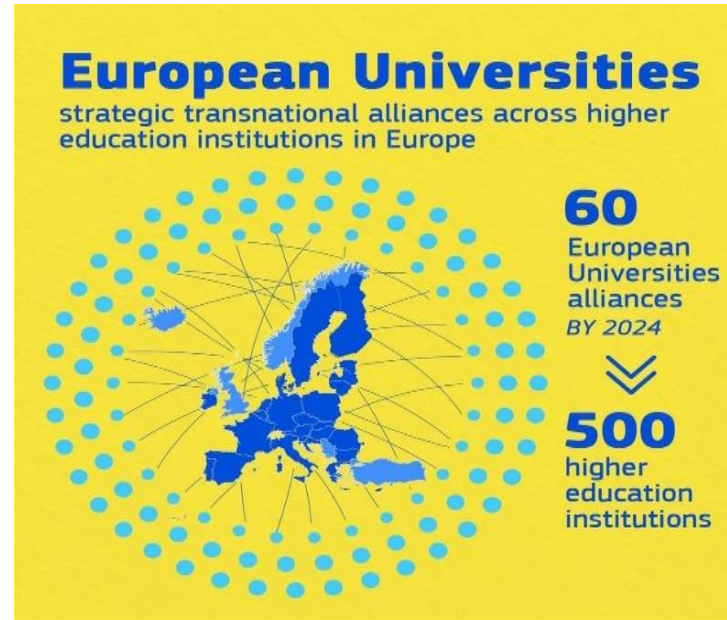


Geographic distribution per country

Participants (coordinators & full partners) per country
50 European universities alliances



EU level support for the European Universities



ERASMUS+ FUNDING

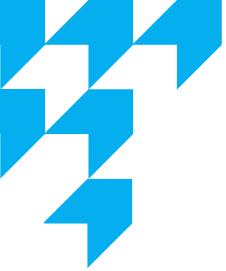


- EUR 1,1 Bn for 7 years (2021-2027)
- Sustainable funding
- Development of deep institutional transnational cooperation
- Community of practice



EU LEVEL POLICY SUPPORT

- Council Conclusions May 2021 on the European Universities initiative
- European strategy for universities
- Council Recommendations on building bridges for effective European higher education cooperation (e.g. transnational cooperation, mobilities, micro-credentials, learning for environmental sustainability, attractive careers)



European Universities initiative: overview of Erasmus+ Calls

Calls 2019, 2020, 2022

44 European Universities alliances
340 HEIs
31 countries
1200 associated partners

Call 2023

50 European Universities alliances
430 HEIs
35 countries
1700 associated partners

Call 2024

≥ 60 Alliances
Community of practice
Deadline 6 February 2024
Results Summer 2024

2025

No call

2026 & 2027

Possibility for +2 year funding

(Subject to the adoption of the 2026 and 2027 Erasmus+ Work Programmes)

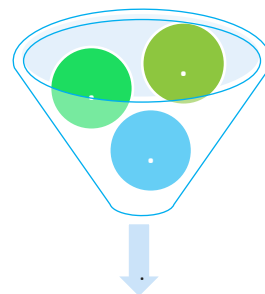


Call 2024 - Timeline

Action	Timelines
Call opening	3 October 2023
Information session for applicants	10 November 2023
Deadline for submission of applications	6 February 2024 – 17:00:00 CET
Evaluation process	February 2024 - June 2024
Information on evaluation results	End of June 2024 (indicative)
Grant agreement signature	September - November 2024 (indicative)

Call for Proposals at a glance

- **Scope:** Supporting higher education institutions in gradually achieving their long-term ambitious vision towards becoming a fully-fledged European University.



Topic 1: Development of deep institutional transnational cooperation

- Form alliances establishing **deep institutional transnational cooperation**
- **Bottom-up**
- **Diverse cooperation models**

Topic 2: Community of practice for European Universities alliances

- Create a **collaborative and supportive environment**
- Share **good practices and experiences**
- For the **benefit** of the community of **European Universities alliances** and the **wider higher education sector**



Call for Proposals at a glance

- **Duration of grants :** 48 months
- **Total budget:** EUR 189.2 million (up to 14.4 Mio EUR depending on number of partners)
- **Type of grant:** Lump Sum Type II (payment of fixed amounts linked to the delivery of the work packages)



Available budget

The call budget is **EUR 189 200 000** :

EUR 182 700 000 + **EUR 5 000 000 (IPA III)**
to further support the participation as full partners of higher education institutions from the Western Balkans countries

Topic	Indicative budget*
1 - Development of deep institutional transnational cooperation	187.7 MEUR
2 – Community of practice	1.5 MEUR

**We reserve the right not to award all available funds or to redistribute them between the call topics, depending on the proposals received and the results of the evaluation*



European
Commission



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

WHY ?

Erasmus+

European Universities: setting a vision



**Increase
international
competitiveness
of
European
higher education**

**Bring
Europeans
together**



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WHAT?



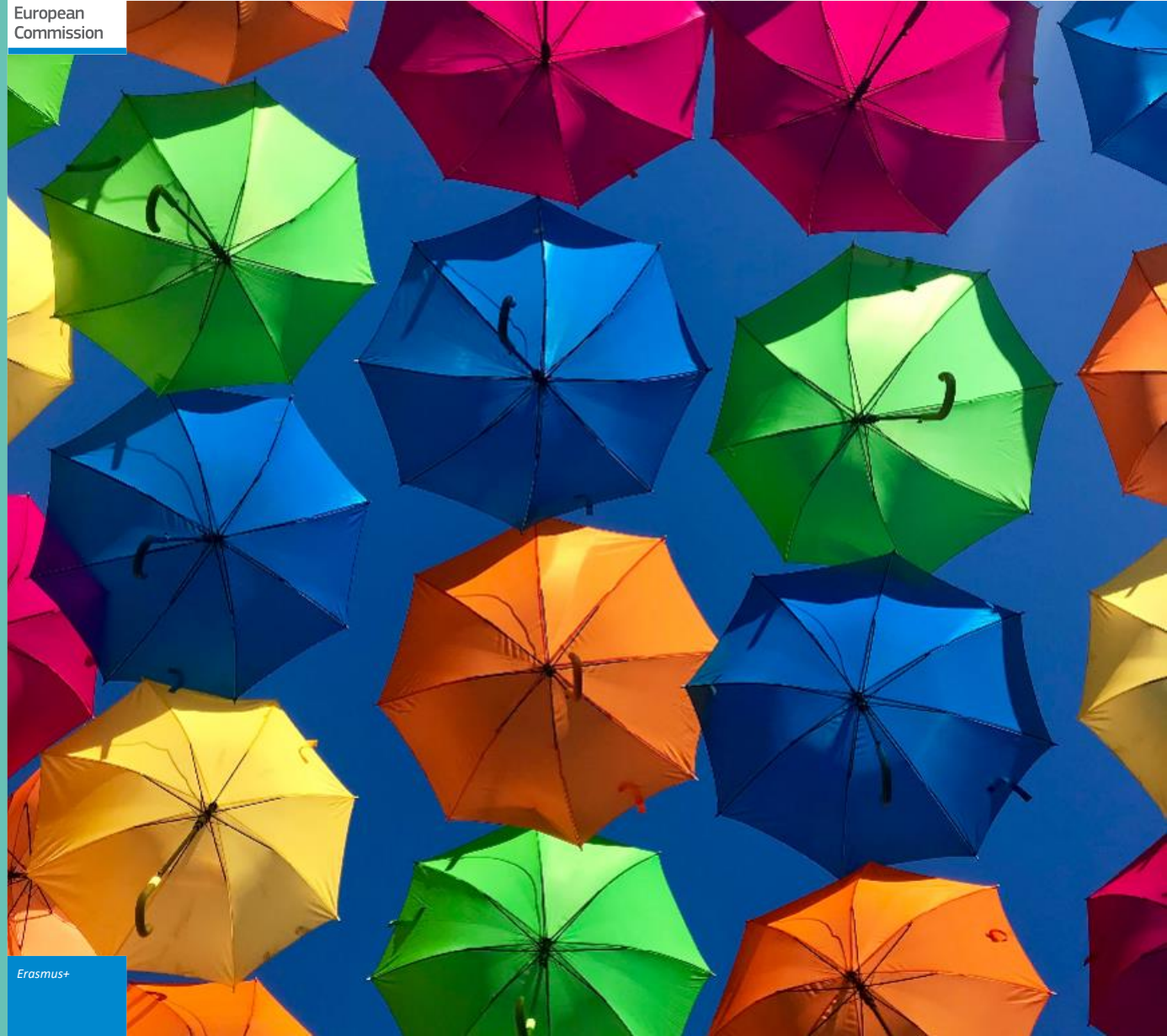


Inclusive and excellent alliances

- An alliance of higher education institutions from EU Member States, other Erasmus+ Programme countries + **other Western-Balkan countries**
- Diversity of types of higher education institutions
- Wide range of student body

European
Commission

Erasmus+

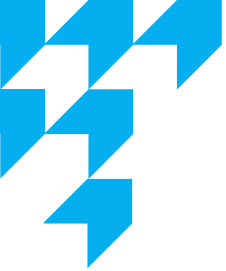




Deep level of
inter-university
cooperation with a joint
long-term strategy

Structural, Systemic and
Sustainable impact

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European inter-university Campuses

Bachelor/Master/Doctoral levels



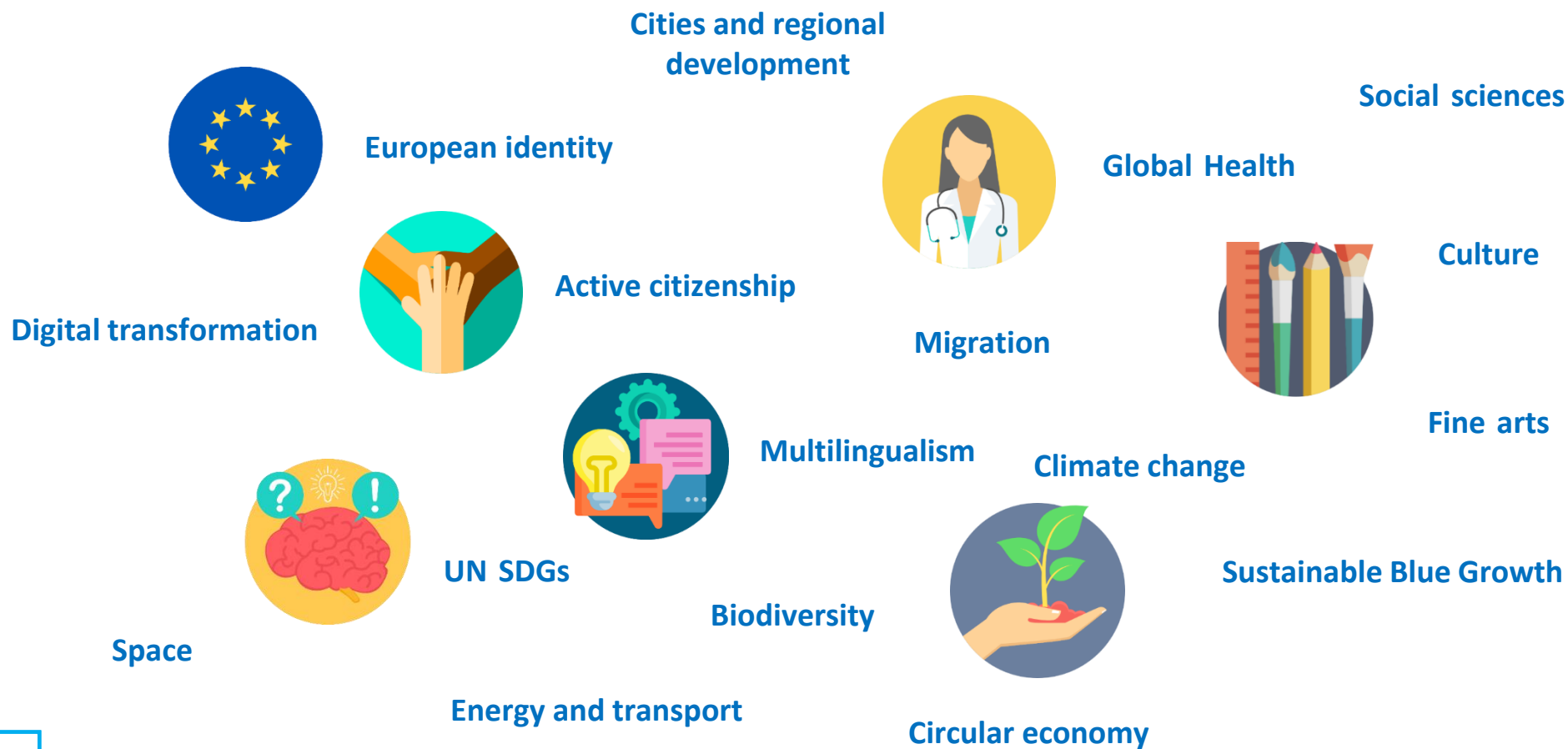
Flexible and personalised European curriculum

Innovative pedagogies and challenged-based transdisciplinary approach

Embedded and seamless student and staff mobility

Forward looking skills

Challenge-based approach: Transdisciplinary long-term visions



Some key considerations

- Systemic, structural and sustainable change
- Potential to transform the institutional cooperation
- Going beyond any existing cooperation - step by step approach
- Implemented by joint structures, pooling resources together
- Joint educational and research activities reaching out to your wider student and staff population
- Seamless mobility (with a target of 50% student mobility within the alliance)
- Challenge-based approach to education and R&I



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

HOW?



Alliance composition

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of at least 3 applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities), which complies with the following conditions:

- minimum 3 eligible higher education institutions (HEIs) from 3 different eligible countries.



WARNING IMPORTANT

- A HEI may participate as full partner (beneficiary) in **only one European Universities alliance funded by the Erasmus+ programme** at the same time.
- A HEI may only participate as full partner (beneficiary) in **one single European Universities application (*if not already involved in an ongoing European University alliance*)**; they may participate in other applications only as associated partners.



Who can apply?

TYPE OF INSTITUTION

- **Higher Education Institutions** holding a valid **Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE)** and any entities affiliated to them
- **Any other organisation consisting of the above referred higher education institutions** - specifically set up with the purpose of implementing deep institutional transnational cooperation, including joint educational activities.

COUNTRY

They have to be established in one of the **eligible countries**, i.e.:

- **EU Member States** (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs)).*
- **Third countries associated to Erasmus+** and countries which are in **ongoing negotiations** for an association agreement to Erasmus+ and where that agreement enters into force before the grant signature.
- **Western Balkans third countries not associated to the programme** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Kosovo)

* Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary.



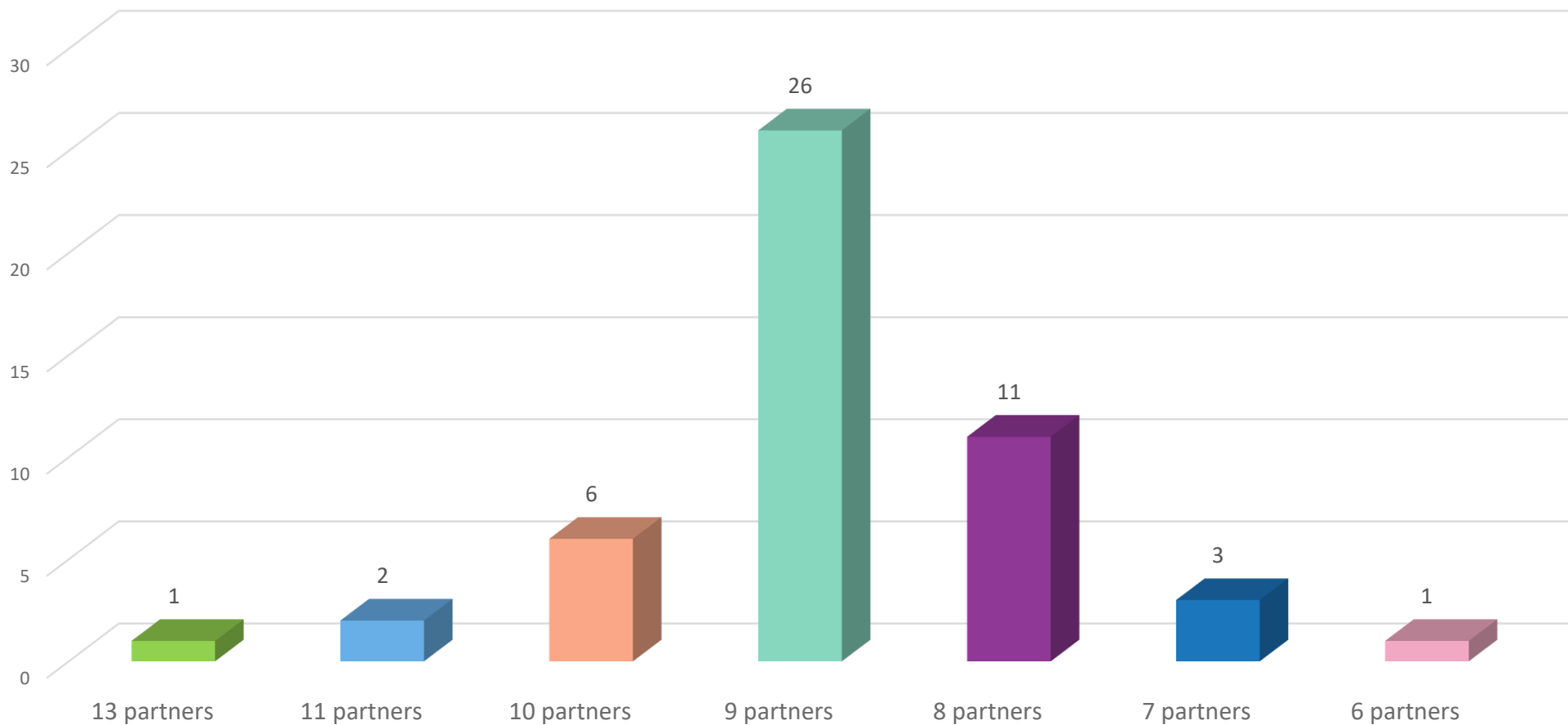
Associated partners

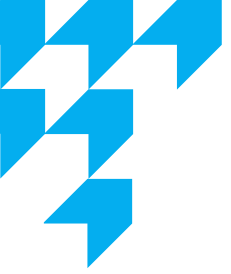
They **do not receive EU funding** under this grant, but their **involvement** and **role** in different activities have to be described in the proposal.

The associated partners can be:

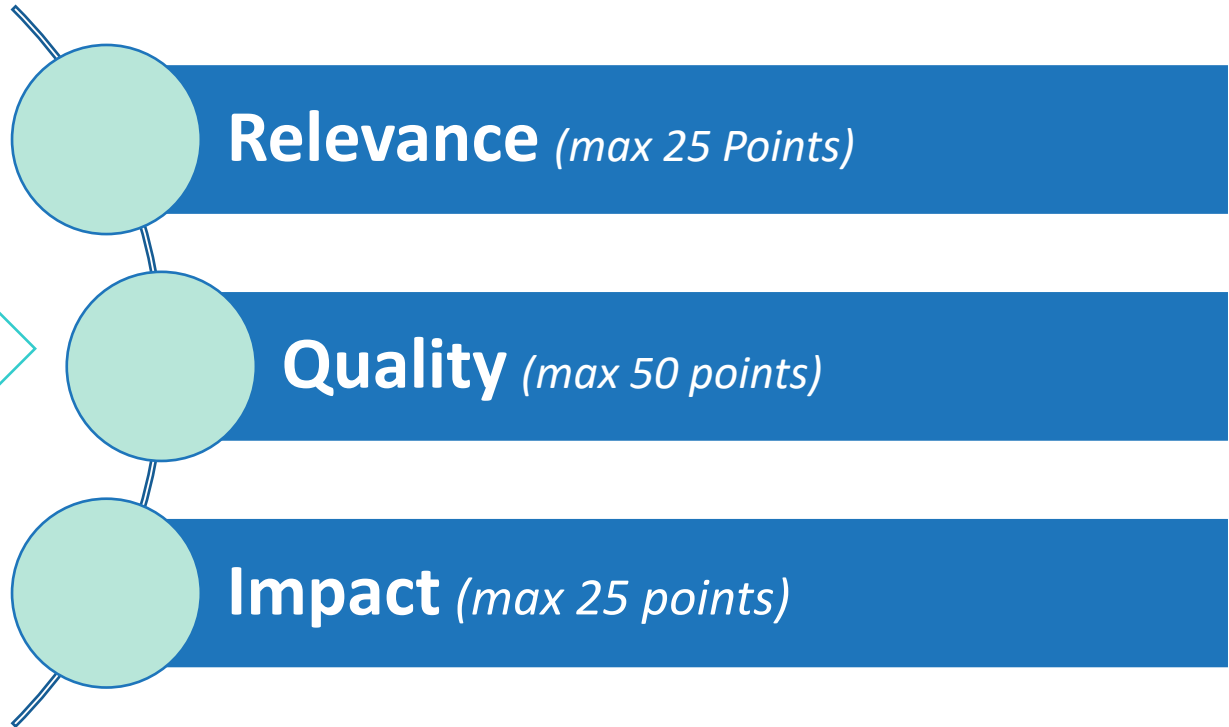
- Any **higher education institution** established in an EU Member State or a third country associated to the programme holding a valid ECHE;
- Any **public/private organisation** from an EU Member State or third country associated to the programme active in the field of education and training, research and innovation or in the world of work;
- Any **higher education institution** established in a third country not associated to the programme that is part of the **European Higher Education Area** (Bologna Process) or in Kosovo.

Size of alliances - 50 European Universities alliances





Award criteria Topic 1





Relevance



25 Points

Level of ambition and innovative approach

Long term vision of the European Universities initiative and **transformation of institutionalised cooperation** between the partners of the proposed alliance

Relevant **joint mission statement**

Ambitious and innovative approach to develop and strengthen new, systemic, structural, and sustainable **models for cooperation**

Needs analysis

1. RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives

Background and general objectives

Please address all guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Relevance'.

Describe the background and rationale of the project.

How is the project relevant to the scope of the call? How does the project address the general objectives of the call? What is the project's contribution to the priorities of the call (if applicable)?

Insert text

1.2 Needs analysis and specific objectives

Needs analysis and specific objectives

Please address the specific conditions/objectives set out in the Call document/ Programme Guide, if applicable.

Describe how the objectives of the project are based on a sound needs analysis in line with the specific objectives of the call. What issue/challenge/gap does the project aim to address?

The objectives should be clear, measurable, realistic and achievable within the duration of the project. For each objective, define appropriate indicators for measuring achievement (including a unit of measurement, baseline value and target value).

Insert text

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Relevance



European added value

Contribution to EEA, in synergy with EHEA and ERA

Contribution to implementing the European strategy for universities and the new European Innovation Agenda, e.g. in cooperation with other alliances

Transnational dimension and Regional development

Benefitting other institutions, by driving **inclusion & excellence** and respect and promotion of **shared EU values**

1.3 Complementarity with other actions and innovation — European added value

Complementarity with other actions and innovation

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field, and describe its innovative aspects (if any).

Explain how the activities are complementary to other activities carried out by other organisations (if applicable). Illustrate the trans-national dimension of the project; its impact/interest in the EU area; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop /cross-border cooperation among Programme countries and Partner countries, if applicable, etc.

If your proposal is based on the results of one or more previous or ongoing projects, please provide precise references to these projects.

Insert text



2.1 Project design and implementation

Deliver on long-term strategy with concrete activities

Inter-university campus

Quality & feasibility of the work plan including effective project management, appropriate quality assurance mechanisms, and evaluation methods for progress monitoring, including measurable quantitative and qualitative indicators

Work packages, tasks, deliverables, milestones, and resources, within defined timelines, in order to achieve the objectives

Sound and effective financial management and risk management strategy (mitigation measures)

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

2.1.1 Concept and methodology

Concept and methodology

Please address all guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Quality of the project design and implementation'.

Outline the approach and methodology behind the project. Explain why they are the most suitable for achieving the project's objectives.

Insert text

#§CON-MET-CM§# #@PRJ-MGT-PM@#

2.1.2 Project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the measures foreseen to ensure that the project implementation is of high quality and completed in time.

Describe the methods to ensure good quality, monitoring, planning and control.

Describe the evaluation methods and indicators (quantitative and qualitative) to monitor and verify the outreach and coverage of the activities and results (including unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress should be relevant, realistic and measurable.

Insert text

#§PRJ-MGT-PM§# #@CON-SOR-CS@#

2.1.3 Project teams, staff and experts

Project teams and staff

Describe the project teams and how they will work together to implement the project.

List the staff included in the project budget (budget category A) by function/profile (e.g. project manager, senior expert/advisor/researcher, junior expert/advisor/researcher, trainers/teachers, technical personnel, administrative personnel etc — use the same profiles as in the detailed budget table, if any (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)) and describe briefly their tasks. Provide CVs of all key actors (if required by the Call document/Programme Guide).

Name and function	Organisation	Role/tasks	Professional profile and expertise

Outside resources (subcontracting, seconded staff, etc)
If you do not have all skills/resources in-house, describe how you intend to get them (contributions of members, partner organisations, subcontracting, etc).
If there is subcontracting, please also complete the table in section 4.

Insert text

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2.1.4 Cost effectiveness and financial management

Cost effectiveness and financial management (n/a for prefixed Lump Sum Grants)

Describe the measures adopted to ensure that the proposed results and objectives will be achieved in the most cost-effective way.

Indicate the arrangements adopted for the financial management of the project and, in particular, how the financial resources will be allocated and managed within the consortium.

⚠ Do NOT compare and justify the costs of each work package—but summarize briefly why your budget is cost effective.

Insert text

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2.1.5 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy

Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of your project, and your measures/strategy for addressing them.

Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures.

Note: Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organisations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management.

Risk No	Description	Work package No	Proposed risk-mitigation measures



2.2 Partnership and cooperation arrangements

Clear **distribution and division of active roles and responsibilities** for all participants

Complementarity of each participants, **diversity** of types of HEIs

Opportunity of all staff to be part of the co-creation of the alliance **and** involvement of **students**

Clear **management and governance structures**

Reduction of existing **administrative barriers and obstacles**

Motivation of **geographical balance**

2.2.1 Consortium set-up

Consortium cooperation and division of roles (if applicable)

Please address all guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Quality of the partnership and the cooperation [arrangements](#):'

Describe the participants (Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners and others, if any) and explain how they will work together to implement the project. How will they bring together the necessary expertise? How will they complement each other?

In what way does each of the participants contribute to the project? Show that each has a valid role and adequate resources to fulfil that role.

Insert text

2.2.2 Consortium management and decision-making

Consortium management and decision-making (if applicable)

Explain the management structures and decision-making mechanisms within the consortium. Describe how decisions will be taken and how regular and effective communication will be ensured. Describe methods to ensure planning and control.

Note: The concept (including organisational structure and decision-making mechanisms) must be adapted to the complexity and scale of the project.

Insert text



Demonstrates **progresses** towards the **expected impact**

Lead by example / role model

Clear plan for **communication** and **dissemination** of results, **share knowledge** and spread **best practice**

Long-term strategy for **sustainability** and demonstrates how the results will be sustained **beyond the EU funded period**

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

Impact and ambition

Please address each guiding points presented in the Call document/Programme Guide under the award criterion 'Impact'.

Define the expected short, **medium** and long-term effects of the project. Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them?

Insert text

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3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, **dissemination** and visibility of funding

Describe the communication and dissemination activities which are planned **in order to** promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Clarify how you will reach the target groups, relevant stakeholders, **policy makers** and the general public and explain the choice of the dissemination channels.

Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.

Insert text

7

3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term **impact** and continuation

Describe the follow-up of the project after the EU funding ends. How will the project impact be ensured and sustained?

What will need to be done? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained? How will this be achieved? Which resources will be necessary to continue the project? How will the results be used?

Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the project results?

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Community of Practice for European Universities

❖ OBJECTIVE

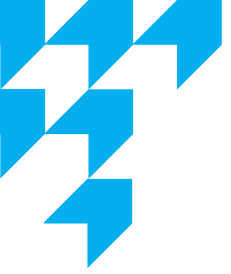
- Collaborative and supportive environment
- Enhanced knowledge, skills and effectiveness
- Facilitated learning, collaboration and dissemination of results
- Closer cooperation between alliances & with wider higher education sector

❖ HOW

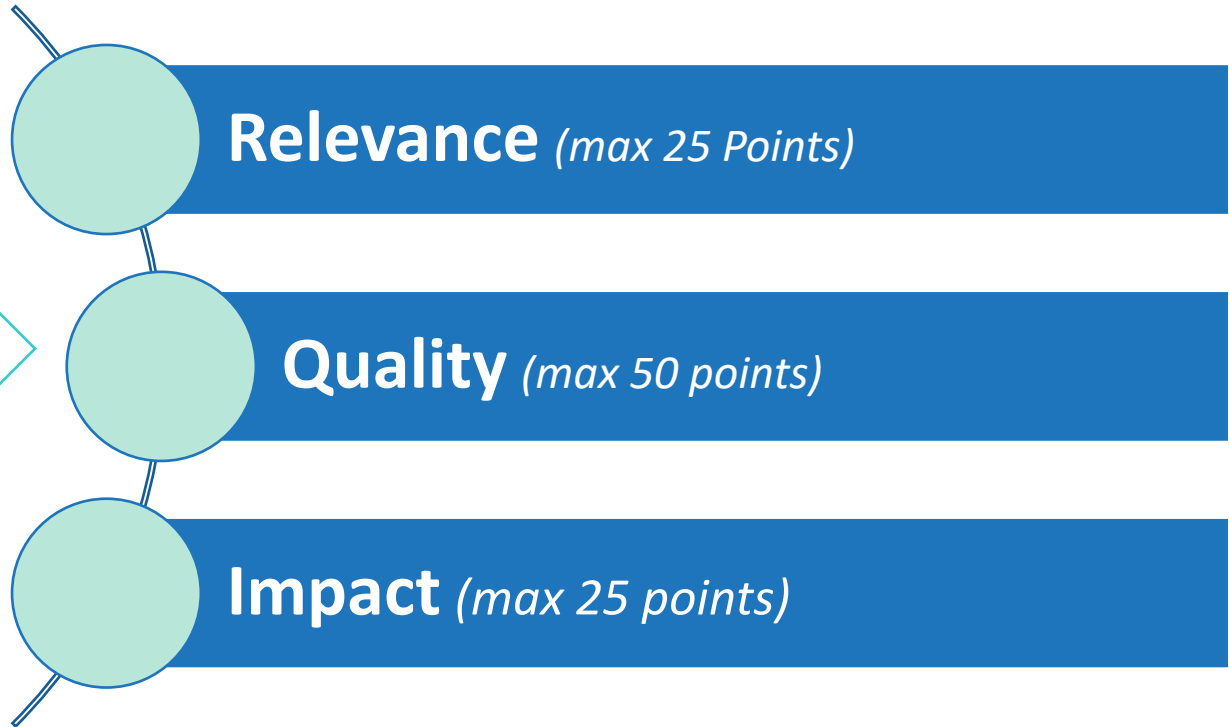
- Exchange of good practices and experiences
- Working groups to facilitate synergies & address common challenges
- Dissemination: input to online platform and events on added value

❖ TARGETING ONE JOINT PROJECT





Award criteria Topic 2





Addresses the **objectives** and the **scope** of the call

Contributes to the **themes** and **priorities** of the call

Provides a **sound needs analysis**, in line with the objectives of the call

Contributes to the **respect** and **promotion of shared EU values**

1. RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives

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Project design and implementation

Describes the **concept and methodology** and demonstrates that this approach is the most suitable to achieve the objectives;

Effective project management, appropriate quality assurance mechanisms, and evaluation methods for progress monitoring, including measurable quantitative and qualitative indicators

Clarity and feasibility of the work plan, including **work packages, tasks, deliverables, milestones, and resources**, within defined timelines, in order to achieve the objectives;

Sound and **effective financial management and risk management** strategy (mitigation measures)

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Partnership and cooperation arrangements

Clear **distribution and division of active roles and responsibilities** for all participants

Complementarity of each participants, and **necessary expertise**

Opportunity of all staff to be part of the co-creation of the alliance **and involvement of students**

Clear **management and governance structures** and relevant decision-making mechanisms



2.2.1 Consortium set-up

Consortium cooperation and division of roles (if applicable)

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Insert text





Demonstrates **progresses towards the expected impact**

Ensures a **tangible impact** on its **target groups** and relevant **stakeholders** at local, national, or regional level (short-long term impact).

How the effects will **benefit** the wide range of relevant stakeholders/targets groups (**transferability of results**)

Clear plan for **communication and dissemination** of results, **share knowledge** and spread **best practice**

Long-term strategy for **sustainability** and demonstrates **how the results will be sustained** beyond the EU funded period

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

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Insert text

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Question time