



# Shaping the joint European degree



# Policy objectives

## 01

Joint programmes have demonstrated their potential and impact in terms of the quality of education they can deliver:

**Increased employability & skills relevance**

## 02

Joint programmes and joint degrees are still too difficult to set up and award:

**Cutting red tape for increased adaptability & visibility of higher education systems**

## 03

Europe should be the place where we pool resources, knowledge and expertise :

**A driver for strategic cooperation & global competitiveness**

# Joining forces for high quality education and skills provision

The initiative builds on the positive results of initiatives like:

- European Universities Initiative
- Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters
- MSCA joint doctorate



# Goals of the initiative



## **Easier design and delivery**

of joint educational programmes across Europe



## **An enabling framework**

instead of a multitude of case-by-case obstacles



## **Boost the implementation**

of the Bologna process



## **More opportunities**

for students, staff, institutions and systems to benefit from transnational cooperations

# Texts adopted by the Council of the EU on 12 May 2025

**Council Resolution on a joint European degree label and the next steps towards a possible joint European degree**

Lays the Council's vision for the implementation of a **joint European degree label** and the next steps towards a possible joint European degree

**Starting with the first joint European degree labels to be awarded as from mid-2026**

**Council Recommendation on a European quality assurance and recognition system**

Include Recommendations to:

- Ensure **quality assurance processes are agile and fit for purpose**, allowing universities to respond and contribute to the dynamic societal transformations affecting them
- **Support the implementation of automatic mutual recognition** of qualifications across member states
- **Sets the criteria of a joint European degree label**

# European criteria for the joint European degree label

## Programme organisation



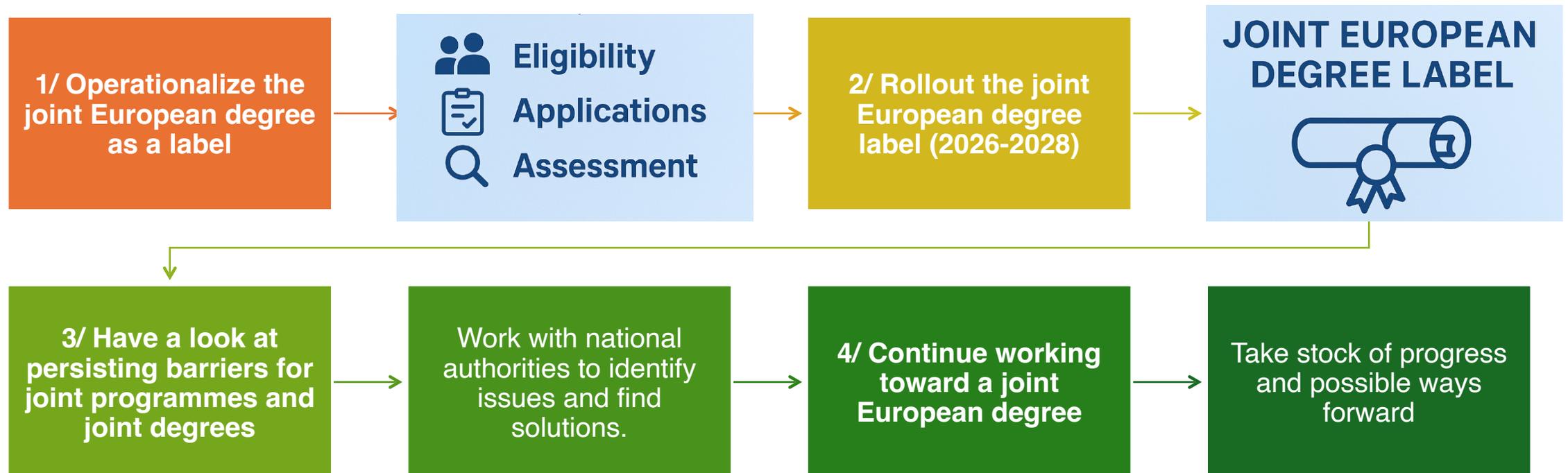
- **At least 2** participating HEIs from 2 EU Member States (non-EU countries possible beyond that)
- Comply with Bologna standards (ESGs, ECTS, Diploma Supplement, European approach for QA of joint programmes)
- Award of a joint degree, Co-evaluation and co-supervision for Phd dissertations
- Graduate tracking, student-centred learning, access to services, embedded mobility



## European dimension

- Interdisciplinarity and research based learning
- Opportunities for learning beyond academia and employability
- Digitalisation
- Commitment to shared values
- Openness to multilingualism
- Commitment to inclusiveness
- Environmental sustainability

# How to get there?



# Erasmus+ call for proposals published on 3 December 2025

## Forward-Looking Projects: European Degree Pathway Projects

### Objectives:

Accompany and support partnerships in designing and implementing the necessary actions to facilitate the rollout of the joint European degree label, promote the joint European degree label and explore the pathway toward a possible joint European degree in all fields including specific disciplines (e.g., engineering).

**Capacity building** and rollout of the joint European degree label:

**Strategic communication and visibility** enhancement: raise awareness and visibility of the joint European degree label;

**Cross-border cooperation and regulatory exploration:** conduct legal and regulatory analyses to assess the feasibility and design of mechanisms for a possible joint European degree.

Budget: EUR 7.000.000

# Erasmus+ call for proposals to be published still in December 2025

## European Degree exploratory action

For consortia of higher education institutions to:

1. Adapt existing joint programmes and design new joint programmes, in any field, aligned with the criteria of the joint European degree label;
2. Have student support mechanisms that promote inclusive access and participation in joint programmes, including through scholarships, tuition fees balancing, or other measures to ensure inclusive access for students.

Optional: explore the feasibility and added value of a European degree in engineering

Budget: EUR 14.000.000

Expected number of projects: 14.

Another similar call for proposals is planned in 2026

# Online Info Session: Join us for the Info Day on 13 January 2026 from 10:00 to 13:30

## Agenda:

10:00-10:15	<b>Welcome and introduction</b>
10:15-11:00	<b>Policy background</b>
11:00-11:15	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
11:15-11:30	<b>Break</b>
11:30-13:00	<b>How to prepare a competitive proposal</b>
13:00-13:30	<b>Q&amp;A</b>



# Thank you



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