The European Universities initiative

Elena Tegovska
Team Leader
Higher Education Erasmus+
DG EAC, European Commission
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114 HEIs from 17 European Universities

93 respondents from all 17 alliances
EXTENT TO WHICH BEING A PART OF A EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY HELPS DEALING WITH THE CRISIS

More than 60% of higher education institutions consider that being part of a European University has been helpful, highlighting:

- HEIs can **better cope with the challenges of the crisis**
- The **accelerator effect in terms of achieving deeper institutional cooperation, virtual campuses and blended mobility** for all students and staff
SHARING GOOD PRACTICES AND MEASURES WITHIN THE ALLIANCE

1 = not at all, 10 = to the fullest extent possible

80% shared good practices within their alliance
85% plan to move quicker towards a European virtual inter-university campus:

- Fully-functional digital EU inter-university campus
- Pooling together on-line courses
- Sharing operational joint digital learning and teaching environment with common digital governance tools
European Universities: testbeds towards the Universities of the future
Unleashing the potential of European Universities

Main challenges:

• Structured mobilities
• Digitalisation
• Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Joint degrees
• Legal framework
• Funding
Unleashing the potential of European Universities

Possible solutions – the way forward:

• Enabling automatic recognition and flexible approach towards academic calendars
• Framework for blended and virtual mobility allowing students to easily attend online courses at other universities
• Harmonization or at least an interoperability of existing IT systems
Unleashing the potential of European Universities

Possible solutions – the way forward:

• Support HEIs in rolling out the European Student Card Initiative

• Call for a European accreditation system for the mutual recognition of a joint degree once it has been recognised by one national administration
Possible solutions – the way forward:

• Adequate operational environment/ enabling legal framework ensuring legal certainty, transparency and same level playing field
• Adequate and sustainable funding at both European and national levels
• More synergies between European programmes and funds (Erasmus, Horizon, Digital Europe, structural funds, EFSI/InvestEU)
Policy developments related to the Universities of the future

- A **communication in 2021** presenting a vision for the Universities of the future
- A framework for a **European degree**
- A **European approach for micro-credentials**
- A modernised **European quality assurance system**
- Exploring the feasability of a **European Statute for European Universities** and other university alliances
European Universities Initiative

Next steps
Next Steps

**Monitoring** through regular meetings with European Universities
- Individual meetings with each alliance (together with EACEA – either physically or virtually)
- Meetings with all the alliances twice a year

**Indicative timeline for meetings (virtual or physical) in 2020 (TBC)**
- February 2020: Meetings with Ad Hoc expert group and stakeholders groups
- 11-12 June 2020: Joint meeting with the 17 alliances + the ad-hoc expert group
- November 2020: Joint meeting with the 41 alliances’ coordinating rectors + DG HE
- Dec 20/Jan 2021: 2nd high-level event on the European Universities initiative
Roll-out under the next MFF

- Increased budget, subject to agreement of co-legislators
- Possibility to reapply under the next MFF after a positive evaluation
- Synergies with other European and national funding sources
- Work together to detect and lift remaining legal & administrative barriers
Increased overall budget of EUR 120 million approved by programme committee

Deadline for submission 26 February 2020:
• 62 applications
• more than 380 HEIs involved, from 26 Member States
• different types of HEIs (e.g. research-based, technical, applied sciences, medical…)

Up to 24 new European Universities