

# EU-CONEXUS Policy Brief

N°3 – October 2023

# Introduction

The EU-CONEXUS Policy Brief is presented quarterly to the Governing Bodies of EU-CONEXUS. It summarises major developments occurred at the European level that impact the policy context and/or their regulatory framework of European University Alliances.

It clarifies the positioning that EU-CONEXUS has taken with regard to these strategic developments and reports on the role that the Alliance has played in furthering strategies and policies.

It gives an outlook on upcoming events and strategic actions relevant for the development of the Alliance.

# Political Environment and Regulatory Framework for the Alliances

## AUGUST 2023

[The Organisation of the Academic Year in Europe 2023/2024](#) (Eurydice – Facts and Figures) issued by European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA): The report outlines how the key aspects of academic calendars vary across Eurydice member countries and institutions.

## SEPTEMBER 2023

ED-AFFICHE [Report on Obstacles for Transnational Cooperation in Higher Education](#): This report is based on the analysis of legal frameworks for joint programmes in 22 countries which has been carried out by the experts from the European University Alliances participating in the ED-AFFICHE project: 51 higher education institutions from 6 Alliances (Una Europa, 4EU+, CHARM-EU, EC2U, EU-CONEXUS, and Unite!). It lists currently identifies challenges and barriers and makes suggestions how those could be overcome at national level by harmonisation or to harmonise or flexibilisation.

## SEPTEMBER 2023

### [Presentation of all projects of the legal status](#)

pilot funded by the Commission given at the Second Forum of European University Alliances in Barcelona on 14/15th of September. The projects presented are:

- [ESEU](#) – A European Status for ECIU University,
- STYX - EUt+ Status and structure experience,
- EGAI - Unita as a model for institutionalized University cooperation,
- [LEg-UniGR](#) - Blueprint for a legal entity for cross-border university alliances

## SEPTEMBER 2023

[EU-CONEXUS Position Paper](#) on the Investment Pathway for European Universities signed by all Rectors of EU-CONEXUS universities includes a general feedback to DG EAC on the funding environment for European University Alliances and sets out specific funding needs according to the missions set for EU-CONEXUS.

In support of the individual position papers submitted by each Alliance, the Coordinator's Forum FOREU has issued a [Joint Inter-Alliance Position Paper](#) with the support of EU-CONEXUS.

# EU-CONEXUS Participation/ Representation in Strategic Development Actions

## II FORUM OF UNIVERSITIES FOR THE FUTURE

14th-15th of September 2023,  
Barcelona, Spain

Arturas Razbadauskas, Nedjeljka Balic-Nizic, Laura Delvaux and Neringa Narbutiene participated in the second Forum for European University Alliances organised by the Spanish Presidency of the European Union in Barcelona. [The programme](#) includes concept notes and a speakers list and most of the discussions are summarised [here](#).



# Upcoming Events

16<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER  
2023 ONLINE

Registration to  
the Review Workshop:

Register

## ESEU Mid-term workshop

EU-CONEXUS is invited as associated partner to the Mid-Term Review of the pilot project [ESEU \(A European Status for ECIU University\)](#) funded by the Commission that is investigating existing European instruments for transnational institutional cooperation. The outcome summarized in a [Report](#) is that no existing instrument is completely fitting the demands that the project set as needed to operate effectively as European University.

The Workshop will tackle questions such as, why do alliances need a European Status, what are the limitations of existing European instruments for transnational university cooperation, and what challenges & opportunities does the national/state level pose?

## EUA Webinar Series on 'A new ERA for universities' (for EUA members only)

17<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER  
2023

### The European Research Area & research careers: Action 4

16<sup>TH</sup> OF NOVEMBER  
2023

### ERA on universities: ERA Action 13

Register

(registration is only possible  
for EUA members)

The European University Association (EUA) has been organising webinars for explaining and discussing the evolving European policy agenda with regard to research. In particular, the webinar on ERA Action 13 on 16<sup>th</sup> of November should be relevant for European University Alliances.

22<sup>ND</sup> OF  
NOVEMBER 2023

Register

[More information](#)  
about ED-AFFICHE

## ED-AFFICHE Mid-term Review Meeting

[Syncing Achievements: Collaborative Solutions to facilitate the Path to the European Degree Label](#), 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2023, Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the European Union in Brussels and Online.

The meeting provides a central platform for educators, policymakers, and institutions to discuss and advance the European Degree Label within the framework of the ED AFFICHE Project.

