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EU-CONEXUS Policy Brief

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POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR ALLIANCES

May 2025

Council Resolution on a joint European degree label and the next steps towards a possible joint European degree: boosting Europe's competitiveness and the attractiveness of European higher education:

The Council's resolution sets out the member states' vision for a joint European degree label and proposes a roadmap towards a possible joint European degree, with three phases to be carried out by 2029. The accompanying recommendation specifies the criteria for awarding the joint European degree label. The label would be granted to joint programmes delivered via transnational cooperation between universities from different countries, including at least two EU member states. A presentation has been made to the EU-CONEXUS Academic Council in June prepared by Neringa Narbutiene, UCV institutional coordinator (available here with the relevant documents).

EU-CONEXUS PARTICIPATION IN STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

May 2025 FOREUALL - Topical subgroups

Within the framework of the <u>FOREU4ALL project</u>, 27 topical subgroups were proposed by the Alliances and 20 were selected for implementation (list available <u>here</u>). EU-CONEXUS has representatives in 15 subgroups. Contributors are invited to give feedbacks on the topics discussed in the topical subgroups in the Management Board meetings (names and details available <u>here</u>).

21st of May 2025

European Universities legal entity meeting, Bruxelles, Belgium.

The Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) has organised an hybrid meeting with Alliances about the legal entities. Indeed, up to now, 14 Alliances have set up a legal entity for their Alliance, among which EU-CONEXUS. 10 other Alliances are in the process to implement a legal entity. Different formats and goals of legal entities have been presented by Alliances (Circle.U, FOREU+,ECIU, EUNICE, FilmEU, UNA EUROPA, UNITA, CIVIS,E3UDRES,YUFE) to open the discussion on their potential and roles. Laura Delvaux, EU-CONEXUS Vice-Director participated online. The presentation of the meeting is available <u>here</u>.

26th-28th of May 2025

European Student Assembly

The 4th edition of the European Student Assembly (ESA) gathered 230 students from around 190 universities involved in 53 European University Alliances. Over three days, eight panels explored key topics including mental health, climate policy, AI and democracy, innovation, lifelong learning, housing, inequality, and inclusivity. EU-CONEXUS Student Board secretary Ella Malenica and five selected students from FREDU, AUA, UNIZD, UROS and UTCB participated in ESA 2025. The selected students, assigned to four different panels, were Georgios Koutsikas, Miruna Trifan, Konstantina Georgiou, Philipp Schubert and Samanta Slana. More information here.

EU-CONEXUS PARTICIPATION IN STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

12th-13th of June 2025

Forum of European Universities Alliances

The 3rd Forum of the European Universities Alliances took place on June 12-13 in Wrocław, Poland. Over 2 days various sessions explore the topics of the impact of European Universities alliances and best practices in tackling shared challenges, Union of Skills Initiative, the future of European Universities Initiative, Optimising impact with and for external stakeholder, etc. EU-CONEXUS Joint Master's programme in Marine Biotechnology student Enrico Green participated as the panellist in the session 'Students in the centre of EUI', chaired by Argus Secretary General Fernando Galán. More information here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

09-12th of September 2025

EAIE-European Association for International Education, Gothenburg, Sweden Following up on the 2024 edition, EU-CONEXUS representatives will participate at

EAIE conference 2025 and a shared stand EU-CONEXUS/EUPeace will be implemented during EAIE.

Neringa Narbutiene, Institutional coordinator at UCV, will co-host world café session on EU-CONEXUS IamSUDENT project key theme 'Co-creating a shared student identity within the EUI alliances'. More information <u>here</u>.

4th-6th September 2025

EUSAF - European Universities Student Ambassadors Forum 2025, Warsaw, Poland.

EUSAF is a platform for students from European Universities Alliances (EUAs) to share their views, experiences, and ideas on the current and future state of higher education (HE) in Europe. EUSAF aims to foster student engagement, identity, and a sense of belonging within and across EUAs, as well as to provide input and recommendations to EUAs and other stakeholders.

Philipp Schubert, Student Board representative from Rostock University has been nominated by his peers to participate in this conference to represent our Alliance. More information about EUSAF available <u>here</u>.

USEFUL LINKS

Updated European Commission EUI Website

Interactive Map of European University Alliances