

UNA Europa: mission and main actions

EADTU-EU Summit 30 April 2019



Erasmus+ KA2 call European Universities

Objectives

- Promote common European values and a strengthened European identity by bringing together a new generation of Europeans able to cooperate and work within different European and global cultures, in different languages, and across borders, sectors and academic disciplines.
- Reach a substantial leap in quality, performance, attractiveness and international competitiveness of European higher education institutions and contributing to the European knowledge economy, employment, culture and welfare by making best use of innovative pedagogies and striving to make the knowledge triangle a reality.



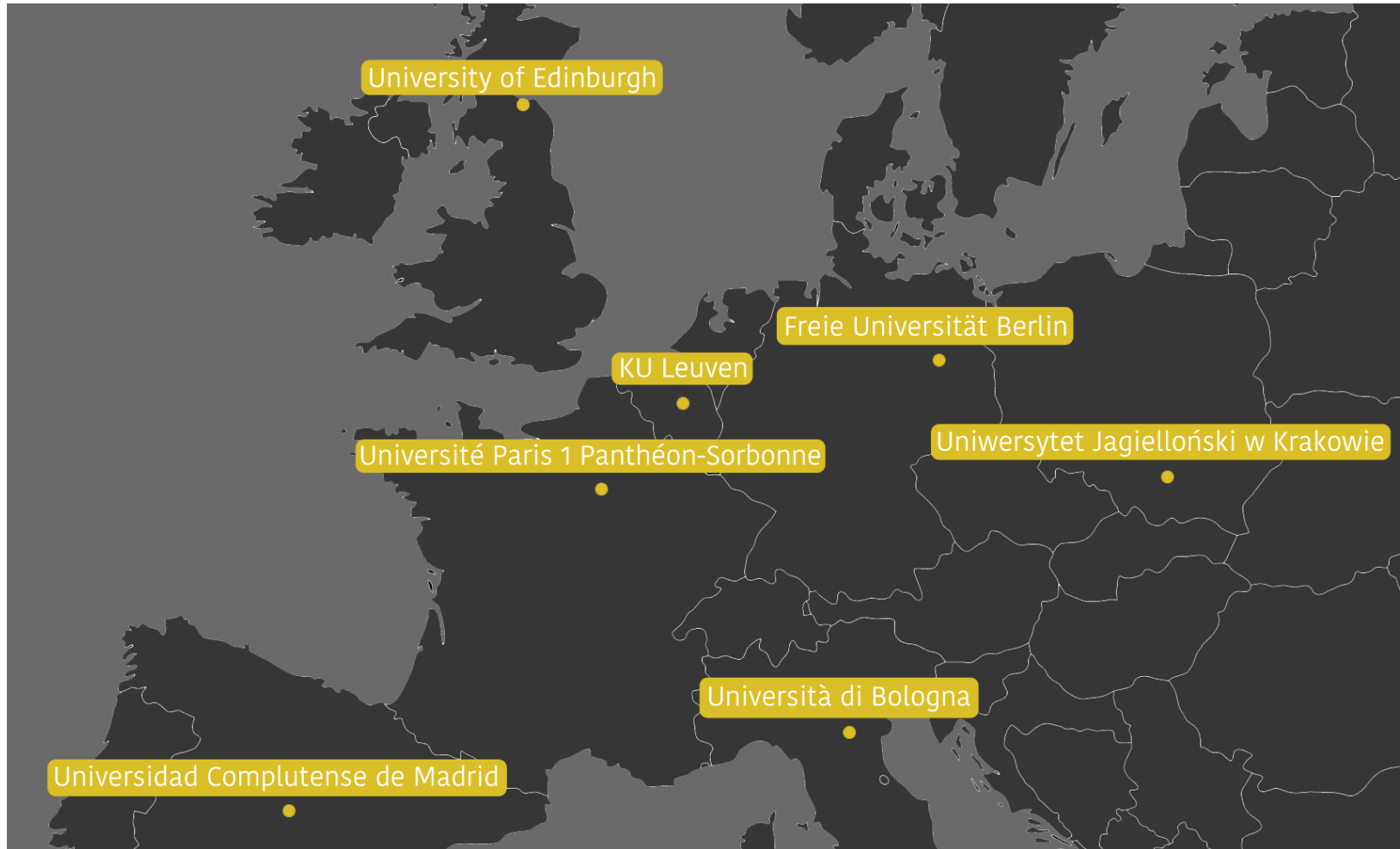
Erasmus+ KA2 call European Universities

2025-2030

- Shared, integrated, long-term joint strategy for education with, where possible, links to research, innovation and society at large
- European inter-university 'campus' for BA/MA/PhD. – Innovative pedagogies
- New joint and flexible curricula based on cross-disciplinary/multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral approaches
- Embedded mobility at all levels. At least 50% of students. Physical, virtual and blended.
- Practical and/or work-based experience provided by external mentors to foster an entrepreneurial mindset and to develop civic engagement.
- Student body reflects the diversity of the population
- European knowledge-creating teams (students, teachers, researchers, society). Challenge-based approach.
- Models of good practice



Partner institutions



Mission

- Linked to Europe's intellectual tradition. Will be inextricably linked to Europe's intellectual transformation.
- We have created and shaped new disciplines. We will now craft innovative interdisciplinary approaches and collaborations to grapple with new and enduring challenges.
- Interdisciplinarity, internationalisation, innovation, interaction, inclusivity and impact are core principles.
- UNA Europa will be a continent-wide living laboratory, where best practices and new approaches will be tested and taken up.
- By 2025 50 per cent of UNA Europa students will benefit from international mobility.
- Two million Europeans will benefit from our educational and civic engagement programmes.
- Our joint research activity will have increased threefold.
- We will run several European joint degree programmes.
- We will be central to Europe's innovative, prosperous and sustainable future.



Interdisciplinary focus areas

- European Studies
- Sustainability
- Cultural Heritage
- Data Science and Artificial Intelligence



State of Affairs

- Since its inception in February 2018 (Paris I) UNA Europa designed an ambitious long-term joint strategy in education, research and innovation.
- A Letter of Intent to move towards a European University Alliance was signed in April 2018 (UNIBO)
- A Cooperation Agreement was signed on 1 February 2019 (Jagiellonian University)
- A non-profit association under Belgian law, 'UNA Europa vzw', was created on 1 February 2019.
- A Secretary-General for UNA Europa vzw, Ms. Emily Palmer, started work on 1 April 2019.
- An office for UNA Europa vzw has been set up on KU Leuven's campus in Brussels.



State of Affairs

- 2 UNA Europa Doctoral Workshops per year with participation of 5 doctoral students per partner. Institutional funding for travel and stay of the participants.
 - November 2018: UNA Europa Doctoral Workshop on Cultural Heritage (UCM).
 - April 2019: UNA Europa Doctoral Workshop, on Sustainability (FU Berlin).
- 4-5 April 2019: First UNA Europa Student Representative Congress (KU Leuven)
- Successful UCM H2020-MSCA-CoFund: UNA4Career: €4.4M to attract 40 post-docs for 3 years. Two open and competitive calls. Secondments to be carried out at UNA Europa member universities.
- Successful Erasmus+ KA3 European Policy Experimentations: OpenU: €2M to create a European-wide hub for online learning, blended/virtual mobility, virtual campuses and collaborative exchange of best practices.
- A project proposal for Erasmus+ KA2 European Universities was submitted in February 2019.



OpenU

Erasmus+ KA3 European Policy Experimentations: “Policies and incentives to support innovative teaching and pedagogical training in higher education, including through open and digital education”.

- “Creation of a European-wide hub for online learning, blended/virtual mobility, virtual campuses and collaborative exchange of best practices”

Project ‘OpenU’

- – UNA Europa takes part in the ‘Experimentation Cluster’:
 - Development of MicroMasters ®
 - Multidiplomas
 - Digital lab for PhD students
 - Virtual seminars

Submitted in September 2018. M€ 2 granted in December 2018.



OpenU

European **hub for online learning supporting blended and virtual mobility** and enabling virtual campuses and exchange of best practices. The online hub will connect existing pedagogical resources and provide a space for deeper academic cooperation between higher education institutions (HEIs):

- lead to innovation in teaching and international cooperation,
- boost blended and virtual mobility of student and staff,
- embed internationalisation in HEI strategies and curricula.

OpenU will contribute to the creation of the eU.university online hub, with outcomes:

1. single point of access for online learning in Europe;
2. pedagogical cooperation methodologies to academic communities;
3. shared digital infrastructure that offsets the need for developing redundant online platforms;
4. sustainable integration of flagship projects such as the European Student Card.

Systemic changes will be enabled through the platform that

- supports existing bilateral and multilateral university partnerships;
- enables HEIs to identify new cooperation avenues;
- allows new stakeholders to integrate and/or index their educational resources and tools;
- allows students and staff to seamlessly navigate between connected platforms using single authentication.



UNA4CAREER

H2020-MSCA-COFUND

‘UNA Europa, an alliance of universities FOR the emergence of talent and the development of research CAREERS’

- Free circulation for postdocs for short or longer stays
- Research stays at companies, museums, technology centres, libraries etc.
- Evaluation committee of international experts from UNA Europa partners

Submitted in September 2018. UCM was granted M€ 4.4 in February 2019 to attract 40 postdocs in two open and competitive calls. Secondments will be carried out in UNA Europa partner universities.



Erasmus+ pilot call for European Universities

- Create a Europe-wide living laboratory for collaboration in education (BA, MA, PhD and continuous education), research and innovation to be tested and scaled up.
- Rethinking international curricula and mobility to make them more scalable, accessible, flexible, high-quality and cost-effective.
- Developing and testing innovative formats for international education and mobility, based on a combination of face-to-face, blended and online teaching and learning according to research-based principles of course and curriculum design.
- In order to reach the 50% mobility goal by 2025, focus will be on short-term and blended mobility schemes.
- Making sure most relevant virtual mobility activities can be implemented on European campus and offered as standard option to students and staff. An important factor here is the availability of the required technology across the different campuses.
- The principles of Open Access will be applied to all educational material developed in the project

