



# EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES



# The creation of a European Education Area

Europe today is facing massive political, social and economic challenges.

What role does education play?

Why a European Education Area (EEA)?

*.....Member States, Council and the Commission encourage the emergence by 2024 of some twenty 'European Universities', consisting in bottom-up networks of 4 to 6 universities across the EU which will enable students to obtain a degree by combining studies in several EU countries and contribute to the international competitiveness of European universities.*

**European Council conclusions on the Communication on Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture**

**14 December 2017**



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**Innovation**  
Innovative  
Teaching Methods



# Why?



- To build and structure a European Education Area by 2025
- Shape a new generation of creative Europeans
- Mobility abroad for all, across borders and across disciplines
- To enhance the performance and competitive advantage of European higher education institutions on a worldwide scale
- Building together the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area



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# What?





**Education Committee** 10/01/2018

**High Level Group, Education Summit** 24-25/01/2018

**BFUG** 5-6/02/2018

**HEIs** workshop 7/02

**Education council** 15/02

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- At least twenty 'European networks of Universities' by 2024
  - Not an exclusive club
  - Inclusiveness:
    - ✓ Different types of HEIs
    - ✓ Geographical balance
  - Flexible model of partnerships: *no one-size-fits-all models*
  - Erasmus+ programme as the main driver, in synergy with FP9, structural funds and national funding



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# How?





## How do we know that it can work?

- Models already exist across Europe:
  - Border region cooperation (EUCOR; University of the Greater Region; Franco-German University)
  - Cooperation of institutions with similar profiles (EuroTech; YERUN; ECIU; CELSA)
  - ... and many others
- They are all different, and they do not always have a focused, systemic impact

A European scheme could take the best practices from these and provide the multilateral framework that is needed to have a real, European-wide impact to meet our common education challenges.



- Developing a shared, integrated, long-term **strategic vision** for **education** and **research**
- Opening up study programmes for **all** students with **embedded mobility** at Bachelor, Master and Doctoral levels
- Empowering students to **build their own curriculum** through a wider selection of study units in different countries and languages, leading to a European degree recognised throughout Europe. '**Mobility for all**' will be the common theme running through these networks
- Creating **new joint curricula** based on **forward looking-skills** and cross-disciplinary/**multi-disciplinary approaches**
- Creating multidisciplinary and competitive education and research teams where students, lecturers, researchers and local ecosystems co-create/co-share knowledge and innovation => **Challenge based university**
- Ultimately creating truly integrated cross-border **European universities**.



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# The road ahead



**2018-2020  
Pilot under  
Erasmus+**

**Post 2020  
Dedicated  
Erasmus+  
KA2 Action**

**2025  
European  
Statute**

# 2018: Preparing the ground

E+ Strategic Partnerships  
Erasmus Mundus  
Knowledge Alliances  
EIT KICs  
MSCAs

Develop joint delivery  
of teaching/innovative  
pedagogies

Develop joint delivery  
of innovative and  
inter-disciplinary  
modules or  
programmes

Integration of  
education, research  
and innovation



# Specific Pilot of EU university networks 2019-2020

On-going  
consultations will  
feed into definition of  
calls

# European Universities networks post 2020

## Dedicated Erasmus+ Key Action 2 – Centralised Mode



**Embedded individual mobility Erasmus+**



*Education is a driver for job creation, economic growth, social fairness and ultimately unity.*

*Education is one of the best vectors to strengthen our European identity.*

**Thank you.**