

Mission statement: 'Towards a European University'

Mission

Our Alliance aspires to become a role model of a European University for the 21st century. Our endeavour rests on one central assumption: Europe's diversity is our strength. We bring together the unique experience, knowledge and creative potential of European regions through building bridges between the creative academic communities of eight leading European universities, serving as intellectual hubs to the surrounding education, research and innovation landscapes.

Located in campuses across Europe, our alliance jointly explores innovative ways for a European academic education of tomorrow and offers a novel European classroom experience in a multilingual, diverse and stakeholder engaging environment. This experience enables our students to evolve into well-informed European citizens capable of creating new knowledge and become drivers of transnational innovation.

In a spirit of mutual trust, reciprocity, and responsibility, and in fair partnership with other world regions, we connect our activities for a peaceful and prosperous Europe of tomorrow.

What Makes us Unique

- Our alliance combines unequalled expertise with regard to collaboration across borders. The experience and unique spirit of co-operation in *Eucor - The European Campus*, as well as the *Black Sea Universities Network*, the *ICA Regional Network for Central and South Eastern Europe* and other regional networks will inspire our new European endeavour and will allow us to widely share our results with peers across the European Higher Education Area.
- Our alliance mirrors Europe's broad linguistic and cultural diversity. Our partners are equally facing the challenges of increased globalization to a multilingual, and inclusive European Higher Education system.
- Our alliance corresponds to the highly differentiated field of European Higher Education. While equally committed to our mission, the diverse character of our partners with regard to academic tradition, size and focus fosters cross-disciplinary dialogue and allows us to address societal challenges in a complementary way.

Our Core Values

- **European:** we are strongly committed to nurturing European values, including academic freedom, multilingualism, cultural pluralism, equity and inclusiveness. While mindful of the global challenges the younger generation is facing, we will encourage researchers and students to deploy these long-established European values in finding sustainable solutions;
- **Open-minded:** we believe that the exposure to new ideas and new ways of understanding are at the bottom of a successful European Education. In this respect we consider language as being the motor of the academic community: a basic prerequisite for educational quality, facilitation of learning experiences and social cohesion on our campuses;
- **Unity:** we believe in the joint strength and power of our alliance. Harnessing resources and complementary competences will allow us to offer globally competitive and sustainable solutions to European and world issues.
- **Solidarity:** while valuing regional diversity, we are determined to thinking beyond borders and societal divides. In this respect, our alliance benefits greatly from our rich experience in collaborating in regional and cross-border contexts;
- **Socially Responsible:** we regard the dialogue between academia, industry and society as a cornerstone for the idea of an European university. Social responsibility and sustainability will be our main drivers.

How we will achieve our objectives

- by sustainable cooperation structures
- by establishing seamless virtual and physical free movement of our students, researchers and staff across our European campuses.
- by nurturing multilingualism, intercultural competences and strengthening language acquisition and curricula. The consortium will develop a deliberate and carefully considered model language policy, facilitating the partners to develop as bi- or multilingual universities;
- by developing models for innovative research-inspired teaching & learning, drawing upon expertise from our Liberal Arts and Sciences programmes. These programmes are built around themes and topics addressing major European and world issues and teach students ways of integrating insights from a variety of subjects and fields. Our students will be well prepared to address the great challenges based on their problem-based teaching experience;
- by providing thriving frameworks for research activities, enabling academics to jointly drive forward new ideas or to explore new fields of research and innovation and by facilitating collaboration with excellent students via research-oriented teaching..
- by establishing a European intellectual node as all partners serve as gateways in connecting various regions and networks across Europe.