Learning From Other Alliances /Una Europa Bottom up success stories

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Minna Koutaniemi, Chair of Mobility Cluster (University of Helsinki / May 25th 2023)

Building a University of the Future

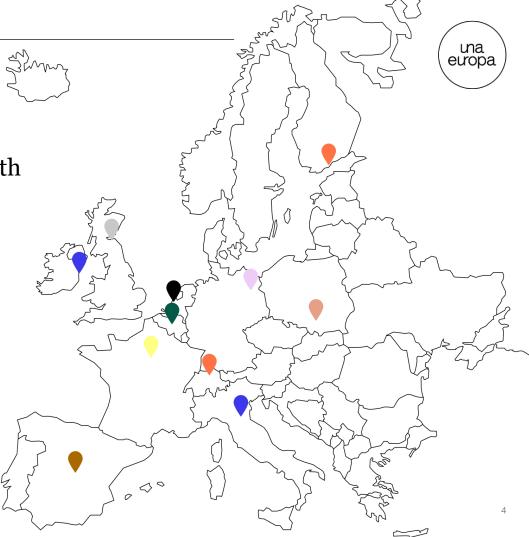


What is Una Europa?

- Una Europa is an alliance of 11 leading universities from all corners of Europe.
- Together, we are forging a new path for education and research in Europe and beyond to shape our shared future for the better.
- Founded in 2019, Una Europa has secured successive rounds of European Union funding to realise our vision for a European 'University of the Future'.
- Guided by our 2030 Strategy, Una Europa is working towards a truly inter-university and pan-European campus, shaped by universities' central obligations to society: research and innovation, teaching and learning, and societal outreach.

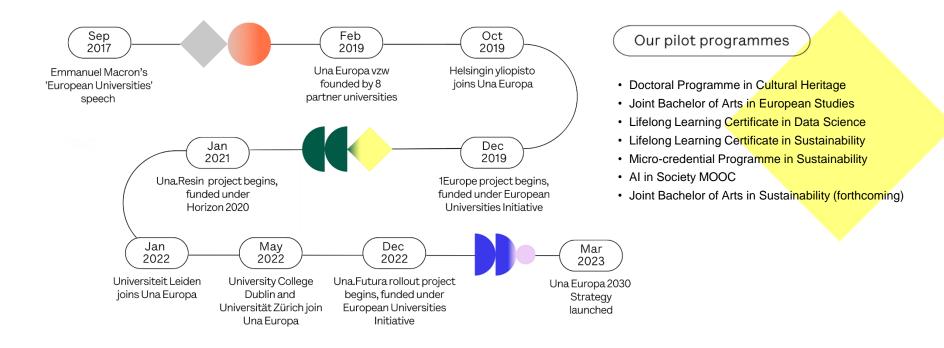


- + Freie Universität Berlin
- + Università di Bologna
- + University College Dublin/ An Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath
- + University of Edinburgh
- + Helsingin Yliopisto/Helsingfors universitet
- + Universiteit Leiden
- + Uniwersytet Jagielloński w Krakowie
- + KU Leuven
- + Universidad Complutense de Madrid
- + Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
- + Universität Zürich



Towards a University of the Future: Our journey so far





Una Europa in numbers













500,000+ students 100,000 staff 1000+ years of heritage 480+ ERC grants €1.5bn Horizon2020 funding

University of Helsinki Leader Themes

Empowering Students Work Package 8



- Working towards creating the student-centred European campus and the Una Europa student experience.
- Putting students in the driver's seat

Student-centred teaching and learning informed by cultural and linguistic awareness *Transversal Theme*



- Formulating principles and guidelines for student-centred, intercultural, and multilingual learning in the Una Europa alliance.
- Guidelines will be informed by the latest research on innovative pedagogical models

Diversity and Inclusion Transversal theme



- Promoting equity and social justice to end discrimination and foster inclusion in Una Europa activities and structures
 - The work is coordinated by Diversity Council, that is chaired by University of Helsinki

Hanna Snellman

University of Helsinki's Vice-Rector International

Chair of the Una Europa Board of Directors in 2023





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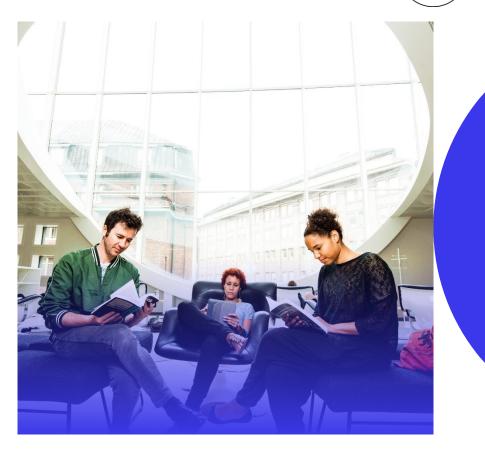
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Helsinki approach

Una Europa project team visits

- · every faculty leaders and
- university service teams

to discuss about the strategic goals and action plans that they have indentified connected to the Una Europa



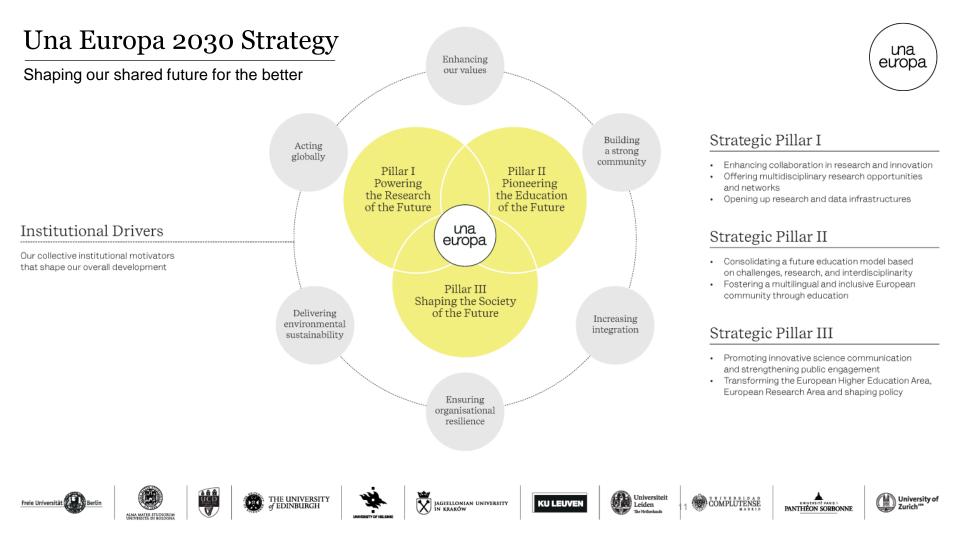


Our values

"Una Europa is a values-driven European University. This is not merely a declaration, but a commitment."

– Una Europa 2030 Strategy





Our Focus Areas

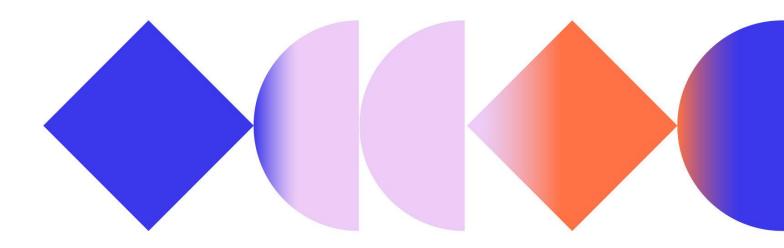
Each led by an academic Self-Steering Committee, Una Europa's 6 Focus Areas gather researchers from diverse disciplines to foster academic collaboration and jointly design innovative educational formats.

The Self-Steering Committees are evolving into interdisciplinary hubs that will drive the alliance's progress going forward – across education, research and societal impact.



Pioneering the Education of the Future

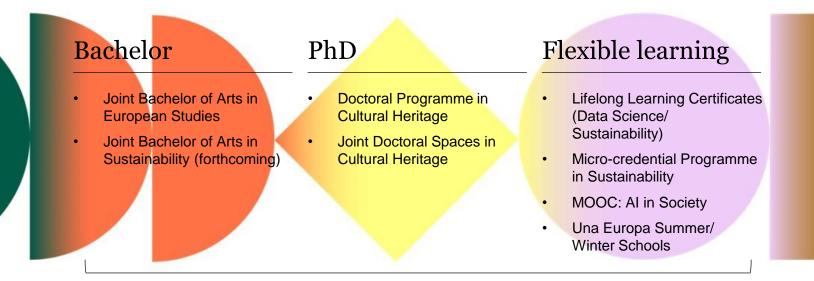




Advancing European higher education

The education of future European citizens is vital in facing major societal challenges. Universities are uniquely positioned to play a key role in this endeavour.

Una Europa is committed to equipping the leaders and problem-solvers of tomorrow by advancing European higher education for all learners.



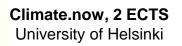
Una Europa's portfolio of courses and programmes

10 ECTS Micro-Credential consisting of five MOOCs:



Introduction to sustainability, 3 ECTS University of Helsinki





Biodiversity.now, 2 ECTS University of Helsinki

Political economy of sustainability, 2 ECTS Jagellonian University



Sustainability and the arts, 1 ECTS University of Bologna

Freie Universität Berlin

Alma Mater Studiorum Universitá di Bologna

The University of Edinburah

Helsingin Yliopisto

Uniwersytet Jagielloński KU Leuven w Krakowie

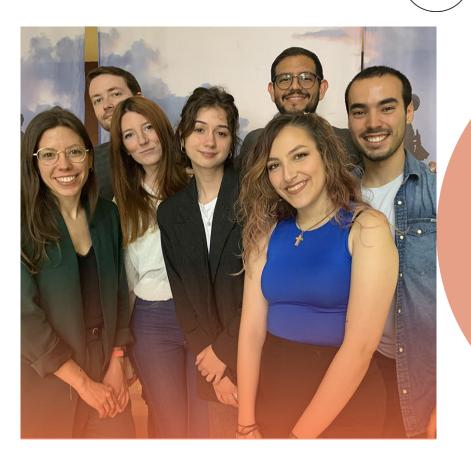
Universidad Complutense de Madrid Université Paris 1

Panthéon-Sorbonne l eiden

Universiteit

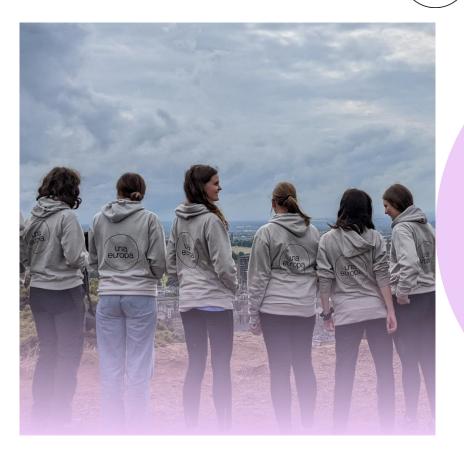
Real-world learning, real-world impact

- The Una Challenge, our challenge-based learning format, equips students with the skills to conceptualize and develop solutions to shared challenges – whether experienced locally, at European level, or globally.
- Students work in interdisciplinary and international teams, finding solutions to real issues and engaging with stakeholders experiencing those challenges in an intercultural environment.
- Past Una Challenges include:
 - Una.Together tackled challenges related to diversity, equity and inclusion across the Una Europa campuses.
 - Una.Ten Transform Emergency Now! 10 days for change – focused on Covid-19 post-emergency challenges.



Making mobility for all a reality

- A free flow of students and staff and increased opportunities to learn, grow and innovate lie at the heart of Una Europa's vision for a University of the Future.
- Through our forthcoming Mobility For All plan, we'll delivery an ambitious mobility strategy that serves our whole community – encompassing physical, virtual and blended mobility
- In 2022, we piloted the first Una Europa Summer School at The University of Edinburgh – a milestone in student mobility for the alliance.
 - 50+ students, including 6 students from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.
 - Students from varied academic backgrounds explored interdisciplinary issues and worked towards building solutions together.



Optimizing Erasmus+ funds



- Students who do not have possibility for long mobility
- Destinations that can be travelled by land (500 € + green top up)
- PhD students' e.g. regular Summer and Winter Schools (also STT funding)





Live my life – job shadowing



- Targeted at administrative professionals at the Una Europa partners, it gives professionals the chance to engage in our network through two weeks of peer-to-peer learning
- Joint format for job shadowing aims to guarantee more in-depth insights and longer-term benefits than individually arranged exchanges.
- Follow-ups: benchmarking visits, developments of processes with best practices, joint conference proposals and presentations
- You can hear the podcast on live my life <u>https://www.una-europa.eu/stories/podcast-11-live-my-life</u>, where participants share their stories.

Una Europa Staff Week

Face-to-face meeting format for professionals working in the same administrative areas. The Staff Week will take place at least once a year and focus on two fields of work, such as:

- diversity and inclusion,
- digital education,
- student affairs,
- library services,
- alumni services,
- □ international offices,
- □ research support,
- □ communications,
- □ marketing and recruitment,
- □ and many more!





Professional special groups

Result of successful Staff Weeks

Informal networks among professionals – added value to develop own work and processes

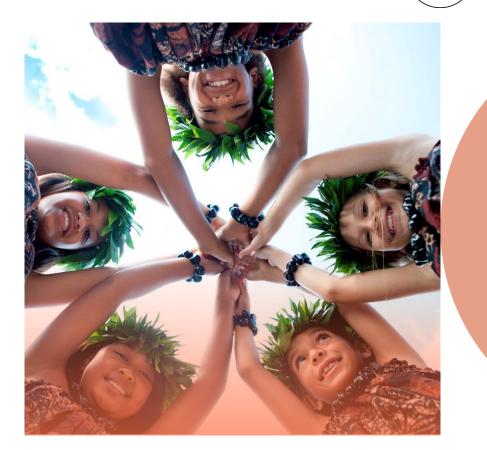
E.g. librarians, IT-specialists, project funding experts



Digital solutions

DigiCampus

- Shared online learning environment for higher education institutions
- Database for Mobility Opportunities
- Search with applied filters for students and staff https://www.una-europa.eu/mobility-database





Joint Innovative Formats

Seed Funding



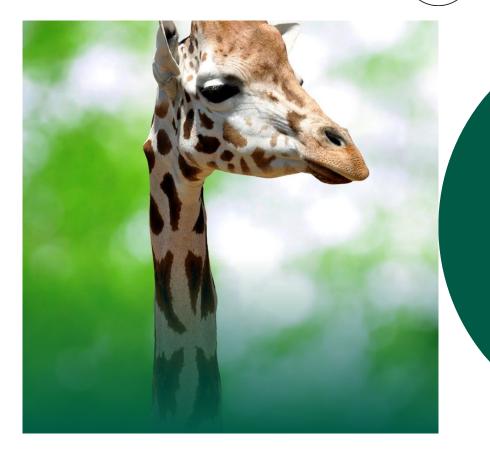
- Una Europa launches an annual call for applications for seed funding. The aim of the seed funding initiative is to support the initiation of longterm collaborative activities between the partner universities. The idea is to "plant a seed" that can eventually attract external funding.
- Examples of seed-funded initiatives include, but are not limited to:
 - organizing joint workshops or seminars;
 - preparing joint formats for education or research.
- List of over 30 Seed Funding projects: <u>https://www.una-europa.eu/seed-funding</u>

Education cooperation projects

Virtual Exchanges project application for African cooperation

Idea to combine resources from Africa workgroup, Micro-credential Programme in Sustainability, university-level African cooperation and knowhow

Need to find external funding for the Una Europa cooperation



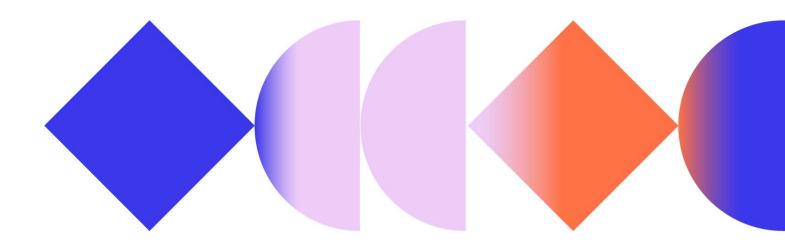
A scalable vision for a European University of the Future

- Una Europa is committed to making our Joint Innovative Formats (JIFs) for education and mobility replicable, scalable and accessible.
- The Una Europa Knowledge hub equips higher education practitioners and policymakers with the blueprints for our successful pilot programmes and formats.
 - Scan the QR code to explore the Una Europa Knowledge hub:





Powering the Research of the Future



Establishing a roadmap for R&I

Una Europa's R&I Strategy sets out our path towards a common research and innovation ecosystem that supports a truly interdisciplinary approach.



Supporting multidisciplinary research networks



Developing an External Funding Strategy to support the implementation of our R&I Strategy



Opening up research infrastructures and resources



Strengthening research collaboration with society and industry e.g. citizen science



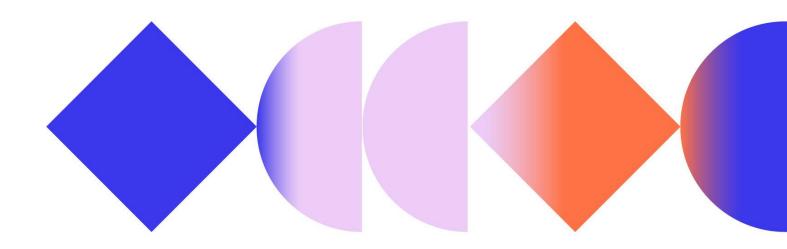
Advancing early-career researchers



Enhancing research capacities through professional and institutional development

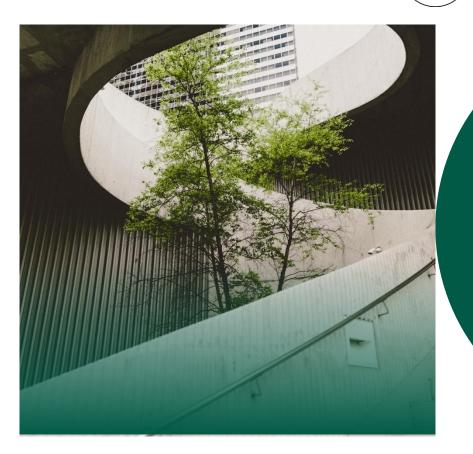


Shaping the Society of the Future



Delivering environmental sustainability

- Una Europa is committed to addressing challenges to sustainability such as the climate crisis and biodiversity loss, and to contributing to solutions like the energy transition, awareness raising, and behavioural change.
- We will continue to advance our Sustainability and Climate Protection Strategy and develop a comprehensive implementation and reporting process with key commitments at the level of each Una Europa institution.
 - Develop an ambitious common Una Europa policy for business travel
- Our educational offering aims to empower Europe's next generation of sustainability leaders.
 - Una Europa Micro-credential Programme in Sustainability



Acting globally to tackle global challenges

- To contribute meaningfully to tackling global challenges, Una Europa is proactively building mutually beneficial multilateral global partnerships.
- We are building partnerships with higher education institutions in Africa and other priority regions – relationships founded on an equitable and decolonised approach to collaboration.
- Within Europe, we are exploring collaboration with higher education institutions in countries aspiring to become members of the EU to share learnings and best practice, and to support them in unlocking their potential.



Mainstreaming diversity in our community

- Diversity and human dignity is one Una Europa's core shared values.
- Our commitment to mainstreaming diversity across our activities is enshrined in our 2030 Strategy.
- The Una Europa Diversity Council has propelled this work forward with the publication of *Engaging with Diversity in European Universities*, a report that brings together key findings and recommendations on diversity across Una Europa universities.
- It advocates building a more diverse Una Europa, and, by extension, a European higher education space that has an impact on civil society and stakeholders.



Transforming the European education and research landscape

- The future of Europe depends on our ability to work together and pool our resources and approaches – to seek the common good beyond particular interests.
- We are committed to supporting education and research policies that advance the goals of the European Higher Education Area, making it more united, cooperative, attractive and competitive.
 - ED-AFFICHE Project: Una Europa is working with 5 other alliances to pilot the European Degree label and make the development and implementation of joint degrees in Europe less complex and resource-intensive.

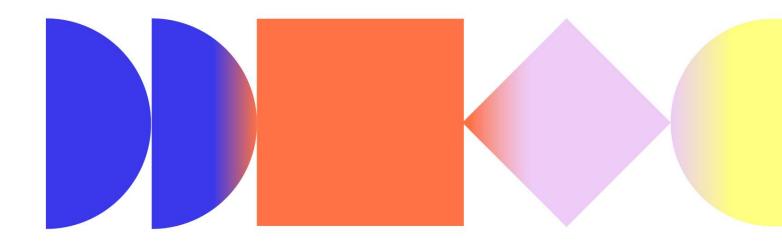


Learn more

 Una Europa <u>podcasts</u> can give you a great overview of success stories within Una Europa. Check the link: <u>https://open.spotify.com/show/7atvcHWoBS80uWoe5Hgp</u> <u>b1?si=u-I9m0SGR92fYx1u_aPsGA&utm_source=nativeshare-menu&nd=1</u>

- Una Europa Micro-credential in Sustainability The aim is to acknowledge the complexity and interconnectedness of the issue with an interdisciplinary, creative and multifaceted approach. More detailed information about the programme here: <u>https://microcredential-sustainability.una-</u> <u>europa.eu/overview</u>
- Communication channel "Knowledge Hub" <u>https://www.una-</u> <u>europa.eu/knowledge-hub</u>

Stay in touch with Una Europa



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