

# CIVICA

THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bocconi  
University

Central  
European  
University

European  
University  
Institute

Hertie  
School

National  
University of  
Political Studies  
and Public  
Administration

Sciences Po

Stockholm  
School of  
Economics

The London  
School of  
Economics and  
Political Science

# The European Universities initiative

- Pan-European alliances that will shape the universities of the future
- EU flagship initiative to build and integrate the European Education Area and the European Research Area
- Boost quality and attractiveness of European higher education
- Two calls under Erasmus+ in 2019 & 2020: 41 European University alliances involving 279 higher education institutions
- Top-up funding under Horizon 2020 for research cooperation



“Our alliance means, by definition, collaboration at a European scale by offering students our best opportunities and by contributing solutions to the major issues of our times.”

—Aurélien Krejbich, CIVICA’s Executive Director,  
Sciences Po

# CIVICA members

Eight leading higher education institutions in the social sciences  
with long-standing ties



**Università  
Bocconi**  
MILANO

Italy



**CEU** CENTRAL  
EUROPEAN  
UNIVERSITY

Austria and Hungary



European  
University  
Institute

Intergovernmental



**Hertie School**

Germany



Romania

**SciencesPo**

France



Sweden



THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

United Kingdom

# CIVICA at a glance

8

universities

50,000

students

10,000

faculty

4

focus areas

Societies in Transition and Crises of Earth

Challenges to Democracy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Europe Revisited

Data Driven Technologies for the Social Sciences

30%

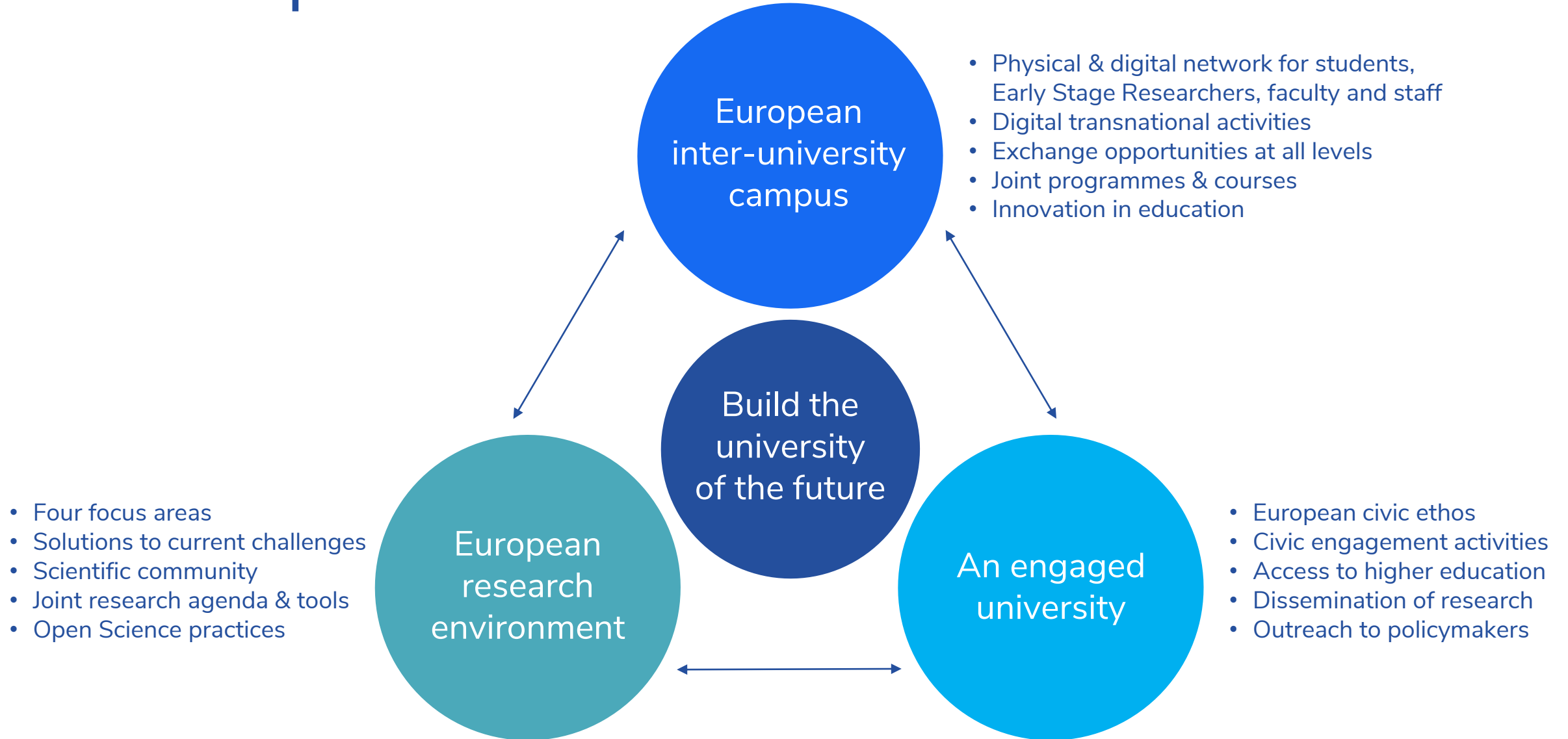
international students

(average rate)

# Mission statement

“CIVICA embodies our ambition, as forward-thinking higher education institutions, to assume our civic responsibility as Europeans towards both future European generations and the role of Europe in the world.”

# CIVICA pillars



# Core values

- commitment to excellence
- building of proven partnerships
- focus on social sciences
- academic freedom
- agile governance
- student-centred
- bottom-up
- inclusive



# Timeline



# Action areas: nine work packages

## European campus

- Physical, virtual and blended mobility for students, faculty and staff
- Digital campus
- Common and inclusive identity
- Cultural and sports events

## Bachelor level

- Multi-campus bachelor experience focused on civic engagement
- Immersion programmes “CIVICA European Weeks”
- “CIVICA Engage” bachelor track

## Master’s level

- Flagship multi-campus course and joint courses
- European online course portfolio
- Innovative formats with societal impact (“Policy Lab”)

## PhD level

- Integrated space for Early Stage Researchers
- European hub for mentoring and supervision
- Summer schools and trainings

## Research

- Knowledge-creating teams around the four focus areas
- Challenge-based education initiatives
- Integration with CIVICA Research (Horizon 2020): creation of a common research environment

## Civic outreach

- “Tours d’Europe” conferences for a wide audience
- High school initiatives for access to higher education
- Action for marginalised groups

## International attractiveness

- Global network of partners
- International visibility of CIVICA
- Recruitment of non-European students (marketing activities)

## Dissemination & sustainability

- Dissemination of joint activities through all partners
- Impact on the higher education sector
- Long-term sustainability of CIVICA

## Governance & management

- Institutional governing bodies
- Dedicated management team and the CIVICA Secretariat
- Synergy with the individual structures of each partner



“I truly believe that what can be achieved by CIVICA, in terms of excellence of research and effectiveness of the learning experience, is much more than the sum of its individual components.”

—Giulio Cervi, dual master's student,  
Bocconi University and LSE

# CIVICA for...

Students	Early Stage Researchers	Faculty	Staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physical and digital European network</li><li>• Joint programmes and joint courses</li><li>• Extended mobility</li><li>• Civic engagement</li><li>• Pan-European student community</li><li>• Extracurricular activities (cultural and sports events)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Integrated research space</li><li>• Hub for supervision</li><li>• Extended mobility</li><li>• Summer schools and co-taught seminars</li><li>• Training opportunities</li><li>• Research with transformational impact</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common research environment</li><li>• Research with transformational impact</li><li>• Mobility</li><li>• Trans-European teamwork</li><li>• Exchange of best practices</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trans-European teamwork</li><li>• Mobility</li><li>• Inclusion workshops</li><li>• Networking</li><li>• Professional development</li><li>• Exchange of best practices</li></ul>

# CIVICA Research

- Synergies between education (Erasmus+) and research (Horizon 2020) through the European Universities
- Top-up funding to strengthen CIVICA's research & innovation dimension
- Main objective: establish a joint long-term research environment and strategy
- CIVICA Research complements CIVICA's education strategy
- CIVICA Research activities will begin in 2021

# CIVICA Research: focus areas

**1** Societies in Transition  
and Crises of Earth

**2** Challenges to Democracy  
in the 21st Century

**3** Europe Revisited

**4** Data Driven Technologies  
for the Social Sciences

# CIVICA Research work packages

## Common research & innovation agenda

- Long-term joint research strategy
- Synergy with education strategies
- Snowball seminars, pilot calls and hackathons

## CIVICA scientific community

- Development of human capital
- Circulation of scholars and ideas across the alliance
- Involvement of external scholars

## Shared research infrastructure and tools

- Large-scale platform for social sciences
- Online experimental lab
- Development of digital tools

## Open Science

- Make academic knowledge open beyond academia
- Open Science policies and practices
- Open Science training programme

## Synergies within and outside CIVICA

- Doctoral training opportunities
- Research partnerships
- Sharing of best practices with other European Universities

## Communication and dissemination

- Dissemination of research to various stakeholders
- Outreach to policymakers (Rapid Policy Response Mechanism)
- Scientific events

## Management

- Project management
- Quality assurance
- Ethical guidelines



Photo: Christian Klant

“I am happy to be part of a CIVICA project because of the intense focus on how we can make research useful for people, practitioners and society.”

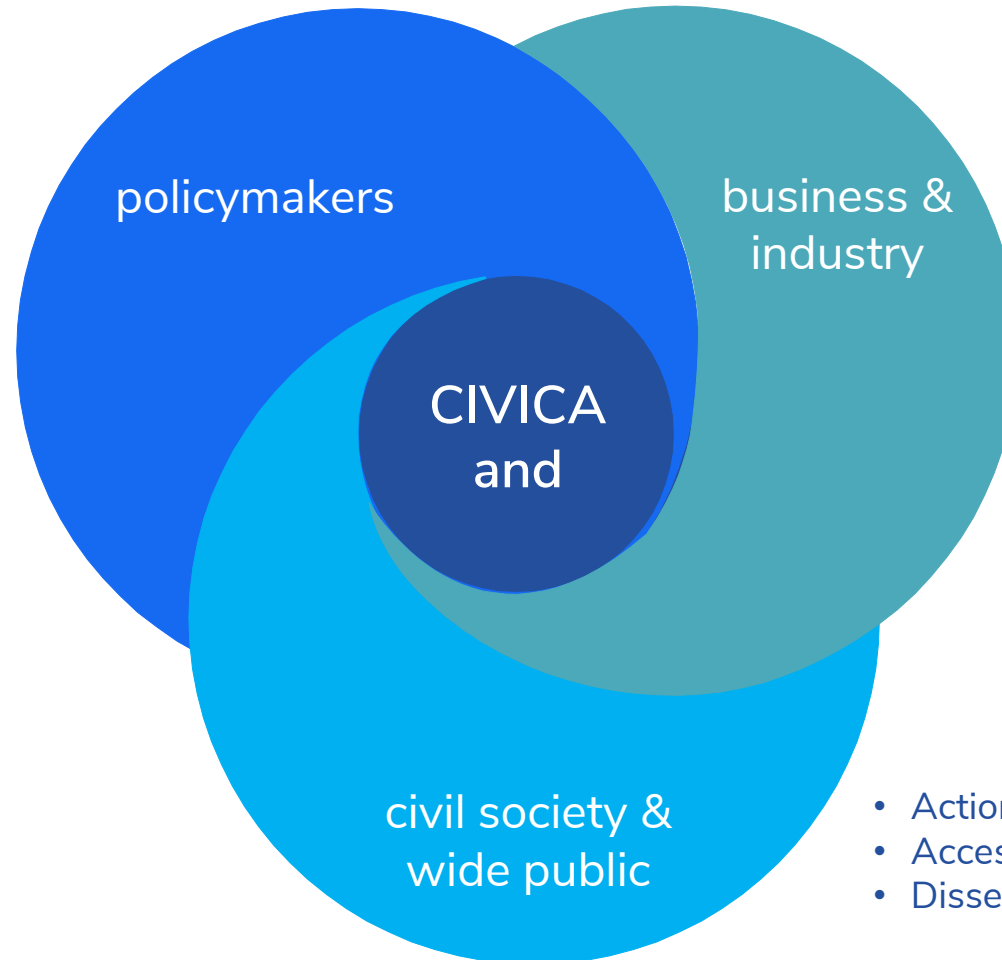
—Alexandra Ioan, social science researcher, alumna of Hertie School and SNSPA



# CIVICA for society

Extended cooperation with entities outside academia = founding principle of CIVICA

- Solutions to current challenges
- Knowledge transfer
- Evidence-based policies
- Cooperation with the European Commission



- Cooperation with regional stakeholders
- Business innovation
- Training opportunities for students

- Action for marginalised groups
- Access to higher education
- Dissemination of research to a wide public

# Highlights 20/21

Action area	Planned activities
European campus	Continued work on digital campus; first inclusion workshop
Bachelor level	Launch of CIVICA Engage bachelor track; first European Week
Master's level	Launch of joint courses; design of multi-campus course (Europeanship) and online course portfolio
PhD level	Launch of virtual PhD clinic; first co-taught seminars and summer schools
Research	Launch of project proposals around the four focus areas Launch of CIVICA Research
Civic outreach	First "Tours d'Europe" conference Launch of activities for high schools and marginalised groups
International attractiveness	Design of international marketing strategy
Dissemination and sustainability	Design of sustainability strategy
Governance & management	Consultation with students at governance level



“All universities have something unique to offer that adds to the whole experience. I think that’s definitely something that the students will appreciate.”

—Hilda Hardell, undergraduate student, SSE

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