The European Universities initiative

• Pan-European alliances that shape the universities of the future

• EU flagship initiative to build and integrate the European Education Area and the European Research Area, and to boost the 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

• Roll-out call under Erasmus+ programme 2021-2027
“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
CIVICA at a glance

8 universities
50,000 students & doctoral researchers
42% international students
10,000 academic staff
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

EDUCATION
European inter-university campus
- Physical & digital network for all
- Digital transnational activities
- Exchange opportunities at all levels
- Joint programmes & courses
- Innovation in education

RESEARCH
European research environment
- Four focus areas
- Solutions to societal challenges
- Scientific community
- Joint research agenda & tools
- Open Science practices

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
An engaged university
- European civic ethos
- Civic engagement activities
- Promotion of access to higher education
- Dissemination of research
- Outreach to policymakers
## CIVICA for...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>(Post)doctoral researchers (ESRs)</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Physical and digital European network</td>
<td>• Integrated research space</td>
<td>• Common research environment</td>
<td>• Trans-European teamwork</td>
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<td>• Joint programmes and joint courses</td>
<td>• Hub for supervision</td>
<td>• Research with transformational impact</td>
<td>• Mobility</td>
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<td>• Extended mobility</td>
<td>• Course catalogue</td>
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<td>• Civic engagement</td>
<td>• Extended mobility</td>
<td>• Inclusion workshops</td>
<td>• Networking</td>
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<td>• Pan-European student community</td>
<td>• Summer schools and co-taught seminars</td>
<td>• Trans-European teamwork</td>
<td>• Professional development</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Extracurricular activities</td>
<td>• Training opportunities</td>
<td>• Exchange of best practices</td>
<td>• Exchange of best practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cultural &amp; sports event</td>
<td>• Research with transformational impact</td>
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“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, master’s student at SSE, member of the CIVICA task force at SSE
CIVICA’s European inter-university campus

BACHELOR LEVEL
Connecting students and society
• CIVICA Engage track, combining study and civic engagement
• short-term programme European Week

MASTER’S LEVEL
Cross-border teamwork and innovative formats
• Europeanship multicampus course “The Future of Europe” on EU policy challenges
• jointly taught courses

(POST)DOCTORAL LEVEL (ESRs)
European opportunities for training and networking
• course catalogue with classes, workshops and seminars from across the alliance
• summer schools and doctoral conferences

Extra-curricular
• civic engagement
• CIVICA Ambassadors
• bottom-up initiatives
Milestones

**September 2020**
First joint master’s course

**January 2021**
CIVICA Engage Track

**June 2021**
CIVICA European Week

**September 2021**
Multicampus course “The Future of Europe”

**February 2021**
First public lectures and activities for high schools

**September 2021**
First doctoral summer school

**January 2021**
(Post)doctoral course catalogue

**September 2021**
Bachelor level

**December 2021**
Master’s level

**February 2021**
(Post)doctoral level

**September 2021**
Civic engagement
Preliminary key figures

- **30%** increase in exchanges since start of project
- **40** bachelor students at the first European Week (June ’21)
- **117** offers in the (post)doctoral course catalogue in the first semester
- **More than 400** faculty and staff involved in developing CIVICA
- **More than 1000** viewers reached by CIVICA’s four public events in the AY 20/21
- **More than 110k** website views since launch
“The European Week stands for everything that the European alliance is about: citizens of different European nations helping each other to help society. This approach to solving problems was incredibly impactful.”

—Ronit Anand, bachelor's student at LSE, participant in the CIVICA European Week 2021
CIVICA for society

Extended cooperation with entities outside academia

**BUSINESS & INDUSTRY**
- Cooperation with regional stakeholders
- Business innovation
- Training opportunities for students

**POLICYMAKERS**
- Solutions to societal challenges
- Knowledge transfer
- Support for evidence-based policies
- Cooperation with the European Commission

**CIVIL SOCIETY & WIDE PUBLIC**
- Action for marginalised groups
- Promotion of access to higher education
- Dissemination of research to a wide public
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Action area</th>
<th>Planned activities</th>
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</table>
| **European campus**             | Launch of my.civica.eu (internal website for members) and CIVICA social platform  
New Erasmus+ exchange agreements  
Cultural and sports event  
Second and third inclusion workshops; mapping of library facilities and resources                                                                 |
| **Bachelor level**              | Continued work on CIVICA Engage and the next European Week                                                                                                                                                             |
| **Master’s level**              | Launch of multi-campus course “The Future of Europe”  
New joint master’s courses; online resources portfolio  
Dissemination of European Policy Lab research project                                                                                                                                                      |
| (Post)doctoral level            | Summer school and co-taught seminars for (post)doctoral researchers  
Certificate in Advanced Academic Skills  
Design of digital platform for interaction with faculty; strategy for PhD researchers teaching across the alliance                                                                                       |
| **Research**                    | Synergies with CIVICA Research  
New call for research proposals  
International conference, hackathon & seminar series                                                                                                                                                          |
| **Civic outreach**              | Continued activities: CIVICA Public Lecture Series, initiatives for high schools and minorities  
Digital platform “CIVICA for all”                                                                                                                                                                              |
| **International attractiveness**| First meeting International Partners’ Board  
Demographic data on prospective students and dedicated recruitment content                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Dissemination and sustainability** | Continued work on communication and dissemination; second dissemination conference  
Design of CIVICA’s vision for the next phase                                                                                                           |
| **Governance & management**     | Preparation and submission of the Erasmus+ Full Roll-Out project  
Submission of final report at the end of the pilot phase                                                                                                                                                |
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 began in January 2021
Focus areas

Societies in Transition and Crises of Earth

Challenges to Democracy in the 21st Century

Europe Revisited

Data Driven Technologies for the Social Sciences
<table>
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<th>Work package</th>
<th>Planned activities</th>
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| Common research & innovation agenda | Snowball seminars  
                                Hackathon  
                                Setup of Scientific Advisory Board  
                                11 ongoing joint research projects                                                   |
| CIVICA scientific community       | Launch of postdoctoral mobility scheme  
                                Launch of innovative research methods workshops  
                                Launch of Excellence Tours                                                                  |
| Shared research infrastructure and tools | Launch of feasibility study of joint video-conferencing tool  
                                Discussion of online experimental lab, online platform and mobile app for gaming          |
| Open Science                      | Open Science Action Plan                                                                  |
| Synergies within and outside CIVICA | Doctoral training survey in synergy with CIVICA Erasmus+  
                                International doctoral conference                                                            |
| Communication and dissemination   | Expansion of website and social media presence  
                                Communications strategy and Communications Task Force  
                                Dissemination and exploitation strategy; CIVICA Research-labelled events                  |
| Management                        | Governance structure  
                                Project and data management plans  
                                Addendum to Consortium Agreement  
                                Drafting of mid-term progress report                                                          |
“The backdrop of the European Union has changed a lot so it's good timing for the CIVICA initiative to address issues and come up with ideas that will bring forward the entire project of the EU.”

—Gianmarco Ottaviano, Professor of Economics at Bocconi University, member of CIVICA's thematic group Europe Revisited