The European Universities initiative

• EU flagship initiative launched in 2017 to build and integrate the European Education Area and the European Research Area

• Pan-European alliances that shape the universities of the future to **boost the excellence** dimension of higher education, research and innovation

• **44 European University alliances** involving **340 higher education institutions**

• After a 3-year pilot phase, CIVICA was selected in July 2022 to receive further support from Erasmus+ for the next four years (2022-2026)

• Additional funding opportunities for research cooperation under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe
CIVICA members

A ten-member alliance founded on long-standing ties, reflecting the diversity of European higher education

Italy  Austria  Intergovernmental  Germany  Spain

Romania  France  Poland  Sweden  United Kingdom

new member as of October 2022
Mission statement

"CIVICA aims to foster advancements in education, research and innovation, and service to society; to serve local and global communities and to defend the core European values of justice, tolerance, and solidarity."
CIVICA at a glance

- **10** universities
- **72,000** students & doctoral researchers
- **13,000** academic staff
- **168** research institutes
4 thematic priorities

Societies in Transition and Crises of Earth

Challenges to Democracy in the 21st Century

Europe Revisited

Data-Driven Technologies for the Social Sciences
“CIVICA is uniquely placed to address current and emerging challenges. The ten partner institutions have come together with the ambition to assume civic responsibility for current and future European generations”

— Vanessa Scherrer, CIVICA Coordinator, Sciences Po
CIVICA Pillars

EDUCATION
European inter-university campus
• Digital campus
• Expanded mobility and joint programmes/degrees
• Joint content (all levels)
• Short-term activities
• Connected libraries
• European lifelong learning opportunities
• Sports and culture events

SERVICE TO SOCIETY
Alliance with lasting impact
• Diverse and inclusive community
• Promotion of European values
• Access to knowledge and higher education
• Global partnerships with key actors

RESEARCH & INNOVATION
Global champion for European social sciences
• Enhanced European research community in the social sciences
• Joint research environment
• Four thematic priorities to respond to current challenges
## CIVICA for...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Students</strong></th>
<th><strong>(Post-) doctoral researchers (ESRs)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Faculty</strong></th>
<th><strong>Staff</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Physical and digital European network</td>
<td>• Integrated research space</td>
<td>• Joint 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>
<td>• Mobility</td>
<td>• Inclusion workshops</td>
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<td>• Civic engagement</td>
<td>• Extended mobility</td>
<td>• Trans-European teamwork</td>
<td>• Networking</td>
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<td>• Pan-European student community</td>
<td>• Summer schools and co-taught seminars</td>
<td>• Research with transformational impact</td>
<td>• Professional development</td>
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<td>• Extracurricular activities</td>
<td>• Training opportunities</td>
<td>• Exchange of best practices</td>
<td>• Exchange of best practices</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.”

— Margarita Peces Collar, student at IE University
“CIVICA has really built bridges and established practices for working together.”

—Renato de Gaspi, PhD researcher at CEU, CIVICA Ambassador 2020/21
Impact

Direct impact on CIVICA communities

- Increased mobility and expanded offers for students and early-stage researchers
- Student engagement
- Pedagogical innovations
- Digital campus
- Lifelong learning
- European research community
- High-caliber professional network
- Diverse and inclusive community

Direct impact beyond the alliance

- Impact on the higher education and research sectors
  - Institutional innovation
  - Toolbox of teaching and learning models
  - Inclusion and diversity portfolio
  - Environmental sustainability
  - Strong research network
- Outreach to policymakers
- Strengthened dialogue with socio-economic and local actors, high schools, citizens

European and global impact

- Role model in European higher education
  - Promoter of trans-European collaboration and mobility
  - Strong link between research and practice
  - Testbed for new forms of institutional cooperation
  - Open university
- Key actor in advancing the vital role of social sciences in addressing societal challenges
• 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
“CIVICA Research creates instruments for an ambitious innovative research strategy.”

— Carsten Q. Schneider, Professor in the Political Science Department, Central European University, and Co-chair of the Permanent Design Team of CIVICA Research
“Building on our successes in the pilot phase, we remain firmly committed to consolidating CIVICA as a key actor of change in Europe, with enhanced opportunities for our communities, and a strong impact on society.”

— Aurélien Krejbich, CIVICA’s Executive Director, Sciences Po
The European Commission supports CIVICA through the Erasmus+ programme. This presentation reflects the views only of the author(s), and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.