

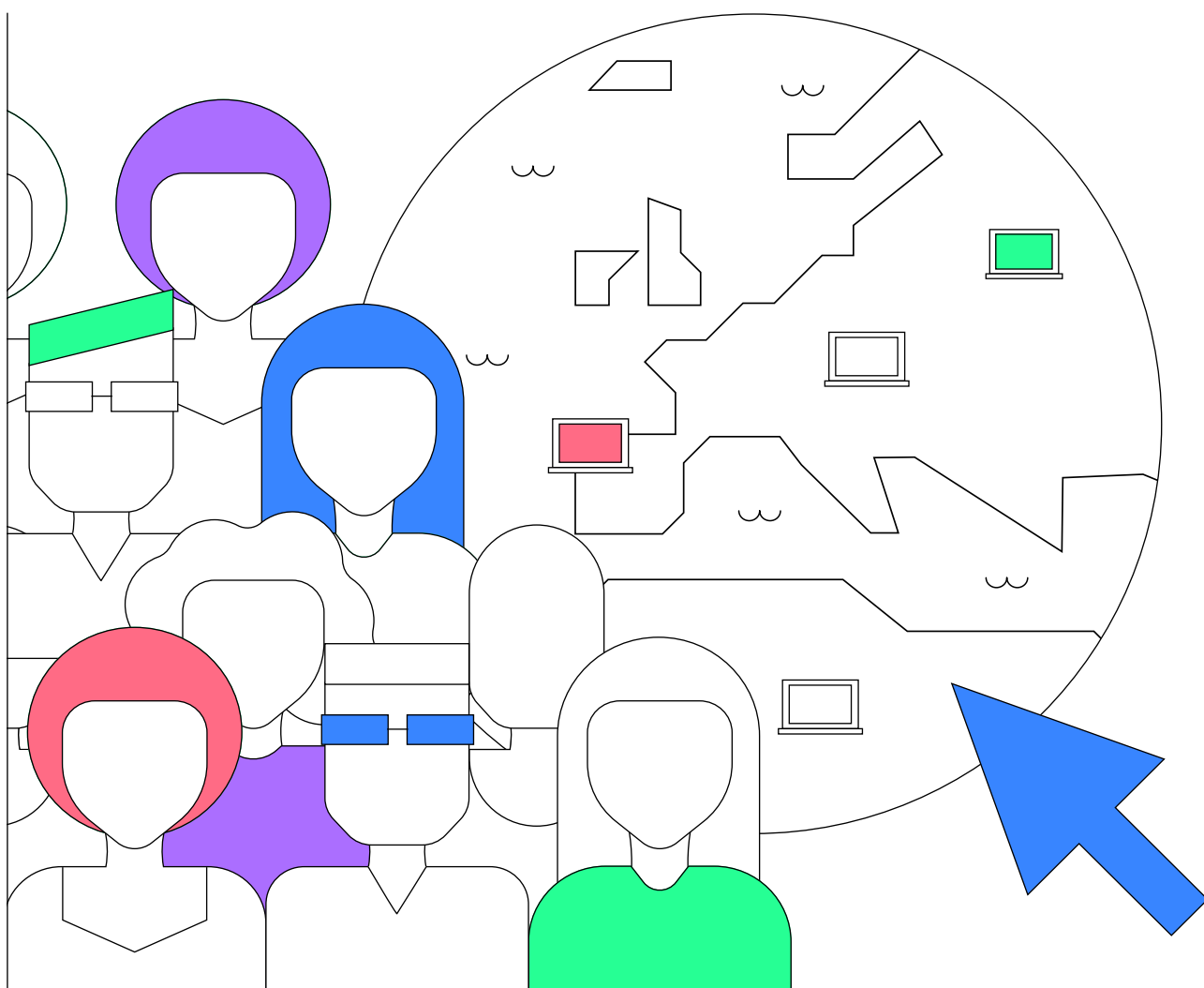
OpenEU

The Open
European
University

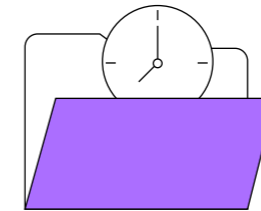
The learner-centred, inclusive, digital
and green Open European University
for the strengthening of the European
Higher Education Area

Joint Mission
Statement

January 2024

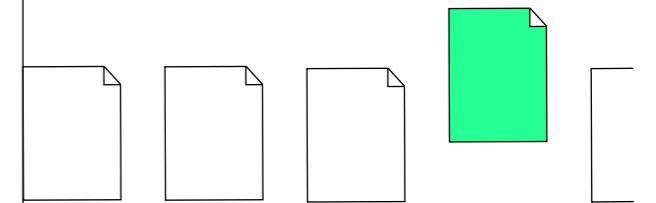


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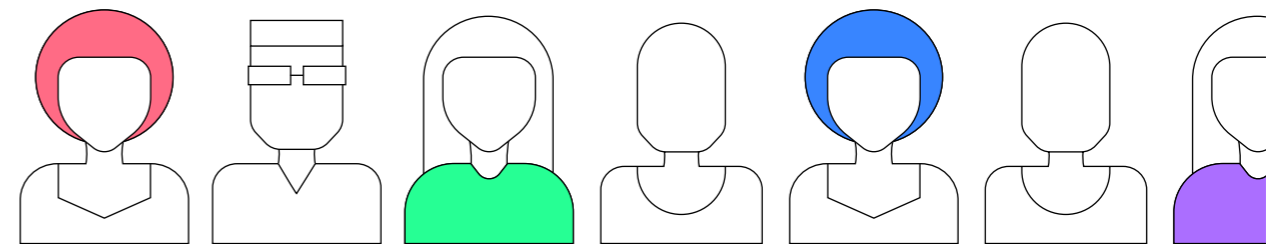


1.
Time for the
Open European
University

2.
One vision,
ten goals

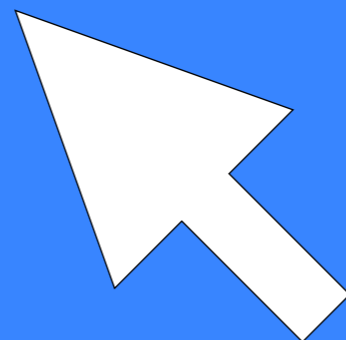


3.
Who we are



OpenEU

The Open
European
University



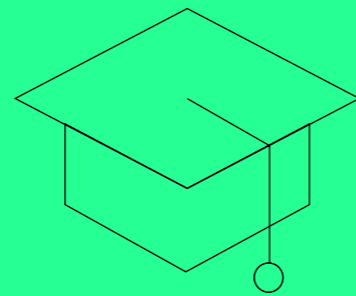
1. Time for the Open European University

The Open European University alliance – OpenEU – is the first pan-European open University. An Alliance that is enhanced by technology and tackles multiple ongoing challenges using knowledge, education and innovation.

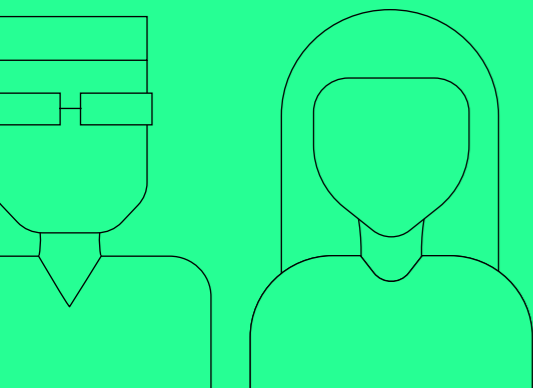
Europe's leading open and distance universities bring together their expertise in digital education, in partnership with on-campus higher education institutions and a set of academic, industrial, local and regional partners engaged in digital transformation, to address three main challenges of the European Higher Education Area: digital transformation, inclusiveness and equity, as well as lifelong learning for a new generation of Europeans.

OpenEU Mission

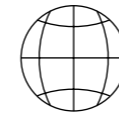
01
Establish a learner-centred, inclusive, digital and green open university with a European scope, which empowers individuals to lead their own skills' development for enhancing their employability and widens access to quality higher education and lifelong learning to all.



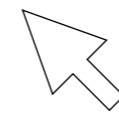
02
Contribute to the digital transformation of Higher Education Institutions, supporting them in the integration of digital technologies for education, resulting in the reinforcement and invigoration of the EHEA's digital dimension.



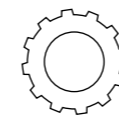
OpenEU is:



A European university alliance that **widens access to quality higher education and lifelong learning to all**, any time, from anywhere, regardless of personal or professional circumstances, age, gender, nationality, place of residence or time constraints, leaving no one behind.



A European university alliance that **offers an accessible and inclusive transnational experience** thanks to technology-driven and flexible formats of learning, mobility, and knowledge co-creations and exchanges with Quadruple Helix partners.



A European university alliance that activates its knowledge square audiences to **address climate change and the digital transformation** of our society and the European Higher Education, while promoting **democracy and European values**.

OpenEU added value for the European Universities Initiative:



A more robust, inclusive and greener digital dimension of education: research, innovation and capacity building.

The integration of emerging technologies, including AI, in higher education: skills enhancement, curricular adaptation, R&I in collaboration with the Education ecosystem.

Lifelong learners at University: a flexible portfolio co-created with employers.

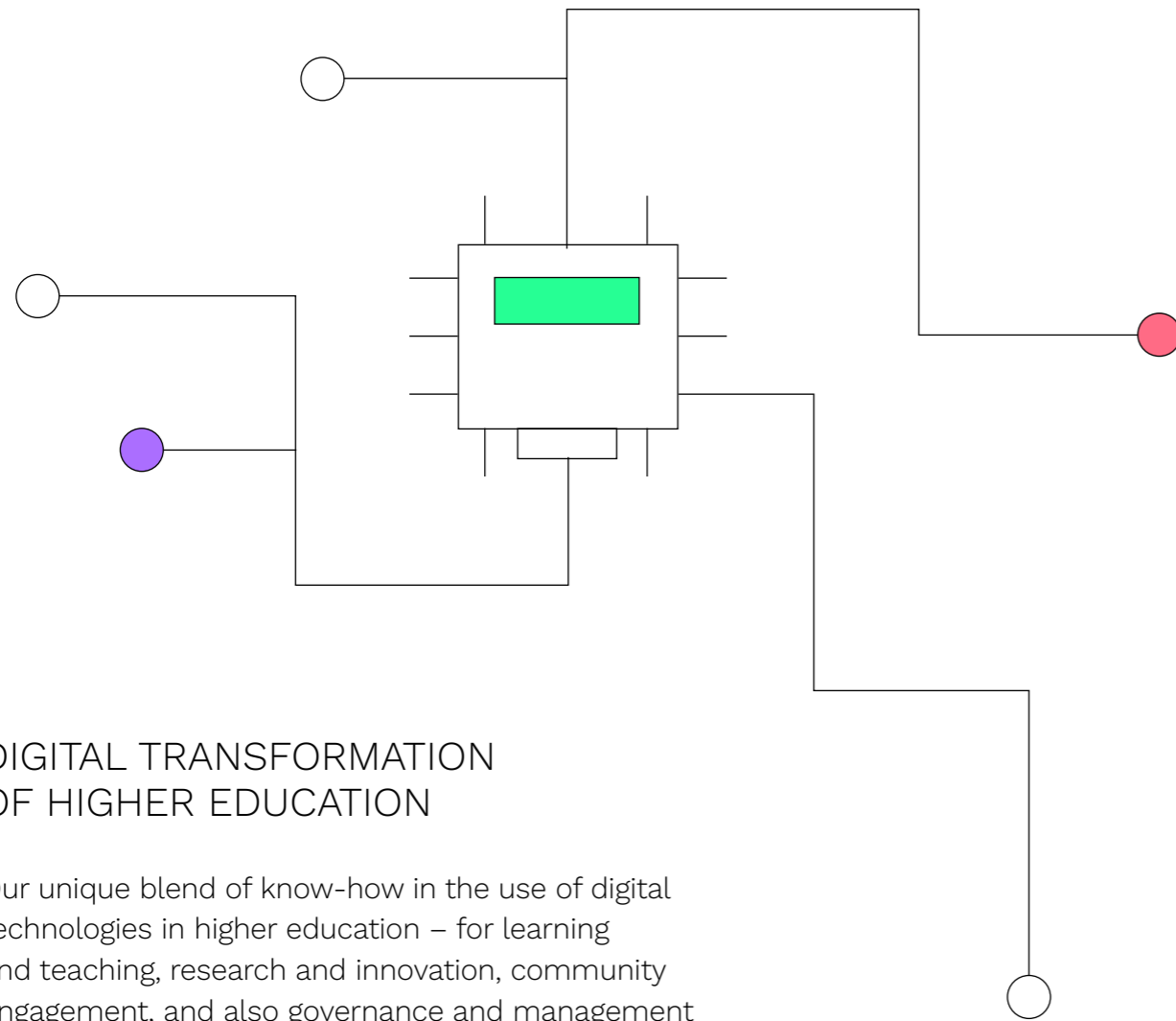
Broader diversity in the student body: non-traditional students, lifelong learners and underrepresented groups.

Higher education in rural areas, reaching beyond cities with universities.

Expansion of internationalisation thanks to virtual mobilities and joint programmes.



OpenEU addresses three enduring challenges for the European Higher Education Area:

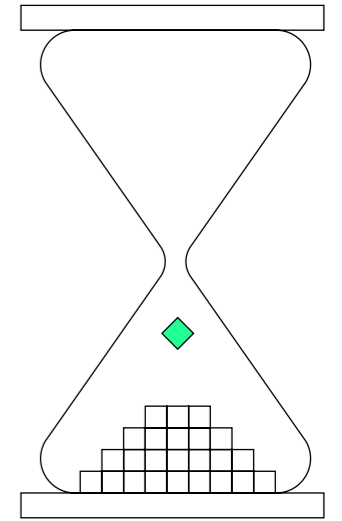


DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Our unique blend of know-how in the use of digital technologies in higher education – for learning and teaching, research and innovation, community engagement, and also governance and management – **puts OpenEU in an ideal position to lead the digital transformation of higher education.** Thanks to digitalisation, OpenEU will develop and scale up innovative approaches to cooperation and knowledge exchange that foster the internationalisation and personalisation of higher education at individual, institutional and systemic levels.

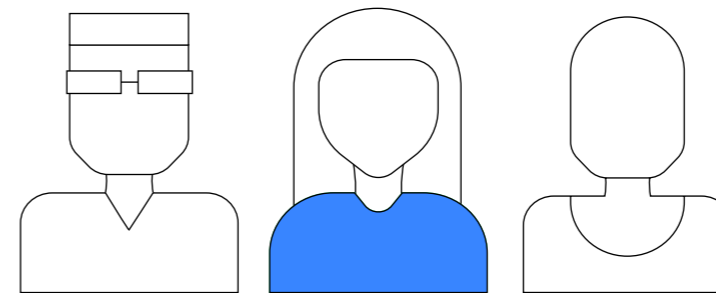
LIFELONG LEARNING

Our well-established experiences offering online and flexible education **commit OpenEU to making lifelong learning a reality**, transitioning towards new ways of involving individuals and institutions in the Knowledge Square. OpenEU makes use of technology to provide the knowledge and skills needed to meet today's social, economic and environmental challenges in our complex ecosystem, building in resilience to meet new ones tomorrow.



INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE HIGHER EDUCATION

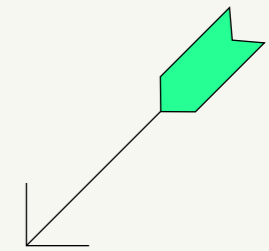
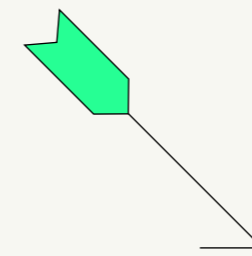
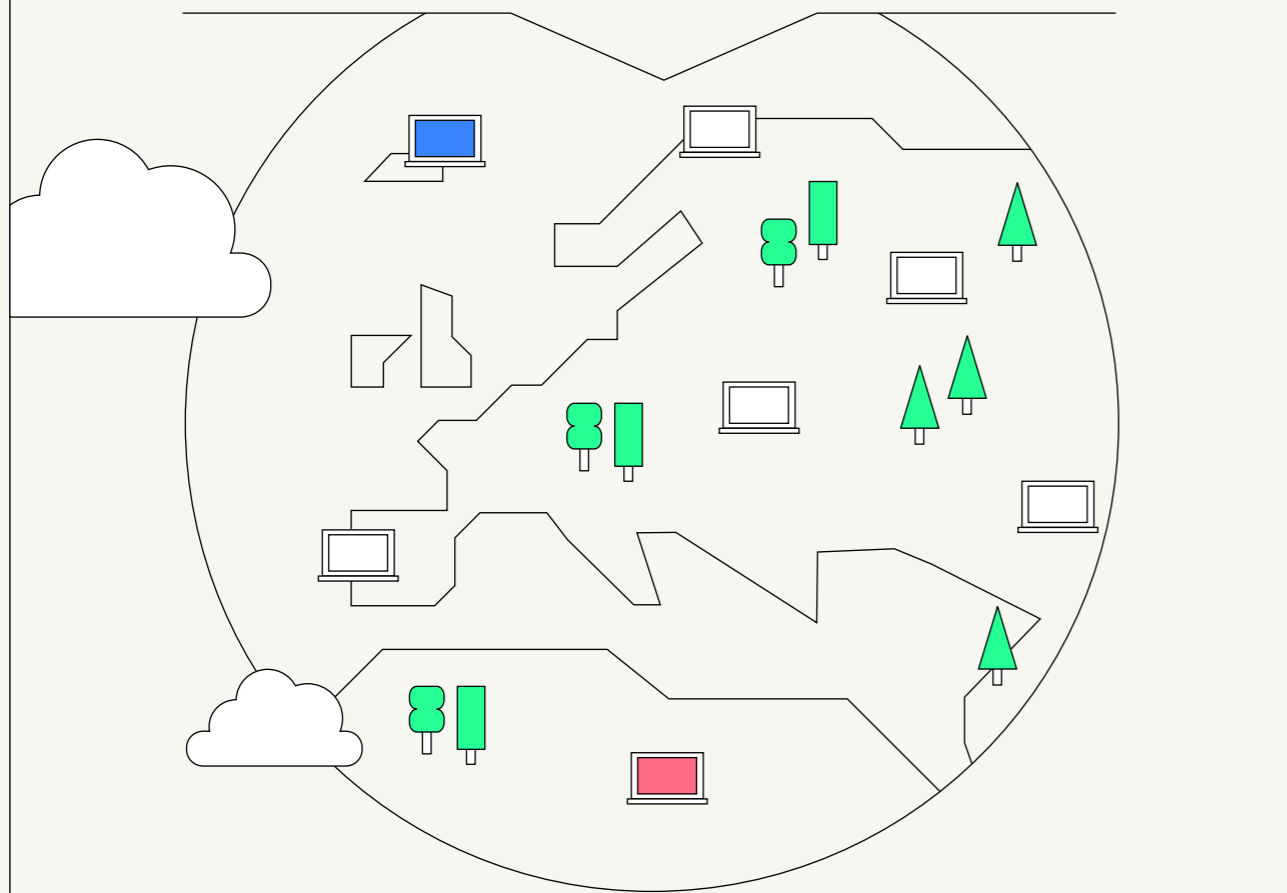
Our long-standing focus on non-traditional students and traditionally underrepresented groups in higher education **allows OpenEU to play a significant role in widening higher education access and participation**, as well as in overcoming the broader societal challenge of protecting and promoting European democratic values. OpenEU is committed to a more inclusive and equitable European Higher Education Area.



2. One vision, ten goals

OpenEU vision

Our vision is to become the pan-European Open University that harnesses digital education for - and with - lifelong learners and communities to make a better world.

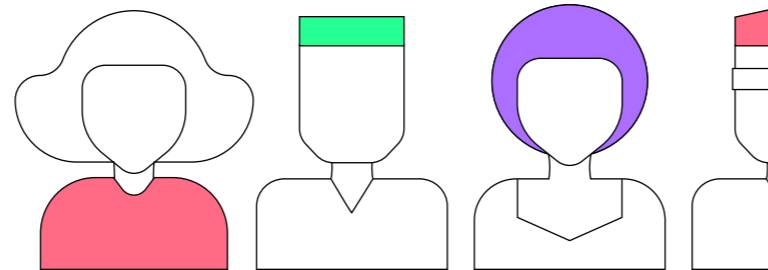


With keen foresight, we have designed a set of foundational action lines, whose interactions will propel our joint mission and guide us to reach the following goals during the first four years of the alliance.



Goals

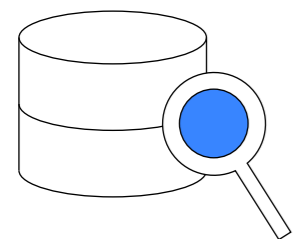
01. **Build the foundations of a solid and sustainable European open university**, creating joint governance and management structures that empower students and staff at all levels to take an active role in the alliance, pooling resources and services, and ensuring viable financial sustainability.



02. Foster **innovation in curricula, course delivery and assessment** that leads to **stackable qualifications and micro-credentials** and equips our learners with needs-based technical and non-technical **transferable skills**. Quality assurance will be a cornerstone in all developments at OpenEU.

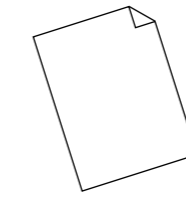
03. **Expand lifelong learning for employability** across Europe, through flexible joint European programmes co-created with non-academic partners and tailored to non-traditional students, rooted in labour market data analysis, and providing students with AI-based tools for identifying skills' gaps and getting career guidance.

04. **Widen participation** of underrepresented and disadvantaged groups in higher education by putting in place open and transferable **alliance-wide solutions** to address their specific needs and bolstering abilities for equality and diversity, including inclusive gender equality.



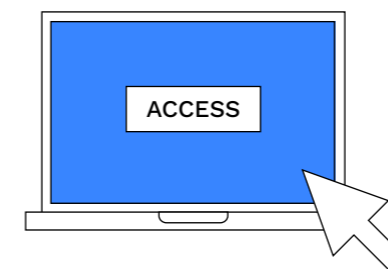
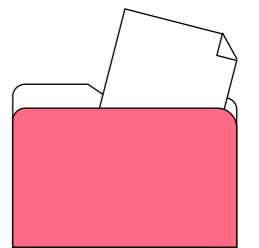
05. Ensure the **quality of digital learning** and the development of **innovative educational solutions** through challenge-based, multidisciplinary **research and innovation in digital education**.

06. **Accelerate digital transformation in higher education** in Europe with a special focus on Central and Eastern Europe, where digital education is still very incipient, by sharing our experience, expertise and resources with on-campus universities and other European university alliances.



07. **Broaden internationalisation** by creating and implementing **innovative and flexible mobility options** (virtual, blended, synchronous, hybrid and in-person) and fostering multilingualism, as well as **joint degrees** that allow non-traditional students who have often been excluded from international higher education to engage in international learning experiences.

08. Enhance challenge-based knowledge generation, transfer and exchange, focusing on three key areas that are intrinsically linked to some of Europe's major challenges: **digital transformation, the climate emergency**, and the existential threats to **democracy and European values**.



09. **Increase the societal impact of our institutions by strengthening the OpenEU knowledge square and engaging with our communities and the labour market** to establish collaborations with non-academic partners.



10. **Foster European values, Democracy, and a European way of life** within the alliance and beyond by establishing a common OpenEU culture based on principles such as **quality, equality, diversity and inclusiveness, open science and innovation, and environmental sustainability** for alignment with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and the shaping of resilient societies and economies.

3. Who we are

+368,000

Students

Academic Year: 2022-2023

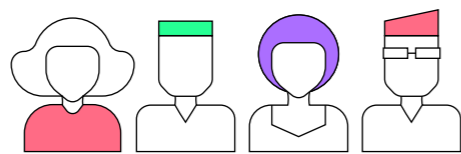
60% Female
40% Male

36

Average age

84%

Working and studying



+709,000

Graduates



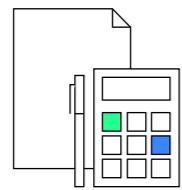
+4,700

Academic staff



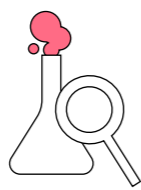
+4,100

Administrative staff



+15,200

Affiliated academics and tutors

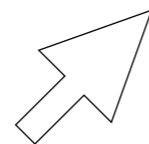


8

Open and distance universities

2

On-campus universities



+24,160

Total staff

Academic year 2022-2023

We offer a wide range of programmes

- Bachelors
- Masters
- Doctoral
- Lifelong learning
- Open courses
- Exam preparation courses
- Vocational training

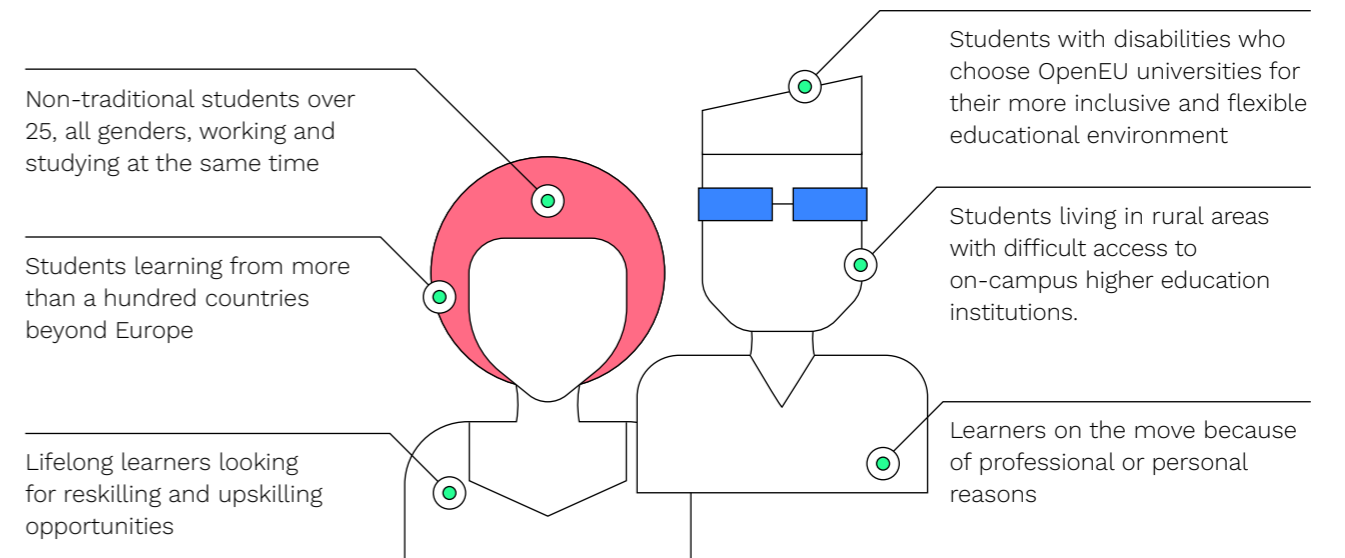
12

Study languages

- Bulgarian
- Catalan
- Dutch
- English
- French
- German
- Greek
- Icelandic
- Latvian
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish

OpenEU, open to all learners

OpenEU's wide student body includes:



OpenEU, at the forefront of digital higher education

EXPERTISE

More than **25 years of expertise in digital education**, including innovative pedagogies and fully online, hybrid and blended methodologies as well as virtual classrooms, labs, platforms and tools.

RESEARCH

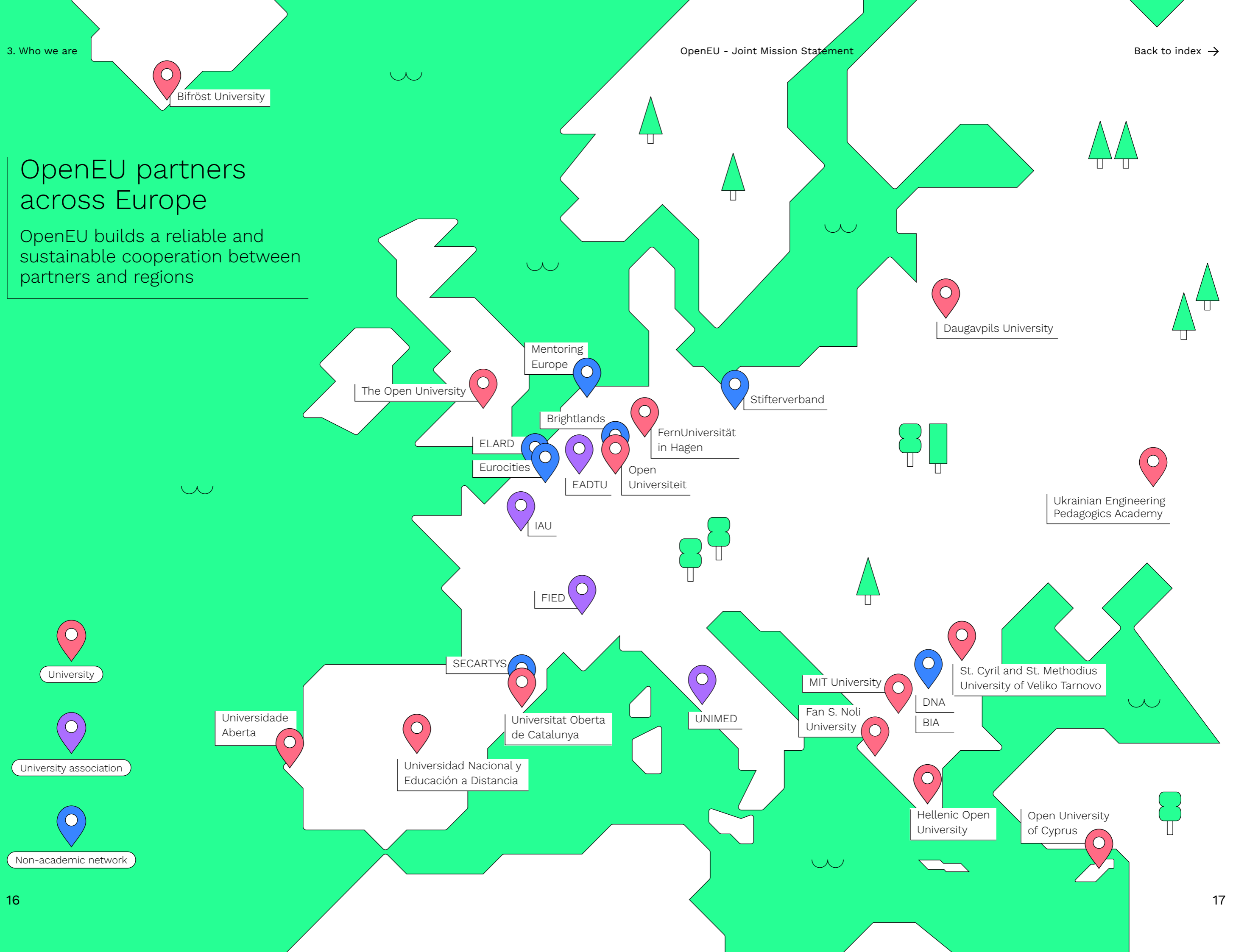
A **critical mass** of academics, research groups, UNESCO Chairs and R&I centres focused on online and distance learning and the digitalisation of Higher Education.

NETWORK

An **extended network** of institutions in Europe and beyond interested in the digital transformation of higher education thanks to the commitment and long-standing work of the European Association of Distance Teaching Universities (EADTU) and the International Association of Universities (IAU).

OpenEU partners across Europe

OpenEU builds a reliable and sustainable cooperation between partners and regions



Our members

Here is a snapshot of our individual trajectories, highlighting our unique features as open, online and distance universities, as well as on-campus universities in European countries where there are no standalone open universities. Coming together in the OpenEU alliance, we draw on each other's best practices and methodologies and share our combined sets of expertise in digitally driven innovation in education and flexible, interdisciplinary and customised educational pathways.

Universidade Aberta
✕

UAb is committed to transforming and empowering geographically dispersed adult populations without boundaries. Rooted in a culture of openness and innovation, we prioritize transparency and credibility, striving to create an environment that transcends traditional learning barriers. Embracing transformation, we seek to create an educational environment that not only trains and empowers our students but also catalyses positive change.

- Lisboa, Portugal
- Year of creation 1988
- Distance and online university
- Portuguese

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters
Doctoral

Lifelong learning
Open courses

14,059
Students
53% ♀ 47% ♂
Average age 41

46,426
Graduates

- 130 Academic staff
- 182 Administrative staff
- 48 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

Distance Education and eLearning Lab (LE@D)

Bifröst University
✕

Bifröst University is a Business School educating people for impact and responsibility in business and society. Bifröst University safeguards freedom of research and expression. Open dialogue, tolerance and diversity are the foundations of the university's mission. Since it regards universities as one of the pillars of society, Bifröst University assumes co-responsibility for the ongoing development of a flourishing, democratic, sustainable society.

- Bifröst, Iceland
- Year of creation 1918 (became Bifröst University in 1988)
- Distance and online university
- Icelandic, English

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters

Lifelong learning
Exam preparation courses

Open courses

954
Students
68% ♀ 32% ♂
Average age 36

3,717
Graduates

- 35 Academic staff
- 26 Administrative staff
- 190 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

UNESCO Chair in Education and Technology for Social Change

Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
✕

The UOC is an innovative university that is rooted in Catalonia and open to the world. It offers people lifelong learning to help them and society advance, while carrying out research into the knowledge society.

- Barcelona, Spain
- Year of creation 1995
- Online university
- Catalan, Spanish, English

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters
Doctoral

Lifelong learning
Open courses

Exam preparation courses

Vocational training

87,150*
Students
59% ♀ 41% ♂
Average age 33

135,000
Graduates

- 763 Academic staff
- 1174 Administrative staff
- 5,961 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

eLearning Innovation Center (eLinC)

- UNESCO Chair in Education and Technology for Social Change

UNESCO Chair in Education and Technology for Social Change

* Bachelor, Master & Doctorate degrees

Open University of Cyprus
✕

The Open University of Cyprus (OUC) is an extroverted international University, specialised in open and distance education, providing adult learners unrestricted access to quality online undergraduate, masters, PhD and lifelong learning programmes, as well as, short-duration executive and professional education courses.

- Nicosia, Cyprus
- Year of creation 2002
- Open and distance university
- Greek, English

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters
Doctoral

Lifelong learning
Open courses

Vocational courses

2,971
Students
57% ♀ 43% ♂
Average age 37

9,003
Graduates

- 31 Academic staff
- 87 Administrative staff
- 185 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

Educational Technology Lab, Lab for Educational Methodology, Educational Material and Centre for Vocational and Lifelong Learning

Daugavpils University ✕

The mission of Daugavpils University is to promote the development of a sustainable society by implementing international-level scientific research and provide quality education, to promote the sustainable development of Latgale region and the whole of Latvia.

📍 Daugavpils, Latvia
📅 Year of creation 1921 (Became Daugavpils University in 2001)
🏛️ Traditional university
🗣️ Latvian, English, Russian (only certain courses)

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters Doctoral
Lifelong learning
Vocational courses

2,633 Students
74% ♀ 26% ♂
Average age 30

16,090 Graduates

178 Academic staff
95 Administrative staff
36 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

FernUniversität in Hagen ✕

FeU offers quality-assured, supervised distance teaching as well as numerous certificates and Open Access studies. The university's flexible degree and continuing education programs make an important contribution to access to education and equal opportunities in the German higher education system.

📍 Hagen, Germany
📅 Year of creation 1974
🏛️ Distance university
🗣️ German

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters Doctoral
Lifelong learning
Open courses

72,225 Students
46% ♀ 54% ♂
Average age 39

54,427 Graduates

709 Academic staff
691 Administrative staff
231 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

Research cluster on "Digitalization, Diversity, and Lifelong Learning" + Center for Learning and Innovation

Hellenic Open University ✕

Hellenic Open University (HOU) is the only Greek State University that offers lifelong education, in both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, by combining distance learning and adult education with the support of digital material and online training platforms and tools. The mission of HOU is to provide high-quality university education via distance learning at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

📍 Patras, Greece
📅 Year of creation 1992
🏛️ Open and distance university
🗣️ Greek, English, French, German

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters Doctoral
Lifelong learning
Open courses

30,500 Students
64% ♀ 36% ♂
Average age 38

79,120 Graduates

50 Academic staff
220 Administrative staff
2,329 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

The Educational Content, Methodology and Technology (e-CoMeT) Lab

Open Universiteit ✕

OUNL's mission is to be the leading part-time university in the Netherlands and Flanders, offering high-quality, personalised and interactive online education, reinforced with socially relevant research, and contributing to the innovation of higher education.

📍 Heerlen, The Netherlands
📅 Year of creation 1984
🏛️ Distance university
🗣️ Dutch, English

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters Doctoral
Lifelong learning
Open courses

16,940 Students
58% ♀ 42% ♂
Average age 37

17,844 Graduates

852 Academic staff
404 Administrative staff
451 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

Digital learning research line at the Faculty of Educational Sciences

Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia ✕

UNED is a public university created in 1972 to guarantee equal and inclusive access to higher education. Through quality online education and an extensive network of national and international Centres, it offers a wide range of EHEA degrees and lifelong learning programmes and is firmly committed to continuous innovation in distance education, research and knowledge transfer.

📍 Madrid, Spain
📅 Year of creation 1972
🏛️ Distance university
🗣️ Spanish, English

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters Doctoral
Lifelong learning
Open courses
Microdegrees
Vocational training

128,442* Students
54% ♀ 46% ♂
Average age 41

204,891 Graduates

1,528 Academic staff
1,039 Administrative staff
5,722 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

University Institute of Distance Education (IUED)

* Bachelor, Master & Doctorate degrees

St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo ✕

Among the main objectives in the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo's mission are: to serve in favour of the national, regional and local public development and to participate in global education, scholarly and artistic work; to train market-oriented, socially-engaged and highly-qualified experts.

📍 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria
📅 Year of creation 1963
🏛️ Traditional university
🗣️ Bulgarian, English

Degrees offered

Bachelors
Masters Doctoral
Distance learning

12,315 Students
71% ♀ 29% ♂
Average age 27

143,459 Graduates

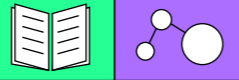
513 Academic staff
253 Administrative staff
56 Affiliated teaching & research staff and tutors

The Distance Learning Center

Associated partners


Our associated partners are key contributors to OpenEU goals. These universities and HE networks, industrial and municipalities associations and national and European clusters have an active role in OpenEU tasks and maximise OpenEU impact.

-  University
-  Network
-  Industry
-  Digital
-  Cities
-  Rural
-  Mentoring


✕

EADTU

EADTU acts as the umbrella organisation for 250 institutions that provide flexible degree programmes and continuing education, delivered through various forms of digital teaching and learning. EADTU is at the heart of the development of the European Education Area, the Digital Education Action Plan and the Bologna Process and offers expert support to European and national authorities, to higher education-institutions, European University Alliances and other stakeholders.

 Maastricht, Netherlands
Geographical scope: European


Focus areas

- Digital higher education.
- Accessibility, diversity and inclusion.
- Lifelong learning, collaborative curricula and mobility.
- Quality assurance for digital higher education
- New technologies and AI for digital education.

Highlights


Umbrella organisation for 250 HE institutions

Coordinator of the European MOOC Consortium, serving more than 500 universities and companies, offering over 2,000 MOOCs, used by 25 million learners across Europe and beyond.


✕

International Association of Universities (IAU)

IAU is the leading global association of higher education institutions and organisations worldwide. Under the auspices of UNESCO, IAU brings together members from more than 130 countries for reflection and action on common priorities. IAU is an independent, bilingual (English and French), non-governmental organisation that acts as the global voice of higher education for UNESCO and other international higher education organisations, providing a global forum for leaders of institutions and associations to exchange opinions, practices and future directions.

 Paris, France
Geographical scope: Worldwide


Focus areas

- Technology and higher education.
- Inclusive internationalisation.

Highlights


Year of creation: 1950

Brings together members from more than 130 countries


✕

The Open University (OUUK)

The OU is a world leader in modern distance learning and has educated more than 2.2 million people worldwide since its launch in 1969. The OU is a pioneer of teaching and learning methods that enable people to achieve their career and life goals studying flexibly at times and places that suit them. It is the largest academic institution in the UK and is one of the largest Universities in Europe.

 Milton Keynes, UK
Geographical scope: United Kingdom and worldwide

Focus areas

- Arts and social science, Business and law, Science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics, Wellbeing, Education and Language Studies.

Highlights

Year of creation: 1969

Programs offered: Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education, bachelor's degree, master's degree, Foundation Degree, Open University Certificate, Higher Technical Qualifications. Standalone modules, access modules, short courses, microcredentials.


205,000 Students

Graduates: More than 2,3 million people worldwide


✕

Fan S. Noli University (UNIKO)

Founded in 1971, in Korce, a town in southeastern Albania, in the borderline with Greece and Northern Macedonia. Its mission is to create, transmit, develop and preserve knowledge through teaching, research and other educational services. UNIKO has been recently institutionally accredited from the British Quality Assurance Agency and the Agency of Quality Assurance of HEIs in Albania, which ranks it among the three best public HEIs in Albania.

 Korce, Albania
Geographical scope: Albania

Focus areas

- Education, languages, human sciences, social sciences, agriculture, finance, tourism, management, marketing, mathematics, chemistry, physics, information technology and nursing.

Highlights

Year of creation: 1971

Programs offered: Bachelors, Masters, vocational training; Doctoral.

2,500 Students

28,750 Graduates




Ukrainian Engineering Pedagogics Academy (UEPA) ✕

The UEPA is a modern specialised educational and research centre licensed and accredited by the National Ministry of Education and Science. Is the only higher education institution in Ukraine specialised in training engineering and pedagogical staff for the vocational training system. Its mission is to train universal specialists for education, industry and other sectors of the economy.

📍 Kharkiv, Ukraine
Geographical scope: Ukraine

Focus areas
→ Pedagogy, Psychology, Management and Adult Education; Trade and Economics; Vocational Teacher Training; Energy Industry and Automation; Engineering, IT, Food Technology, Light Industry and Design.

Highlights
Year of creation: 1958
Programs offered: Junior Bachelor, Bachelors, Masters, Doctorate
4,762 Students
101,533 Graduates



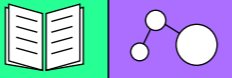
MIT University (MIT) ✕

Founded in 2007, is a higher-education institution officially recognized by the Ministry of Education and Science of North Macedonia. MIT Univerzitet (MIT) is a higher education institution that offers courses and programs leading to officially recognized higher education degrees in several areas of study. MIT University is a member of the KNX International Research Association and the only university in the Balkans that is a member of this association.

📍 Skopje, North Macedonia
Geographical scope: Macedonia

Focus areas
→ Higher education, Security Sciences, Dental Medicine, Psychology, Architecture, Economics, Medical Cosmetics and Physiotherapy, Law, International Relations and Diplomacy.

Highlights
Year of creation: 2007
Programs offered: Bachelors and Masters
Students: 2,025




Fédération Interuniversitaire de l'Enseignement à Distance (FIED) ✕

FIED is an association under the 1901 law. It was created at the initiative of the Ministry of Research and Higher Education to represent French university education internationally. FIED brings together 29 French and foreign universities or higher education establishments involved in open, online and hybrid training. It coordinates numerous working groups on various themes of distance education and facilitates the sharing of experience between higher education stakeholders.

📍 Grenoble, France
Geographical scope: Worldwide

Focus areas
→ Promote online and hybrid training, research, and new pedagogies.
→ Enhance online teaching through collaborative discussions and training.
→ Jointly develop open-access courses and modules.
→ Pool monitoring and expertise on online and hybrid teaching systems.
→ Represent France in global education networks (EDEN, ICDE, EADTU).

Highlights
Year of creation: 1987



Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED) ✕

UNIMED is an association of Higher Education Institutions focused on academic cooperation throughout the Mediterranean. 164 associated Universities coming from 27 countries. UNIMED's aim is to develop university research and education in the Euro-Mediterranean area in order to contribute to scientific, cultural, social and economic cooperation, serving as a point of reference for international university cooperation.

📍 Rome, Italy
Geographical scope: Mediterranean region

Focus areas
→ Technical assistance to universities in the management of international projects.
→ Promoting research and training projects among the members.
→ Promoting mobility of students, researchers and teachers.

Highlights
Year of creation: 1991
Number of members: 164 from 27 countries



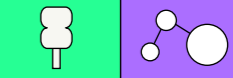
Eurocities ✕

Eurocities is the network of more than 200 cities in 38 countries, representing 130 million people, working towards a common vision of a sustainable future in which all citizens can enjoy a good quality of life. Eurocities engages in dialogue with the European institutions across a wide range of policy areas affecting cities, which include economic development, environment, transport and mobility, social affairs, culture, smart cities, and public services. They provide a platform for their members to share knowledge and ideas, exchange experiences, analyse common challenges and develop innovative solutions, through a wide range of forums, working groups, projects, activities and events.

📍 Brussels, Belgium
Geographical scope: Europe

Focus areas
→ Inclusive society; Circular economy; City health; Global challenges; Public policy innovation and multilevel governance; Networking.

Highlights
Year of creation: 1986
Brings together over 200 cities across 38 countries, representing over 130 million residents.




ELARD ✕

ELARD is an international non-profit association set up to improve the quality of life in rural areas and to maintain their population through sustainable, integrated local development. The distinctive feature of ELARD is that it brings together Local Action Groups committed to involving all stakeholders in rural development at a local level. The ELARD Knowledge Hub is a pioneering resource that fosters knowledge exchange, promotes innovation, and drives progress in rural development, both within and outside the framework of the LEADER program and to influence EU policies in favor of rural development.

📍 Wemmel, Belgium
Geographical scope: Europe

Focus areas
→ Participatory rural development

Highlights
Year of creation: 1999
More than 2500 Local Action Groups and Fisheries Local Action Groups from 29 national networks, including from countries that are not members of the European Union.




Stifterverband ✕

Stifterverband, the sole German organization dedicated to engage in holistic work in education, science, and innovation. It actively promotes equal opportunities, excellence in universities, and globally competitive research institutions. One notable initiative is the AI Campus, a learning platform for artificial intelligence funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Developed collaboratively with other institutions, the AI Campus offers free courses and resources on AI and data literacy.

📍 Berlin, Germany
Geographical scope: Germany

Focus areas
→ Promotion of equal opportunities in education, with a particular emphasis on extracurricular talent promotion and higher education structural programs.
→ Innovation, including its efforts in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) through the development of the AI Campus.
→ Promoting AI and data literacy.
→ Collaboration and networking among its diverse base.

Highlights
Year of creation: 1920
More than 3,000 members
DAX companies, mid-size companies, company associations, donors and active private individuals.



Brightlands Smart Services Campus (Brightlands) ✕

Brightlands is a community of entrepreneurs, researchers and students. Together they develop new smart digital services to improve the quality of life. The campus enables research institutes and companies to innovate faster and more efficiently and ensures that innovative start-ups can make their dreams come true.

📍 Heerlen, The Netherlands
Geographical scope: The Netherlands

Focus areas
→ Research Innovation, Networking, Entrepreneurship, Digitalisation.

Highlights
Year of creation: 2016
It brings together over 1,500 innovative entrepreneurs, more than 450 researchers and students, 800 employees, 55 companies and 128 partners.



SECARTYS ✕

Secartys is a non-profit association that promotes the competitiveness of its associates since 1968. Its mission is to contribute to improving the competitiveness and visibility of the members, promoting their strategy and business models. To achieve this, SECARTYS works on five strategic axes that constitute Secartys' line of action: internationalisation, financing, R+D+i, Training and Communication.

📍 Barcelona, Spain
Geographical scope: Spain

Focus areas
→ Industry competitiveness and innovation

Highlights
Year of creation: 1968
Brings together more than 460 companies in the following sectors: ICT, electronics, professional audio, photovoltaic solar energy, lighting and energy storage.



The Bulgarian Industrial Association (BIA) ✕

BIA is a nationally recognized non-governmental organisation of employers. Its role is to protect the business interest at national and international levels, to create networks, to support activities of companies, to develop human resources, and to drive towards sustainable positive changes. BIA focuses on the development of an industry based on science and innovation, digitalization and artificial intelligence, advancing environmental and climate protection, energy efficiency, and circular economy, fostering the achievement of a sustainable economic growth based on a stable regulatory framework, internationalisation of production and fair competition are among the BIA's driving priorities.

📍 Sofia, Bulgaria
Geographical scope: Bulgaria

Focus areas
→ Industry innovation

Highlights
Year of creation: 1980
Members: more than 120 branch organisations, 26 regional and 115 municipal business associations, more than 8,000 companies, the Bulgarian Academy of Science and over 20 universities and technical unions.



Digital National Coalition (DNA) ✕

DNA is a non-profit association for public benefit that operates on a national level and is part of the European Commission's Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition (DSJC) initiative. The main mission of the coalition is to stimulate the cross-sectoral debate on the challenges and opportunities of Bulgaria's digital transition, uniting the private sector, academic institutions and public administration in order to achieve the priorities set in the Digital Agenda for Europe.

📍 Sofia, Bulgaria
Geographical scope: Bulgaria

Focus areas
→ Digital transition

Highlights
Year of creation: 2013
Number of members: 10



Mentoring Europe ✕

Mentoring Europe is a network organisation for mentoring practitioners, researchers and friends of mentoring in the continent Europe. Launched in 2016 as a grass-root community, the organisation has the goal to drive social and economic change by mentoring by increasing the reach and quality of mentoring activities within education, community development, governments and industry. Mentoring Europe connects, advocates, leads and develops the mentoring field on a regional, national and transnational level to build strong mentoring relationships that lead mentees and mentors to the impact they choose for. Mentoring Europe is a collaborative effort of NHL Stenden and VHL Universities of Applied Sciences, VET Firda and the European mentoring field.

📍 Leeuwarden, The Netherlands
Geographical scope: Europe

Focus areas
→ Mentoring

Highlights
Year of creation: 2016
More than 35 member organisations, 1700 community members and more than 60 mentoring events

Our members



Universidade Aberta

Prof. PhD. Carla Padrel Oliveira
Rector of the
Universidade Aberta



Bifröst University

**Prof. PhD. Margrét
Jónsdóttir Njarðvík**
Rector of the Bifröst University



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Prof. PhD. Petros Pashiardis
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Daugavpils University

Prof. PhD. Arvids Barševskis
Rector of the Daugavpils
University



FernUniversität in Hagen

Prof. PhD. Ada Pellert
Rector of the FernUniversität
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Hellenic Open University

Prof. PhD. Ioannis Kalavrouziotis
President of the Hellenic Open
University (HOU)



Open Universiteit

Prof. PhD. Theo J. Bastiaens
Rector of the Open Universiteit



Universidad Nacional
de Educación a Distancia

Prof. PhD. Ricardo Mairal
Rector of the Universidad Nacional
y Educación a Distancia (UNED)



St. Cyril and St.
Methodius University
of Veliko Tarnovo

Prof. PhD. Dimitar Dimitrov
Rector of the
Veliko Tarnovo University

This mission
statement
was signed on
January 26th,
2024.

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