

Official Communiqué

Communiqué on the submission of a proposal for a pilot Alliance of European Universities by the EC2U consortium

The “European Campus of City-Universities, EC2U” consortium is proud to announce that its proposal has been submitted on 27 February 2019, following the call for proposals for pilot Alliances of European Universities, published on 24 October 2018 by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission.

The EC2U proposal is the result of one year and a half of intense joint work culminating in the formal establishment of the EC2U alliance through the MoU signed by the Rectors of the University of Coimbra, of *Alexandru Ioan Cuza* University of Iasi, of the University of Pavia, of the University of Poitiers (Coordinator), of the University of Salamanca and of the University of Turku: the EC2U Alliance is a community of 160 000 students and staff, in direct reach to more than 1 500 000 citizens.

EC2U is a multi-cultural and multi-lingual Alliance consisting of six long-standing, education- and research-led, locally and globally engaged universities from four diverse regions of the European Union. The Alliance’s ambition is to develop an innovative space allowing mobility to flow freely between the six universities and associated cities. This model of openness will contribute to overcome clichéd views of regional and national identities and achieve a united and stronger Europe.

The Alliance will reach this ambition by creating a pan-European campus, connected by the common European identity, contributing to the creation of a smart higher education eco-system through a new model of quality education for an inclusive civic society. This unique model relies on the double vertical and horizontal integration strategy, producing synergies from education, research and innovation, from formal/non-formal/informal education, and from the involvement of academic communities, municipalities, higher education regulatory bodies, socio-economic entities, citizens.

In 2022, the project will have delivered strategies, guidelines and resources to provide its members with a model of joint governance, a joint campus life, including guidelines and preparatory steps taken for multi-lateral joint European degrees, significantly increased levels of mobility (physical and virtual) of students and staff, large-scale sharing of resources in education, research and campus services, as well as culture and sports events. Joint teams of teaching staff, researchers and students will be created on selected UNSDG-based missions: Good health and well-being, Quality education, Sustainable cities and communities.

In 2025, the EC2U European campus will have reached its full implementation as a unique partnership between academia, cities and regional socio-economic stakeholders, at the service of successive generations of European citizens.