

E³UDRES²

Engaged and Entrepreneurial European University as
Driver for European Smart and Sustainable Regions

OPEN CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

Identification of possible pilots

- Co-teaching activities with/for partners from the E³UDRES² alliance
- Joint E³UDRES² Degree Programmes
- E³UDRES² Research Centres of Excellence Pilots



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1. E³UDRES² Open Call for Proposals: Potential Pilots

In October 2023 our European University Alliance E³UDRES² started its second funding period. E³UDRES² intends to **pool expertise and resources** for and with its members¹ within **four future-guiding Focus Areas**:

- 1) **Health, Wellbeing and Social Inclusion for Regions**
- 2) **Digital Solutions and (Applied) Deep Tech for Regions**
- 3) **Resilient Economy and Innovation for Regions**
- 4) **Creative Industries for Region's Identity**

E³UDRES² builds on the complementary strengths of full and associated partners, further deepens, intensifies and expands collaboration with members and related stakeholders, enhances the transformation processes towards a fully-fledged European University Alliance and demonstrates progress towards the alliance's long-term vision.

The following **five strategic core objectives** guide the 2nd stage of E³UDRES² 2.0:

- 1) **Enable Smart Learners to unfold talents**
- 2) **Serve as a platform for collaborative innovation to connect entrepreneurial minds**
- 3) **Engage in regional communities to contribute to a peaceful and prosperous society**
- 4) **Empower Ent-r-e-novators (entrepreneurs, researchers, educators and innovators) to accelerate future universities**
- 5) **Shift to a fully-fledged European university to ensure excellent quality.**

The E³UDRES² 2.0 Erasmus+ project calls for a wider participation of students and staff, scaling up and more systemic approach towards joint learning, research and innovation activities, supported by relevant work packages. The E³UDRES² Executive Board reflects on the urgency of initial steps and piloting some key profiling activities which will be aligned with and supported by systemic arrangements of the project.

Therefore, **E³UDRES² invites all colleagues affiliated with one of its members** to propose ideas and first drafts within the following **three open calls** for:

- Co-Teaching activities with/for partners from the E³UDRES² alliance
- Promising content-areas for Joint E³UDRES² Associate, Bachelor and/or Master Degrees
- E³UDRES² Research Centres of Excellence

¹ St. Pölten University of Applied Sciences, Fulda-University of Applied Sciences, Instituto Politecnico de Sétubal, Jamk University of Applied Sciences, UC Leuven-Limburg UAS, Saxion University of Applied Sciences, Universtitatea Politehnica Timisoara, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences (associated member) and 36 associated partners (including 6 Higher Education Institutions from Ukraine and Western Balkans)

Contact & Submission E-Mail: office@eudres.eu

Deadline: Send your proposal (based on the provided templates) until **15 February 2024**

Selection: First pilot activities will be confirmed by the E³UDRES² Executive Board in Timisoara on 6 March 2024. The results will be announced on **15 March 2024**.

All proposals will be screened against the objectives outlined in the long-term vision, mission and strategy of the E³UDRES² alliance² and the proposal for the E³UDRES² 2.0 Erasmus+ project by the related work packages and the relevant E³UDRES² Boards.

² see https://eudres.eu/assets/files/eudres_2.0_vision_mission_statement.pdf
/ institutional E³UDRES² coordinators

2. Call I: Co-Teaching Activities with/for partners from the E³UDRES² alliance

E³UDRES² intends to raise the quality of teaching and learning by exchanging expertise, experience, innovative methods and future-guiding approaches as well as (virtual) mobility of students and staff. Therefore, E³UDRES² calls for academic staff who are willing:

- a) to **invite at least one expert** affiliated with one of other E³UDRES² members to hold a **guest lecture (online or on-site)** within an **already existing course** of a bachelor or master programme that **supports the intended learning outcomes** and **enhances the course content**.
- b) to **give a guest lecture (online or on-site)** within an **already existing course** of one of the E³UDRES² members

The first piloting E³UDRES² **Co-Teaching Activities** will be selected in the beginning of March. Guest lectures should be held between end of April and end of June 2024.

Selected activities contribute to shape the E³UDRES² frameworks for (future) **E³UDRES² labelled teaching³ and learning activities**. They will be connected and supported by the ongoing Erasmus+ project for the further development of the E³UDRES² alliance (E³UDRES² 2.0) and **highlighted on E³UDRES² website** and social media channels. Successful co-learning activities should be continued in upcoming years. Best practices maybe recognized with a **E³UDRES² award of excellence**.

³ The first thoughts about E³UDRES² label build upon following criteria: 1) offered in collaboration of E³UDRES² partners (in case of lecture and units less than 2 ECTS on bi-lateral level, otherwise engaging at least 3 partners, 2) fitting within the 4 focus areas of E³UDRES² (see above), 3) clear learning outcomes and reference to qualification, 4) agreed allocation of ECTS within formal higher education offer, 5) compulsory collection of student feedback. Other like E³UDRES² quality principles, respect to E³UDRES² values might be added once agreed upon, also based on piloting experience, at later stages.

3. Call II: Promising subject-areas for Joint E³UDRES² Associate⁴, Bachelor or Master Degrees

Further developments of **European (Joint) Degrees** in future-oriented areas and frameworks for **micro-credentials**⁵ that support live long learning, re-skilling and up-skilling are amongst the European Commission's key objectives of the European Universities Initiative.

The E³UDRES² alliance intends to implement **at least four joint degrees** on associate, bachelor- or master-level and 20 E³UDRES² labelled micro-credentials. Therefore, E³UDRES² is looking for promising proposals for development of joint degrees (identification of areas, specification of potential study programmes, levels...), while the necessary guidelines, frameworks and processes are being discussed and drafted in related work packages of the E³UDRES² 2.0 Erasmus+ project with respect to the policies of the individual E³UDRES² members and their national and/or regional regulations.

Joint E³UDRES² degrees initiative have to involve at least three E³UDRES² members, should correspond to **subject-areas within its four focus areas** and respect the adopted **E³UDRES² mission, vision and values** (see the reference above). The proposal might specify besides the list of involved E³UDRES² members and key staff, the focus/subject area and level – as expected in the template – also further information on feasible number of students, plans of development, reflection of existing cooperation etc.

Teams selected for developing the E³UDRES² joint degrees will be connected to relevant E³UDRES² 2.0 activities and benefit from methodological support of the E³UDRES² 2.0 project, basic support through project funding, yet additional funding through European or other sources would be welcome.

⁴ Short cycle programmes at EQF level 5, yet not all E³UDRES² partners provide education at this level

⁵ Calls for joint E³UDRES² micro-credentials and other smaller, coherent units of learning will be launched soon, as well, yet these may need more preparation of common concept and its foundation.

4. Call III: E³UDRES² Research Centres of Excellence. Pilot Phase

E³UDRES² Applied Research Centres of Excellence were proposed within the E³UDRES² 2.0 project as a step to strengthening the research capacity of the E³UDRES² partnership, yet building upon the clear mission and values of the alliance, the expertise of individual higher education institutions, benefitting from possible synergies of shared capacity, achievement of critical mass.

Proposals for the pilot Joint Research Centres of Excellence should connect at least **five acknowledged senior researchers** (incl. Postdoc with relevant track-records) from research groups from at least **three E³UDRES² members**, with some record of **experience with European research projects** in order to strengthen their European visibility and to enhance their capacity for research projects funded under Horizon Europe (or similar). In the view of activities foreseen in the field of doctoral studies it is preferable should at **least one of the involved E³UDRES² member universities** involved have a **right to offer doctoral programmes**⁶ in the relevant field. The proposed research agenda has to correspond to one of the **E³UDRES² focus areas** and to ensure first **joint proposals for Horizon Europe** proposals upcoming in **late 2024 (or early 2025)** as well as **joint research activities** (e.g. joint presentations at relevant international conferences, joint scientific papers in peer-reviewed conference proceedings or journals, joint proposals to calls in Erasmus+ or any other funding-programs) within about 12 months after selection for the pilot phase.

Selected pilot Joint Research Centres of Excellence will contribute to shaping the E³UDRES² frameworks for ongoing and upcoming (research) activities. They will be connected and supported by the ongoing Erasmus+ project for the further development of the E³UDRES² alliance (E³UDRES² 2.0), highlighted on E³UDRES² website and social media channels as well as promoted and consulted by high-ranking representatives of the various E³UDRES² boards. Relevant specific needs, opportunities and challenges will be discussed with members of the E³UDRES² Management Board.

Pilot Research Centres of Excellence selected for the first pilot phase will be evaluated about 24 months after selection. The E³UDRES² Executive Board will decide about continuation based on the results of this evaluation.

⁶ The E³UDRES² 2.0 project includes a goal of launching at least 2 doctoral schools / study programmes and enrolment of at least 30 doctoral students. Identification and development of such programmes is a matter of further discussion, yet these should naturally correspond to the E³UDRES² research capacities.

5. Submission Templates

Templates for submitting proposals to the aforementioned calls are available here:

[→ Template for Call I.a: Co-Teaching Activities with/for partners from the E³UDRES² alliance – Hosting Institution](#)

[→ Template for Call I.b: Co-Teaching Activities with/for partners from the E³UDRES² alliance – Guest Lecturers](#)

[→ Template for Call II: Promising subject-areas for Joint E³UDRES² Associate, Bachelor or Master Degrees](#)

[→ Template for Call III: E³UDRES² Research Centres of Excellence. Pilot Phase](#)