

**Call for proposals**

# **Innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning**

Deadline for applications:

8 October 2021

Contact: [erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr](mailto:erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr)

The ERUA (European Reform University Alliance) is launching its first call for innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning.

### Aims of the call

This call aims at promoting innovative joint teaching projects between teaching staff or students of two (or more) ERUA universities. “Innovation” can refer to different aspects that are outlined below (cf. selection criteria). “Joint” means collaboration between at least two ERUA member universities. The call provides financial support to academic staff (cf. below) and is open to all.

The courses are expected to be delivered during the academic year 2021/2022.

### Introduction

ERUA brings together five pioneer European universities: the universities of Konstanz (Germany), Roskilde (Denmark), Paris 8 (France), the Aegean (Greece) and the New Bulgarian University (Sofia, Bulgaria). Our consortium, co-funded by the European Commission under the second Erasmus+ ‘European Universities’ call for proposals, was launched on November 1, 2020.

Our mission is to address real-world challenges by bringing together students and academics from diverse areas of Europe and from all socio-economic backgrounds to contribute to reshaping a more just, open and inclusive society.

ERUA promotes innovative and experimental approaches to reimagine the role of higher education. This call for innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning has the ambition to be an important contribution to this aim.

For more information about ERUA: <https://erua-eui.eu/>

### What do we mean by innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning’?

**Innovation in teaching and learning can refer to different aspects - depending on the context.** ERUA’s innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning are formats that promote joint initiatives between teaching staff and/or students of two or more of our five Universities. The proposed initiative seeks to reflect and strengthen our profile as reform universities. It aims at the development of new teaching and learning formats and gives grant holders the opportunity to develop their teaching skills by applying novel concepts or exploring new approaches. It focuses on academic development, which supports knowledge transfer between students and staff in ERUA, as well as knowledge transfer from university to society and collaboration with external actors regarding current societal challenges. Furthermore, we aim to strengthen higher education development, which supports the empowerment of citizens, critical thinking, political agency and engagement and the co-creation of knowledge across borders, contexts, disciplines, and people. And finally, we hope to promote and inspire a broader idea of what good higher education teaching might look like and be measured on.

## Objectives & priorities

The ERUA call for “Innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning” will be launched once a year over a three-year period. Each year, five initiatives will be selected, based on criteria of joint collaboration (between two or more of the ERUA universities), long-term sustainability, knowledge sharing, inclusion, recognition and strengthening of students’ multilingual competences, and reform university objectives.

The idea of the initiative is to connect the universities of the alliance and to encourage innovative forms of teaching, learning, mobility and collaboration between ERUA staff and students.

## Eligibility criteria

The call is open to academics from all five universities to design one or more innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning, which flag the ambition, ideals and pedagogical profile of our reform universities. The initiative can be new or build on already existing innovative initiatives.

The initiatives must include a description of the main objectives, partners, and plan of execution (time, place, format, etc.).

The initiatives can cover any topic with a clear connection to reform university objectives, innovative pedagogy, as well as current global challenges.

Eligible applicants: all teaching staff from ERUA member universities.

## Framework

<b>Content</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Disciplines</b>	All fields of study
<b>Duration</b>	Open
<b>Format</b>	On-site, online, or blended
<b>Number of students per group</b>	Open
<b>Languages</b>	The courses could be in any language and preferably, students’ multilingual repertoires should be included and strengthened.
<b>Period in the year</b>	November 1, 2021 – October 31, 2022
<b>Entry education level (EQF)</b>	Open to Bachelor, Master and PhD students

<b>Prerequisites</b>	none
<b>Student accommodation</b>	If there is a need of and possibility for providing accommodation to the students, it should be described in the description of the project.
<b>Validation of ECTS</b>	Automatic recognition of ECTS credits obtained by home university, where possible.

## Selection criteria

Representatives from all ERUA universities will select the most interesting and innovative initiatives among submitted initiatives. The quality and innovation of each initiative will be assessed according to the following criteria, one or more of which should be addressed by the initiative:

### **General criteria**

- promoting joint teaching and learning initiatives between two or more of our five universities.
- developing existing or new teaching and learning formats, for instance with regard to new methods and concepts (e.g. student-centered learning, research-based learning, constructive alignment, etc.).
- strengthening academic development in higher education, which supports knowledge transfer between ERUA students and teachers, knowledge transfer from university to society, and collaboration with external actors regarding current societal challenges.
- strengthening academic development in higher education, which supports empowerment of citizens, critical thinking, political agency and engagement and the co-creation of knowledge across borders, contexts, disciplines, and people.
- Promoting and inspiring a broader idea of what good higher education teaching might look like and be measured on.

### **Specific criteria**

- cross fertilization: promoting collaborative practices across the Alliance, for example, transfer and experiment with a methodology commonly used in one discipline (or university) to another less familiar with it.
- multilingualism and multiculturalism: using all possible tools and resources to promote linguistic and cultural diversity, awareness and inclusivity, for example, within a course.

- inclusiveness: promoting equal opportunities and access, inclusion and fairness, for example, involve students from different levels within a support program.
- digital dimension: virtual cooperation and experimentation with virtual and blended learning opportunities, for example, a web-based learning environment to foster blended courses across the Alliance

## **Helpful information about the ERUA universities and possible shared interests and partners:**

<https://erua-eui.eu/> , [“Learning in the field”](#) (examples of existing initiatives):

## **Budget**

ERUA supports innovative joint initiatives in teaching and learning by allocating additional funds for costs related to the design and the implementation of the project, and possible mobility. [For further information please contact: erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr.](mailto:erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr)

## **Timetable**

Call publication:	<b>September 2021</b>
Deadline for applications:	<b>October 8, 2021</b>
Selection result:	<b>October 14, 2021</b>
Project implementation:	<b>November 1, 2021 – October 31, 2022</b>

## **Procedure for the submission of projects:**

Project proposals (see below template) should be submitted by email (subject: ERUA joint initiatives in teaching and learning) to [erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr](mailto:erua.eui@univ-paris8.fr) by 8 October 2021.

The projects will be evaluated by a joint ERUA Commission. All applicants will be informed of the selection results by the end of October 2021.