

Dear students,  
Dear colleagues,

We are proud to announce that our eight universities participate to the Erasmus + call for European Universities and have submitted a project named “CIVIS – A European Civic University”.

### **Mobility as a vector of citizenship**

CIVIS will bring together nearly 400,000 students and 55,000 staff members. This integrated university space aims to allow students, academics, researchers and staff to move and collaborate as freely as in their institution of origin.

We envision our European Civic University as a space for innovative and responsible teaching, research, cultural exchanges and citizen action within Europe from the Baltic to the Mediterranean Sea and Africa.

The desire for inclusion will permeate all our actions, as we are fully committed to gender equality, non-discrimination and social equality.

The involvement of our universities in this alliance will help reduce inequalities, increase access to quality training and create real opportunities for success for all our students.

### **A wide variety of programmes and activities**

Over time, we will implement a wide variety of study programmes shared in part or in total by our eight European campuses to build a real European Higher Education Area and contribute to the development of a solid knowledge-based and multilingual European society.

Our excellence in research will be a key asset for contributing to research-based training and innovative activities. We will create opportunities for sharing experiences between our universities at all levels, e.g. by increasing staff mobility and promoting exchanges of good practices.

### **A collective contribution**

We need all the stakeholders involved in the academic life of our universities to contribute to the definition of the alliance’s orientations and activities: students, researchers, administrative staff, and non-academic partners will all hold the future of CIVIS in their hands. The governance structure of CIVIS will reflect our willingness to favour inclusive bottom-up approaches.

### **First steps**

The European Commission will reveal the names of the first laureates of the “European Universities” call during the summer. Whatever the outcome of this call, we have decided to start CIVIS activities at the beginning of the academic year 2019-2020. For all of us, CIVIS is a long-term project that will mobilize our universities for years to come.

The CIVIS website ([www.CIVIS.eu](http://www.CIVIS.eu)) is now online and will be the main communication portal of the alliance. In the coming months, we will invite our communities to contribute more and more to the first steps of CIVIS and to the construction of this ambitious and exciting process.

Let's build this new European dynamic together!

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