

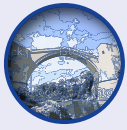
EUPeace

European University
for Peace, Justice, and
Inclusive Societies

MISSION STATEMENT



The first version of this Mission Statement was designed by the Governing Board of our Alliance in the beginning of 2022, just weeks prior to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Nine months into one of the worst conflicts Europe has experienced since the end of World War II, we revise this Mission Statement with an acute sense of the urgency and challenge of fostering peaceful societies.



The rebuilt bridge of Mostar on the cover of our Mission Statement symbolises how dialogue can overcome conflict. Similarly, we strongly believe that initiatives such as EUPeace can help build a more peaceful, just, and inclusive Europe in the years to come.

Our Mission: to Provide Tomorrow’s Citizens with the Skills, Knowledge, and Experience to Cultivate Peace, Justice, and Inclusive Societies

OUR VISION FOR EUPeace

The war in Ukraine following the Russian invasion is a tragic reminder that *the values of peace, justice, and inclusive societies cannot simply be taken for granted. They must be continuously cultivated, studied, and shaped to define the road to an ambitious and challenging socio-political goal.* In this, universities have a key role to play. They are at the heart of societies, providing the insights and techniques necessary to address the environmental, technical, political, and social challenges the next generation has to face. Through research and education they connect people of all generations; they can be model places for protecting and strengthening the values of mutual respect, justice, and inclusion. As such, they are powerful instruments for building peaceful communities. Linking the perspectives and capacities of nine universities and our associated partners, we envision EUPeace as our contribution to this overall effort.

OUR KEY CONCEPTS

Peace.	Justice.	Inclusion.
Dealing with existing conflicts by civil means without violence or the threat of violence.	A state of recognition and a distribution of goods that allows for equal opportunity of all members of a society to participate in public life.	The fostering of a mutual sense of belonging to society among their members by offering effective, non-discriminatory means of participation and involvement.

During the past eight decades, Europe has been exceptionally successful in maintaining its commitment to peace. This situation is largely due to the fact that Europe has taken a comprehensive understanding of peace: not only as the *absence* of violent conflict, its forecasting, prevention, and resolution, but also as a *positive* approach to constructively deal with conflict. We argue that peace cannot flourish unless a set of enabling conditions are firmly in place: it goes hand in hand with a deep commitment to justice and inclusion. *EUPeace is about strengthening these enabling conditions for peace: understanding them better through research, nurturing them actively through education, and fostering them broadly through societal outreach and innovative practices.*

Reaching this objective requires a lucid acknowledgment of the fact that, in diverse and pluralistic societies, social conflicts are ubiquitous. Under the condition of the complete renunciation of violence and domination, conflicts can become apparent and act as a driving force for continuous social change. In many ways, the ambition for *peace, justice, and inclusive societies, is not only at the very heart of the European ideal; striving towards maintaining these values is also part and parcel of many of the underlying tensions within Europe.* Indeed, just as the ideal for inclusion fosters the respect for the diversity of customs, viewpoints, societal approaches, and ways of life, it also requires commitment and efforts to develop its potential. We see this difficulty in the persistence of populism across Europe. Knowing how to deal constructively with the tension between respect for diversity and a common understanding of community is paramount for the ideals of peace, justice, and inclusive societies to prevail.

CONFLICT AND CHANGE

Mobilising our entire community

- **Conflict** is a catalyst for change whilst **Change** in turn increases the likelihood of both useful and destructive conflict.
- We currently face manifold challenges and large-scale societal transitions such as the energy or the digital transition. Any of these processes can improve well-being and prosperity or create destructive tensions.
- With EUPeace, our communities of *all academic fields*, in particular STEM, are called upon to study the implications of the change processes they are participating in in terms of Peace, Justice, and Inclusion.

Today, societal polarisation, renewed international conflicts, bitter competition over resources, and growing intolerance, put pressure on inclusion, weaken justice and threaten peace. As an Alliance of universities that mirrors Europe's diversity itself, *our fundamental mission is to provide tomorrow's citizens with the skills, knowledge, and experience needed to cultivate peace, justice, and inclusive societies.*

OUR APPROACH FOR IMPACT

Our mission takes its roots in the European Commission's [European Strategy for Universities](#) which underlines universities' key role in "*promoting [...] the rule of law and building of strong institutions, human rights and international norms and standards*", as well as in many recent policy documents from EU bodies emphasising the *role of higher education and research institutions in fostering peace, justice, and inclusive societies*.¹ This emphasis is directly linked to the UN's [2030 Agenda](#), which underlines that "*sustainable development cannot be realised without peace and security*", namely without building peaceful, just, and inclusive societies, as highlighted by the SDG16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. However, any societal change yields risks as well as potentials for peace, justice, and inclusion. We therefore do not focus exclusively on SDG16, but it is the perspective through which we approach other societal challenges and SDGs.

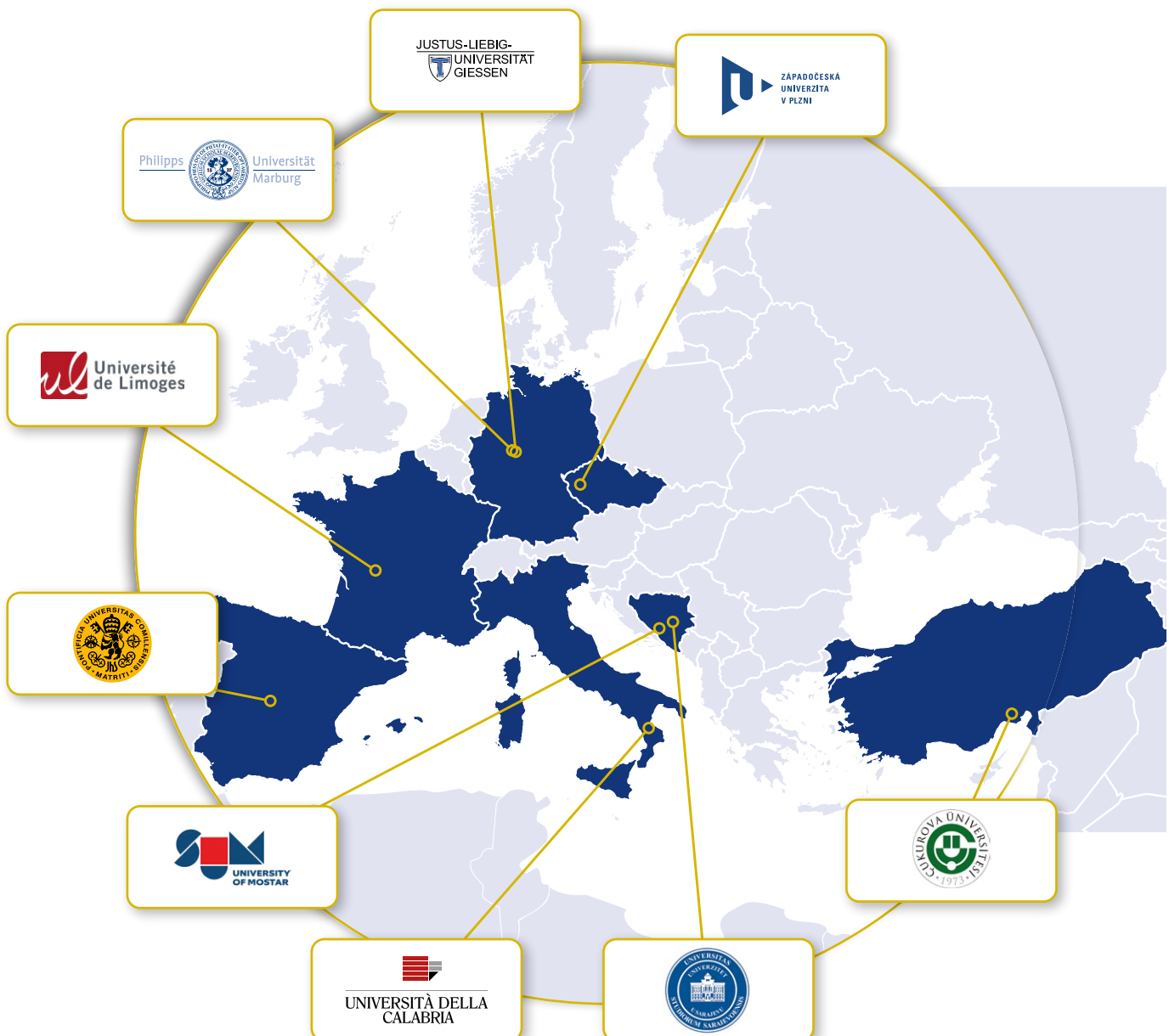
¹ Notably the [Rome Communiqué adopted at the Ministerial conference of the European Higher Education Area](#) (19 November 2020); [The Council Resolution on a strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training towards the European Education Area and beyond \(2021-2030\)](#) (26 February 2021) [The Communication from the Commission: Progress towards the achievement of the European Education Area](#) (18 November 2022)

With EUPeace, our students and staff create an academic experience that will empower them to create the conditions for strengthening peace, fostering justice, and cultivating inclusive societies:

We develop joint and innovative teaching and learning experiences in which students, independent from their course of study, learn to understand ultimate as well as proximate causes of conflict situations – including aspects of technological and environmental interdependencies – gain experience in how to manage conflicts effectively, and how to implement solutions to conflicts – using input from all scientific fields – to generate knowledge on the social, economic, and political processes necessary to empower them to proactively foster peaceful social settings.

We bring our entire academic communities together to generate knowledge, competence and innovative approaches to fostering peace, justice, and inclusive societies. All fields, from the humanities and social sciences, to STEM and health sciences, are required to grasp the conditions of conflict prevention, forecasting and resolution, in a world where material, technical and socio-political arrangements are intimately connected.

We come together with our partners from our local communities and international networks to co-construct concrete practices and solutions to turn these competencies into impact beyond academia. To achieve this, the exploration of innovative leverage points for impact, such as our focus on teacher training, is key.



OUR CONSORTIUM COMMITTED TO PEACE, JUSTICE, AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

The members of our Alliance are located both within the European Union (six institutions) and beyond, within the European Higher Education Area (three institutions). Our consortium thus mirrors the diversity of Europe and its cultures. Each member brings a specific history and sensitivity to the challenges of peace, justice, and inclusive societies, which come from its specific context and institutional trajectory. Our complementary perspectives on peace and security topics include the direct experience in past conflicts of Mostar and Sarajevo, or Adana's position close to the Syrian border with a focus on refugee and immigration issues. We have Pilsen, a member from post-socialist Eastern Europe, and Rende from southern Italy focused on regional development. Madrid has competence in outreach activities and service to society. Finally, we include institutions with a strong academic competence in Peace and Conflict Studies, in particular the social sciences perspectives from Marburg, the legal perspectives from Limoges, and the applied experience of accompanying peace-building processes from Giessen.

Our network of associated partners will contribute based on their specific expertise in change, conflict, migration, and societal adaptation and thus connect the European perspective to the global one.

FOUR ASSETS ALIGNED WITH OUR MISSION

Thanks to its very composition, which mirrors the diversity of Europe, our consortium embodies the capacity to overcome borders and bridge divides. Our Alliance also benefits from four more essential assets: 1) expertise, 2) fertile common ground, 3) existing ties within the networks, 4) existing ties with external partners.

- 1 **Our partners bring a strong academic expertise to the topic**, as hosts of established research centres on peace and justice and their underlying conditions: thus, for instance, Marburg University counts with a highly recognised [Center for Conflict Studies](#). It is interdisciplinary in its approach and draws on the fields of Peace and Conflict Studies, Sociology, History, Anthropology, Education, Law, Political Science, and International Relations. The centre regularly organises international summer schools, which allow students to engage critically with each course's themes and provides them with an interactive experience focused on comparative conflict analyses of different case studies. Another example is University of Limoges' Chair of Excellence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Management, a member of the [UN Academic Impact Programme](#). The Chair has supported and fed the works of the [International Institute for Conflict Research \(IIRCO\)](#). Within this post-conflict research, documentation and expertise centre and recognised observatory of post-conflict transition (jurisdictional and memorial aspects), IIRCO teams cover almost all disciplinary fields in humanities and social sciences to tackle a problem characterised by total transdisciplinarity. A third example is that of UP Comillas, which hosts a number of relevant institutes, chairs, and observatories, such as the [José María Martín Patino Chair for a Culture of Encounter](#), the [Chair in Social Impact Open Value Foundation](#), [Repsol Foundation, Management Solutions](#), the [Chair of Energy and Poverty](#), the [Santander Chair in the Rights of the Child](#), or the [University Institute of Studies on Migration](#).
- 2 **Our consortium is made of institutions with similar missions, and locations within their respective national ecosystems**. EUPeace universities are characterised by territorial embeddedness, concern for impact and deep attention to the quality of student life within human-size campuses. We all share a history of regional importance and a devotion to carrying our regional expertise into EUPeace. Our individual identities, reflected also by the diversity of composition of student and staff bodies, form the fundamentals to successfully work together on the development of this new EUPeace teaching and learning experience.
- 3 **Many of our consortium members already share a successful history of bilateral cooperation**, which provides a solid stepping stone upon which to scale up and build a European-wide Alliance: for instance, University of Marburg and Justus Liebig University Giessen have long shared research centres on issues of Security ([Historicization of Security](#)), Human Rights and Migration ([Research Group on Migration and Human Rights](#)), and human adaptation to changing conditions ([Center for Mind, Brain and Behavior](#)); in addition, they have joined forces in all fields of research within the [Research Campus Central Hessen](#).

	Number of students	Number of academic staff	Number of administrative staff
University of Marburg	22,400	2,300	1,900
Justus Liebig University Giessen	26,500	2,300	2,500
University of Limoges	18,000	1,100	800
University of Calabria	35,000	800	700
Comillas Pontifical University	14,000	2,100	500
University of West Bohemia	11,000	1,100	800
University of Mostar	10,000	1,000	250
Çukurova University	48,200	2,200	2,000
University of Sarajevo	23,000	1,700	1,100
TOTAL	208,100	14,600	10,550

University of Limoges has a long-term and sound cooperation with Marburg on the topic of conflict and post-conflict management. Limoges has also developed project-oriented research relations with the University of Calabria (Conflict Management field and Spatial Innovation and Research), with Marburg and Giessen (Erasmus+ mobility agreements) and with Pilsen. In 2022 Limoges, Giessen, Çukurova, and Marburg jointly developed a project proposal for a teacher academy under the Erasmus+ Teacher Academies program. EUPeace also established the EUPeace fund in which each member dedicated funds to launch small experimental projects to collaborate, gather information, and build community engagement. A first meeting to prepare the establishment of the EUPeace Student Association has taken place. EUPeace workshops on foci such as mobility, EUPeace in connection to the Global South, and outreach options were held during the winter term 2022. Beyond our existing bilateral cooperation, these first alliance-wide initiatives already demonstrate the considerable added value of EUPeace to productively address concerns from a variety of perspectives by building on our complementary expertise. Together with our associated partners, EUPeace’s diversity is a great strength to address Europe’s challenges and a true asset for the regions with which our institutions interact closely.

- 4 **The consortium benefits from a strong network of international associated and supporting partner institutions**, all highly relevant for the topic of peace and justice, and which will ensure that the transformation of our teaching, research, and societal outreach activities have a global impact. Our partners include universities, research centres, NGOs or other civil society organisations and foundations, regional governments, schools, companies. Furthermore, we jointly support Scholars at Risk and the New University in Exile Consortium. Located in various regions from Bosnia and Herzegovina ([University Džemal Bijedić of Mostar](#)), and Ukraine ([National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy \(NaUKMA\)](#)), [Center for Dialogue and Reconciliation – Iskra](#)), to Tunisia (Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb, [MECAM](#)), Kyrgyzstan ([OSCE Academy of Bishkek](#)), or Colombia (German-Colombian Peace Institute, [CAPAZ](#)), these institutions add thematic expertise and global reach. We also develop existing ties with partners in the UK. For instance, EUPeace benefits from academic support anchored within a joint degree program on [Peace and Conflict Studies with the University of Kent](#) and the representation of the University of Kent’s Dean for Europe within the EUPeace External Advisory Board, as well as the collaboration with [Queen’s University Belfast, Centre for Identity and Intergroup Relations](#); thereby maintaining the academic involvement of the UK.

WHAT EACH PARTNER CONTRIBUTES TO EUPEACE



Throughout the last three decades, the **University of Marburg (UMR)** and the **Justus Liebig University Giessen (JLU)**, Germany have built a strong expertise in teaching as well as in researching peace and justice. Both universities are engaged in highly relevant international projects and networks, such as the “Southeast Asian University Partnership for Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation”¹, and the German-Colombian Peace Institute CAPAZ. UMRs Center for Conflict Studies and the International Research and Documentation Centre for War Crimes Trials offer several specialised study programs, e.g. two Master programs in Peace and Conflict Studies as well as a Master degree program in International Criminal Justice and a Master in Politics and Economy in the Middle East. In addition, Marburg offers specialised expertise in interdisciplinary teaching and learning units, co-created in the form of a modular programme. The EUPeace agenda is closely linked to joint larger research networks of both universities on topics such as migration and human rights, dynamics of security and transformations of political violence. The strong involvement of students as change agents is always central. A model example of the activating involvement of students is JLU's Refugee Law Clinic, in which students from all departments are trained in German, European and international refugee law; they then offer voluntary legal advice to refugees.



University of Limoges (UNILIM) is a multidisciplinary public institution and a pioneer for inclusive education.² The National Institute for Teaching and Education (INSPE) has been involved in various European collaborative projects such as E+ Teacher Academy I-CONNECT or Pathways to Inclusive Pedagogy. Its five research institutes all relate to the EUPeace challenges and will contribute notably through its Chair of Excellence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Management³ and the One Health approach. UNILIM also brings the depth of its territorial involvement to the consortium, which unfolds at various scales, from Limoges city to the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region – a strategic partner of the Land of Hesse where Marburg and Giessen are situated.



University of Calabria (UNICAL) was founded with the mission to bring science and higher education to a territory, which was previously devoid of higher education institutions, thus contributing to social inclusion, economic development, and openness. Through an international perspective, EUPeace complements and amplifies the institutional roadmap for what concerns themes of peace, justice, inclusion, and equal opportunities. The interactions between EUPeace partners will provide further concrete means and methodologies to support the institutional roadmap. In this perspective, EUPeace is an opportunity to reinforce and expand both UNICAL's foundation statement and its *Strategic Plan* by exploiting the Alliance's international dimension, and creating new links between the local territory and the partners.



Created at the very beginning of the 20th century, **Comillas Pontifical University (COMILLAS)** developed from a Jesuit seminary founded a few decades before. Because of its Ignatian heritage, COMILLAS brought a concern for peace, justice, and inclusion to its teaching and research approach in many fields, from business to engineering, and law to nursing. This involvement is aimed at achieving societal impact through a variety of instruments, namely research, outreach, observatories, chairs and institutes, and through an extensive network of 600+ international partners. COMILLAS' strategic goal in internationalisation is to integrate a truly international perspective in all our activities (teaching, research, administration, and social impact), and to do so by continuing to focus on our mission to educate outstanding globally-minded professionals and citizens.

¹ With GIZ, a German service provider in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development and international education work, and universities in Cambodia, the Philippines and Timor-Leste.

² See for instance the PIA projects FORM'UL and HyPE-13.

³ Member of the UN Academic Impact Programme.



Çukurova University of Adana (CU) is committed to be a pioneering university, which internalises the idea of inclusive education. It actively involves students in its endeavour to contribute to social inclusion, peace, and justice at an international level. Located very close to the Syrian border and being the host community for a large number of Syrian refugees, the University has always been in the forefront of scientific research to address immigration issues. In this respect, Çukurova University hosts several relevant research centres with direct links to the EUPeace agenda, such as the Migration and Development Research Centre, Centre for Strategic Studies, Centre for Intercultural Communication Studies and Centre for Women's Problems. They all take exceptional initiatives and are involved in research and community projects in partnerships with local, state, and international agencies.



University of West Bohemia's (UWB) has a significant position in the field of higher education among the universities in the Czech Republic and in Central Europe and, with the current war, takes on a special role within EUPeace, hosting considerable numbers of Ukrainian, Russian, and Belarussian students. Originally specialised in Teacher Education and Engineering, UWB later created Faculties of Law, of Philosophy and Art, and Art and Design, precisely to address the need for interdisciplinary approaches across all fields. UWB has thus developed research in fields such as sustainable energy and sustainable transportation, whose impact and link to peace, justice, and inclusive societies have taken on a radical new meaning over the past year for Europe as a whole. Due to its geographical location, UWB boasts long-term experience connecting education with international industry and businesses, which will be an asset to outreach activities within EUPeace.



University of Mostar (SUM) is the only Croatian-speaking university in Bosnia and Herzegovina, has the third largest number of students, and is situated in Mostar, a town which symbolises the coexistence of different traditions, cultures, and customs. The university has a strong multicultural background with more than 20% of international students. In an area marked by a troubled past, the University cherishes its role as a creator of conditions for peace. In recent years, SUM has been paying special attention to the digital transformation and to digitization of education (Center for Information Technologies), where it is becoming a leader in Bosnia and Herzegovina. SUM raises issues of peace and inclusion as part of its institutional strategy, actively promoting academic activities with local and international partners. Peace building activities are fostered through the International Summer School Mostar, which creates learning opportunities for students with specific interest in peace, justice, and inclusive societies in the field of international human rights and social entrepreneurship. SUMs Institute for Social Research is invested in implementing the Gender Action Plan, the creation of respective curricula, and the establishment of an Inclusive Research Centre. Thus, SUMs emphasis on inclusion, diversity, and digital transformation aligns perfectly with EUPeace.



University of Sarajevo (UNSA) was established in 1949 and has since remained determined to continue to be a leader in higher education in Bosnia and Herzegovina in terms of quality of study programmes and research, number of students and departments. UNSA offers programmes and research opportunities at 22 faculties, 3 art academies, 5 research institutes, and 5 centers, with over 500 study programmes and over 200 departments, thus providing a balanced range of academic and professional training and research within social, medical, natural, and technical sciences, humanities and arts. UNSA has garnered extensive experience in international projects within EU, regional, and national funding schemes. There are over 500 projects currently active at UNSAs 30 member institutions. UNSA is also a member of the EURAXESS and EEN networks and is continuously striving towards becoming an equal partner in all aspects of research and artistic activities within the international university community.

OUR WORK PLAN TO IMPLEMENT EUPeace

Our project is built around three key objectives: EUPeace as a curriculum and student experience supportive of peace, justice, and inclusive societies; EUPeace as a space for interdisciplinary international research with strong societal impact; EUPeace as long-lasting institutional common paths for the partners.

All three objectives are transversal: they concern our universities as a whole, our academic and administrative staff, and our students. All three emphasise the notions of peace, justice, and inclusive societies that give our European University its identity.





Beneficiaries

- EUPeace Member Institutions and their Campus Communities
- EUPeace Partners
- Primary and Secondary Schools
- Local and Regional Communities and Authorities
- Civil Societies
- Entrepreneurs
- European Higher Education Area
- National and European Policy Makers

OBJECTIVE 1.

EUPEACE AS A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTING PEACE, JUSTICE, AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

 **Objective.** EUPeace will achieve its strongest impact thanks to the teaching and learning experience offered to *all* our students. Besides the cultural experience of Europe, intrinsic to hybrid and physical mobility, *our main specific contribution consists in reshaping our curriculum together with our students; to make them aware that peace, justice, and inclusive societies require professional skills and knowledge as a foundation and, in addition, compromise hard work, and creativity - and equip them to face this challenge in their lives as professionals and citizens.* Each student, within their own field of competence, will learn how their knowledge and skills can contribute to cultivating the underlying conditions where peace and justice can blossom.

 **A curriculum supporting peace, justice, and inclusive societies.** In concrete terms, we will launch extensive work on the content of our courses and programs for all student cycles. Our teaching staff throughout the Alliance will be provided with the space, tools, and incentives to set up new teaching units and programmes or reform existing teaching units in two possible directions:

On the one hand, *we will set up teaching units, which focus on creating content that provides students with academic and theoretical understanding of peace, justice, inclusion, and their conditions.* Typical examples include setting up teaching units, which rely on the academic strengths of all our institutions and deal with: dispute resolution, international and European law, educational equity, sustainability issues as conditions for peace and justice. *Together, these content-based teaching units will form an original “European track” offered by all the member institutions of EUPeace.* The development of such a core curriculum will strengthen the Alliance’s role as the European University for Peace, Justice, and Inclusive Societies, while at the same time providing a powerful and strong basis for student exchange within the Alliance.

In addition, the Alliance aims at developing new interdisciplinary programmes addressing issues contributing to peace, justice, and inclusive societies that include understanding causes of conflicts, managing conflict, and fostering peace. These new programmes will consist of modules from different partner universities taught on-site or remotely and will foster international, intercultural, and interdisciplinary collaboration as a fundamental value in the next generation’s work ethic.

On the other hand, *we will generalise teaching units, which rely on teaching and learning methods that provide students with a hands-on experience of diversity.* Typical examples include hybrid classrooms, exemplifying the diversity of settings, or project-based learning on topics inspired by local partners. This can be done independently of the discipline, by leveraging the internal diversity of our consortium’s student body.

OUR EUROPEAN TRACK

With the creation of the European Core Curriculum (“European Track”), we will develop both EUPeace signature content and formats of teaching and learning, available to any student within the Alliance. The aim is that all students graduating from one of the Alliance’s universities have experienced intercultural and interdisciplinary collaboration as well as a strong theoretical and practical knowledge of inclusion and necessary conditions for peace, justice, and inclusive societies.

TEACHERS' TRAINING

A channel for impact


A key channel for EUPeace to create long-lasting impact lies with the training of primary and secondary school teachers, which represents an important mission for many of our institutions. Currently teachers' training remains deeply embedded in national contexts. EUPeace will enable us to tackle the challenge of opening teachers' training at the European scale and potentially beyond, with sizeable rewards: EUPeace will thus have a cascading effect on primary and secondary school students all over Europe. A specific focus of our roadmap therefore includes modalities to enhance international mobility with teachers' training curricula.

To ensure that this extensive work on the curriculum can be tackled at the right scale, our Alliance will place a strong emphasis on the creation of active communities of practice where our academic staff can exchange teaching and innovation practices. The newly set up EUPeace fund aims at supporting collaboration between faculty and staff members of the partners to enhance the development of new teaching units and programmes or the reform of existing units.

 **Impact.** As a result, EUPeace will create a pan-European academic space linked to the regions and societies in which our institutions are anchored. Through a diversity of initiatives ranging from new modules in teacher training, to finding joint solutions for migration within the EU, or connecting green physics or chemistry to civil engineering, a new generation of students from all over the world will be trained to nurture tolerance, diversity, and pluralism. These students will move on to be citizens and practitioners thus reaching a larger societal impact in the long run.

OBJECTIVE 2.


EUPEACE AS A SPACE FOR CO-CREATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND IMPACT

 **Objective.** Peace, justice, and inclusive societies are crucial challenges for Europe and for humanity as a whole. Combining our academic strengths to address these challenges, we will *set up a series of Alliance-wide Research Hubs*, leveraging the work of laboratories, which either directly relate to peace and justice, or research their underlying conditions. All academic disciplines will thus be mobilised in consortium-wide research collaborations, contributing either to SDG16 directly or to one of the other 16 SDGs named in the UN 2030 agenda as an underlying condition for sustaining peace and justice.

More precisely, we will facilitate the creation of Alliance-wide research communities on topics that match our key strengths and benefit from the European synergies of the Alliance, starting with "Security and Conflict Transformation" and "Climate Science and Just Transition", and progressively extending to other topics involving all disciplinary fields – from the humanities and social sciences to the natural and life sciences as well as engineering.

 THE LIVING PEACE LAB


EUPeace and its members will engage with quadruple helix actors - other academic institutions, policy makers and actors from industry and civil society - in the Living Peace Lab Flagship Initiative, designed to encourage societal dialogue around the topics of peace, justice, and inclusion. Our core aim is to enter into continuous exchange and create a permanent innovation environment for reciprocal input and exchange on topics related to peace, justice, and inclusion.

-  **Research Hubs and resource centres for academia and for society.** These Research Hubs will be a place for researchers from the Alliance to build common research projects that have a deep impact by being coupled with two more activities:

First, the Research Hubs will be invited to create an offer of *corresponding graduate studies paths, at the Master and doctoral levels*, which will be a signature for the EUPeace Alliance and will make it a hub for the training of the next generation of researchers on the topic.

Second, the Research Hubs will be invited to develop a *proactive policy of societal outreach, including both scientific dissemination in the classical sense and a service of expertise to the public*. Indeed, we will make sure that the academic expertise on the topics related to peace, justice, and inclusion can be of service to public actors (local, national, and European authorities), associations, and citizens within our own regions. The key enabler of this line will be our Living Peace Lab.

Beyond this targeted effort to scale up a series of focused Research Hubs directly relevant for peace, justice, and inclusive societies, we will create the space for our researchers to develop joint projects without thematic constraints. EUPeace will therefore facilitate intra-European mobility of researchers and academic staff from all partner universities, beginning with an already established EUPeace seed fund to support mobility between our institutions. This will foster collaborations between researchers and support staff, which will not be guided by predefined topics, but rather by our members' own initiatives to explore the potential for collaboration, will leverage synergies between our research teams, and contribute to bringing our institutions closer together. *Creating a strong network of collaboration between our communities will thus support the long-term trajectory and sustainability of the Alliance*, by making the Alliance relevant at all levels: institutions, faculties, departments, research groups and individual staff and students.

-  **Impact.** As a result of this, EUPeace will establish itself as an international reference point for research on peace, justice, and inclusive societies. We will contribute to the global discussion and efforts on these topics and support the external outreach of our institutions. With the creation, at the level of EUPeace, of a centre for expert knowledge, we will multiply the capacity of our institutions to directly serve societies in Europe and beyond, by working together with their decision-makers and their citizens.

OBJECTIVE 3.

EUPEACE AS A LONG-TERM INSTITUTIONAL PATH

Objective. All the institutions of EUPeace already have numerous international cooperation agreements. But the EUPeace Alliance, with its long-lasting perspective, brings us to a new level in the internationalisation of our campuses: whereas international activity currently concerns only a part of students and staff, *internationalisation will be the default background against which all staff and students carry out their activity.* EUPeace will help us bring about a shift of mindset, which will infuse the day-to-day activities on our campuses, with a step change in the degree of language and intercultural competency, and in the capacity to reach out beyond local partners.

Building a common path. EUPeace is a choice of common path and the decision to take the next steps of our institutional trajectories together. It presents the opportunity to provide a new, common direction to the core activities of teaching, research, and outreach for each of the institutions of the consortium, and to jointly become a European University. *The first four years of action are explicitly designed to create a long-lasting inter-dependency between our institutions:* by sharing our resources, by creating a teaching and learning experience, which requires and builds on the diversity of our members, by launching initiatives around a single branding, we will create a shared destiny between our institutions. EUPeace is also an opportunity to build an organisation, which embodies in its very functioning the values of peace, justice, and inclusion. Moreover, inclusive governance is a means to encompass the multiplicity of perspectives necessary to tackle grand global challenges: by ensuring diversity and equal opportunities throughout the institutions and governing bodies of the Alliance, and by promoting respectful, constructive ways of dealing with diversity and disagreements, we will create a large-scale example of how to design organisations for peace, justice, and inclusion for our staff and students.

For this reason, from the start, EUPeace will be managed not merely as a series of work packages, but also as a *common endeavour from our governing bodies:* a joint Academic Senate will be created from the start, as well as a Student Council, creating the institutional face of EUPeace.

Impact. The overall goal of our Alliance is to contribute to creating long-term conditions for peace, justice, and inclusive societies. As a result of EUPeace, we will develop the conditions for social impact at the regional, European, and international scale: 1) by revisiting teaching and research practices, we will train a new generation of citizens, acting as “ambassadors” for peace, justice, and inclusion; 2) by creating an academic Resource Centre on Peace, Justice, and Inclusive Societies, we will ensure that our Alliance-wide Research Hubs serve their territories; 3) with the creation of an Inclusive European Campus, we will change the scale and depth of internationalisation within our campuses. European-wide exchanges will be part of the daily fabric of student life and we will create a virtuous situation of interdependency between our institutions.

EUPeace will be *a learning and teaching hub, a European campus where the next generation will be trained to create peaceful, cooperative, just, and inclusive environments.* EUPeace will thus strengthen the European Higher Education Area and anchor core European values in university education and European societies.



FOSTER STUDENT ORGANISATIONS

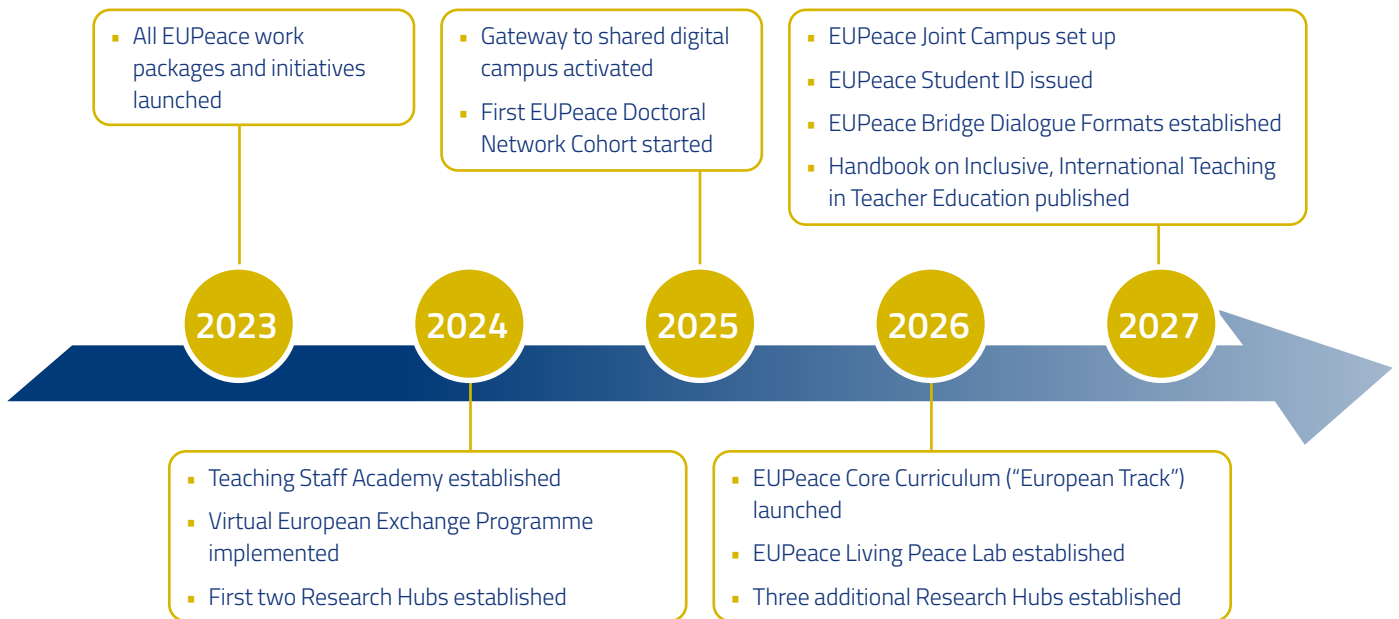
An EUPeace Student Association is in the process of being founded as another Flagship Initiative with the aim to start joint grass-roots initiatives. The Student Association discusses key initiatives led by the student community at each partner university that could be extended to the level of the EUPeace Inclusive European Campus. The Association will interact closely with the Student Council and make suggestions to the network. The Association is explicitly invited to express students’ needs in particular concerning infrastructure for virtual collaboration within the Association.

OUR TIMELINE FOR EUPeace

Within four years, we will have created a campus spanning Europe for students to learn how to employ skills from their fields in order to contribute to the ideals of peace, justice, and inclusive societies. When they graduate, our students will have developed the skills to be active contributors to the future of Europe. Our Research Hubs in their respective fields will have developed, so that EUPeace can function as a resource of expertise for local partners, public authorities, and citizens alike. Through the development of trans-European teachers' training, our Alliance's impact will reach primary and secondary school children as well as university students.

Within ten years, changes to our teaching, learning, and research practices that have been successfully applied by the Alliance will benefit not only our graduates but also our local regions and territories. A common overarching strategic process will function to weave together our governing bodies with external stakeholders and to ensure that we share our resources effectively, so as to continuously adapt the initial initiative to future circumstances and societal needs. In ten years, we will have leveraged our network of international associated partners so as to have an impact beyond Europe.

The EUPeace Alliance was founded in 2021. Since then the EUPeace Governing Board has been activated, the EUPeace Seed Fund has been implemented and Student Representation Bodies have been initiated. The Education Board and the Equality, Diversity, and Integration Board have been activated.



- By 2033 100% of our students are exposed to our EUPeace teaching units.
- The new Alliance legal structure is created.
- EUPeace is identified as a major player in research in the field of peace, justice, and inclusion, acts as a role model for other Alliances, and has established a strong regional societal impact.

OUR BINDING COMMITMENT TOWARDS EUPEACE

University of Marburg



Date, Signature
Prof. Thomas Nauss, President



Justus Liebig University Giessen



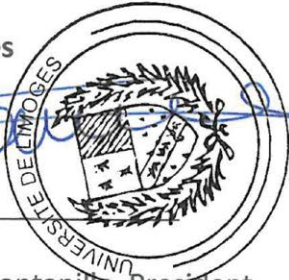
Date, Signature
Prof. Joybrato Mukherjee, President



University of Limoges



Date, Signature
Prof. Isabelle Klock-Fontanille, President



University of Calabria



Date, Signature
Prof. Nicola Leone, Rector



Comillas Pontifical University

13116132Z
ENRIQUE SANZ
(R: R2800395B)

Firmado digitalmente por 13116132Z ENRIQUE SANZ (R: R2800395B)
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Date, Signature
Enrique Sanz Giménez-Rico, Rector

University of West Bohemia



Date, Signature
Doc Dr. RNDr. Miroslav Holeček, Rector



University of Mostar



Date, Signature
Prof. Zoran Tomić, Rector



University of Sarajevo



Date, Signature
Prof. Dr. Rifat Škrijelj, Rector



Çukurova University



24/01/2023
Date, Signature
Prof. Meryem Tuncel, Rector