

Newsletter

May 2023

EUNICE, the European University for Customised Education, is an alliance nurtured by seven universities' intellectual and infrastructure input, resulting in a solid network of crossed interactions between educational institutions and industry, as well as other social, cultural, artistic and sports stakeholders.

SUMMARY

- **Opportunities**
- **Course catalogue: Massive Open Online Course and new 2023-24 courses coming soon**
- **Mobility: Tools for International Relations Offices and international theses**
- **Entrepreneurship: Imagine Innovation Cup and Contamination Lab**
- **REUNICE**
- **EUNICE Alliance**



OPPORTUNITIES AND OPEN CALLS

EUNICE offers a variety of opportunities for university students and staff to participate in international activities and to exchange with international peers, companies and stakeholders. So, within the following months, several initiatives are open to EUNICE partners: the poster contest [Mardi des Chercheurs](#), the [International Forensics School](#) that will take place in July in Italy, the [Intelligent Collaborative Computing for the Changing World 2023](#) conference in October in Greece and the [Challenges and Consequences of Cultural Misunderstanding](#) conference to be held in 2024.

You can find all the **opportunities** [here](#).



DISCOVER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2023-24

MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSE

Until 31st May EUNICE offers its first [Massive Open Online Course \(MOOC\), Introduction to Global Studies](#), not only for EUNICE students but for anyone interested. It is free of charge and covers topics such as economy, society, culture, health or sustainability from a global perspective. This course is taught by lecturers from seven countries and of diverse profiles and presents the interrelationships between events and actors from different environments on a local, national and global scale.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY COURSES

From July 2023, a **brand new offer of multi-disciplinary courses** will be open to students. The catalogue will include courses on subjects ranging from soft skills and global

competencies to information technology, health care, history, and more. In addition to carrying ECTS credits, EUNICE courses are a gateway for students to customise their education, benefiting from the expertise of teachers from several European universities. They are free of charge and open to all students from member universities. Students wishing to take a course should go to eunice-university.eu/courses, check the enrolment procedure and apply on the [website](#).

LANGUAGE COURSES

1,580 people registered for one or more of the 12 EUNICE language courses 2022-23 (5 English courses and 7 national language courses - the most widely spoken ones in EUNICE-). Students reported very positively on their experience, giving **an average score of 4/5 in the satisfactory survey**. "I highly recommend the language courses [...] because they allow us to broaden our horizons of thinking and make new friends to visit in the future," said Adrianna ([read here her experience](#) in Poznan University of Technology), who participated in the Tandem English course. The **2023-2024 edition** of the language courses will be available in the EUNICE course catalogue from July 2023. **More info on eunice-university.eu/courses**

ON-SITE COURSES

In 2023 EUNICE European University launched three intensive summer courses: [Optimal Control](#), [Introduction to Global Studies](#) and [Cybersecurity of the Internet of Things Solutions](#).



STRONGER TIES BETWEEN EUNICE PARTNERS' INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICES



After two years of working together on the creation of tools aimed at improving knowledge management within each EUNICE partner university's International Relations Office (IRO), the EUNICE Peer-IR-View team has released the first two tools of the project: the [IRO Benchmarking Toolbox](#) and the [IRO Video Pills Handbook](#). The Toolbox will help IROs understand at a glance their partners' organisation and activities. The Handbook gives guidelines to create short videos about student mobility.

[Download the tools and subscribe to Peer-IR-View newsletter!](#)



NEW PORTAL FOR INTERNATIONAL THESES

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY FOR THESES

EUNICE European University, in the framework of its [REUNICE H2020 project](#), released the International Research Theses Portal for students willing to carry out their theses abroad, whether they are bachelor's, master's or doctoral theses. **Students** can explore their [options here](#).

Over 100 professors and researchers from different fields of study and EUNICE partner universities have already expressed their willingness to host bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. students so far. **Academics** can publish their [proposal here](#).

This initiative is a new feature that can now be found in the [EUNICE International Internship Portal](#).



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

IMAGINE INNOVATION CUP

Seeking business ideas within EUNICE Student Community

The University of Catania (UNICT, Italy) will host **in July the final** of EUNICE Imagine Innovation Cup, a business competition among students of each EUNICE partner university. They will present their developing business plan for launching a new company, and the winning team will be granted access to a special internship programme, during which they can visit EUNICE partner universities, companies and associated research labs in order to test their entrepreneurial idea in a multicultural, customised and innovative environment.

EUNICE already has its first finalists and the rest of the teams will be selected soon: In UNICT, the winning team is [Alpha Food](#), a project to breed crickets for the production of flours, derivative products and cosmetic goods. Team [Modeck](#) will represent Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (Germany) in the final: the team is composed of Computer Science, Architecture and Industrial Engineering students, and their product Multideck is a modular pot lid that fits any pot or pan, equipped with various add-ons that, for example, take care of stirring or keep track of cooking time. University of Mons (Belgium) will be represented by [Rejoice](#), a dating app based on scientific compatibility between users that tells you how theoretically compatible you are with the users you swiped right for, taking into account all the characteristics you mentioned in your profile.



CONTAMINATION LAB: AN ENTREPRENEURSHIP CHALLENGE

[EUNICE Contamination Lab](#), a series of online workshops on **entrepreneurship**, is currently gathering students and mentors from different countries, backgrounds and areas of study. During these meetings, each student team are working on entrepreneurial ideas and developing them into feasible projects. Each team will presented their project to an evaluating jury on 26th May, and best teams will be rewarded with access to a **Summer School in Catania (Italy) from 10 to 14 July 2023**.



IDENTIFYING BARRIERS TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVENESS IN THE STUDENT BODY

REUNICE project is currently collecting data on local initiatives to foster a wider student inclusion, as the first phase of a research project aiming to develop university practices to become more welcoming to a wide range of students. The alliance is working on identifying the needs of those students who may face any obstacles -illness, disability, social, economic, or geographical barriers- in order to support them in their academic journey and to lead them to success. Subsequently, pilot actions and courses will be rolled out within EUNICE to improve inclusiveness and an evaluation and recommendation report will be drawn up to guide further EUNICE actions. [Check this article related to inclusion in our blog](#)

INTERNATIONAL THESES PORTAL

The EUNICE International Internship Portal has included a new feature for students to find opportunities to carry out their PhD theses or curricular final projects in any of the EUNICE destinations, whether they are bachelor's, master's or doctoral theses. This new feature fosters networking for research collaboration.

HALFWAY TO ESTABLISHING JOINT RESEARCH

Reunice is not designed to directly fund joint research, but rather to create the necessary structures and networks so that the generation of joint research is sustainable over time and not something specific associated with the duration of the project.



Some of the specific milestones pursued are a common research and innovation agenda, the sharing of research infrastructures of the partner universities, the promotion of collaboration with different agents in society (companies, NGOs,...), open science as a general practice within the consortium, and strengthening of human resources for research through the implementation of the European Commission's [Human Resources Strategy for Researchers – HRS4R](#).



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE



On 11 February, EUNICE celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science and ran a social media [campaign](#) to encourage women and girls to participate in science and pursue their goals. The alliance featured a researcher from each partner university as examples of successful female scientists that are carrying out their research projects within EUNICE universities.

The alliance is currently working on the implementation of a [Style Manual](#) for best practices towards diversity, inclusiveness and gender equality.



CREATING RESEARCH NETWORKS WITHIN EUNICE



MATERIALS INSTITUTE

Students from EUNICE keep on disseminating research by both participating in science dissemination events and creating its own ones. The University of Mons (Belgium) and Université Polytechnique Hauts-de-France (France), through the recently created Cross-Border Materials Institute, organised the [Workshop for Multi-Functional Materials: from Synthesis to Applications](#). It will take place in Valenciennes -France- in June and will gather EUNICE scientific communities involved in material sciences and engineering.

BUSINESS-ACADEMIA COLLABORATION

In March, the University of Vaasa (Finland) hosted the [Mission Possible - Science Day](#). Among other activities, researchers offered short presentations, and Reunice (EUNICE Research) representatives addressed the line of action: "Boosting innovation and university-industry collaboration. Tools and approaches for the future presentation)".

HR4R

The University of Cantabria (Spain) took part in the 14th [Workshop on Operations Management and Technology](#), held in the Spanish city of Salamanca, where the Reunice Joint Action Plan on HR Strategy for Researchers was presented. This plan was created by all the EUNICE partner universities within the framework of European Commission's initiative to promote a common basis in terms of human resources for research.

More info about [Science Dissemination Events 2023 - EUNICE \(eunice-university.eu\)](#)



FIND NEW ARTICLES EVERY MONTH AT EUNICE BLOG

"IN THE INTERNSHIP I COULD DO THE RESEARCH FOR MY THESIS"



Grzegorz Przesławski is a PhD student from the Poznań University of Technology (Poland) and did an internship in Italy through the EUNICE International Internship Portal. He shared his adventure on the [EUNICE Blog](#), which also tells many other stories of lecturers, researchers and students. Whether it's a testimonial after participating in the Tandem Language exchange course, industry driven workshops or the impact of Open Science within EUNICE.

"OPEN SCIENCE, RESEARCH WITHOUT BARRIERS"



Head Librarian in the University of Cantabria: "In these years, open access has consolidated in a proportion that we were not sure of being able to achieve and the stage that is now opening before us means working with the same level of commitment in opening up all the other aspects of scientific work: data, methodologies, algorithms, review, citizen science and whatever is necessary to complete this new knowledge generation model".

[Find all the articles in our Blog](#)



EUNICE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN VAASA, FINLAND: WORKING ON THE FUTURE OF THE ALLIANCE



The University of Vaasa (Finland) welcomed delegations from EUNICE partner universities in February for the alliance's [General Assembly](#) and transnational meeting. Rectors, Presidents and other representatives gathered together to plan the next steps after submitting the new project proposal for upcoming years in January. During the meetings, strategic goals, joint vision and common research activities within the alliance were discussed. In addition, delegations planned future mobility and educational activities, joint Excellence Programmes and learned about digital Open Badges that offer a standard, verifiable way to validate skills, competencies and achievements.



EUNICE STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Students from Poland, Spain, Italy, France and Finland met face-to-face for the first time at Poznań University of Technology to discuss a variety of topics directly connected to EUNICE: the promotion of EUNICE among students, ideas on short-term mobility opportunities for students or the problem of understanding of the concept of European



Universities by students in general, were some issues addressed.

[Read the News](#)



EUNICE OPEN BADGES

The General Assembly also provided an opportunity for participants to find out more about Open Badges through a dedicated workshop. Open Badges offer a **standard and verifiable way to confirm skills and competencies** and are increasingly widespread in Europe. Workshop participants were invited to reflect on the long-term use of this device to boost the EUNICE community, and download the very first EUNICE Open Badges. Find out more about Open Badges and **download the “Ambassador of the EUNICE alliance” Open Badge**:



BRANDENBURG UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (GERMANY) CELEBRATES EUROPE WEEKS



Getting to know other cultures and deepening knowledge about Europe are two of the purposes of **the 2nd Cottbus Europe Weeks 2023**. The event will take place at **Brandenburg University of Technology (Cottbus, Germany)**. There will be a Europe workshop in the CreativeOpenLab, a Study Abroad Fair, a concert with Europe sounds, a public viewing of the Eurovision Song Contest 2023, a Europe pub quiz and a foreign language speak-dating, among other activities. Find out more at <https://www.b-tu.de/en/news/article/23550-btu-celebrates-europe-weeks-in-may>



EUNICE STAFF WEEK: FACE-TO-FACE NETWORKING AND TEAM BUILDING



Staff members of diverse profiles from different EUNICE partner universities will gather at the University of Cantabria (Spain) for the first Erasmus+ EUNICE Staff Week. It will take place from 19th to 22nd June, 2023. Participants will get to know the campus, as well as this university's internationalisation strategy -with a special focus on EUNICE alliance-. They will also participate in networking sessions where to meet and discuss with colleagues of similar professional profiles.



WHO AND WHERE WE ARE



Poznań University of Technology ([PUT](#)), Poland



[Poznań University of Technology](#) (PUT) is the best technical university in the Wielkopolska voivodeship, in western Poland. It is the third most frequently chosen university in Poland and is among the leading technical universities in Poland. Founded in 1919, PUT trains highly qualified engineers and researchers.



Brandenburg University of Technology ([BTU](#)), Cottbus-Senftenberg, Germany

[BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg](#) is a university of technology located in the state of Brandenburg, north-eastern Germany. BTU collaborates closely with partners from business and science communities to overcome current challenges related to Energy, Materials, Construction, Information and Communication Technology, Health and Environment. One third of its students come from over one hundred different countries.



University of Cantabria ([UC](#)), Spain



The [University of Cantabria](#) (UC), a 50-year-old university located in Santander, northern Spain, is the only public university in the autonomous region of Cantabria. Thanks to the scientific prestige of its researchers, its international projection and its setting in a coastal city surrounded by mountains, UC attracts around 500 international students every year from the five continents.



University of Mons ([UMONS](#)), Belgium

[UMONS](#) offers a wide variety of courses in an enriching environment, as well as close teacher-student relationships. Located in the city of Mons, in the Belgian region of Wallonia, and despite its small size, UMONS, is nonetheless open to internationalisation, with more than 70 nationalities among its students.



University of Catania ([UNICT](#)), Italy



The [University of Catania](#) (UNICT) is the oldest university in the Italian island of Sicily -founded in the 15th century- and develops many of its resources in global challenges research: public health, environmental sustainability, technology and social integration.



Université Polytechnique Hauts-de-France ([UPHF](#)), France

The [Université Polytechnique Hauts-de-France](#) (UPHF) is the very first polytechnic university in France and is based on two poles: Humanities and Science and Technology. Located in Valenciennes, northern France, 14% of its students come from 85 different nationalities.



University of Vaasa ([UniVaasa](#)), Finland



The [University of Vaasa](#), named after its city on the west coast of Finland, is focused on responsible business. The core competence of this university consists of high-level expertise in business, technology, management, and communications. Almost one third of its teaching staff are foreigners.



University of the Peloponnese ([UoP](#)), Greece

[The University of the Peloponnese](#) is a public, comprehensive university spreading across six different cities of the region with its headquarters in Tripoli.

Founded in 2000 the University today comprises 9 Faculties and 22 Departments offering a range of undergraduate and postgraduate studies to almost 25000 enrolled students while 200+ research projects are currently in progress.



Karlstad University ([KAU](#)), Sweden



[Karlstad University](#) has been ranked as one of the top universities in Sweden in terms of research quality and has received several awards for its efforts to promote environmental and social sustainability.



Polytechnic Institute of Viseu ([IPV](#)), Portugal

The [Polytechnic Institute of Viseu](#) (IPV) has a strong commitment to promoting innovation, entrepreneurship and social responsibility. IPV offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in areas such as engineering, education, health, social sciences, arts and management. By working closely with local and regional stakeholders, this



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