THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES INITIATIVE

In December 2017 Conclusions, the European Council called on EU Member States, the Council and the Commission to take forward a number of initiatives, including

…strengthening strategic partnerships across the EU between higher education institutions and encouraging the emergence by 2024 of some twenty 'European Universities', consisting in bottom-up networks of universities across the EU which will enable students to obtain a degree by combining studies in several EU countries and contribute to the international competitiveness of European universities.

The May 2021 Council Conclusions on the European Universities reiterated the support for the European Universities to achieve:

…the ambitious vision of an innovative, globally competitive and attractive European Education Area and European Research Area, in full synergy with the European Higher Education Area, by helping to boost the excellence dimension of higher education, research and innovation, while promoting gender equality, inclusiveness, and equity, allowing for seamless and ambitious transnational cooperation between higher education institutions in Europe, and inspiring the transformation of higher education.

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WHAT IS THE OBJETIVE?

European Universities initiative | European Education Area (europa.eu) https://education.ec.europa.eu/education-levels/higher-education/european-universities-initiative (video)

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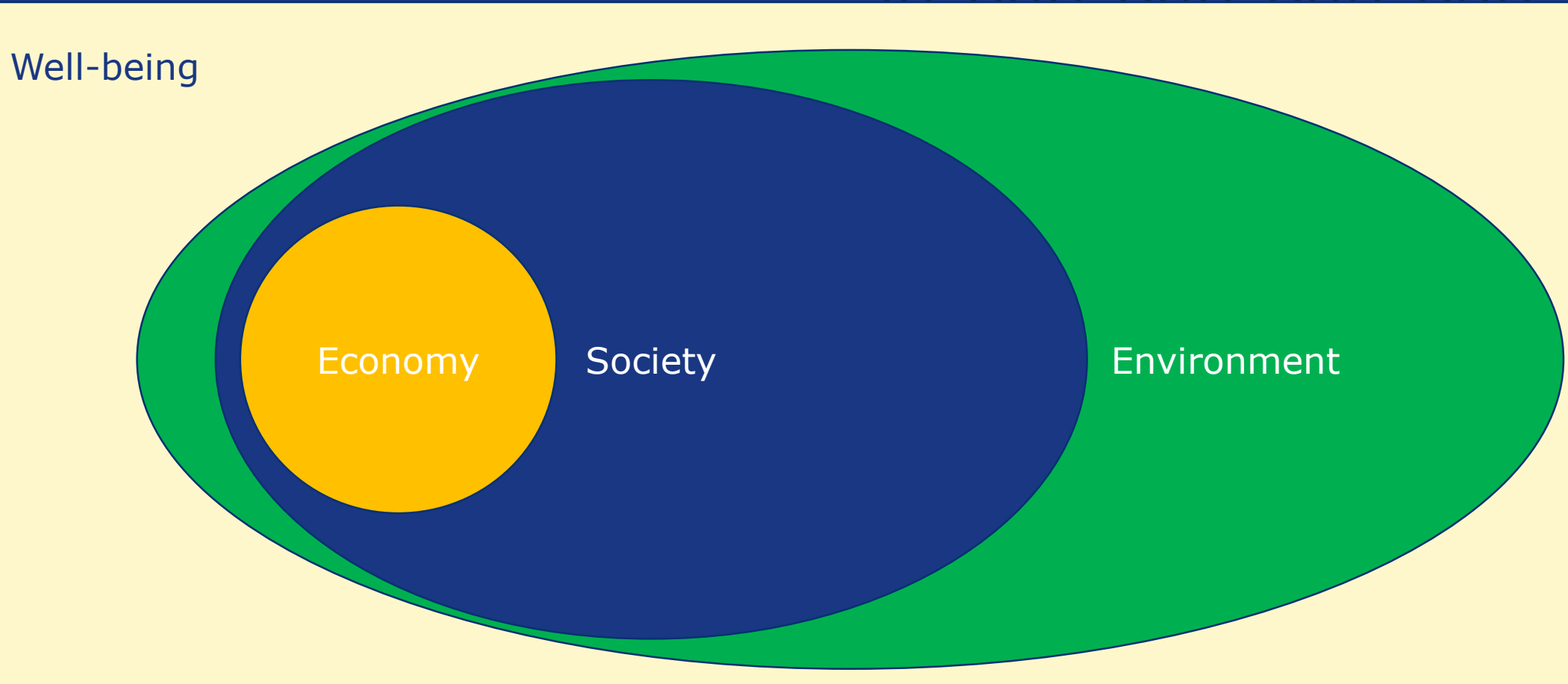
HOW?

European Universities are transnational alliances that will lead the way towards the universities of the future, promoting European values and identity, and revolutionising the quality and competitiveness of European higher education.

European Commission asks to European Universities and create Alliances as tool and MetaOrganisation in order to find the correct track and solution. (*Personal opinion but huge sharing*)

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The transformative potential of European University Alliances include the more important humans (Europeans) pillars as **environment**, **society** and **economy** under a Well-being **Framework**

Well-being

Economy

Society

Environment

Figure Based on "The green Swan: Central Banking and Finantial Stability in the Age of climate Change". Bolton et al. 2020

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For **innovation** to feed into **transformation** and generate **meaningful and sustainable impact** is necessary…

- **Funding schemes** , supporting successful innovation to move into sustainable development,
- New approaches to **measure impactful research** **-based education** ,
- **Incentives** for universities and academics to innovate in higher education teaching,
- Optimization with regard to **bureaucratic processes** ,
- Better support systems for those innovating and navigating the national and supranational environment

Alliances are meta-organisation where share experiences, colaboration and co-creation with all levels, student, staff, teachers and society.

Work together in all aspect to get Joint Degrees in European Level.

Spreading innovative results from European University Alliances

Alliances represented...

1CORE (4EU+) - Kristýna Kolínová
CIVIS - Manuel Alcántara-Plá
EC2U - Liisa Järvinen
ENLIGHT Joanne Pagèze
EU-CONEXUS - Artūras Razbadauskas
EUNICE - Magdalena Sikorska
EuroTeQ - Patrik Mottl
EUT+ - Francisco Vera García
FILMEU - Marc Van De Walle
Transform4Europe - Tomas Mickevičius
UnaEuropa - Anna Stina Sinisalo
UNIC - Małgorzata   Gramala & René Teunissen
UNITA I - Amandine   Fleurier
UNITA II - Francisco   Do Adro
UNIVERSEH - Florence Voitier-Sienzonit
YUFE - Riikka Pellinen

Training and Cooperation Activity (TCA)

Spreading innovative results from

European University Alliances to other higher education institutions

More than 140 attendees from 25 different Alliances

During several years of intense cooperation, 41 European University Alliances have developed outstanding results, which are of great interest for other European higher education institutions and various stakeholders.

Aims:

• To identify and spread innovative results and best practices from European University Alliances to other higher education institutions,

and

• To discuss and explore the transformative impact of the European University Alliances on higher education in Europe.

Focus

The importance of the European cooperation in higher education

The European strategy for universities - European universities alliances as role models in the higher education landscape

The impact of European University Alliances on national and European policies for higher education

Discussion of strategies with European University Alliances

Workshops:

- Re-shaping education within European University Alliances
- The impact on research at the European University Alliances
- Building new institutional cooperation structures at the European University Alliances
- Strengthening impact on other higher education institutions in the European Alliances
- The impact on the societal dimension
- Mobilising and including students, researchers and administrative staff

- European University Initiative: Impact, outcomes and learnings for National Agencies
- Piloting innovative European structures and instruments
- Existing strategies for outreach and dissemination
- Impact and Learnings on European University Initiative
- Impact on national structures

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

Training and Cooperation Activity (TCA)

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# Ideas, important points, messages from Alliances …

- Different timelines of the process: marathon (**long-term effort**) vs. sprint (short-term projects)
- Level of **ambition** high- managing expectations is a challenge
- More **sharing** across alliances of concrete details and actions would be helpful - less focus on sharing the big idea, concept and approach but **highlighting practices that work**
- Change the **identity** of the University to an Unique **Alliance Identity**
- Create special **clusters for topic/specialization** and **appropriate communications channels** in order to get degree validation for all members of Alliance
- **Good branding is important for all stakeholders** within the HEI and alliances to identify with
- **Governments and national agencies should play a bigger role in EUIs visibility**, since they have all the tools to disseminate information and reach target groups
- **Face to face meetings/events** are underrated! This is the best way to disseminate good practices, different experiences, challenges and problem solutions

- **New alliances** or institutions wanting to join alliances **can learn from** the processes of the already **existing alliances**, they have "paved the way"
- Your stakeholders/target groups can be your voice – ambassadors, buddies. Successful **early adapters are great multipliers**. **Collect success stories** and promote them. Bring them to the table at meetings. **Connect staff involved in different activities** to share their experiences and challenges they have stumbled upon. Experiences and challenges are **interchangeable**. Experience can be a challenge as well as challenge can be experience
- Promoting EUI at a university comes down to **rising awareness of opportunities** and eliciting engagement of the target group
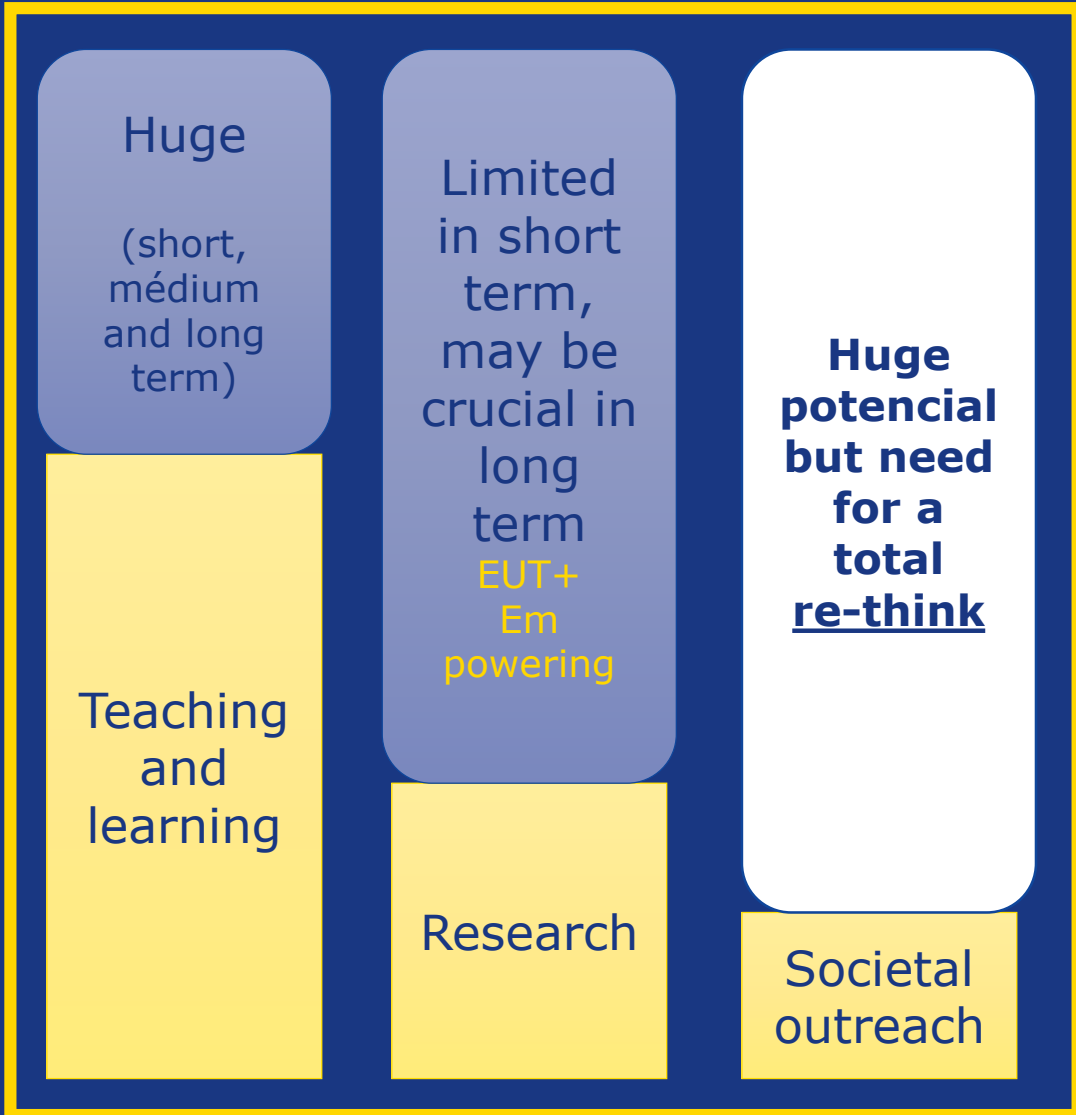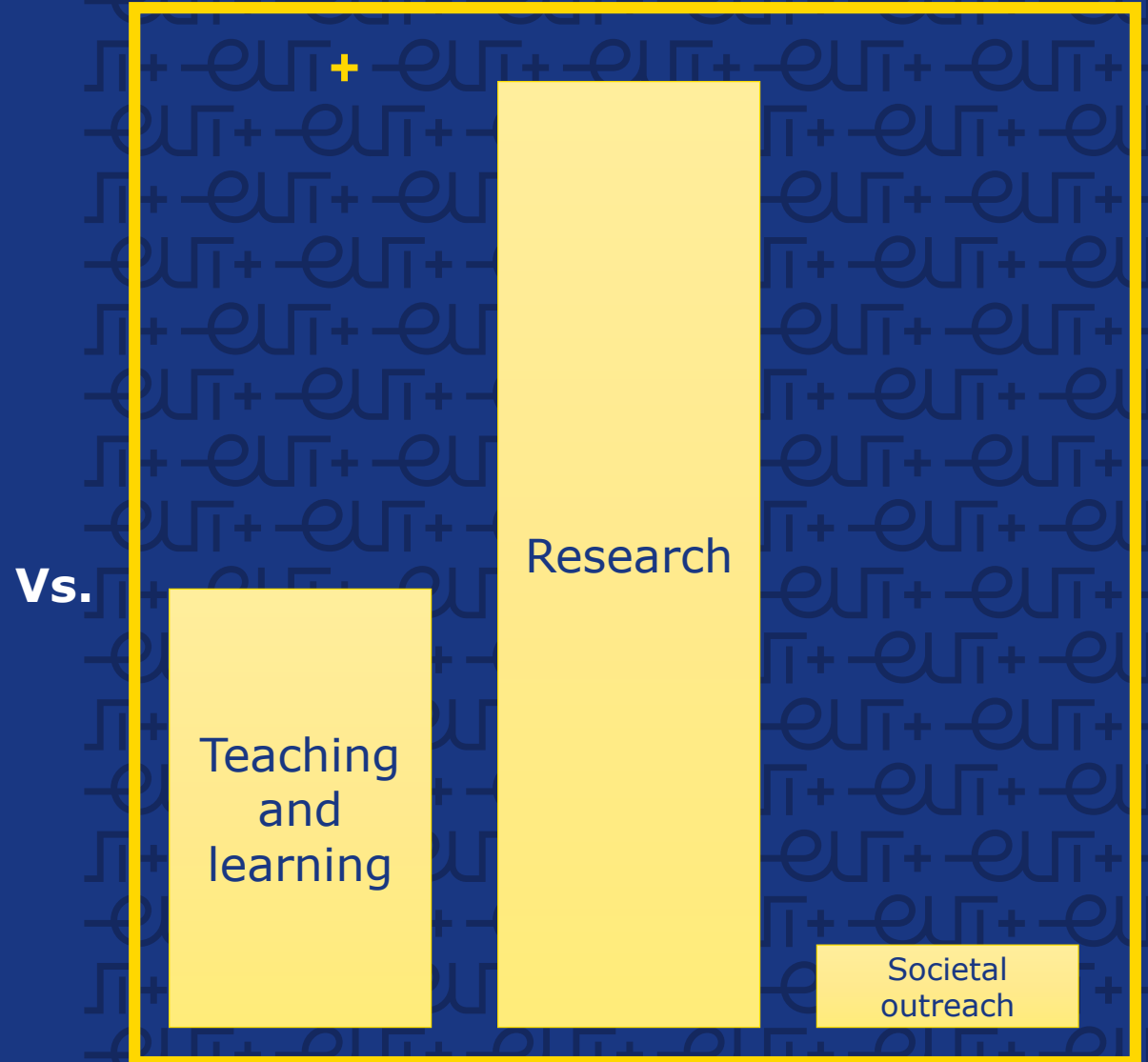
Lessons learned

Outreach and cooperation with external partners need additional resources → additional funding/ in-kind contribution needed

Exchange of strategies & best practices and/or active cooperation & co-creation
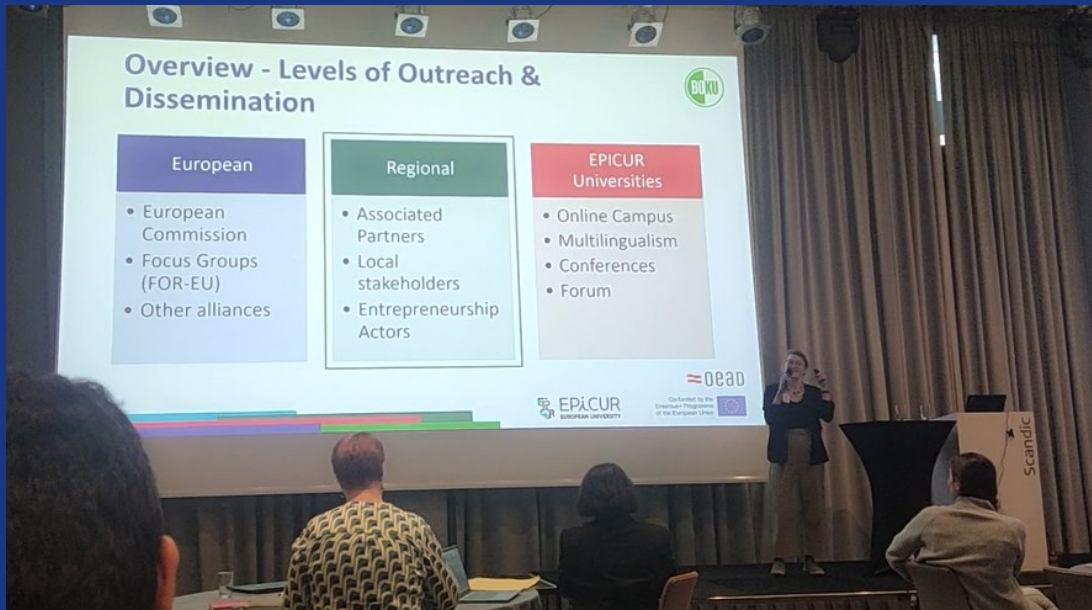
Administrative hurdles → mobility, agencies, national and supranational rules→ Stablish MoU for members & associted
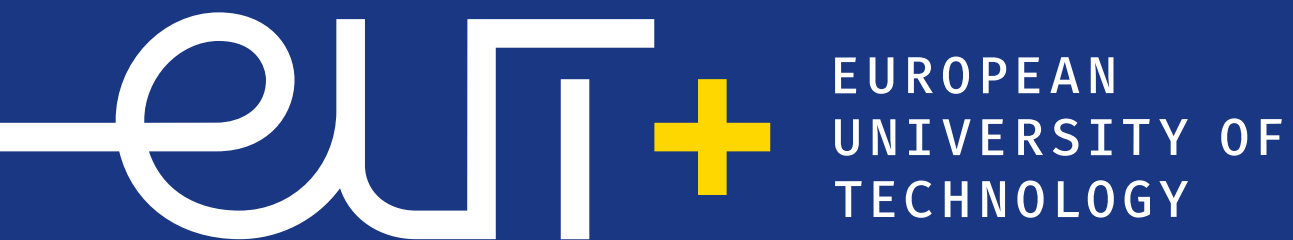
Dedicated teams for communication, dissemination and outreach needed → implementation of task forces → Several communication channels connected & with a common messages…
Vertical, transversal & outreach channels

Good branding is important for all stakeholders within the HEI and alliances to identify with

Some photos from the event ...