

Project Proposal: Innovating on Learning and Teaching for Enhancing the Knowledge Based Evolution of the European Regions for Sustainable Blue Growth

Acronym: INNOVOLUTION

Call: EAC-A02-2019 — Erasmus+ Call for proposals 2020

Action: Key Action 2 (KA2) — Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
European Universities

Call documents: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/documents/erasmus-programme-guide-2020_en

Deadline: 26 February 2020 17:00:00 Brussels time

Abstract:

The proposed project is intending to strengthen a deep inter-university cooperation within a unique mix of Universities in order to address the problem of enhancing the Knowledge Based Sustainable Blue Growth of the European Regions by a shared, integrated, long-term joint strategy for fulfilling the generic three missions of our universities as education for talent development, advancement of scientific and technical knowledge and exchange of knowledge between academia and industry/society.

Objectives:

To work together for developing new joint and flexible curricula to be delivered, where relevant, in the three cycles (Bachelor, Master and Doctoral), based on cross-disciplinary/multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral approaches, integrating innovative pedagogies, including the use of the latest digital technologies.

To ensure that in the coming years the students, doctoral candidates and staff can move seamlessly (physically or virtually) to study, train, teach, do research, work, or share services in any of the partner institutions from our region. In this way to create the conditions that embedded mobility of the students at all levels, including at Bachelor, Master and Doctoral levels, shall become a standard feature.

To promote new models of knowledge-creating teams of students and academics, together with researchers, businesses, regional actors and civil society actors to address effective problems of the target regions.

INNOVOLUTION Tentative Partnership

Consortium Members:

“Ovidius” International University of Constanta, Romania

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

Varna Technical University, Bulgaria

Affiliated Members:

INTEROP-VLab - European Virtual Laboratory for Enterprise Interoperability (I-VLab), Belgium

National Institute of Research and Development for Biological Sciences, Bucharest, Romania

Activities

The planned activities shall bring together the ESFRI DANUBIUS Research Infrastructure, the Black Sea Universities Network, the Blue Growth Initiative in the Black Sea Region and other European ecosystems on Blue Growth, humanistic subjects and social cohesion having as backbone a group of Universities connected with very strong ties and having as strategic mission to contribute to the improvement of the attractiveness of their region for intelligent and creative students.

The connectivity between the member universities shall be developed based on the unique expertise of the I-Vlab Network specialized on the interoperability of digital platforms and processes. In this way, during the implementation of the project, it shall be reached the interoperability of the member Universities orchestrating their ecosystems of companies and scientific research partners to build a strong cluster of European Universities.

In the future INNOVOLUTION cluster, the students and academic staff shall have access to the resources of all partners and for this reason the activities have been conceived to pilot, validate and generalize core technologies in the field of interoperability of digital data infrastructures, MOOCs, e-learning and e-lab platforms enabled by AI, VR, Big Data and many other similar.

Proposal Preparation

The preparation activity has been conceived in the following pillars:

1. Strategic management: to define a joint Mission statement of the INNOVOLUTION Consortium. Each partner University shall be invited to make a brief SWOT and further we shall aggregate them into a SWOT of the entire consortium, to define a set of specific

European University values and several priorities for addressing the global market to attract talented, creative and intelligent people to be involved in education programs available within the consortium and to act locally for the sustainable development of the targeted European regions.

2. Academic programs: to identify a set of study programs in the mentioned subjects that are similar in 2, 3 or more member Universities to be selected as pilot programs that will be harmonized in the next 3 years. Each University shall keep the specific aspects of their programs but shall take the benefit of adding valuable ingredients from the partner Universities.
3. Interoperability of digital data infrastructures: to develop the structural and informational analysis of the member universities to construct the interoperability of the digital infrastructures and processes. It is expected that each student shall be able to login to the digital platform of the home University but, shall be able to access the learning resources of all the other partners.
4. Science & Innovation: to develop a set of models for involving scientific research and innovation activities as intimate parts of the education processes. There will be harmonized and developed facilities for different education approaches like learning by discovery, hackathons, work based learning, initiating start-ups and other similar.
5. Administrative & clerical: to evaluate the set of administrative procedures and measures to enhance the mobility of students, researchers and academic staff within the Consortium in order to simplify the bureaucracy and enhance mobility.
6. Marketing: to conduct a process of branding of the consortium and positioning in several markets both in recruiting students, teaching and research staff and establishing long term partnerships with the key players in scientific and innovation activities.
7. Sustainability: to define, test and validate proper business models for managing the resources of the consortium to fulfill its mission and strategic objectives and to assure the sustainability of the operations.

Contact

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