



# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, COMMUNITY OUTREACH DURING AND AFTER THE COVID-19 CRISIS

*UNICA STUDENT WEBINAR*

*The future of the social impact of universities (and how the crisis has affected its perception)*



# INTERNATIONALISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR SOCIETY

*Understanding internationalisation as a mean and not only as a goal*



**The challenge:  
how to keep international students engaged in the  
midst of a global pandemic?**

What can be the role of student associations?





## Key aspects



Fighting the  
infodemic



Connection with  
hosting  
community



Sense of  
belonging



# #ErasmusAtHome

Are you socially distancing to help minimize the spread of COVID-19?

There are ways to give back to society, even from the comfort of your couch!



#ErasmusAtHome: the Erasmus Generation's contribution



Global actions





## Local actions

# #ErasmusAtHome LOCAL COMMUNITY

1

Donate blood for people who are in need



2

Be aware of fake news. Only trust credible sources and .gov websites



3

Volunteer at a local hospital and assist the medical staff



4

Support the local businesses of your area



5

Become an ESN volunteer and help international students in your city



6

Offer to help your elderly neighbours with their groceries



7

Stay at home and help minimize the risk for vulnerable and elderly people



8

Regularly check in on friends and family members who live alone and might be feeling lonely



9

Be an online emotional support person on 7Cups



10

Start a fundraiser and invite your friends and family to contribute. Donate the amount to a local organisation





## WHAT COMES NEXT?

*Spoiler: an urgent need for more and better internationalisation*





Risk of more  
exclusive mobility

Reduction of real  
interactions

Nationalism, anti  
globalism

Post COVID-19 challenges

Help us improve  
social inclusion and  
engagement in  
mobility.



Fill in the survey

[www.siem-project.eu](http://www.siem-project.eu)



**SIEM**  
Social Inclusion &  
Engagement in Mobility



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

SIEM: Widening participating and fostering engagement

## Becoming international

International students as drivers of internationalisation in their hosting communities





Learning and  
teaching  
values and  
participation

Internationalisation as a form of civic participation for students  
and communities



## Creating spaces for intercultural learning

Spaces for students to meet locals and internationals are crucial to achieve real intercultural learning and bring the benefits of internationalisation to communities





## **Universities and student organisations can and should collaborate to promote community engagement among international students**

It must become a priority in the next semesters. The tools are there: It is now a matter of will.





**THANK YOU!**

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