



Network of Universities
from the Capitals of Europe

IROs planning for the future

Let's get down to business!



01. UNICA Announcements





25-27 Feb 2026

EU-Canada Cooperation:

Shared Values,

Shared Futures



UNICA Days in Brussels

SESSION 1 | Scientific Diplomacy and Societal Leadership:
The Role of Universities in EU–Canada Cooperation

SESSION 2 | EU-Canada Research Cooperation: challenges
and opportunities

SESSION 3 | EU–Canada cooperation for climate action,
urban resilience and global sustainability

SESSION 4 | Global Education for Global Citizenship:
Universities Mission in a Changing World

SESSION 5 | Shared Values, Shared Futures: A Roadmap
for EU–Canada Academic Cooperation



- University Foundation (UNICA headquarters)
- European Parliament

**REGISTRATIONS
ARE OPEN!**





Universidad
de Alcalá

24-26 Jun 2026

UNICA General Assembly & Rectors' Seminar

“Cooperation with Latin America”



IRO GROUP SPECIFIC MEETINGS

SOON:

- Online Meeting to report on the Erasmus+ KA131 Higher Education Mobility Working Group, which took place on 5 & 6 December in Brussels

SEP 2026, Glasgow:

- UNICA IRO Reception at the EAIE

NOV/ DEC 2026:

- 32nd IRO Meeting (Location TBC)

OFFICE RECONSTRUCTION: SUMMER 2026!

Out of office... working from Bali!



02. IRO future plans



READY, SET... WHAT'S NEXT?

Possible themes to address

IROs contributing to the Union of Skills & Reskilling for the Future

- Internationalisation as a driver of skills portability & talent retention
- Informal learning: challenges, opportunities & recognition
- New skills for a changing Higher Education landscape: how can IROs lead?
- IROs upskilling & reskilling (practical)

Sustainable & green driven IROs

- Green mobility: is it worth it and significantly consequential?
- Embedding sustainability in partnerships
- Aligning the work of IROs in universities' sustainability plans
- The carbon cost of internationalisation

The student affair

- How does a student bring internationalisation back to the home university?
- Die hard topics: housing, inclusion, navigating bureaucratic hurdles, etc
- Partnering with students for social impact
- Preparing for new generations of students

READY, SET... WHAT'S NEXT?

Possible themes to address

European Capitals as learning ecosystems: new visions of collaboration

- Capital cities as living labs
- Collaboration with city governments, cultural institutions, NGOs
- Place-based innovation and education
- International students engaging with local communities
- Cultural shock or cultural shake?
- Mobility shaped by metropolitan realities
- Urban networks, partnerships, and innovation

What do YOU think is relevant?

READY, SET... WHAT'S NEXT?

- What do you **expect** from UNICA as a network of universities from European capitals?
- Which **interests, values, or priorities** do you believe UNICA should represent at European and international levels?
- Is there anything **UNICA could do to better support** your institution, your office, or your work?
- Are there **new formats** (workshops, peer-learning, task forces, thematic clusters) you would find useful?
- **How much** is 'too much to ask'?

04. Members' corner: open stage!





UCD's School of **Medicine** is looking for new partnerships in the areas of **student exchange and research** (including student research options). If any of our colleagues are interested, I can send them our curriculum as a start, and also put them in contact with our School of Medicine - I can act as the initial contact person.

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05.

Evaluation Survey



<https://bit.ly/3MyXIhN>



Completion of the survey is being monitored by the UNICA Office Coordinator.

Those who fail to complete the survey risk having the dashboard collapsing due to the turn-of-the-millennium bug.



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