



UNICA DAYS

2026 BRUSSELS

EU-Canada Cooperation:

Shared Values, Shared Futures



## BIOGRAPHIES OF THE SPEAKERS & CHAIRS

(in order of appearance)

### Sorin COSTREIE | President of UNICA



**Sorin Costreie** was elected to the position of President of UNICA in June 2023. He was previously Vice-Rector for Public Relations and University Networks (2019-2024) and Vice-Rector for International Relations of the *University of Bucharest* (2017-2019). In between, he was Adviser to the Minister and State Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research. He was also State Advisor to the Prime-Minister for Education and Research from 2020 to 2023.

He is Associate Professor at the Department of Theoretical Philosophy, *University of Bucharest* and holds a PhD in Philosophy.

He was awarded several scholarships and fellowships to study for extended periods in Canada, United States, Germany, Spain and Italy.

He is member of various professional associations, and since 2014 he is member of the Steering Committee of the European Society of Analytic Philosophy.

### Anne WEYEMBERGH | Vice-Rector for External Relations and Development Cooperation, Université Libre de Bruxelles and Member of the UNICA Steering



**Anne Weyembergh** is a full time Professor of Law at ULB. She is also a member of the *Académie Royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique*. She founded and co-coordinates the *European Criminal Law Academic Network (ECLAN)*, a significant initiative established in November 2004. She serves as a chief editor of the *New Journal of European Criminal Law (NJECL)* and as a general editor for *Hart Publishing's* EU Criminal Law series.

Professor Weyembergh has led numerous substantial research projects, including the *Jean Monnet Network Polycivis*, the *Jean Monnet Center of Excellence* project focusing on solidarity within the EU, and the the GEMSTONES project, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie action.

## Nicholas BROUSSEAU | Deputy Head of Mission, Mission of Canada to the European Union



**Nicholas Brousseau** was appointed Ambassador of Canada to the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in July 2024. He is also Deputy Head of Mission of Canada to the European Union since August 2021.

Prior to joining this Mission, Dr. Brousseau served as Ambassador of Canada to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan. He joined Foreign Affairs Canada in 2004. Throughout his career, Dr. Brousseau has held various positions both abroad and at home. He has served at the Permanent Mission to the United Nations, the Embassy to Russia and the Embassy to Romania, where he was the head of the political section and was also accredited to Bulgaria and Moldova.

At home, he has worked in the European Union Division and the Eastern Europe and Balkans Division. He has also served as deputy director in the Nuclear Disarmament, Arms Controls and Disarmament Policy Division and as senior departmental adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

## Patrick DEANE | Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Queen's University and IAU Vice President



**Patrick Deane** is currently Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University, Canada, a position he has held since 2019.

Before that he served nine years as President and Vice-Chancellor of McMaster University, Canada. He has also been Provost and Vice-Principal Academic at two Canadian institutions.

Raised and educated in South Africa, he has a deep commitment to higher education as a force for social justice and transformation and understands that the mission of universities must be understood in relation to their impact at both the local and global level. Deane's commitment to global engagement comes together with his advocacy for academic freedom and autonomy in his work for

the *Magna Charta Observatory* at the *University of Bologna*, where he currently serves as President of the Governing Council of the Observatory. He is one of the authors of the *Magna Charta Universitatum 2020*. Deane is Professor of English Language and Literature at Queen's University. His research focus is on the relationship between politics and artistic production in Britain, 1914-1945.

## Josep M. GARRELL | President, European University Association (EUA)



In 2012, **Josep M. Garrell** was appointed Rector of Ramon Llull University, where he went on to serve a second four-year term in (2016-2020) and a third two-year term (2020-2022). In 2015, he was appointed as a member of the Standing Committee of the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE), whom he also at the EUA Council and General Assembly from 2016 to 2019.

Prior to his terms as rector, he held several leadership positions at Ramon Llull University, such as Secretary of the Research Commission (1998-2002), Delegate of the Rector for ICT (2000-2002), Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation (2002-2010), Secretary General (2006-2010) and Vice-Rector for University Policy (2010-2012).

Professor Garrell holds a Doctorate in Electronic Engineering from Ramon Llull University. As a faculty member and researcher at Ramon Llull University (URL), he specialized in artificial intelligence and machine learning. He co-founded the Intelligent Systems Investigation Group at the university's La Salle campus and conducted research at Carnegie's Mellon University's Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center.

## Javier MORENO-SANCHEZ | Chair of the Delegation for Relations to Canada of the European Parliament



**Javier Moreno Sánchez** is a Spanish politician who has served as Member of the European Parliament for the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party from 2004 until 2009 and since 2019, part of the Party of European Socialists. From 2014 until 2019, he was the Secretary General of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats' parliamentary group.

In his first term as Member of the European Parliament, Moreno served on the Committee on International Trade (2004–2007) and the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (2007–2009). In addition to his committee assignments, he was a member of the Parliament's delegation for relations with Mercosur.

Since the 2019 European elections, he has been leading the Spanish delegation within the S&D Group. In addition, he again joined the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs.

## Maria Cristina RUSSO | Deputy-Director-General for Innovation, Prosperity and International Cooperation, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission



**Maria Cristina Russo** is Deputy Director-General for Innovation, Prosperity and International Cooperation in DG Research and Innovation. In this role she oversees the relations with third countries on Research & Innovation and the Association Agreements to Horizon Europe, she steers the work of the Innovation and the Prosperity Directorates. Previously Director for Prosperity with responsibility for Industrial research innovation & investments agenda, Valorisation policies and IPR, Industrial transformation, and AI in Science. She has been working for the European Commission since 1992 where she held several policy and managerial positions related to external relations, the EU decision-making process and various EU policies, in particular Research & Innovation.

Before being appointed Director, she was member of the Cabinet of the Commissioner in charge of research policy and Head of Unit in the Secretariat-General of the European Commission holding different positions dealing with inter-institutional relations and policy making, and in the department in charge of consumers' policies and financial services.

Maria Cristina holds a degree in Political Sciences from the Luiss University of Rome and a Research Master's Degree in European Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges. She has three children.

## Pieter BALLON | Vice Rector for Research, Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Coordinator of UNICA Research



**Pieter Ballon** holds a PhD in Communication Sciences (*VUB*) and a licentiate in Modern History (*KULeuven*). His PhD dealt with business model innovation in mobile communications. From 1998-2007, he was researcher and team leader at *TNO*, the Dutch organisation for applied scientific research.

He has also been Director of *iMinds*, the Flemish institute for digital innovation; guest Professor at the *Polytech (ISTIA)* of the Université d'Angers, France; and co-founder of the *European Network of Living Labs (EnoLL)* and the *Open and Agile Smart Cities Network (OASC)*. From 2017-2021, he held the *VUB Academic Chair on Smart Cities*.

Pieter is Director of *imec-SMIT*, *VUB* (Studies in Media, Innovation and Technology) and Professor in communications and digital economics at *VUB*.

Since 2022, he is the Vice-Rector for Research of the *Vrije Universiteit Brussel*. He is co-founder and board member of the *Hannah Arendt Institute* (2020), which disseminates best practices on citizenship in diverse, urban contexts.

Pieters' research interests include digital business models, the political economy of digital platforms, smart cities and platform urbanism. He has delivered over 60 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, over 100 published conference papers and over 50 keynotes. He has also written a number of popular-scientific books, including "*Smart Cities: Hoe slimme technologie onze steden leefbaar houdt en slimmer maakt*" and "*De Stad is een Boek*" (*LannooCampus*). From 2016-2019, he was appointed by the Brussels regional government as Brussels Smart City Ambassador. In 2017, he was awarded the prize for Societal Valorisation by the VUB research council, meant for researchers with a strong societal impact. In 2020, he was appointed by the Flemish government as member of the post-Covid societal relaunch committee.

## Hélène DRAINVILLE | Delegate General of Québec in Brussels



**Hélène Drainville** took office as Québec's delegate general in Brussels on October 6, 2025. In this capacity, she represents the Québec government in Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and before European institutions. She has also held important positions within the Ministry of International Relations and "*La Francophonie*", notably as assistant deputy minister for relations - "*Afrique, Francophonie et affaires multilatérales*" from 2020 to 2024, and assistant deputy minister for affaires francophones et multilatérales et partenariats from 2019 to 2020.

She was also executive director of the Association francophone pour le savoir (ACFAS) from 2017 to 2020, where she contributed to the promotion of research and knowledge in French.

In the summer of 2025, she was appointed Knight of the Order of Academic Palms of the French Republic in recognition of her commitment to youth development, international mobility, and strengthening ties between France and Québec. She was also honored by the Québec Bar Association for her "female leadership and community involvement."

## Anja GEITMANN | Vice-President Global Engagement, McGill University



**Anja Geitmann** obtained her PhD in 1997 from the University of Siena (Italy), following undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Constance (Germany), Oregon State University (USA), and Stockholm University (Sweden). Between 1997 and 2001 she performed postdoctoral research at the Université Laval, Québec, and at the University of Wageningen, The Netherlands.

From 2001 to 2015 she was Professor at the Department of Biological Sciences of the Université de Montréal and Scientist at the *Institut de recherche en biologie végétale*.

In 2015 she joined McGill University as Professor in the Department of Plant Science, Dean at the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and Associate Vice-Principal of Macdonald Campus, and in 2024 was named McGill's Vice-President (Global Engagement).

She served as President of the *Microscopical Society of Canada*, the *Canadian Society of Plant Biologists*, and the President of the *International Association of Plant Reproduction Research*. She serves on the editorial and advisory boards of multiple scientific journals including *Cell*, *Plant Physiology*, and *Journal of Experimental Botany*.

## Daniel JUTRAS | Chair of U15 Canada and Rector of the University of Montréal



**Daniel Jutras** has served as the Rector of the *Université de Montréal* in Canada since 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2020.

A specialist in civil and comparative law, he holds law degrees from *Université de Montréal* and *Harvard University*. At the time of his appointment as UdeM rector, Mr. Jutras held the Wainwright Chair in Civil Law of McGill University's faculty of law. At the same faculty, between 1985 and 2020, he was in turn vice-dean, director of the Institute of Comparative Law and finally dean, from 2009 to 2016.

He is currently a member of numerous boards of directors in the university sphere, as well as in civil society organizations such as the University of Montreal Health Centre and the U7+ Alliance of World Universities.

Since September 2025, he acts as Chair of the Board of U15 Canada, an association of fifteen leading research universities across Canada.

## Carole MANCEL-BLANCHARD | Head of Unit International Cooperation: Europe and Americas, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission



**Carole Mancel-Blanchard** is the Head of Unit in charge of international cooperation with Europe and the Americas in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation.

From 2019 till 2024, she worked in the Cabinet of Commissioner Ferreira in charge of cohesion and reforms as member and then deputy Head of Cabinet.

She has a long experience in the areas of cohesion policy, urban policy and competition policy in the European Commission.

## Liliana PASECINIC | Deputy Head of Unit – Member States Partnerships and International Relations, EC Joint Research Center



**Liliana Pasecinic** is Deputy Head of Unit for Member States Partnerships and Interinstitutional, Relations at the Joint Research Center, where she oversees international engagement with governments, international organisations and academia.

She holds academic degrees in Economics and Philology, and has a longstanding experience in diplomacy and international relations, along with a keen interest in science for policy.

## **Cecília ROQUE | Vice-Rector for Research and Advanced Training, NOVA University Lisbon**



**Cecília Roque** is a Professor of Bioengineering at NOVA-FCT, where she heads the Biomolecular Engineering Laboratory. She was Director of the UCIBIO Research Unit and a member of the Board of Directors of the *i4HB Associated Laboratory*. At *NOVA-FCT*, she has held various management positions, notably as an elected member of the Scientific Council.

She holds a degree in Chemical Engineering and a PhD in Biotechnology from the Instituto Superior Técnico, and is also an Associate Professor in Bioengineering at NOVA. She has been a member of the board of national and international scientific societies in the field of Biotechnology and Bioengineering.

She has conducted research at several international institutions, including the *University of Cambridge*, the *University of São Paulo*, the *City University of New York* and *KTH*. Her research focuses on biomimetics, an approach that integrates chemistry, biotechnology and engineering.

She has published more than 130 scientific articles and supervised several postdoctoral and doctoral students.

Her research has been recognized with multiple national and international awards and grants, including one Starting Grant and two Proof-of-Concept Grants from the European Research Council (2014-2024).

## **Charline URBAIN | Advisor for Sustainable Development in Teaching and Research, Université Libre de Bruxelles**



**Charline Urbain** is Advisor for Sustainable Development in Teaching and Research, Université Libre de Bruxelles. Her research investigates the neurophysiological bases of high-level cognitive functions in children by developing age-appropriate brain imaging tasks and identifying underlying neural mechanisms in typical and atypical development.

She wants to explore what neuroscience can contribute to understanding and acting on socio-ecological transformations. She has been ULB's Vice-Rector for Sustainable Development from 2020 to 2024

## **François GELINEAU | Vice-Rector, International Affairs and Sustainable Development, Université de Laval**



**François Gélinau** has been a full professor in the Department of Political Science at *Université de Laval* since 2006, and served as dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences from 2015 to 2022. He has held the Research Chair in Democracy and Parliamentary Institutions since January 2011. He served as director of the *Inter-American Studies Centre* for six years, and as chair of the Department of Political Science in 2015.

Prior to pursuing an academic career, he served as senior policy and research officer for the *Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation* and as senior public opinion advisor in the Intergovernmental Affairs Branch of the Privy Council Office of the Government of Canada.

He has been working with several Québec, Canadian, and international institutional players for several years to translate scientific knowledge into concrete action for the benefit of democracy. He has acted as an international observer on over 20 missions to various countries in the Americas, and has collaborated on a public opinion survey administered in over 30 countries in the on a regular basis.

### Aurélie JEANTET | Vice-President in charge of the Ecological Transition, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3



**Aurélie Jeantet** is a sociologist, Vice-President in charge of the Ecological Transition and senior Lecturer. She is also a researcher at the CNRS laboratory CRESPPA (Centre for Sociological and Political Research of Paris) – GTM (Gender, Work, Mobilities).

She offers a reflection on emotions within workplaces, which are nonetheless largely constructed as rational and emotion-free spaces. She has written about remote work, gender relations, and care work.

She is increasingly interested in the issue of ecological transition and permaculture.

### Jonas SCHOLZE | Head of Unit for Intergovernmental Cooperation, European Urban Initiative



**Jonas Scholze** coordinates the Unit for Intergovernmental support and contact points and the tasks of the *European Urban Initiative (EUI)* team. He is responsible for the Urban Agenda for the EU, the network of national EUI Urban Contact Points and leads on activities related to the establishment of a Territorial Impact Assessment. He previously worked for the *OECD*, the European Parliament and as Executive Director for the German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development in Brussels.

He holds a Master of Arts degree in Geography, Politics and Modern History from the Humboldt University of Berlin.

### Benjamin PRUD'HOMME | Vice President, Policy, Safety and Global Affairs, Mila - Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institute



**Benjamin Prud'homme** is Vice-President of Policy, Safety and Global Affairs. He is an appointed expert of the *OECD.AI Network*, the *United Nations Consultative Network of AI Experts*, and UNESCO's AI Ethics Experts Without Borders. He also co-leads the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI) project "Creating Diversity and Substantive Equality in AI Ecosystems", and is involved with the International Scientific Report on the Safety of Advanced AI, chaired by Yoshua Bengio.

In 2023, he co-edited the *Mila-UNESCO* publication "Missing Links in AI Governance". Benjamin is a lawyer and sits on the Board of Directors of the *Canadian Civil Liberties Association*, the Quebec Observatory on Inequalities, and Legal Aid (Montreal)

## Liviu MATEI | Head of the School of Education, Communication & Society, King's College London



**Liviu Matei** is the Head of the *King's School of Education, Communication & Society*. Prior to joining ECS in March 2022, he was Professor of Higher Education Policy at the *Central European University (CEU)*, where he directed the *Yehuda Elkana Center for Higher Education*, a collaborative academic initiative promoting applied policy research and professional training in higher education.

He established the European Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Social Sciences and Humanities, and the Global Teaching Fellowship Programme; he founded the *Global Observatory on Academic Freedom*, which is supported by the *Open Society University Network*, and the *Open Society Research Platform*, in 2021.

He has consulted in the area of higher education policy and conducted applied policy research projects for the *World Bank*, *UNESCO*, *OSCE*, the *Council of Europe*, the *European Commission*, and other international organisations (intergovernmental and non-governmental), national authorities and universities from Europe and Asia.

He serves on the editorial boards of the *Internationalisation of Higher Education Journal* and the *European Journal of Higher Education*.

## Larissa BEZO | President & CEO, Canadian Bureau for Higher Education



With over three decades of experience across public service, international development, and international education, **Larissa Bezo** brings a wealth of expertise and a deep commitment to global engagement and institutional excellence. She has held senior leadership roles in both government and the non-profit sector, including serving as Deputy Clerk and Deputy Cabinet Secretary for the Government of Saskatchewan, and as Senior Advisor to the Federal Royal Commission.

Her transition from a distinguished public service career to international relations reflects a longstanding dedication to global development and cooperation. Larissa has held senior assignments with the *World Bank*, the *Asian Development Bank*, and the *International Centre for Policy Studies* in Ukraine.

Over the past 20 years, Larissa has worked extensively in international development and education, advising governments and multilateral organizations on institutional capacity building, governance, public sector reform, access to justice, and the development of legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks. She is widely recognized for her ability to lead with strategic clarity, foster resilient partnerships, and navigate complex intercultural and political environments.

A passionate advocate for the transformative power of education, Larissa believes deeply in its ability to drive social progress, foster mutual understanding, and empower individuals and communities around the world. She is equally committed to advancing Canada's global role—promoting inclusive engagement, knowledge diplomacy, and international collaboration through education.

## Romița IUCU | President of the Board of Trustees, University of Bucharest & Coordinator of the UNICA EduLAB



**Romita Iucu** is the President of the Board of Trustees at the *University of Bucharest* and a professor of higher education and pedagogy at the *Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences*. With an important experience in international cooperation in the field of education, professor Iucu is currently, the Coordinator of *UNICA EduLAB Group*, the Co-Chair of the *FOREU European Degree* sub-group of European Universities, member of the Board of *FOREU4ALL (European Alliances)*.

He has been appointed as a Magna Charta Observatory Ambassador from April 2022 and rewarded as a member of The *International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame (IACEHOF)*.

Starting from 2024 he is also a member of the *Future of the Bologna Process Task Force*. He has also worked for the European Commission, *Eurydice*, *World Bank*, and *UNICEF* in several educational programmes.

## Serge JAUMAIN | Co-Director of AmericaS (Interdisciplinary Center of American Studies), Advisor to the Rector for Cooperation to Development, Université libre de Bruxelles



**Serge Jaumain** is full professor of Contemporary History at the *Université Libre de Bruxelles*, where he was vice-rector for international relations for ten years. His teachings include the history of North America. President of the Scientific Council of the *AUF (Francophone University Agency – Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie)* and former President of the *International Council for Canadian Studies*, as well as the *International Association for Canadian Studies*, he has received various distinctions, including the *Canadian Governor General's International Award (2005)*.

His research focuses on the history of Francophone migration in North America, the history of tourism and European/Canadian relations. He has written or edited some thirty books, many of which deal with Canada in a comparative perspective.

## Giorgio MARINONI | Manager of Higher Education and Internationalization policy and projects, International Association of Universities (IAU)



**Giorgio Marinoni** has been Manager of Higher Education and Internationalization at the *International Association of Universities (IAU)*, since February 2015. He oversees Internationalization as one of the four strategic priorities of the Association. Among his responsibilities at IAU are research projects, advisory services and external representation of the association..

He is the coordination of the *ISAS (2.0)* program of advisory services for advancing internationalization and the coordinator of the Network of International Education Associations, NIEA, a global network of non-profit, non-government associations whose main stated purpose is to advance international higher education.

He has published the report of the 6th and 5th *Global Surveys on Internationalization of Higher Education* and of the 1st and 2nd *Global Surveys on the impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education*. He is also a member of the *European Network on International Student Mobility (ENIS): Connecting Research and Practice*, funded by *COST | European Cooperation in Science and Technology*.

Before his current position at *IAU*, Giorgio Marinoni worked for *UNICA*, the *Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe*, in the field of internationalization and higher education policy and reform at the European level and beyond. He has been an active member of the *Erasmus Student Network (ESN)* at local, national and international level, and served the ESN as its President in 2007 – 2008

### **Tim EVANS | Vice-President Research, Innovation and Impact, Concordia University**



**Tim Evans** is Vice-President, Research, Innovation and Impact at *Concordia University*. He earned a medical degree from *McMaster University* and a DPhil in Agricultural Economics from the *University of Oxford* as a *Rhodes Scholar*.

Before joining Concordia, Evans was the inaugural director and associate Dean of the *School of Population and Global Health* at *McGill University*, where he also served as associate Vice-president of global policy and innovation. He was executive director of Canada's *COVID-19 Immunity Task Force* and held senior leadership roles at the *World Bank*, the *World Health Organization* and *BRAC University*.

Throughout his career, Evans has played a key role in advancing global health initiatives. He co-founded *Cavi*, the *Vaccine Alliance*, led the *World Health Organization Commission on Social Determinants of Health* and worked to expand access to HIV treatment and midwifery training in Bangladesh.

### **Bill FLANAGAN | President & Vice-Chancellor, University of Alberta and Vice Chair of U15 Canada**



**Bill Flanagan** became the 14th president and vice-chancellor of the *University of Alberta* in July 2020. Born and raised in Alberta, he has been recognized for his transformative and entrepreneurial leadership.

As soon as he was appointed, President Flanagan launched the largest and most ambitious program of academic and administrative restructuring ever undertaken by a Canadian university. With a vision for the *University of Alberta for Tomorrow (UAT)*, he set the goal of turning the university's acute financial pressures into a strategic transformation, repositioning the *University of Alberta* for long-term success.

Prior to his appointment at the *UoA*, President Flanagan served as Dean of Law from 2005 to 2019 at *Queen's University* in Kingston, Ontario. Through his transformative vision during his tenure, he led major initiatives elevating the delivery of education in law.

President Flanagan currently serves as a member of the *Universities Canada Research Committee*.

In addition to his academic leadership roles, President Flanagan has an extensive record of service and engagement in the broader community. He is currently a member of the board of the *Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research* and formerly served as board chair of the *Ontario HIV Treatment Network*, the *Canada AIDS Russia Project* and the *AIDS Committee of Toronto*. In recognition of his service, he was named to the *Honour Roll of the Ontario AIDS Network* in 2011.

President Flanagan holds a Bachelor's degree in English and Philosophy from *Carleton University*, a JD from the *University of Toronto*, a DEA in International Economic Law from *Université Paris I-Sorbonne*, and an LLM from *Columbia University*.

**Marie GRUBER | Principal advisor, Research and Scientific Strategy, Academic Affairs,  
Mila - Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institute**



**Marie Gruber** is a Principal Advisor in Research and Scientific Strategy at Mila – Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institute, the world’s largest academic deep learning research institute.

With dual experience in research and academic affairs, she specializes in strengthening collaborative ecosystems that turn cutting-edge research into impactful, evidence-based solutions whilst supporting the next generation of researchers. Marie plays a key role in shaping scientific strategy and fostering high-level research collaborations. She is a dedicated advocate for driving innovation at the crossroads of artificial intelligence and public policy.

**Ksenija VIDMAR HORVAT, Vice-Rector for Study and Student S-Affairs, University of  
Ljubljana and Member of the UNICA Steering Committee**



**Ksenija Vidmar Horvat** is full professor of the Sociology of Culture at the Faculty of Arts, *University of Ljubljana*. She studied comparative literature and the sociology of culture (BA, 1991) and received her Master’s Degree (1994) and PhD (2000) at the *University of California Davis, USA*.

She has coordinated several national and international research projects, and acted as member, chair or co-chair at various committees and faculty posts. She was awarded the *Jean Monnet professorship* in 2012, and since 2015 has coordinated the national research program *The social contract in the 21st century*. Her most recent research is on democratic citizenship and post-Covid public sphere.

She is a member of the editorial boards of numerous international journals in the field of sociology and cultural theory, author of several monographs (with translations into English and Croat), and editor of a number of translations of social sciences/humanities books into Slovene.

Currently, she serves as Vice-Rector for study and student affairs at *University of Ljubljana*.