



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

Erasmus+



Uniting over...

224 778

STUDENTS

30 669

STAFF

> 8 000

PHD STUDENTS

UNIC - European University of Post-Industrial Cities



WHO WE ARE

8 pioneers

University of Deusto (Spain)

Ruhr University Bochum (Germany)

University College Cork (Ireland)

Koç University (Turkey)

University of Liège (Belgium)

University of Oulu (Finland)

Erasmus University Rotterdam (The Netherlands)

University of Zagreb (Croatia)

27 associates

17

public organisations

10

NGOs

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Ten years from now, our students, teachers, researchers and administrative staff shall enjoy a **truly European learning, teaching and working experience**. As eight united universities and members of IMISCOE (International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion in Europe), we have a unique basis from which to achieve this ambition together, addressing our shared challenges and opportunities.

We will take **inclusion to the next level** by using the superdiverse settings of our post-industrial cities to unlock new European opportunities for all our students. UNIC will broaden educational opportunities for **non-traditional students**, including members of new migrant communities and people living in socio-economically disadvantaged areas.

Our students and staff will study, teach and work throughout Europe to learn from, and become change agents who will play a role in the transformation of our **post-industrial urban regions of the future**. By engaging students in real-world urban challenges with our city partners through initiatives such as **CityLabs**, we aim to bring 'science to the city' and contribute to the resilience and renaissance of Europe's postindustrial urban centres. We will foster a new generation of students with the knowledge, skills and societal consciousness to act as change-leaders, active citizens and builders of our common European future, shaping the European Education Area.

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PUTTING OUR VISION INTO PRACTICE

KEY DELIVERABLES / ACTIVITIES

- ➔ **Co-creating a European collaborative structure for UNIC:** our ambition is to become the driver of an ever-closer union of our eight universities. The UNIC institution building will be a co-creation between students and university staff, who will identify and remove obstacles and barriers in order to improve inter-university collaboration.
- ➔ **Enabling seamless mobility:** our ambition is for students and university staff to be able to move seamlessly within and outside UNIC. We will tailor this mobility to the superdiverse population of our universities.
- ➔ **Ensuring social inclusion:** superdiversity is a great asset in today's world, but it is only a first step towards inclusion. Fair inclusion means making

everyone feel welcome and appreciated. It means understanding differences and using them to everyone's advantage. UNIC will take inclusion to a higher level at our universities, based on the pooling of research and education excellence of the partner universities in this area.

- ➔ **Contributing to the urban resilience of post-industrial cities and creating societal impact:** we will impact post-industrial transformations by developing a core methodology for university-wide education and research. This includes bringing students to the city as well as bringing the challenges of post-industrial cities to our learning pedagogies through a challenge-based learning methodology. By excellent research linked to urban transformations we will create impact-by-design.

HOW OUR ALLIANCE WILL TRANSFORM OUR UNIVERSITIES

We will move our universities towards an ever-closer union through:

➔ The **UNIC Institution:**

- **UNIC Governance Structure:** this provides a truly European collaborative structure of governance with the structural involvement of students and all relevant stakeholders.
- **UNIC Inter-University Campus:** this enables virtual, physical and blended mobility for students and university staff, through an innovative, differentiated approach that also includes Mobility Hubs for practical advice, European digital learning opportunities, an open mobility agreement, a multi-lingual approach and a mutual recognition of courses.
- **UNIC Superdiversity Academy:** this is our centre of excellence on building inclusive universities in superdiverse cities. The Academy will develop models of practice to address superdiversity through research, educational and outreach programmes, ex-

ecutive training, and the provision of lifelong learning programmes.

- **UNIC CityLabs:** These are pop-up locations in post-industrial cities to bring science to our cities in a challenge-based learning methodology.

➔ The **UNIC Models of Practice:**

- **Differentiated approach to mobility:** combining different types of mobility of superdiverse populations of our cities and universities
- **Superdiverse classroom:** taking inclusion in superdiverse contexts to the next level
- **Challenge-based learning:** by co-creating with local communities, stakeholders and experts, working on topical cases to create impact-by-design.

> www.unic.eu

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