



EU-CONEXUS Policy Brief

N°7 – October 2024



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POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR ALLIANCES

April 2024

[Much more than a Market: Speed, Security, Solidarity](#): Empowering the Single Market to deliver a sustainable future and prosperity for all Citizens by Enrico Letta: The former Italian prime minister and current president of the Jacques Delors Institute (France) requests in this report to add a 5th freedom for a new single market to the four existing ones that should enhance research, innovation and education. European universities alliances are explicitly mentioned as central for promoting learning and labour mobility necessary "to fill skills and labour market gaps and leverage all its opportunities".

July 2024

[Political Guidelines for the Next European Commission](#) by Ursula von der Leyen: Inaugurating her second mandate the President of the European Commission issued political guidelines for the following 5 years. She mentions the European universities alliances on page 11: "It also means attracting new talents and retaining the best and brightest minds here in Europe. To do this, I want to strengthen the collaboration between research departments, higher education and business – notably by strengthening our University Alliances."

September 2024

[The Future of European Competitiveness by Mario Draghi](#): The former Italian prime minister submitted a study commissioned by EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen on European competitiveness. The report contributes to the discussions about the next multi-annual financial framework (2028-2035) and highlights the role of universities and research and innovation in addressing an increasing skills gap and a lack of innovations.

September 2024

[Higher education: EU policy development](#): DG EAC, Vanessa Debiais-Sainton and Tine Delva participated in a FOREU Coordinators' meeting for discussing recent developments at EU policy level concerning European Universities Alliances.

EU-CONEXUS PARTICIPATION IN STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

17-20th of September 2024

EAIE-European Association for International Education, Toulouse, France

A delegation of 24 EU-CONEXUS Alliance members participated in the annual conference for professionals of internationalisation of education in Toulouse. EU-CONEXUS welcomed invited guests and interested conference participants at an individual stand and established first contacts with potential international cluster partners.

The FOREU Coordinators group organised a half-day conference on internationalisation strategies of European Universities Alliances with a focus on collaboration with Ukraine and Africa on 17th of September.

<https://www.eu-conexus.eu/en/2024/09/05/european-universities-alliances-present-at-the-eaie-conference-2024-pioneering-journey-to-transform-higher-education/>

23rd of September 2024

Doctorate honoris causa awarding ceremony for former Commissioner Mariya Gabriel

During her speech, Mariya Gabriel underlined the importance of the European Universities Alliances for the deepening of the European Union.

[Press release](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

30th of October – 3rd of November 2024

2nd ESU Conference of the Student Bodies of the Alliances

The European Student's Union (ESU) and the National Alliance of Student Organisations in Romania (ANOSR) organize a second gathering of student representatives of European Universities Alliances. Major themes are the future of Alliances and student representation within Alliances.

5th & 6th of November 2024

CHARM-EU Days 2024: Bridging Cultures, Embracing Diversity, Budapest

Christelle Tallon, WP17 EU-CONEXUS Plus will participate in a panel on Intercultural awareness in European Universities Alliances.

[Programme, Registration](#)

USEFUL LINKS

Commissioners-designate (2024-2029): A list of all new Commissioners including their Mission Letters.

Updated European Commission EUI Website

Interactive Map of European University Alliances