



Co-funded by the
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A European University in the making: Achievements and Challenges

Annual Closing Conference

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Universidad
**Católica de
Valencia**
San Vicente Mártir



ΓΕΩΠΟΝΙΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS



Klaipeda
University



**UT
CB**
Technical University of
Civil Engineering Bucharest

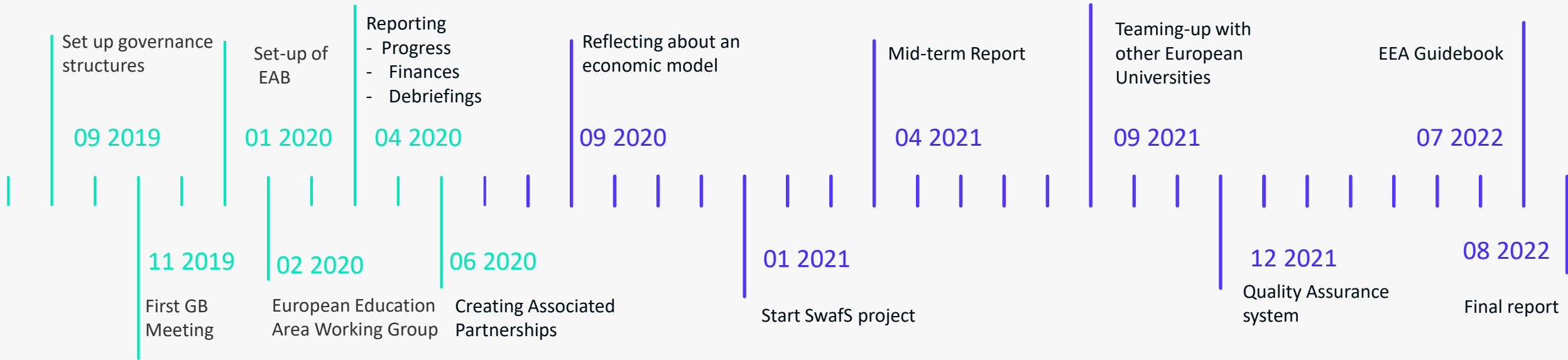
EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to a new kind of transnational cooperation

Isabella Baer-Eiselt, WP 1 leader,
LRUniv

- Management
- Coordination and internal communication
- Quality Assurance



Milestones



Challenges ahead

1. Re-structuration of governance and management system for strengthened research dimension
2. Sustainability
 1. Future European Funding
 2. Economic Model
 3. Quality Assurance System
 4. Accreditation an economic model of joint programmes/joint degrees
 5. Legal entity
3. Stakeholder involvement
 1. Public policy impact, innovation partnerships, smart specialisation
 2. Associated partnership
 3. External Advisory Board



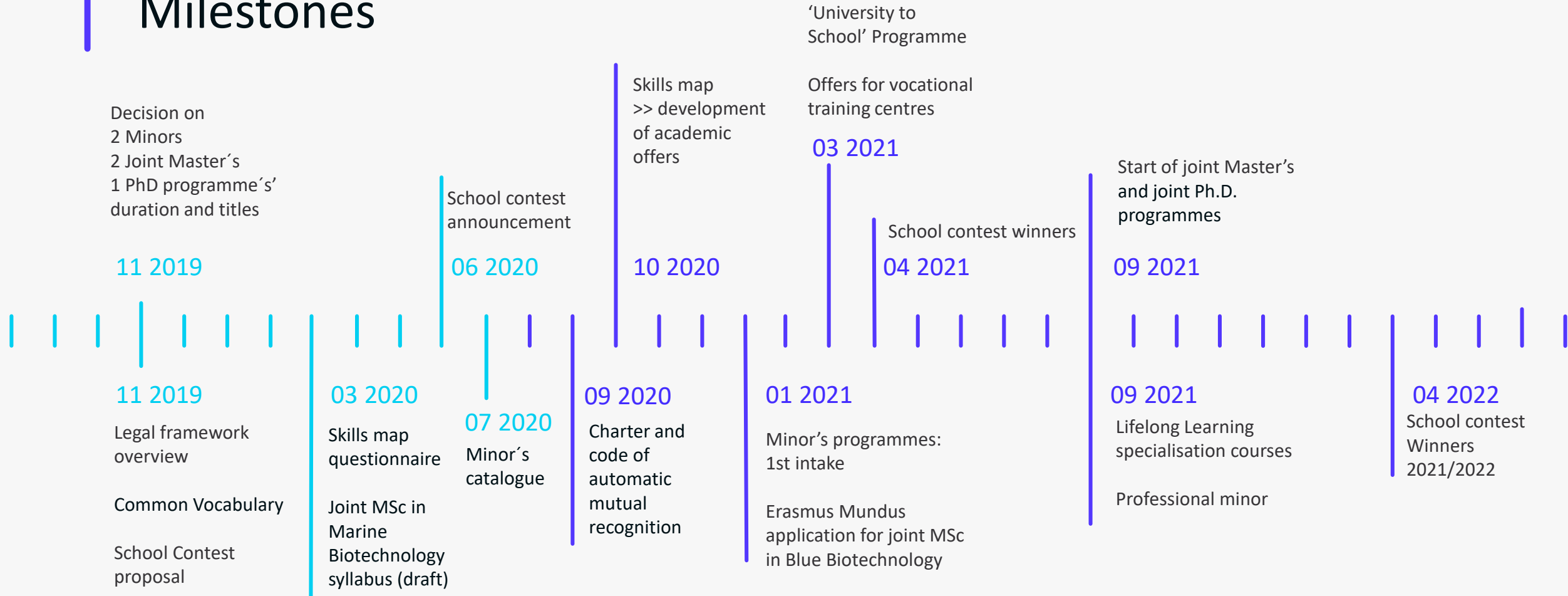
EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to a new kind of learning and teaching

Ana de Luis, WP 2 leader, UCV

- University-to school
- Joint educational programmes
- Life-long training



Milestones



Challenges ahead

EXTERNAL

1. **National legislation:** differences in admission, fees, student numbers, economic support, teaching language, graduation requirements
2. **Timely accreditation** of joint MSc and Ph.D. programmes (to start marketing in spring 2021, classes – in autumn 2021)
3. **COVID-19:** impact on physical workshops, potential impact on students' application and admission for joint degree programmes

INTERNAL

1. **Economic model** to implement joint study programmes and student mobility (external funding)
2. **Urgent need of virtual teaching/learning platform**
3. **Innovation** in teaching and developing study programmes
4. **Transnational coordination** and **work overload.**



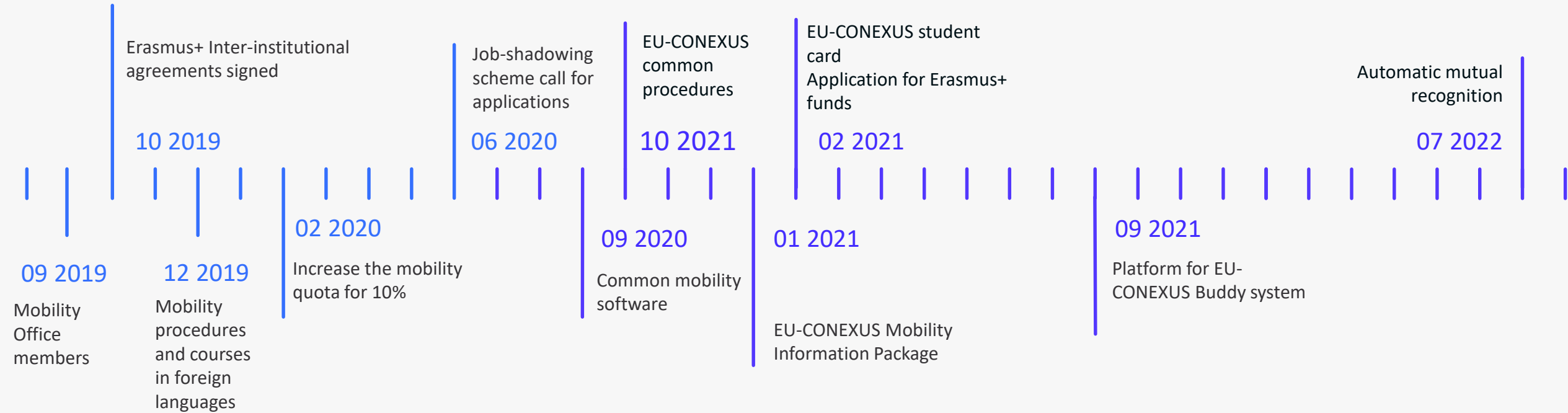
EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to a new kind of mobility

Maja Kolega, WP 3 leader, UNIZD

- Physical, blended virtual mobility
- Job shadowing
- European student card



Milestones for Mobility



Challenges

1. COVID-19 epidemic and virtual mobility
2. Different dates of the beginning of the semesters among the partners
3. Applying as EU-CONEXUS alliance for the Erasmus+ funds (especially for the KA107 funds – mobility with the partner countries)
4. Implementation of the EU-CONEXUS Student Card in coordination with other European Universities
5. Automatic mutual recognition



EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to do research differently

Eleni Miliou, WP 4 leader, AUA

- Joint Research Institutes
- Joint standard operating procedures
- Joint projects
- Accreditation



Milestones for Research



Vision and challenges

VISION

To establish Joint Research Infrastructures in the context of the European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability EU-CONEXUS

CHALLENGES

1. Create a common strategic research agenda: “EU-CONEXUS - Joint Research Area”
2. Submit joint research proposals and conduct collective research
3. Share resources and set Joint Standard Operating Procedures (JSOPs)
4. Promote the mobility of researchers and students
5. Co-operate with the private sector in an open innovation ecosystem (Living Labs)



EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to innovation and doing business

Cezar Vladut, WP 5 leader, UTCB

- University-industry platform
- Mentoring system
- Skills-map



PCRU - Milestones

Mentoring platform : in development
 University industry platform : needs defined

06 2020

Skills map
 First version of the mentoring platform

09 2020

University-Industry and Mentoring platforms

02 2021



Skills map



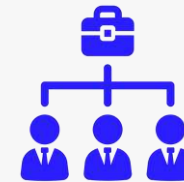
01.09.2020 deadline for submission the questionnaire
15.09.2020 results of interpretation
20.09.2020 final results



Mentoring platform



19.06.2020 in developing
15.09.2020 first version of the platform



University - Industry platform



19.06.2020 defined platform needs
05.07.2020 waiting for JobTeaser offer



Challenges



World pandemic

The global pandemic came as a major change in society, finding us in a position from which nothing was predictable. In addition to the sentimental side of the moment of concern for both ourselves and loved ones, changing the workflow required little time to adjust, which resulted in a few delays.



Ideas timing

Remote work and meetings that did not always gather members from each partner, resulted in ideas that were formed after some directions were established, leading to changes and additional meetings for new decisions.



Connection with other WP

Many activities are dependent on multiple WPs which causes decisions to be taken late.



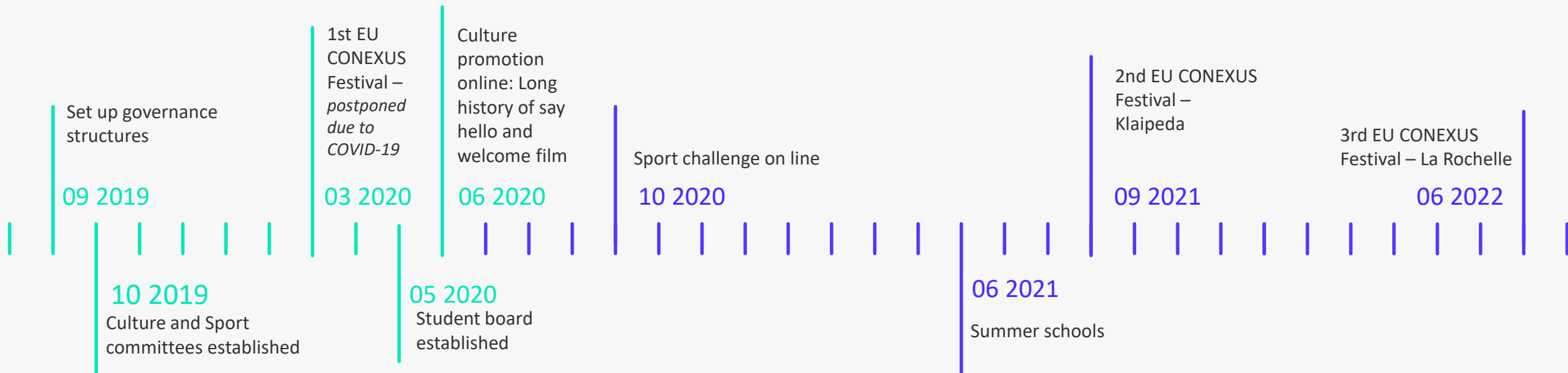
EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to a transnational campus life

Slaven Zjalic, WP 6 leader, UNIZD

- Cultural events
- Sport events
- Student engagement
- Buddy system



Milestones or how to run



Challenges : *Welcome to the new normal*

1. COVID-19 pandemic strongly influenced activities of WP6
2. Design of virtual and online events as main communication tools
3. Large involvement of students
4. The Student Board has been successfully established and a buddy system is being prepared.
5. Summer and winter schools, alumni networks are in preparation and in design, because now all projects have become the art of the possible.



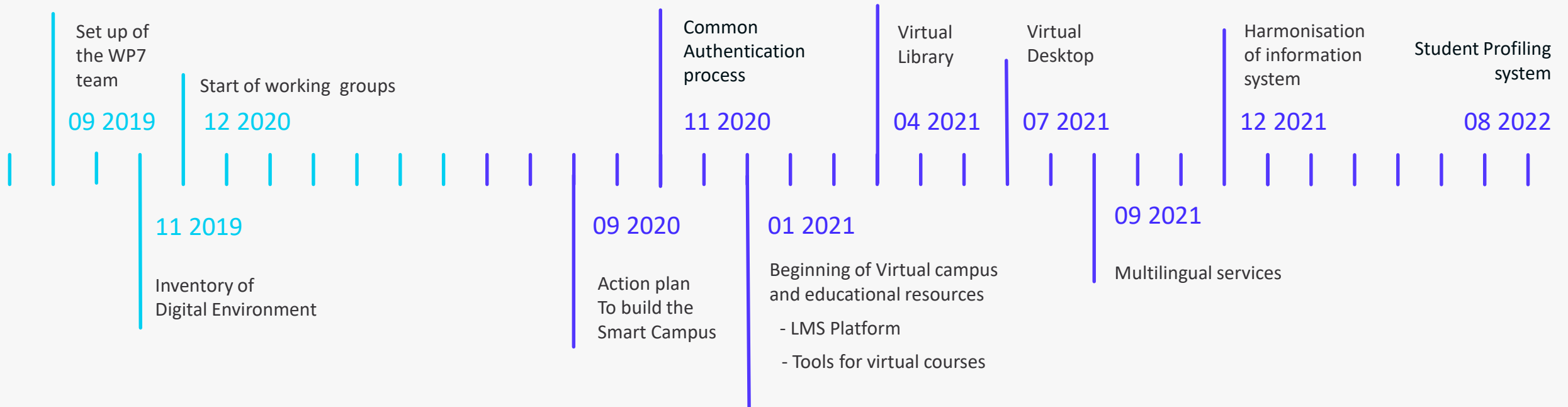
EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to a “smarter” campus

Jean-Christophe Burie, WP 7 leader,
LRUniv

- Harmonisation of Information System
- Virtual Campus
- Virtual learning environment
- Virtual library
- Multilingual services



Milestones



Challenges

1. Heterogeneity of the Information systems, Digital Services and Digital Equipment of each partner
2. Human resources dedicated to the project for analysing, develop and manage the proposed solutions
3. Where to host the Eu-Conexus digital services
4. Language issue to of technical experts (waste time)



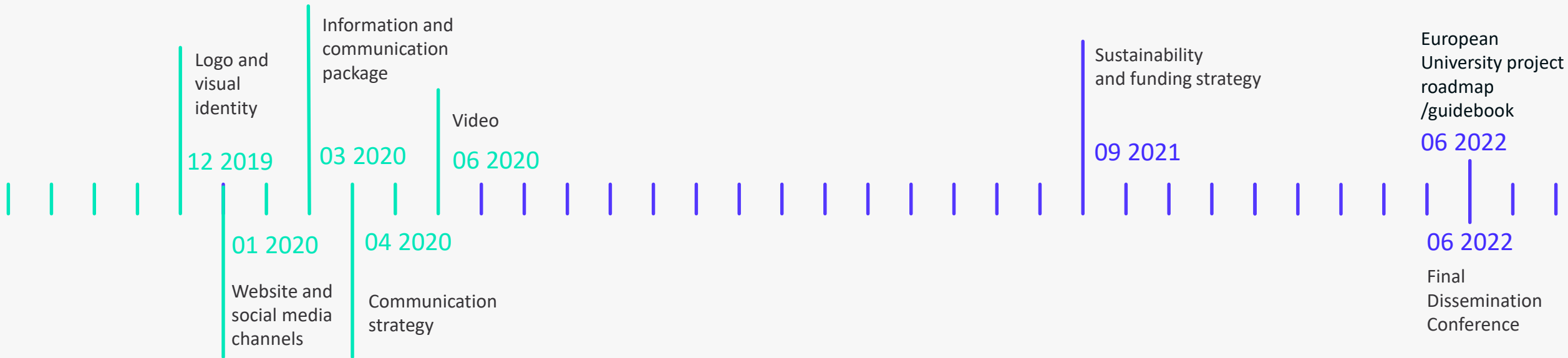
EU-CONEXUS opens up opportunities to be visible and stay visionary

Inga Petrauskiene, WP 8 leader, KU

- Communication and Dissemination Strategy
- Website and Social Networks
- Information Package
- Sustainability and Funding Strategy



Milestones



Community engagement, new identity and image materials creation and communication for all priority audiences (university community, local and national government, general population).

Continuing general communication and focused campaigns to attract new students and social partners (foundations)

Continuing general communication and focused campaigns to attract social partners (foundations), to ensure support from local, national governments and EU institutions



| Challenges

1. To achieve ultimate EU-CONEXUS communication goal : to represent **the first worldwide choice** for experts in urban/coastal/smart/sustainability issues as well as become **the first choice for students/PhD students** interested in the same topics.
2. Sustainability and Funding strategy – agreement on a concept for the **structural development of EU-CONEXUS**

