The European Universities initiative

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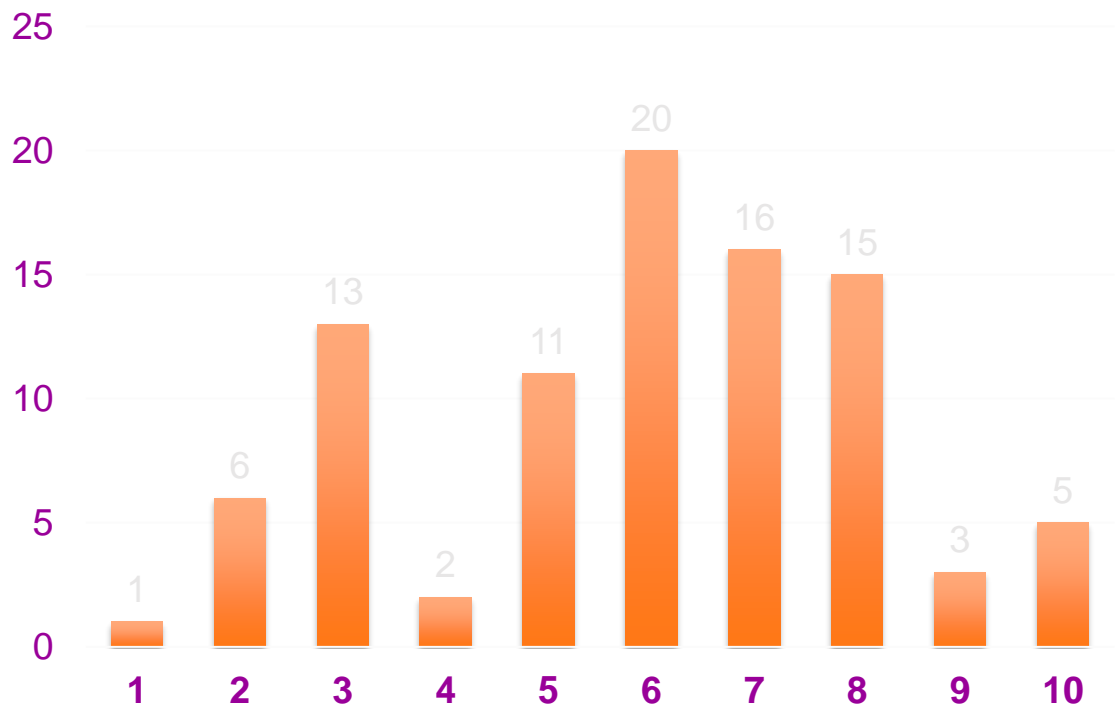**114 HEIs from 17 European Universities**

93 respondents from all 17 alliances

EXTENT TO WHICH BEING A PART OF A EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY HELPS DEALING WITH THE CRISIS

1 = not at all, 10 = to the fullest extent possible

More than 60% of higher education institutions consider that being part of a European University has been helpful, highlighting:
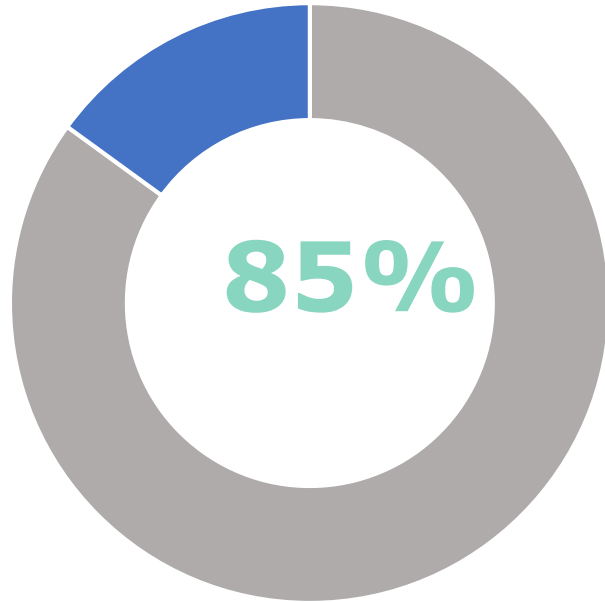
- HEIs can **better cope with the challenges of the crisis**

- The **accelerator effect in terms of achieving deeper institutional cooperation, virtual campuses and blended mobility** for all students and staff

SHARING GOOD PRACTICES AND MEASURES WITHIN THE ALLIANCE

1 = not at all, 10 = to the fullest extent possible

80% shared good practices within their alliance

European Commission

European virtual campus

85% plan to move quicker towards a European virtual inter-university campus:

- Fully-functional digital EU inter-university campus

- Pooling together on-line courses

- Sharing operational joint digital learning and teaching environment with common digital governance tools

85%

European Commission

European Universities: testbeds towards the Universities of the future

Unleashing the potential of European Universities

Main challenges:

- Structured mobilities

- Digitalisation

- Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Joint degrees

- Legal framework

- Funding

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Unleashing the potential of European Universities

Possible solutions – the way forward:

- Enabling automatic recognition and flexible approach towards academic calendars

- Framework for blended and virtual mobility allowing students to easily attend online courses at other universities

- Harmonization or at least an interoperability of existing IT systems

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Unleashing the potential of European Universities

Possible solutions – the way forward:

- Support HEIs in rolling out the European Student Card Initiative

- Call for a European accreditation system for the mutual recognition of a joint degree once it has been recognised by one national administration

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Unleashing the potential of European Universities

Possible solutions – the way forward:

- Adequate operational environment/ enabling legal framework ensuring legal certainty, transparency and same level playing field

- Adequate and sustainable funding at both European and national levels

- More synergies between European programmes and funds (Erasmus, Horizon, Digital Europe, structural funds, EFSI/InvestEU)

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Policy developments related to the Universities of the future

- A **communication in 2021** presenting a vision for the Universities of the future

- A framework for a **European degree**

- A **European approach for micro-credentials**

- A modernised **European quality assurance system**

- Exploring the feasability of a **European Statute for European Universities** and other university alliances

European Commission

European Universities Initiative

Next steps

Next Steps

Monitoring through regular meetings with European Universities

- Individual meetings with each alliance (together with EACEA – either physically or virtually)

- Meetings with all the alliances twice a year

Indicative timeline for meetings (virtual or physical) in 2020 (TBC)

- February 2020:   Meetings with Ad Hoc expert group and steakholders groups

- 11-12 June 2020:   Joint meeting with the 17 alliances + the ad-hoc expert group

- **November 2020:   Joint meeting with the 41 alliances' coordinating rectors + DG HE**

- **Dec 20/Jan 2021:   2nd high-level event on the European Universities initiative**

Roll-out under the next MFF

Increased budget, subject to agreement of co-legislators

Possibility to reapply under the next MFF after a positive evaluation

Synergies with other European and national funding sources

Work together to detect and lift remaining legal & administrative barriers

European Commission

Testing Phase 2: Progress with the second call (2020)

Increased overall budget of EUR 120 million approved by programme committee

Deadline for submission 26 February 2020:

- 62 applications
- more than 380 HEIs involved, from 26 Member States
- different types of HEIs (e.g. research-based, technical, applied sciences, medical…)

Up to 24 new European Universities

European Commission