ENLIGHT – European university Network to promote equitable quality of Life, sustainability & Global engagement through Higher education Transformation

WHO WE ARE

9 pioneers
- Ghent University (Belgium)
- University of Bordeaux (France)
- University of the Basque Country (Spain)
- Comenius University Bratislava (Slovakia)
- National University of Ireland Galway (Ireland)
- University of Göttingen (Germany)

23 associates
- University of Groningen (The Netherlands)
- University of Tartu (Estonia)
- Uppsala University (Sweden)

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

ENLIGHT aims to undertake a fundamental transformation of European higher education in which all barriers to learning, performing research and cooperation are removed. We will embark on a research-oriented, challenge-based transformation of our university education to empower our learners as globally engaged European citizens. We strive to transform the way in which we address global challenges by developing new models and methodologies for education and research adapted to the complex sustainability issues that cities and communities face today, focusing on five chosen flagship areas:

- Health and Well-being
- Impact of Digitization
- Climate Change
- Energy and Circular Economy
- Equity

To implement its mission ENLIGHT wants to transform learning and teaching:

- International learning via flexible international learning paths combining multiple short and longer virtual and physical learning experiences in different countries
- Research-oriented, challenge-based learning experiences around open-ended and real-world problems together with socio-economic actors (living labs, cooperative learning)
- Transdisciplinarity, combining multiple disciplinary approaches with social perspectives
- Versatility, uniting scientific knowledge with transversal skills such as intercultural awareness, inclusive leadership, and multilingualism.
By 2030 ENLIGHT will fully embed a new competence framework and establish an integrated European University System, as a role model for European higher education. ENLIGHT will adapt to future emerging challenges and transfer its actions to new areas leading to new research and innovation initiatives. We will extend flexible joint curricula and degrees across the ENLIGHT network and give all our ENLIGHT students the opportunity to achieve international experience and competencies. ENLIGHT short programmes and modules, joint degrees, doctoral and educator networks will educate thousands of graduates to be adaptive agents-of-change. As ENLIGHT ALUMNI they will disseminate European values, challenge-based approaches, and high-level research outputs across Europe and beyond.

PUTTING OUR VISION INTO PRACTICE

KEY DELIVERABLES / ACTIVITIES

- Develop a quality culture through a common Quality Approach enabling automatic recognition of study periods across ENLIGHT as the basis of a European University System;
- Develop a co-creation methodology with universities and regional actors to define the competences and knowledge skills students need to tackle the defined challenges;
- Develop models for a structural dialogue with local, European and global stakeholders;
- Foster generic competences and global engagement among students and create know-how for embedding language skills, diversity awareness, leadership and entrepreneurial skills into our curricula;
- Develop the structural and technical framework for inclusive, seamless and green mobility, and provide the tools for flexible learning;
- Develop a comprehensive methodology to measure the impact of the ENLIGHT competence framework on learners and their socio-economic environment.

HOW OUR ALLIANCE WILL TRANSFORM OUR UNIVERSITIES

- ENLIGHT will transform the way in which we address global challenges by developing new methodologies for learning and research. ENLIGHT will change education to empower students with the knowledge, skills and innovation potential needed to tackle societal transitions, shape our future cities and communities, and become globally engaged European citizens.
- ENLIGHT will enhance the capacity and knowledge to deal with transitions and to strengthen our responses to global and complex challenges as they emerge in our diverse local socio-economic environments: by connecting experts, resources, and state-of-the-art research experience and practice from across Europe, an international research and innovation capacity will be mobilised to solve local problems. We will think globally, act locally.
- To expand and synergise research, education and innovation ENLIGHT will gradually remove all barriers to teaching, learning and cooperating across all levels of the ENLIGHT community. ENLIGHT will establish an integrated European University System linking structures for quality assurance, international outreach, global engagement, talent recruitment and investment in large research infrastructure.
- ENLIGHT will develop a common self-directed Quality Approach enabling automatic recognition of study periods across the ENLIGHT universities. Together with the ENLIGHT Competence Framework this quality culture will allow students to combine and accumulate tailor-made learning experiences.

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