



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY: TOWARD A SINGLE UNIVERSITY

ENGLISH VERSION



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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY: TOWARD A UNIFIED UNIVERSITY- 03.01.2022

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Universidad
Politécnica
de Cartagena



Τεχνολογικό
Πανεπιστήμιο
Κύπρου



h_da
HOCHSCHULE DARMSTADT
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES



1862
RĪGAS TEHNISKĀ
UNIVERSITĀTE



TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY DUBLIN



UNIVERSITATEA TEHNICĂ
DIN CLUJ-NAPOCA



utt
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
TROYES

BETWEEN the following other partners:

University of Technology of Troyes (France), whose headquarters are located 12 rue Marie Curie - 10000 Troyes, France, represented by its Director, Mr Pierre KOCH,

Hochschule Darmstadt, Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences (Germany), whose headquarters are located at Haardtring 100, 64295 Darmstadt, represented by its President, Mr Ralph STENGLER,

Rīgas Tehniskā universitāte, Riga Technical University (Latvia) with its seat at Kaļķu iela 1, Rīga, 1658, represented by its Rector Leonīds RIBICKIS,

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta Bhaile Átha Cliath, Technological University Dublin (Ireland), whose registered office is at North Circular Road 191 Park House Grangegorman, Dublin D07 EWW4, represented by its President David FITZPATRICK,

Технически университет София Technical University of Sofia (Bulgaria) with seat at Kliment Ohridsky Bd 8, Sofia 1000, represented by its Rector Ivan KRALOV,

Τεχνολογικό Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου, Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus) with its seat at Archbishop Kyprianos 31 Savings Cooperative Bank Building 3rd Floor, Lemesos 3036, represented by its Rector Panayiotis ZAPHIRIS,

Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena, Technical University of Cartagena (Spain), with registered office at Plaza del Cronista Isidoro Valverde, Edificio la Milagrosa, Cartagena 30202, represented by its Rector Beatriz MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ,

Universitatea Tehnică din Cluj-Napoca, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (Romania) with seat at Str Memorandumului 28, Cluj-Napoca 400114, represented by its Rector Vasile ȚOPA.

Hereinafter referred to as "**the partners**".

Where a provision applies indiscriminately to the "Coordinator" and the "Partners", in the context of this Agreement, they shall be collectively referred to as the "Partners".

The initiative or project "European University of Technology" is also referred to by its acronym "EUT+".

All the active partners for the development of the project are also called "the Alliance".

FIRST OF ALL, THE FOLLOWING IS SET OUT:

Having regard to the second call for Erasmus+ "European Universities" projects,



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Having regard to the application file for this call for projects and its annexes, which the partners submitted on 26 February 2020,

Having regard to Grant Agreement N°101004088 (Annex 2) signed by the partners and the European Commission on 16 October 2020,

In the event of a conflict between the terms of this agreement and the Grant Agreement, the terms of the Grant Agreement shall prevail.

HAVING STATED THIS, IT IS AGREED AND DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:

Eight universities of technology have come together to create EUT+, the European University of Technology. These institutions include:

- Hochschule Darmstadt (Germany)
- Rīgas Tehniskā universitāte (Latvia)
- Technological University Dublin (Ireland)
- Технически университет София (Bulgaria)
- Τεχνολογικό Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου (Cyprus)
- Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena (Spain)
- Universitatea Tehnică din Cluj-Napoca (Romania)
- Université de technologie de Troyes (France)

The initiative submitted to the European Commission's call on European University Initiatives explicitly aims to merge the eight institutions, with an intermediate step of a confederal structure in 5 years and a target federal structure in 10 years.

Following the success of the initial 18 months' work, the eight member institutions of EUT+ have agreed to accelerate the development of the process of integration into a single European university. This decision is based on a shared understanding of:

1. the strength of a common European brand compared to each of the current individual brands,
2. the proximity of technological cultures and the strong complementarity of teaching, research and transfer offers,
3. the potential for synergies between partners,
4. the critical mass which enables new funding and projects to be undertaken,
5. the exceptional visibility given by this merger.



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To implement this decision, the members of the alliance agree to work on two complementary tracks:

1. The first is to set up governance bodies for the various aspects of university life: research, teaching, student life, international relations, etc. These bodies will complement the executive committee which regularly brings together the presidents of the eight universities. They will make it possible to progressively standardise processes throughout the university.
2. The second consists in working with the ministries of the eight countries to define an experimental international legal structure, and an implementation timeline, by the end of 2022. While coexisting with the legal structures of the member institutions, this new institution would become a full-scale demonstrator, which would allow progressive experimentation and partial transfers of identified competences from the member universities to this umbrella structure. The States that agree to create this international institution would entrust it with the task of proposing a set of operating rules that the member institutions would be entitled to implement in place of current national regulations, for a limited period of time. This would make it possible to overcome current legal limitations and test solutions that would accelerate convergence of institutions. Such an approach would, if successful, potentially be applicable to any or all other European university initiatives.



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Hochschule Darmstadt

Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences



HOCHSCHULE DARMSTADT
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VIZEPRÄSIDENT
Heardring 100
D-64295 Darmstadt
Prof. Dr. Arnd Steinmetz
Vizepräsident für Digitalisierung
und Internationalisierung

Prof. Dr. Ralph Stengler, President

Τεχνολογικό Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου

Cyprus University of Technology



Καθηγητής Παναγιώτης Ζαφείρης, Πρύτανης

Rīgas Tehniskā universitāte

Riga Technical University



Prof. Dr. Leonids Ribickis, Rectors

Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena


Technical University of Cartagena



Prof. Dr. Beatriz Miguel Hernández, Rectora

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta Bhaile Átha Cliath

Technological University Dublin



Prof. David FitzPatrick, President

Universitatea Tehnică din Cluj-Napoca


Technical University of Cluj-Napoca



Prof. Dr. ing. Vasile Topa, Rector

Технически университет София

Technical University of Sofia



Проф. дн Иван Кралов, Ректор

Université de technologie de Troyes

University of Technology of Troyes



Pierre Koch, Director



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ANNEX 1: EUT+ Minutes of Rectors Board - 8/12/2021

European University of technology: Organisational Guidelines

The term European University of Technology (EUT+) refers both to (1) the Initiative funded by the European Commission and (2) the Target Organisation.

1. The Initiative

As described in the application to the Erasmus+ call for European University Initiatives, the governance of Eut+, as an initiative, is structured around:

- The coordinating institution responsible for WP1 (UTT)
- A Steering Committee with representatives of all eight universities and the leaders of the work packages;
- A Governing Board that includes representatives of the key stakeholders, student representatives and the Presidents / Rectors of the eight universities.

Because the fundamental objective of the initiative is not simply to finalise deliverables but to initiate a real and deep transformation of the eight member institutions, two important modifications have been introduced:

First, a Rectors Board has been created, whose members are the Rectors / Presidents of the 8 member universities. This Board is responsible for pre-validating the decisions proposed by the steering committee before communicating them to the Governing Board. If the Rectors Board does not validate a proposal, it is sent back to the steering committee for modification. This decision is justified by the fact that the Rectors / Presidents are responsible for the functioning of their institution, which may be impacted by decisions taken in the initiative. The final decision remains that of the Governing Board.

Secondly, the Rectors / Presidents have underlined the importance of creating a common Eut+ structure that is independent from any single institution and enables a progressive convergence towards a common European federal structure. As a first step in this direction, the person in charge of coordinating WP1, currently located within UTT, will be delegated to EUT+. To this end, he becomes "Corporate Secretary" of EUT+. UTT remains responsible for coordinating the initiative because of its contractual commitments with Europe. However, the European dimension of the Corporate Secretary's mission means that he reports to the Rectors Board rather than to the President of UTT.

The Corporate Secretary will chair an administrative committee composed of an additional 8 members (one per member university). Each university will propose its representative in the administrative committee. The Corporate Secretary is a permanent invitee of the Rectors Board (see below).



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2. The target structure

The initiative foresees the integration of the eight universities into a confederal structure in 5 years and into a federal structure in 10 years. Following the success of the first eighteen months work, the eight members have agreed to approach their national ministries in order to start designing a common European legal structure, which would accelerate the convergence process.

Independently of this approach, the members are working to progressively set-up a collaborative governance structure for their different missions and activities. For each of these activities, the respective vice-presidents (or directors) will regularly meet in a committee and coordinate, under the responsibility of one of them. This process has begun in the case of research and will potentially concern the following areas:

- Teaching,
- Research,
- Business relations and entrepreneurship,
- Communication,
- International relations,
- Sustainability,
- Finance,
- Administration (with or without IT).

When necessary, the Rectors Board (the 8 Rectors / Presidents and the Corporate Secretary) will meet in extended format including the 8 VPs from a given committee.



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ANNEX 2: Corporate Secretary of EUT+

About European University of Technology

The European University of Technology (EUT+) is an ambitious European University alliance between Université de technologie de Troyes (France), Hochschule Darmstadt (Germany), Rīgas Tehniskā universitāte (Latvia), Technological University Dublin (Ireland), Технически университет София (Bulgaria), Τεχνολογικό Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου (Cyprus), Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena (Spain), Universitatea Tehnică din Cluj-Napoca (Romania).

EUT+ unites more than 100.000 students, 7.000 academic staff and researchers and 5.000 administrative and technical staff in eight countries in a collective effort to improve and reshape European higher education. The partner universities are technical universities, guided by common values of equality, diversity, inclusiveness and responsibility to society. EUT+ empowers its students to become technologically literate professionals and European citizens. The partners share the "Think Human First" vision towards a human-centred approach to technology. Through EUT+, the partners are committed to create a sustainable future for students and learners in European countries, for the staff of each of the institutions and for the territories and regions where each campus is anchored.

EUT+ aims to become a fully integrated institution with European Bachelor's degrees and European dual-training programmes; European Master's degrees; common European Laboratories and a EUT+ foundation.

Tasks and responsibilities

The person appointed will serve as Corporate Secretary of the EUT+, reporting the Rector's Board, with two main missions:

1. **She/he will be responsible for all matters relative to the steering of the EUT+ initiative and the correct development and implementation of the related activities, in line with the vision and mission statement of EUT+.** Accordingly, she/he will oversee all operations, in close cooperation with university management, academic leads, student representatives and project managers at each member university.
2. **Through her/his activities, the Corporate Secretary of EUT+ will progressively assume the responsibilities for administrative matters within the new federative institution,** whose creation lies at the heart of the EUT+ initiative. This task is intrinsically evolutive: the institutional creation will happen step by step and it is expected from the Corporate Secretary that she/he contributes to the correct positioning of this function, at each stage of the initiative.

For the correct implementation of this mission, she/he will rely on an administrative team that will facilitate communication between the EUT+ members, coordinate and support the implementation of all activities of the EUT+ alliance. This administrative team will be composed of 8 additional members, one for each member university.

Profile and skills

The candidate has the following profile and skills:

- A strong academic background, ideally in fields related to those being taught at EUT+ institutions;
- A strong track record in successful international project management in higher education;
- Familiarity with EU Institutions and programmes related to education, research and innovation;
- Strategic, conceptual, organizational and diplomatic skills;
- Decision-making and interpersonal skills, including the ability to cooperate with academic staff across different countries, institutions and disciplines;
- Excellent communication skills in English, both oral and written, and experience with the media;
- Proficiency in at least one other European language used by the EUT+ partners will be an advantage.

Selection process

The Rectors Board appoints the Corporate Secretary.



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