

In August 2021, the Coimbra Group Executive Board, after consultation with the Rectors' Advisory Group, set out the **strategic priorities for 2021-2022**, which have been developed through a set of actions presented in this note.

## #1 RESEARCH

- **Pact for Research & Innovation & European Research Area**
  - The CG is involved in the definition of the ERA Policy Agenda:
    - Through the 'ERA University Associations Group'
    - Individually participating in the ERA actions consultations
- **Research Assessment Reform**
  - The CG is member of the Core Group of 20 actors that provide support to the design of the system reform
- **Research careers**
  - The CG EB Chair has actively provided input to the design of the future Researchers' Career Observatory
- **Others: Research Infrastructures and Digital Services Act**

## #2 EDUCATION

- **The European Strategy for Universities**
  - The EB Chair has represented the CG in various consultation meetings convened by the European Commission to co-design the European Strategy for Universities
- **European Universities Initiative Roll-Out**
  - Many proposals expressed in the CG Statement on the Rolling out of the European Universities (June 2021) have been followed by the European Commission
- **Coimbra Group High-Level Seminar on Education Policy**
  - 9-10 November 2022, Uppsala University – Topic: "New learning spaces"

## #3 THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

In December 2021, the CG published its **second report** entitled:

*Universities' response to the Covid-19 crisis:  
What have we learnt so far?*

*Key messages and recommendations from Coimbra Group Universities"*

It puts forward suggestions for improvement and recommendations to policy makers and the Higher Education and Research communities.

## #4 ENGAGEMENT WITH SOCIETY

- **Coimbra Group High-Level Seminar on Research Policy**
  - 2021, University of Geneva - Topic: "The Coimbra Group Meets the United Nations"
- **Signature of the Jena Declaration** on the cultural and regional dimensions of global sustainability
- **University autonomy and academic freedom.** Common "Message from the Heart of Europe - Prague Declaration II"
- **Conference on the future of Europe.** Signature of the *Manifesto for "Research & Innovation for the Future of Europe"*
- **Implementation of a MoU with the Erasmus Student Network**
- **Poitiers Declaration on City-University Cooperation**

## #5 COIMBRA GROUP RESPONSE TO BREXIT

- **Advocacy campaigns**
  - **Stick to Science:** call for the finalization of the Horizon Europe association agreements with Switzerland and the UK
  - **Joint letter to the President of the EC,** Ursula von der Leyen, in support to the UK's association to Horizon Europe
  - Co-signature of an open letter to the European decision makers in relation with the participation of Switzerland under the Horizon Europe programme.
- **Task Group on Post-Brexit UK-EU exchange**

## #6 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- **War in Ukraine**
  - Two statements on Ukraine
  - Joint call with EUF, ESN and ESU "Adapting Erasmus"
  - Ukraine emergency responses: CG survey and dedicated web page
  - Suspension of St Petersburg State University
- Joint initiative to urge European governments and EU institutions to take immediate action to secure the lives and careers of **Afghanistan's** scholars, students, and civil society
- Cooperation with **Latin America.** Renewal of the MoU between CG & the Asociación Universitaria Grupo Montevideo (AUGM)