For a sustainable EC2U Alliance:
the role of a central interconnectivity platform, the EC2U Connect Centre

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Partner Universities
(all Coimbra Group members):
Poitiers (coord., FR)
Coimbra (PT)
Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi (RO)
Friedrich Schiller, Jena (GE)
Pavia (IT)
Salamanca (SP)
Turku (FI)

30 Associated Partners
(incl. 7 Municipalities,
7 Technological Centers,
7 Student Associations,
8 National Accreditation Bodies,
Coimbra Group)

Total number of Students: 160,000
Total number of Staff: 20,000
Total number of Citizens: 1,600,000
European Campus of City-Universities (EC2U)

Representation of the 1221 Research articles (and their prominent topics) jointly published by researchers from at least two (and up to five) EC2U universities over the period 2009-2018 (source: Scopus & SciVal, coll. Elsevier).
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Lifelong Well-being and Healthy Ageing
European Languages and Cultures in Contact
Sustainable Cities and Communities

WP3 Towards a European campus: EC2U Connect Centre
WP2 Culture & campus life
WP1 Management and coordination
WP5 Quality education
WP6 Sustainable cities and communities
WP4 Good health and well-being
WP7 Science with and for Society
WP8 Sustainability and dissemination

WP4 UNSDG#3
WP5 UNSDG#4
WP6 UNSDG#11

Service to society
Innovation
Research
Education
How can we make the Alliance sustainable?

- The first three « a la carte » multi-lateral joint EC2U Master programmes based on selected UNSDGs: Good health & well-being, Quality education, Sustainable cities & communities

- Increased and geographically balanced mobility (physical, virtual, blended) of students and staff

- Three Virtual Institutes (VIs) combining education, research and innovation in missions based on the aforementioned UNSDGs

All that will only be possible thanks to shared resources, via the “EC2U Connect Centre”
Sustainability and sharing

**Actions to be avoided**

- Manually extracting and reinserting student data on a case-by-case basis is a time-consuming and error-prone activity, at high risk of misalignments and errors.

- Automated data exchange on a bilateral basis incurs in a quadratic increase in cost for setup and maintenance, each requiring the definition of content schemas, interchanges formats and interchange protocols.
Automated data exchange through a centralized database would face thorny GDPR issues that will make the process tremendously complicated.
The EC2U Project will approach **student and staff data sharing** (EC2U student’s academic activity, mobility and Research) by a Connect Centre:

- defining shared data models, interchange, formats and interchange protocols on top of open data interchange solutions standardized by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) within the Resource Description Framework (RDF);
- **No personal data storing** outside master systems;
- processing data through a local adapter that dynamically converts internal data from/to the shared data models.
Toward an EC2U Card

- Based on European Student Card Initiative
- For students and staff
- Connection of existing universities cards systems
- Immediate recognition of identity allowing for easy access to EC2U services
- Containing EC2U Open Badges
The EC2U Connect Centre and the EC2U Alliance in 2030

- Joint and personalised European diplomas
- An extension of the Virtual Institutes concept to other UNSDGs
- Integrated inter-university campus life
- A yearly sustainable rendez-vous between academia and citizens on the occasion of the EC2U Forum

Pavia, 3 Giugno 2020
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Governance and Associated Partners

EC2U FORUM

7 UNIVERSITY SENATES/BOARDS

Local, national, European stakeholders
Associated Partners
EC2U Council
Open Mediators

Quality Council

EC2U Executive Committee

WP Boards

2 3 4 5 6 7

WP activities

Feedback mechanism

7 UNIVERSITY COMMUNITIES
European Campus of City-Universities (EC2U)

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