



A tradition of innovation

General Presentation, January 2025

Commitment

Founded in **1985** the Coimbra Group is an association of **long-established European multidisciplinary universities of high international standard.**

The Coimbra Group is committed to creating special academic and cultural ties in order to **promote internationalisation, academic collaboration, excellence in learning and research, and service to society.**

It is also the purpose of the Coimbra Group to **influence European education and research policy** and to **develop best practice** through mutual exchange of experience.

One of the pioneering actors in the creation of Erasmus+, the co-creation of the European Universities Initiative, and the development of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).



Facts and figures

- Founded in **1985**
- **39** Universities from **22** European countries
- **> 1,4M** students / **> 232 000** staff members (teaching, research, admin.)
- **14.4% of all signed grants in H2020:**
 - **25%** of all RIAs, IAs and CSA projects awarded under **Pillar II**
 - **12.5%** of all ERC funded grants
 - **15.5%** of all MSCA funded projects
- **21% of all signed grants in HEU:**
 - **26%** of all RIAs, IAs and CSA projects under **Pillar II**
 - **11,7%** of all ERC funded grants
 - **20.85%** of all MSCA funded projects
- **>16%** of all Erasmus+ grants to/from CG universities



Organisation Chart

Executive Board

Ludovic Thilly Chair Poitiers	Beatrix Busse Vice-Chair Cologne	Danny Donoghue Treasurer Durham	Antonella Forlino Pavia	Dorota Malec Krakow
Coco Norén Uppsala	João Ramalho-Santos Coimbra	Eva Voldřichová Beránková Prague	Efrem Yildiz Sadak Salamanca	

Rectors' Advisory Group

Marjo Kaartinen <i>CG Honorary President</i> Turku	Milena Králíčková Prague	Margareth Hagen Bergen	Pedro Mercado Pacheco Granada
Giovanni Molari Bologna	Joan Guàrdia Olmos Barcelona	Annetje Ottow Leiden	



Working Groups

(by pillar of primary interest)

Research	Education	Outreach
Research Support Officers	Doctoral Studies	Heritage
Social Sciences & Humanities	Education Innovation	Global Partnerships
Life Sciences	Academic Exchange and Mobility	Latin America
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)	Employability	Equality and Diversity

Coordination by Executive Board members
Support from Policy Officers at CG Office (Brussels)



CG Members involved in Alliances of European Universities

Aarhus (DK)

Barcelona (ES)

Bergen (NO)

Bologna (IT)

Bristol (UK)

Budapest (HU)

Coimbra (PT)

Dublin (IE)

Durham (UK)

Edinburgh (UK)

Galway (IE)

Genève (CH)

Granada (ES)

Graz (AT)

Groningen (NL)

Heidelberg (DE)

Iași (RO)

Istanbul (TR)

Jena (DE)

Köln (DE)

Kraków (PL)

Leiden (NL)

Leuven (BE)

Louvain (BE)

Montpellier (FR)

Montpellier 3 (FR)

Padova (IT)

Pavia (IT)

Poitiers (FR)

Prague (CZ)

Salamanca (ES)

Siena (IT)

Tartu (EE)

Turku (FI)

Uppsala (SE)

Utrecht (NL)

Vilnius (LT)

Würzburg (DE)

Åbo (FI)



Alliances of European Universities with CG Members & CG partnership



Bologna (IT)
Edinburgh (UK)
Kraków (PL)
Leiden (NL)
KU Leuven (BE)



Barcelona (ES)
Bergen (NO)
Budapest (HU)
Dublin (IE)
Montpellier (FR)
Utrecht (NL)
Würzburg (DE)
Åbo Akademi (FI)



Coimbra (PT)
Iași (RO)
Jena (DE)
Pavia (IT)
Poitiers (FR)
Salamanca (ES)
Turku (FI)



Galway (IE)
Groningen (NL)
Tartu (EE)
Uppsala (SE)



Heidelberg (DE)
Prague (CZ)
Geneva (CH)



Aarhus (DK)
Louvain (BE)



Cologne (DE)



Durham (UK)
Granada (ES)
Graz (AT)
Padova (IT)
Vilnius (LT)



With CG as Associated Partner

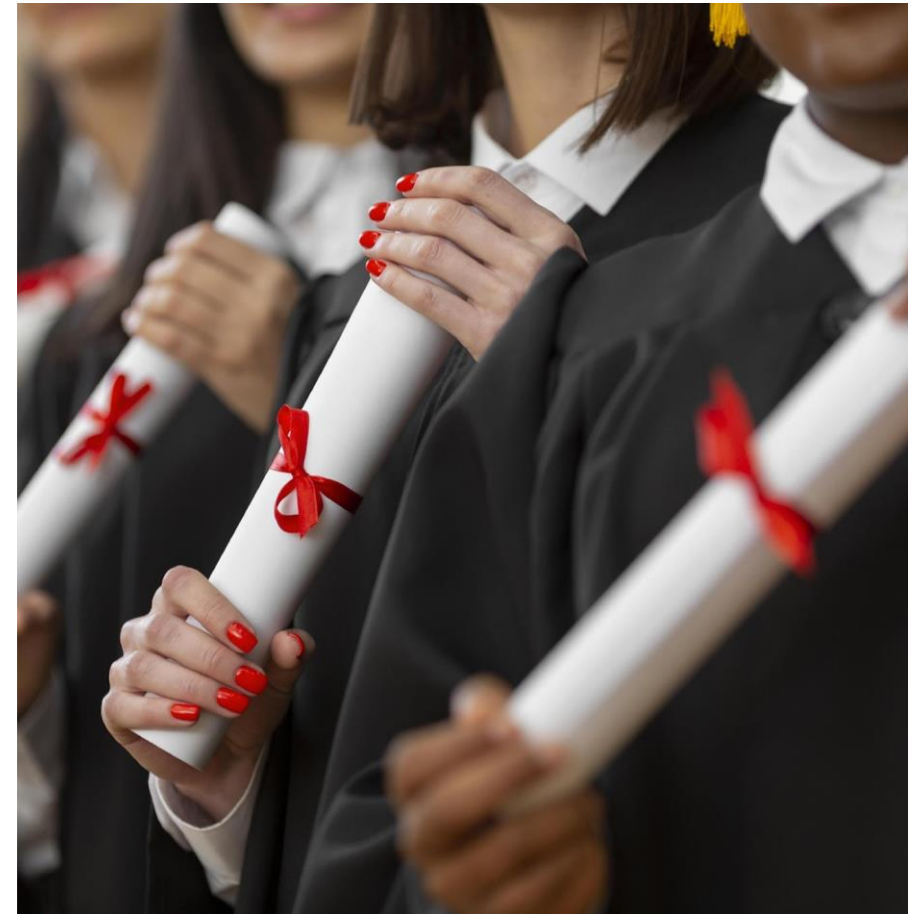
Executive Board Priorities & Forthcoming Events

2024-2025



Executive Board Priorities 2024-2025

- Continue playing the role of a **scientific theme-setter and articulating a solid vision based on our values**
 - **Civic and societal engagement and shared values**
 - **Innovation and the implications of the Draghi Report**
 - **Open Science and Open Research Information**
 - **Artificial Intelligence**
 - **Climate Change**



Executive Board Priorities 2024-2025

- **Help shape and pioneer EU policies** that are relevant for its members:
 - **FP10 and Erasmus+ programme**, in relation to the next MFF
 - **Dual-use research, Research Security, Science Diplomacy and International cooperation**
 - **Research Careers and Research Assessment**
 - **New European Research Area Policy Agenda**
 - **European Education Area and progress towards a European Degree**
3 February 2025 CG Statement: [Why We Need the European Degree Now](#)
 - **European Strategy for Universities**
 - **European Universities Initiative**
 - **Impact of Brexit** on academic and scientific cooperation with the UK and further efforts on **reintegrating Switzerland into Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe.**





Executive Board Priorities 2024-2025

- Drive **CG's internal development** through new initiatives:
 - **40th Anniversary celebrations**
 - **Possible expansion of the CG membership**
 - **Discussions on CG's future**



Upcoming Meetings & Events

- **CG Open Webinar: “AI Ethics and Governance”**
13 March 2025, 3.00-4.30pm CET
Open event
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/w7tv9t2e>
- 🎂 **CG 40th Anniversary Climate Symposium**
Inaugural Event for CG Rectors and Students
24-26 March 2025, Durham University
<https://tinyurl.com/cgclimate>
- 🎂 **CG 40th Anniversary Annual Conference & General Assembly:**
“Forty Years of Impact: Universities and Cities Shaping a Sustainable Future”
10-13 June 2025, University of Bologna
<https://tinyurl.com/nwhee93z>



Institutional Partnerships

- **AUGM - Asociación de Universidades Grupo Montevideo**
since 2006
- **GCUB - Grupo Coimbra de dirigentes de Universidades Brasileiras**
since 2012
- **OAS - General Secretariat of the Organization of American States**
since 2017
- **UDUAL - Association of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean**
since 2017
- **Erasmus Student Network International**
since 2021
- **CLACSO**
NEW - October 2024

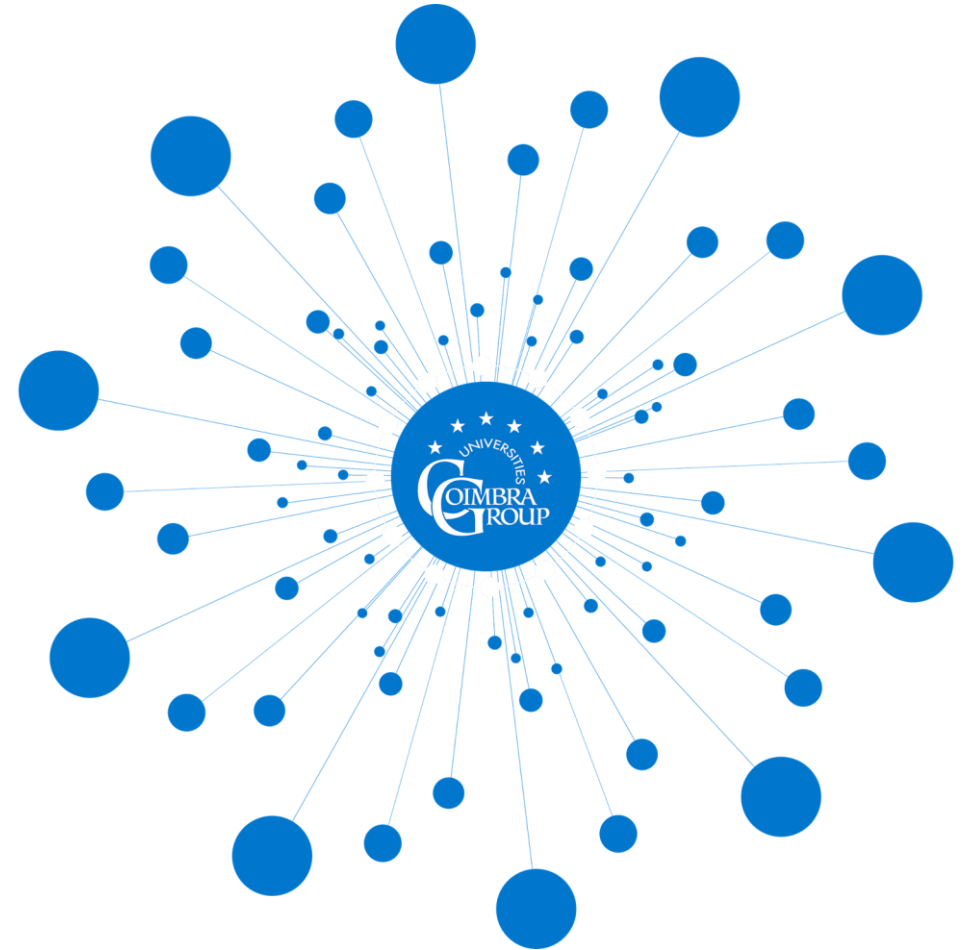


EU Projects

- **EUNIVERSE (2023-2026) - European Universities United in / for Values and Diversity**
<https://www.euniverse-project.org>

This Erasmus+ project aims at improving **students' mobility and integration** by implementing **European values and civic engagement** initiatives into learning activities that boost student skills and intercultural understanding.

The learning activities being devised by the project are challenge-based. They aim to empower students, by getting them more involved in campus life and their institutions. In time students will become instrumental in developing and diffusing an inclusive and international mindset. The consortium also believes that the implementation of EU values is bound to impact the institutional environment of students and staff.



Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition

- Since 2017 the Coimbra Group has organised a 3MT competition at network level.
- The 3MT challenges **PhD students** to describe their research to a general audience in English in less than three minutes.
- In 2024, the video entries of PhD students from **25 CG Universities** competed in the first virtual round (the winner of their own institutional competition).
- **Three finalists** are then shortlisted among all winners. They compete during the CG live final taking place at the CG Annual Conference in June.



Scholarship Programmes

Background: Since 1999 the Coimbra Group has offered young researchers from outside the EU the **opportunity to carry out part of their research for a period of one to three months at a Coimbra Group University.**

The CG scholarship programme for short research stays in Europe is intended **for young researchers and staff from universities in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa and the European Neighbourhood.**

2023-2024 Key Figures:

- **74** scholarships awarded (30 LA, 30 Africa, 14 EN)
- **33 ♀** and **41 ♀**
- **879** applicants
- **19** CG host universities

Next Call for applications: End January 2025



Contact us!

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