4eu+

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

CHARLES UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITÄT HEIDELBERG ZUKUNFT SEIT 1386

SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

Synergy between research and education: the story of 4EU+

Prof. Lenka Anna Rovná, Charles University

Coimbra Group Open Session on the European Universities Alliances, 10 June 2020

4EU+ Universities: profile

- Six large, comprehensive, public universities
- Similar characteristics
- Research-intensive institutions
- Alliance structured around long-lasting partnerships and numerous research collaborations (bottom-up links)

First lessons learnt

- 4EU+ Mission Statement goes beyond the pilot phase of “European Universities”
- Value of trust and openness
- Research and education inseparable
- Necessity of mutual interaction: „Europeanisation of 4EU+“
  - Bottom-up
  - Top-down

Europeanisation of 4EU+ universities

Challenges

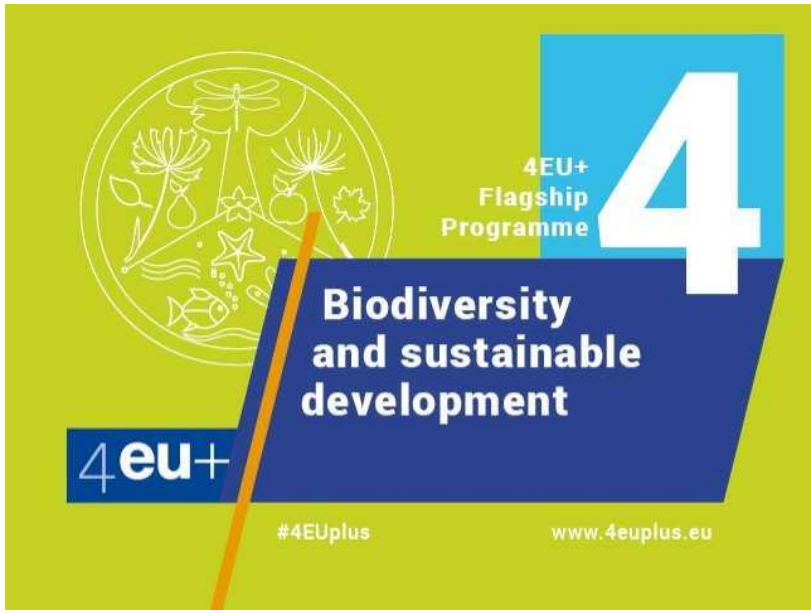
- Different models of governance (top-down)
  - Embedding the 4EU+ governance structure into our Universities (more actors at more levels) - different models
  - Accommodation of changes in the University governing bodies
- Initiation of faculties (bottom-up)
- Communication on horizontal and vertical level
- Sustainability

4EU+ Flagships: the story

- At the beginning of 2018 already existing or newly formed **research teams** formed **4 Flagships** → autumn 2019 Erasmus+ call “European Universities” focus on **education** → educational aspect stressed, boosting synergies between research and education = the substance of Universities
- EU's support to the research dimension of “European Universities” important for balanced development

4EU+ Flagships

- Merging 4EU+ excellence in research and education
- Interdisciplinarity
- Research-based educational offerings



4EU+ Flagships: sustainability

- **Key internal enablers:** Seed funding supporting formation and widening and deepening of collaborating teams, ranging from research to research-based education activities developed bottom-up – own sources
  - e.g. Charles University (twice 200K) and Warsaw University mini-grants (research with pedagogical outputs)
  - After Covid - 19 ?
- **Key external enablers:**
  - EU funding schemes (Erasmus+, Horizon Europe or structural funds)
  - National co-financing

Impact of Covid - 19

- + all pre-planned activities, meetings, seminars took place online
- + the willingness to combine physical and online activities and learn from each other dramatically increased
- - the finalization of 4EU+ governance slowed down
- - communication with APs differed

Conclusions

“Together, we aim to create a truly integrated European University System by 2025.” - Mission Statement

4EU+ as a model of “differentiated integration”

- Deepening of integration on both levels within 4EU+
  - Governance
  - Academics, students, staff = authentic community (“European demos”)
- Strengthening of integration and Europeanisation process in European Higher Education and Research Areas
- Outreach to society – Jean Monnet’s “spill-over effect”

4eu+

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

CHARLES UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITÄT HEIDELBERG ZUKUNFT SEIT 1386

SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

Thank you!

Prof. Lenka Anna Rovná, Charles University

www.4euplus.eu
www.cuni.cz