

European Space University for Earth and Humanity

UNIVERSEH is an alliance of five European universities established to develop a new way of collaboration in the field of Space, within the "European Universities" initiative.

The alliance aims to create new higher education interactive experiences for the university community, teachers and students, and for the benefit of society as a whole. Such initiatives will enable broadminded, informed and conscientious European citizens to capture and create new knowledge and become smart actors of European innovation, valorisation and societal dissemination within the Space sector, from science, engineering, liberal arts to culture.

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CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium	

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Document History

Version	Date	Author	Partner	Summary of main changes
1	30/04/21	Hélène Gentils	UT	
	03/05/21	Eric Tschirhart	Uni.lu	
		Martina Christen	Uni.lu	

1. Introduction

The UNIVERSEH project website was launched on the 19th of November 2020, along with its social media pages (Facebook, LinkedIn), and ahead of the kick-off meeting of the project on the 14th of December 2020. Its web address is www.universeh.eu

It has originally been developed in collaboration with a graphic, communication and web agency (logo, graphic chart, pages design); updates are now done through WP7 resources internally.

The website will evolve throughout the lifetime of the project. For now, its main objective is to ensure the visibility of the project and support its implementation. In addition to this public-facing website, a Google Workspace has been developed and fully tailored for UNIVERSEH and enables document-sharing and full collaborative working and workflows for all members of partners institutions involved in the project. This choice was made on the basis of its immediacy, ease of use and cost control. A computer science student has been hired to support the development and maintain interaction with all users.

Also, UNIVERSEH website is fully compliant with all common platforms and is responsive to all displays.

2. Overview of the main pages of the website

Our key objective is to publish information on UNIVERSEH in lay language to encourage the general public to engage into the project and ultimately take ownership of it. Also, the implementation of a user-centred approach will invite the visitor to discover pages tailored to his/her needs and interests.

The following landing page gives an overview of the project and latest news, as well as project partners and funders.


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First landing page and subsequent pages from the menu



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[Vision, Mission & Objectives](#)
[The Consortium](#)
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UNIVERSEH

European Space University for Earth and Humanity

WHAT IS UNIVERSEH?

UNIVERSEH is an alliance of five young and mature universities from five European countries. It was established in November 2020 to develop a new way of collaboration in the field of Space, within the new "European Universities" initiative promoted by the European Commission.

We wish to create new higher education interactive experiences for the university community, teachers and students, and for the benefit of society as a whole. Such initiatives will enable broadminded, informed and conscientious European citizens to capture and create new knowledge and become smart actors of European innovation, valorisation and societal dissemination within the Space sector, from science, engineering, liberal arts to culture.

The UNIVERSEH partners are committed to secure new approaches for Teaching & Learning in an evolving world where knowledge and its transmission have never been so difficult to streamline to learners. Student-centered learning, peer-to-peer and collaborative teaching designs will be the cornerstone of UNIVERSEH's educational endeavour. It comprises in-person, distance and blended learning within UNIVERSEH's collaborative campus, including students' teachers' and researchers' thematic and cultural European mobility. Innovative pedagogical approaches, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral curricula are key components of our educational approach.

UNIVERSEH relies on a wide range of expertise and already acquired extensive contacts with the space industry and European Space Institutes to rapidly adapt and implement the most relevant Teaching & Learning environment to cover European needs in the area of Space.

Latest News

Online Event 14.4.21: The 60th anniversary of the first human space flight by Yuri Gagarin on 12 April 1961

12 April 2021

"Beyond UNIVERSEH" granted by EU Commission

18 February 2021

Five higher education institutions create UNIVERSEH

14 December 2020

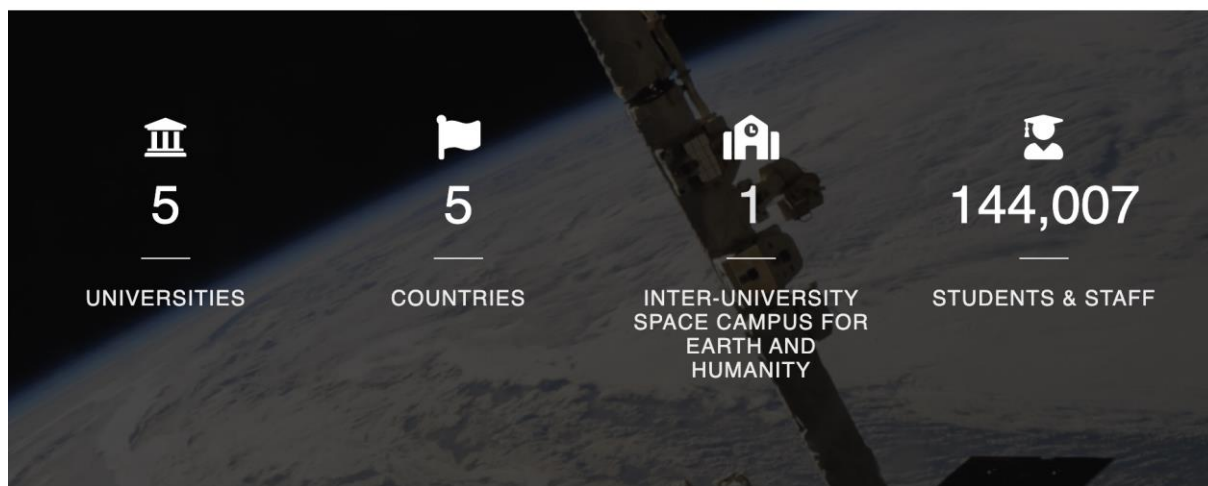
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THE PROJECT



Through the ages, Space has inspired wonder, questions, cultural and artistic works and technology innovation. It has the potential to concern all students and researchers covering a broad range of subjects and applications.

The night sky and dreams of travel into space have inspired myths and legends and artists long before the space age. Stars were the main means of finding direction and navigating before the compass and GPS. Space enthuses many of us. It has the potential to concern all students and researchers as this field covers a broad range of subjects and applications, ranging from the design of space habitat concepts for the moon or mars to psychosocial and health challenges of living in Space, law governing space-related activities, astronomical art, space engineering...

As expressed by Paul Weissenberg, Deputy Director General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry:

“ Investing in space today means investing in growth, employment and innovation tomorrow.”

In all its aspects (science, engineering, economy, business, social and human sciences, patenting and innovation, entrepreneurship, science and medicine, art and culture), **UNIVERSEH** will contribute to **European Education area**, to **job and industrial growth**, to resolve key societal challenges, and to make the space sector more sustainable, to ensure that the **EU remains a global leader in the New Space domain**.

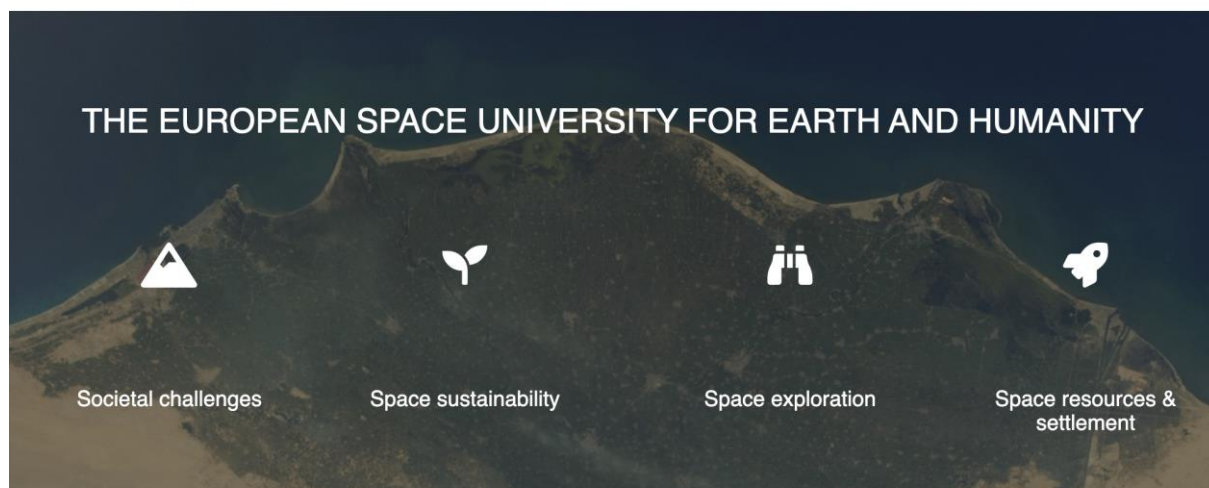


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Space for societal challenges: EU space policy aims to tackle some of the most pressing challenges today, such as fighting climate change or managing natural resources. Space technology, data and services have proven to be indispensable in the life of Europeans and for sustainable development. For example, EU space data is transforming our daily lives with services such as: increasing efficiency in agriculture and fisheries, helping regions and people access knowledge and information, improving crisis response, protecting the environment and helping to tackle climate change, increasing security, improving citizens' health, optimising transport.

Space sustainability: Working on sustainable space is essential to guarantee the ability of all human beings to continue to use outer space over the long term. There is a need to make the space sector more sustainable and to work on how technology and the environment can thrive together. UNIVERSEH is also conscious that the proliferation of space debris remains the most serious risk of the sustainability of space activities and will contribute to the European effort to address this issue. Moreover, access to space in a sustainable way is a key challenge to be addressed for the future missions.

Space exploration: During ESA's Council at ministerial level (Space19+ organised in 2019), the Member states committed to space exploration through their involvement in the International Space Station until 2030 and in "Space Gateway," the first space station to orbit the Moon. European astronauts will fly to the Moon for the first time. Member States have confirmed their support to the ground-breaking Mars Sample Return mission, in cooperation with NASA. Consequently, space exploration is a major priority and UNIVERSEH will contribute to the EU's effort in this strategic domain.

Space resources and settlement: How humans can live and work beyond Earth is a subject that raises interest, questions and some apprehension. Over the past years, the concept of permanent, autonomous human habitation of locations outside Earth (Moon, Mars, in orbit) has been the subject of literary, scientific or artistic work. Training and research in space exploration can contribute to different domains such as protection of Earth's environment, medicine, agriculture and space economy. Likewise, enhancing visionary ideas and research can lead to breakthroughs and contribute to innovative aerospace concepts.

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MISSION

TOWARDS EARTH AND HUMANITY

A CHALLENGE-DRIVEN UNIVERSITY

In this "New Space" business arena, comprehensive higher education is critically needed to realize the above-mentioned ambitions. Student-centred and innovative educational approaches are key for transferring research-based innovative knowledge, competences and skills to take the next wave of this revolutionary approach to space exploration and use.

Focusing on Space education, research and innovation in EU will address key societal challenges, nurture job and industrial growth and ensure EU autonomy. This will also contribute to address the growing need for high skilled workers and more labour market relevant skills to ensure productivity growth and competitiveness. Since 2015, opportunities for highly skilled individuals have grown and this will continue at least until 2025. 40% of European employers have expressed difficulty finding people with the right skills. Students are concerned by the mismatch between what they learn and the skills they need for work. The European Commission also calls for developing digital competences and skills. In this context, higher education institutions have a vital role to train highly skilled students to match the current and future needs on the labour market.

Within the Space strategy for Europe and the New skills agenda for Europe, UNIVERSEH will assemble European, knowledge-creating teams of students, learners, academics, researchers, businesses, regional and civil society stakeholders to

- Offer innovative and multi-disciplinary courses to train students for the jobs of today and tomorrow;
- Support entrepreneurship and innovation;
- Develop digital, open science and transferable skills among students and researchers;
- Contribute to match skills of graduates with the requirements of the labour market;
- Break the real and perceived barriers between academic and other sectors;
- Strengthen the European Union as a global leader in the space domain.

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OBJECTIVES

UNIVERSEH SHARES COMMON VALUES AND COMMITMENTS

UNIVERSEH, unites over 130.977 students, 13.030 staff and 59 associates. With a focus on "Space", the Alliance will work towards the following goals:

Enhance mobility and multilingualism

We will enhance current support services and develop common ones such as the "Feel at Home" program. Further, the alliance will develop mobility opportunities, create new partnerships and organize short term mobility. UNIVERSEH will also promote and facilitate access to different language courses, diversify the offer and contribute to developing students' tandems.

Develop new joint Interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral curricula

UNIVERSEH will involve different stakeholders; collect information on the current and future needs, then, based on courses from the alliance, UNIVERSEH will create new interdisciplinary curricula.

Develop new pedagogical models

We will explore new innovative opportunities: personal learning networks, hybrid and virtual learning and student to student learning

Become an entrepreneurial "university"

UNIVERSEH will develop new common entrepreneurship courses adapted to European space sector, develop different activities such as call for project with stakeholders, support to students' projects, networking and mentoring program, student practical experience in research and innovation infrastructures. All the actions will be supported by a strong Business-University cooperation.

Address some of the barriers students can face when it comes to joining higher education in general and studying abroad in particular

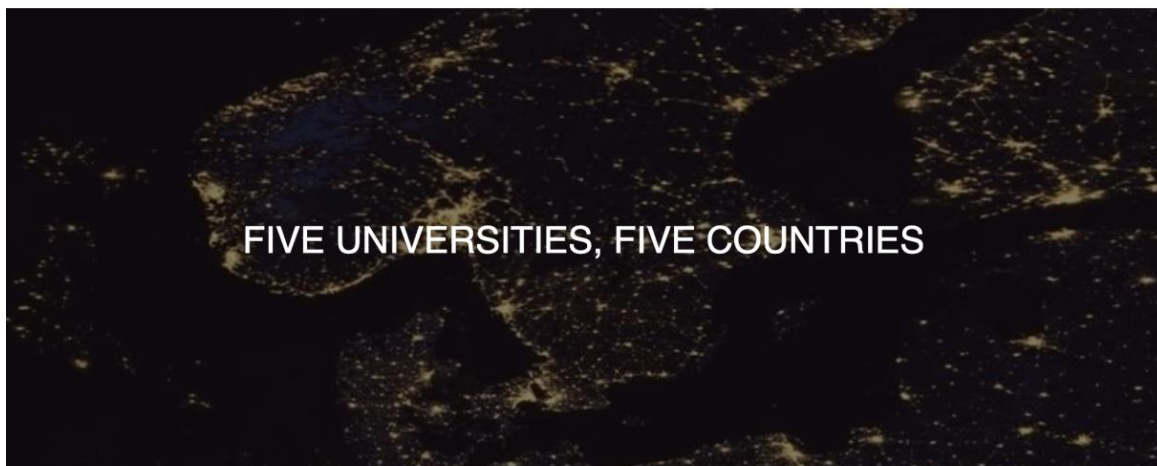
The Alliance will produce a EuroCharter on Equity, Inclusion and Diversity: towards European standards, testimonial videos of Women in the Space sector, a blog for students with specific needs to enable them to share experiences and staff seminar for common guidelines and improvement of services for mobile students.

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UNIVERSEH associates:



in collaboration with members of the Université Fédérale Toulouse



to build a European University around the theme of "Space" in all its aspects (science, engineering, economy and business, social and human sciences, patenting and innovation, entrepreneurship, science and medicine, art and culture...).

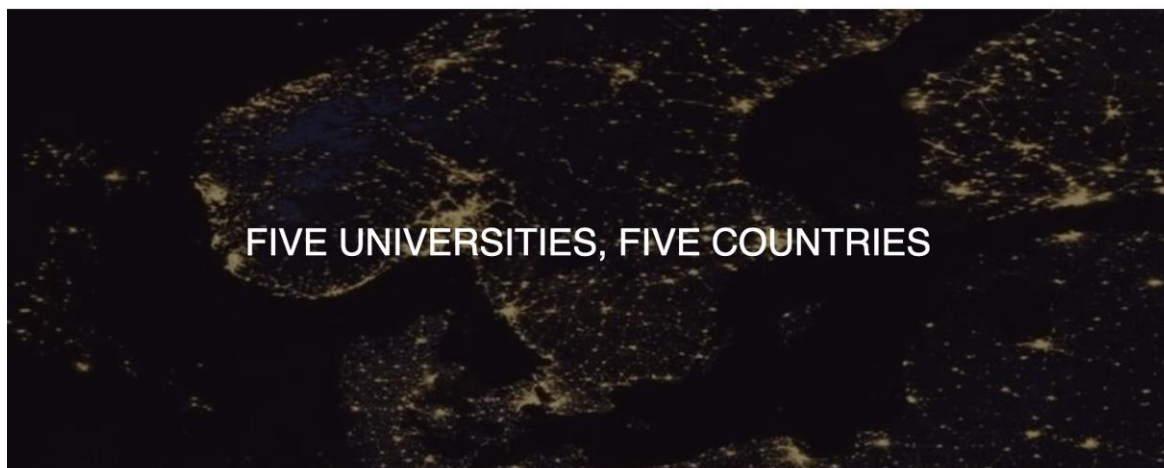
In the context of UNIVERSEH, a wide range of partners joined us in this endeavour, such as students' associations, space agencies, industrial and private partners and public bodies.

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NEWS



Online Event 14.4.21: The 60th anniversary of the first human space flight by Yuri Gagarin on 12 April 1961

12 April 2021

Wednesday 14 April 2021 at 18.00 Event is held in FRENCH. When he orbited the earth and marked the beginning of a new age, Yuri Gagarin was only 27 years old and became the first man to observe the earth ... Continued

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"Beyond UNIVERSEH" granted by EU Commission

18 February 2021

The European Commission has accepted the proposal for "Beyond UNIVERSEH" under the Horizon 2020 "Science with and for Society (SwafS)" programme. "Beyond UNIVERSEH" will complement and support the Research and Innovation dimension of the European University UNIVERSEH.

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Five higher education institutions create UNIVERSEH

14 December 2020

"UNIVERSEH – The European Space University for Earth and Humanity", an alliance of five higher education institutions, was officially launched in a virtual inauguration ceremony today.

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Kick-off meeting 14.12.2020

25 November 2020

UNIVERSEH lifts off on 14 December 2020. This event is taking place online. The links will be communicated via invitation only.

[Read More](#)



EU Commission approved European Space University for Earth & Humanity

10 July 2020

In July 2020 the project "European University – European Space University for Earth and Humanity" (UNIVERSEH) was approved by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ programme.

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CONTACT

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Toulouse Midi-
Pyrénées



AGH University of
Science and
Technology



Université du
Luxembourg



Luleå University of
Technology



Heinrich Heine
Universität
Düsseldorf



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3. Future developments

The goal of the website is to be user friendly and to offer information to a specific “client”, students, staff, researchers, academics. Future developments of the website include:

- continuous update, refining of existing static content and its structure, publishing updates in the project’s forthcoming, especially through the news section
- adding sections / pages for ‘Beyond UNIVERSEH’
- full roll-out of the MOPLAT platform in the coming weeks
- inclusion of direct links to the Google Workspace and Moodle platform landing pages
- dedicated work packages pages
- dedicated user pages including mobility (going abroad), courses offered by UNIVERSEH, start-ups & funding pages, research collaboration and already running collaborative projects in the space sector.

Further to these, public dedicated forums may be a good option to reinforce are included the societal impact of UNIERSEH. However, we are at the very beginning of the evaluation of this possibility as moderation will be a key element of quality and success. The inevitable drawback is the extensive and proficient resources needed for such a forum moderation. This is a concern within the project financial plan.

Another option to be explored is participative blog posts, where students, staff, researchers, academics can submit their experiences & success stories, which will then be posted in a dedicated section around dedicated topics (e.g., mobility experiences, accessibility/diversity experiences and tips).

In a nutshell, our policy is to move towards the best service to all members of the alliance, students, staff, researchers and academics through a discerning approach.

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