

# Seed Funding



## 2021 Call for Applicants

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March 2021

### Goals of the 2021 Call for Applications

The overall aim of the Una Europa Seed Funding Initiative is to support the initiation of long-term collaborative activities among the academic community of the partner universities, including the preparation of joint innovative formats for education or research. We strongly encourage proposals that design formats of cooperation suitable to attract third party funding in the long run. The call is open to all academic disciplines.

### Eligibility

Seed funding projects must be coordinated by senior academic staff from one Una Europa university and must involve senior staff from at least an additional three Una Europa universities. In addition, the participation of other university staff is possible and that of early-stage career researchers particularly encouraged.

Third parties may participate in the proposed activities; however, this will be at their own cost.

#### **At each Una Europa university, senior academic is defined as:**

- FUB – Full professors, junior professors, extraordinary professors, associate professors (Akad. Rat), junior research group leaders (Nachwuchsgruppenleiter);
- UNIBO – Full professors, Associate professors and Researchers ("Personale Strutturato" with both permanent and fixed term contracts if the contract end date covers the project duration);
- UoE - Academic staff, excluding postdoctoral, with university contracts;
- UH – Levels 3 and 4 (University lecturer and clinical instructor; University researcher, senior researcher, research coordinator and curator; Academy Research Fellows; Assistant/associate professor – tenure track; and Professor, research director and senior curator)
- JU – university lecturer (adiunkt), associate professor (profesor uczelni), full professor (profesor);
- KUL – ZAP/promoter (<https://idp.kuleuven.be/idp/profile/SAML2/POST/SSO?execution=e1s2>);
- UCM – Full professor (Catedrático), Professor (Professor titular) and Permanent professors (Professor contratado doctor);
- Paris 1 – Professeur, Maître de Conférences, Directeur de Recherche and Chargé de Recherche.

The seed funding should not duplicate funding that is otherwise available.

The scheme is open to all academic disciplines.

# Funding and financial procedures

Applicants are invited to apply for funding according to the following maximum levels:

- For projects involving 4 Una Europa partners: up to 11.000 EUR
- For projects involving 5 Una Europa partners: up to 13.000 EUR
- For projects involving 6 Una Europa partners: up to 15.000 EUR
- For projects involving 7 Una Europa partners: up to 17.000 EUR
- For projects involving all 8 Una Europa partners: up to 19.000 EUR.

The total budget for the 2021 call for proposals is 150.000 EUR.

The distribution of budget to successful projects will be carried out in the form of lump sums.

The following costs are considered eligible for seed funding:

- Travel costs, accommodation, daily allowance and organizational support (These costs are automatically calculated via the provided budget template)
- Funding of temporary staff/subcontracting costs to provide technical/facilitation support for online joint activities
- Purchase of software and hardware that is clearly demonstrated to benefit the project and partnership as a whole
- Open access publications when relevant and within the timeframe of the project

In the context of the post-Corona crisis and to promote sustainability - applicants have the freedom to develop a budget plan for projects which include little or no physical mobility.

The following costs are considered ineligible for seed funding:

- Permanent staff costs
- Proofreading/translation costs
- Conference fees
- PhD workshops
- Activities duplicated by funding that is otherwise available.

## Evaluation of applications

A selection committee consisting of members of all Una Europa universities will rank proposals for funding on a competitive basis. Particular attention will be given to the following criteria:

### Quality (30 points)

- Quality, clearly formulated plan and goals of the envisaged project
- Innovative and interdisciplinary approach
- Strength of the team and potential to involve early career researchers

### Contribution to the goals of Una Europa (30 points)

- Capacity to contribute to goals of deepening cooperation between the Una Europa universities in the longer term

### Impact (20 points)

- Capacity to attract external funding and involve external stakeholders
- Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals
- Application of Open Science principles

### Implementation (20 points)

- Potential to transform a well-structured budget into a realistic working plan.

The final decision-making for the funding of projects lies with the Board of Directors of Una Europa vzw. In case of equal ranking, funding will be granted to the project with highest number of points under the Quality criterion.

## Submission and deadlines

Proposals for the Una Europa seed funding initiative should be submitted by the project coordinator in English via the online application system. The application consists of an application form and endorsement letters of the respective Dean or Faculty Head or Head of administrative department, declaring support for the envisaged project.

The project description should be short and concise and should include a clear description of the proposed activities, as well as the budget and timeframe for these activities. The duration of a proposed activity can be up to one year.

Applicants can access the online application form [here](#) and templates for endorsement letters and the budget [here](#).

**The deadline for proposals to the 2021 call is 19 July 2021, at 17:00 CEST.**

The proposed activities should be conducted between January 2022 and December 2022.

## Reporting on projects

Beneficiaries will be requested to submit a short project and financial report after conducting their activities.

Successful applicants will be provided with a template for reporting.

# About Una Europa

## **Una Europa mission**

Una Europa brings together eight leading research universities with global reputation and reach. Our mission is to create a truly European inter-university environment, where outstanding research is continuously linked to transnational learning and innovative, critical thinking.

## **Una Europa partners**

The Una Europa partners are Freie Universität Berlin, Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna, University of Edinburgh, Helsingin Yliopisto, Uniwersytet Jagielloński w Krakowie, KU Leuven, Universidad Complutense de Madrid and Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Together, we will create a university of the future, where our students, researchers and staff will address the challenges of the future.

## **Una Europa projects**

Una Europa was selected among the first prestigious 'European Universities' pilots funded by the Erasmus+ programme. Our 1Europe pilot was launched in December 2019 and aims to create a single education eco-system through the development of more than 20 Joint Innovative Formats for education and mobility, covering Bachelor, Master, Doctorate and Continuous Education.

Through top-up funding from the Horizon 2020 programme, Una Europa has launched Una.Resin in February 2021, a new pilot to take the first steps towards creating a single research and innovation eco-system.