

Seed Funding



2022 Call for Applications (Una Europa Chairs)

April 2022

Goals of the 2022 Call for Applications (Una Europa Chairs)

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 specific goal of the 2022 call for applications is to consolidate academic collaboration in each of the five Una Europa Focus Areas, through the funding of one Una Europa Chair per Focus Area. The call promotes the mobility of academic staff across the Una Europa universities, in particular by piloting a fellowship scheme. The call is open to all academic disciplines.

Concept model for projects

The Una Europa Chair is a project presented by a **research team** consisting of senior academics of at least two partner universities and an appointed **chair holder**.

The research team, led by the **project coordinator**, prepares the proposal and is responsible for the realisation of the project. **The project proposal** for the Una Europa Chair outlines the vision and specific activities for consolidating academic collaboration in one of the Una Europa Focus Areas.

A **chair holder** is nominated as part of the application to carry out a fellowship that focuses on bringing expertise to the delivery of the defined project. The chair holder is a senior academic affiliated to one of the Una Europa universities who receives part of the grant to carry out a fellowship at the coordinating institution. The chairholder must be originally affiliated to another Una Europa university than the coordinating institution. The nomination of the chair holder is qualified in the application on the basis of their expertise.

Given the overall goal to consolidate academic collaboration in the Una Europa Focus Areas, the coordinator is encouraged to involve academics from more than two Una Europa universities to contribute to and benefit from the project.

Third parties may participate in the proposed activities; however, this will be at their own cost. Proposals that bring co-financing from other sources will be evaluated favourably under the impact criterion¹.

The five Una Europa **Focus Areas** eligible under this call for proposals are:

- [Cultural Heritage](#)
- [Data Science and Artificial Intelligence](#)

¹ See evaluation criteria below.

- [European Studies](#)
- [One Health](#)
- [Sustainability](#)

Expression of Interest

Each of the Una Europa Focus Areas is overseen by a Self-Steering Committee of interdisciplinary experts from across the Una Europa partner universities. Applicants have the option of sending an **expression of interest** to the Self-Steering Committee for the Focus Area of their project, in order to receive informal feedback on the content and suggestions of colleagues to involve from the partner universities. Please note that sending an expression of interest will in no way influence the evaluation process. The expression of interest form can be accessed [here](#) and should be sent latest by **1 July 2022**.

Examples of activities

Contributing to the consolidation of academic collaboration can be carried out through e.g. delivering teaching and learning activities, research activities and/or, societal outreach. An indicative list of activities can be found below. Each activity must clearly demonstrate how it contributes to the consolidation of the selected Una Europa Focus Area.

- Preparation of joint modules or teaching units based on innovative teaching strategies
- Delivery of high-level lectures
- Organization of seminars and/or winter or summer schools
- Organization of PhD workshops or other joint doctoral activity
- Development of Una Europa research teams with a view to e.g. preparing joint proposals for external funding or joint publications
- Organization of congresses or conferences to disseminate Una Europa activity
- Engagement and communications activity towards the non-academic sector

These listed examples are only an indication of the type of activities that can be supported. The applicants are welcome to suggest other relevant activities that fall within the scope of the call, evaluation criteria and funding and financial procedures. All activities should be compliant with Una Europa principles on diversity, equality and inclusion. (See Annex 1 below)

Eligibility

The coordinator and the chairholder

2022 seed funding projects must be coordinated by a senior academic affiliated to one Una Europa university and must involve a chairholder who is a senior academic affiliated to a different Una Europa university than the coordinating institution at application stage.

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" only with permanent contracts);
- 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 uczelniany), full professor (profesor);
- LU - Full professors, Associate professors and Researchers with university contracts
- KUL – ZAP/promoter (<https://idp.kuleuven.be/idp/profile/SAML2/POST/SSO?execution=e1s2>);
- UCM – Full professor (Catedrático), Professor (Professor titular) and Permanent professors (Profesor contratado doctor);
- Paris 1 – Professeur, Maître de Conférences, Directeur de Recherche and Chargé de Recherche.

The project, including the fellowship

The project must be delivered between **1 January 2023 and 31 July 2023**.

The recommended minimum duration of the chair holder's fellowship position is 60 days, but may also cover up to the full project duration, especially if co-financing is available. The fellowship may be carried out on a part-time basis with a minimum commitment of 0.5 FTE (full-time equivalent). The duration of the fellowship may be carried out in one period or may be divided into several periods over the course of the project duration. The motivation for this should be clearly outlined in the project proposal.

At least two Una Europa university partners must be involved in the project, the coordinating university and the university of the chair holder. Going beyond two partners and involving more Una Europa universities will be evaluated favourably under the impact criterion.

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

Funding and financial procedures

The total budget for the 2022 call for applications is 180.000 euro, up to **36.000 euro per project**. One project per Focus Area will receive funding.

The distribution of budget to successful projects will be carried out in the form of lump sums. The defined lump sum may entirely be used for the indicated purpose. Una Europa vzw does therefore not need any invoices or tickets, but rather the number of people who used the lump sum and proof that the travel or activity took place. If the coordinator decides to redefine the amount of the lump sums, the indicated amounts shall be the maximum and the new amounts should be clearly indicated in the budget.

The lump sums for the chairholder cover:

- Daily subsistence allowance for the duration of the secondment at the coordinating institution – 140 euro per day.
- Mobility allowance to cover travel costs for up to 4 trips, including to the coordinating university

Option 1 = € 180 per trip	Option 2 = € 275 per trip	Option 3 = € 360 per trip
Leuven - Paris	<i>All trips between Una Europa cities that are not option 1 or 3</i>	Madrid - Helsinki
Paris - Leuven		Helsinki - Madrid
Leuven - Leiden		Krakow - Madrid
Leiden - Leuven		Madrid - Krakow

- Accommodation allowance for the duration of the secondment and mobility to other partner universities: 150 euro per day

The lump sums for other project activities include:

Travel

- Mobility allowance:

Option 1 = € 180 per trip	Option 2 = € 275 per trip	Option 3 = € 360 per trip
Leuven - Paris	<i>All trips between Una Europa cities that are not option 1 or 3</i>	Madrid - Helsinki
Paris - Leuven		Helsinki - Madrid
Leuven - Leiden		Krakow - Madrid
Leiden - Leuven		Madrid - Krakow

- Accommodation and daily allowance: 150 euro per day
- Organizational support: 20 euro per day per academic in the project team

10% of the total budget may be used for the following:

- Costs for events involving colleagues outside of the project or actors from the non-academic sector e.g. costs for a small fee for venue, small fee for external speaker if the expertise cannot be provided internally, costs for local travel, costs for temporary staff to help in the organization of the event
- Costs for communication purposes e.g. set-up of website, social media, creation of visuals

The following costs are considered ineligible for seed funding:

- Permanent staff costs
- Proofreading/translation costs
- Conference fees
- 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 (50 points)

- Quality, clearly formulated plan, budget and goals of the envisaged project
- Innovative and interdisciplinary approach
- Strength of the chairholder and the extent to which their expertise contributes to the project goals
- Strength of the team
- The extent to which diversity, equality and inclusion are taken into consideration in the project (see Annex 1 below)

Impact (50 points)

- The extent to which the project contributes to the consolidation of one of the Una Europa Focus Areas
- The extent to which the project impacts the broad Una Europa partnership (Number of Una Europa partners involved, potential to engage early-stage career researchers)
- Capacity to involve external stakeholders and attract external funding to the Una Europa Focus Area in the long term
- The extent to which additional resource will be contributed in addition to the seed funding grant (co-financing in terms of human and/or financial resources)

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 of each partner university, declaring support for the envisaged project. For the chairholder there is a specific template for the endorsement letter.

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 seven months. The proposed activities should be conducted between 1 January 2023 and 31 July 2023.

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

The deadline for proposals to the 2022 call is 29 July 2022, at 17:00 CEST.

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 nine 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, Universiteit Leiden, 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.

Annex 1 – Diversity and inclusion

Una Europa’s vision on diversity and inclusion

Our vision is to shape Europe’s future so that diversity and inclusion are understood jointly as a basic strength of our alliance to implement on our virtual European campus. Our aim is that diversity is underpinned by common values. These values are interdisciplinarity, internationalisation, innovation, interaction, inclusivity, impact and intersectionality. We believe in Una Europa’s presentation that the member universities are “a mirror of humanity in all its diversity, reflecting cultures and languages, conventions and disruptions”. One key point is to have a holistic and intersectional view of diversity. Inclusion should be also on focus, not just different dimensions. Inclusion should be highlighted as a tool of constant innovation and improvement, identifying barriers and providing attention to and optimization of resources, conditions and supports.

Description and scope

The concept of diversity acknowledges that there are multidimensional, intersecting differences between people, structured by social positions and cultural categories and identity variables, such as ‘race’/ethnicity’, citizenship, migration status, religion, gender (incl. gender identity), age, class, (dis)ability and health status, sexual orientation and family/relationship status. Intersectional approach enables to consider all social categories and forms of discrimination and to address practices and structures of inclusion and exclusion rather than putting particular identities in the forefront. Diversity considers not only social categories, but all forms of discrimination affecting the multiple axis of people’s inbuilt (gender, age, capacities, sexual orientation, ethnic identity, socio-economic level, religious life stances etc.). Diversity addresses practices and structures of inclusion at whatever level the multiaxial essence of people may be threatened or discriminated.

Well-being and coexistence are essential goals to be fostered through all actions related to Diversity and Inclusion. Individual well-being gives people the freedom to be themselves as they are, displaying their abilities and strengths, but also their difficulties and differences. In this sense, inclusion is understood as based on the coexistence of quite a wide range of diversities, either temporal or long-lasting ones.