



Erasmus+ Alliances for Innovation 2025

Lot 1: Alliances for Education and
Enterprises

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

Hughes BECQUART
Policy Officer, EAC/C1



Education and Innovation policies landscape



European
Education Area
(EEA)



European
Research Area
(ERA)



European
Strategy for
Universities



New European
Innovation
Agenda (NEIA)

Political Guidelines

*Higher education highlights from the Political Guidelines
for the next European Commission 2024–2029*

European Commission: Political Guidelines 2024-2029

“Tackling the skills and labour gaps

Europe needs a radical step change in ambition and action – for all skill levels and for all types of training and education. This is as important for people’s careers and prospects as it is for our competitiveness. To do so, we will establish a **Union of Skills**.

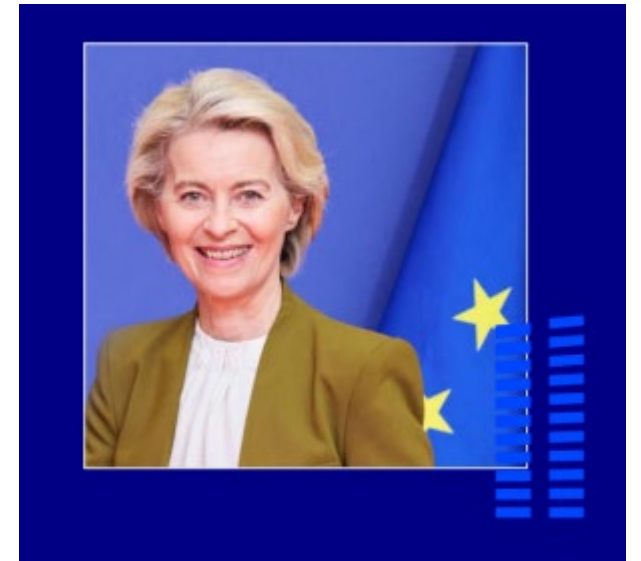


18 July 2024

European Commission: Political Guidelines 2024-2029

“ Tackling the skills and labour gaps

We will focus on improving basic skills and propose a **STEM Education Strategic Plan**. This will aim to address the worrying decline in performance and the lack of qualified teachers in areas linked to science, technology, engineering and maths. It should also **bring more girls and women into STEM education and careers**.



18 July 2024

European Commission: Political Guidelines 2024-2029

“ Tackling the skills and labour gaps



18 July 2024

We need to make sure that we benefit from all high-quality skills irrespective of where and how they were acquired. **This is why we will continue to work towards a European Degree** and will put forward a Skills Portability Initiative to ensure a skill acquired in one country is recognised in another.

European Commission: Political Guidelines 2024-2029



18 July 2024

“

It also means attracting new talents and retaining the best and brightest minds here in Europe. To do this, I want to **strengthen the collaboration between research departments, higher education and business** – notably by **strengthening our University Alliances**.

European Commission: Political Guidelines 2024-2029

“ Reuniting our societies,
supporting our young people

We will **strengthen Erasmus+** - including for vocational training - so that more people can benefit. This is key for people to develop skills and create shared experiences and a better understanding of each other.



18 July 2024

Mission Letters

Higher education highlights from the mission letters to:

Roxana Mînzatu, Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness

Ekaterina Zaharieva, Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation

Quote mission letter Roxana Mînzatu



*You will work on the European Education Area to drive a common approach to **skills development**, learning mobility, quality and inclusiveness. You will make the most of the tools at our disposal, including by strengthening Erasmus+.*

*You should continue work on the European Degree as a flagship for quality learning mobility. You should continue work to incentivise its use, as well as stimulating **skills academies and partnerships** and supporting European Universities alliances.*

[...]

You will develop an Action Plan on Basic Skills and a STEM Education Strategic Plan to address two of the most striking shortfalls.

– European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Mission letter to Roxana Mînzatu, Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness

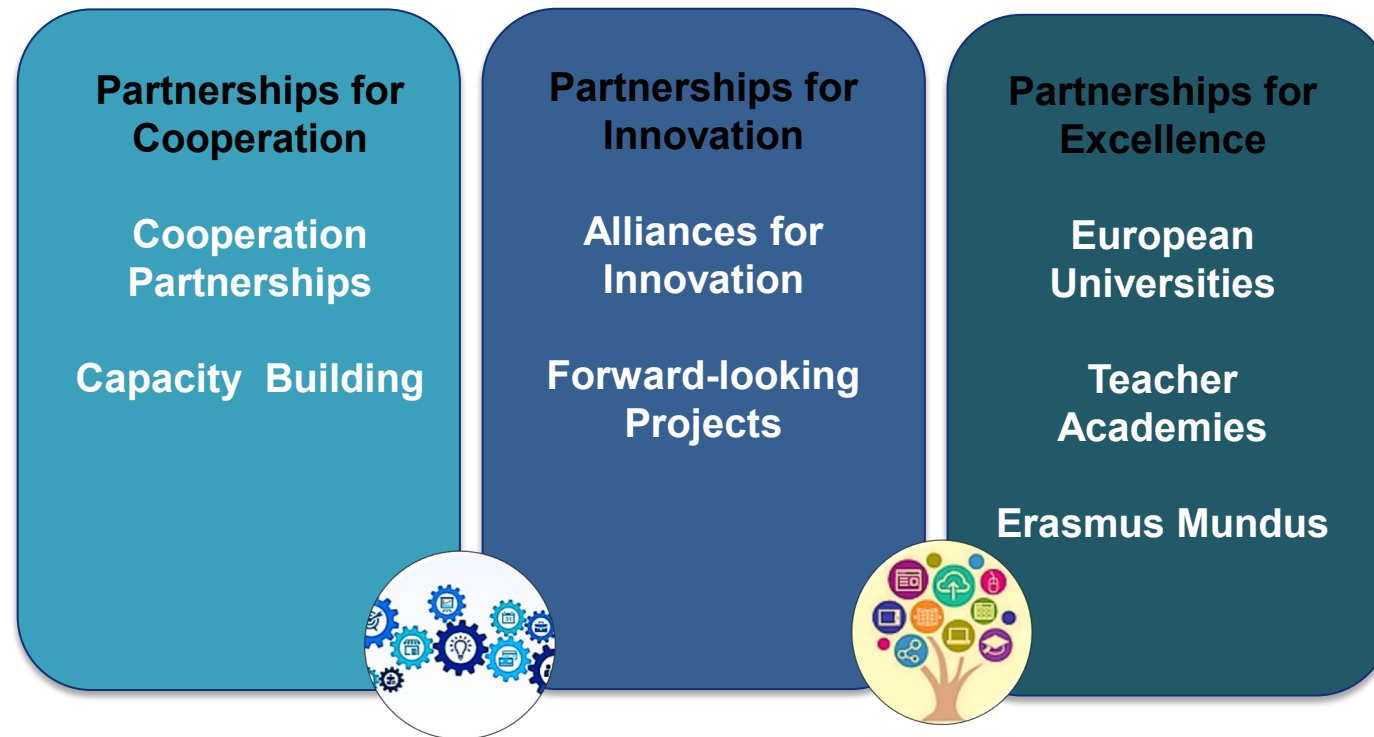
A portrait of Ekaterina Zaharieva, a woman with blonde hair and glasses, wearing an orange blazer. She is holding a purple folder and a pen. The background is blurred, showing other people in a professional setting.

Quote mission letter Ekaterina Zaharieva “

*I would like you to focus on supporting the next generation of researchers and help strengthen and incentivise **cooperation between academic, private and public sector entities** to create attractive career perspectives. As part of this, you will support the work to strengthen our University Alliances.*

– European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Mission letter to Ekaterina Zaharieva, Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation

Wide range of cooperation models in KA2





Alliances for Innovation

*The Alliances for Innovation aim to strengthen Europe's **innovation capacity** by boosting innovation through **cooperation and flow of knowledge** among **higher education, vocational education and training** (both initial and continuous), and the **broader socio-economic environment, including research***

*They also aim to boost the **provision of new skills and address skills mismatches** by designing and creating new curricula for higher education (HE) and vocational education and training (VET), supporting the development of a sense of initiative and entrepreneurial mind-sets in the EU.*



European
Commission

GOALS



(Cross)sectoral activities



Talent development: resilience, green and deep tech skills



Innovative and multidisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning



Improving quality and relevance of skills



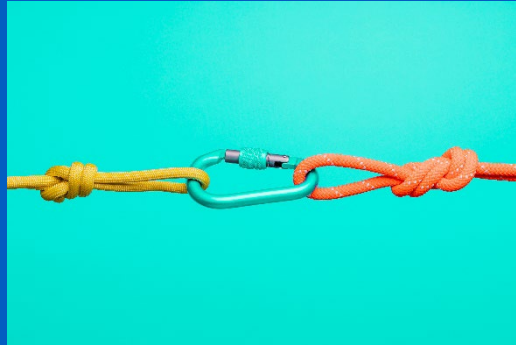
Setting up incubators



Fostering Corporate Social Responsibility

Expected impact

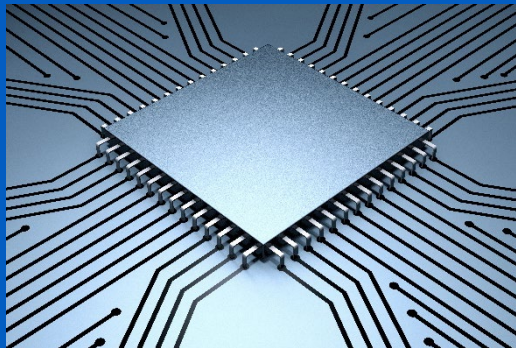
HE and VET
cooperation with
business



Strengthen regional
ecosystems.

[Link to Smart
Specialisation
Strategies.](#)

Knowledge triangle.
Innovation capacity.
Focus on deep tech



Address current
challenges: climate
change, digital
transition (AI)...

CONTRIBUTION TO EU PRIORITIES

EIT Knowledge & Innovation Communities (KICs)



1st wave – inaugurated in 2010



EIT Climate-KIC

Accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon economy



EIT Digital

Drive Europe's digital transformation



EIT InnoEnergy

Achieve a sustainable energy future for Europe

2nd wave – 2015



EIT Health

Give EU citizens greater opportunities for a healthy life



EIT RawMaterials

Develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe

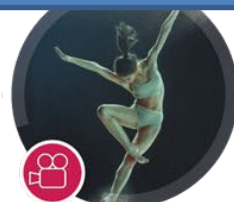
To be launched in 2026



EIT Water

Contribute to a circular and sustainable water economy

Kick-off in 2023



EIT Culture & Creativity

Unite Europe's creatives

4th wave – 2019



EIT Urban Mobility

Smart, green and integrated transport



EIT Manufacturing

Strengthen and increase the competitiveness of Europe's manufacturing industry

3rd wave – 2017



EIT Food

Lead a global revolution in food innovation and production



European
Commission

European Skills Academies (I)

- Under the management of the **European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)** and implemented through the EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Communities.
- Objective: **Upskilling and reskilling workforce** in strategic sectors, 100 000 trained learners minimum per academy
- Commission provides seed money. Academy to be financially sustainable after 3 years.
- Concept successfully tested by the 1st academy: **European Battery Alliance Academy**
→ target reached in Dec 2024 in less than 3 years
- Concept embedded in the **Net Zero Industry Act**, in force in all Member States.
- State-of-the-art skills intelligence, alignment with industry, European Digital Credentials

European Skills Academies (II)

Under the management of the EIT:

- European **Battery** Alliance (EBA) Academy: Reached target in Dec 2024
- European **Solar** Academy : Launched in June 2024
- European **Raw Materials** Academy: Announced 9 Dec 2024
- European **Wind** Academy
- European **Hydrogen** Academy
- European **Advanced Materials** Academy

Net Zero Industry Act
academies

Advanced materials for industry Communication



Thank you!