



European Universities Alliances: an opportunity for Catholic Universities?

The European Universities Initiative (EUI), launched by the European Commission in 2019, aims to foster unprecedented levels of cooperation among higher education institutions across Europe. By creating transnational alliances, the initiative - currently counting 65 alliances with more than 570 higher education institutions - seeks to enhance the quality, inclusiveness and competitiveness of European higher education. For Catholic universities, this presents both unique challenges and significant opportunities to integrate their foundational values into a broader European educational framework.

These webinars will showcase the European Commission's initiative, share experiences, discuss challenges, and highlight opportunities for Catholic higher education institutions.

Organized by the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) in collaboration with the Commission of EU Bishops' Conferences (COMECE).

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Understanding the European Universities Alliances from Catholic Universities' Perspectives

6 May 2025, 11:30-12:30 CEST

Agenda

1. Opening Remarks and welcome by the moderators

Emilio Dogliani (COMECE) & Montserrat Alom (IFCU)





2. Keynote Speech - Fr. Manuel Barrios, Secretary General of COMECE

Higher Education in today's European Union: fostering institutions oriented to the Common Good

- 3. Overview of the European Universities Initiative Ioana Dewandeler, Policy Officer for Higher Education, DG EAC, European Commission
- 4. Testimonies & Panel Discussion with Catholic Universities

with the interventions of:

Maria Amália Silva de Oliva, Arturo Varona Bosque, Teresa Morales De La Fuente -

Universidad Pontificia Comillas (EUPeace)

Mariet Vriens - KULeuven (Una Europa)

Marian Aláez - Universidad de Deusto (UNIC)

Richard Van Wezel - Radboud University (NeuroTechEU)











Key Challenges and Opportunities for Catholic Universities in European Alliances

13 May 2025, 11:30-12:30 CEST

Agenda

1. Opening Remarks and welcome by the moderators

Emilio Dogliani (COMECE) & Montserrat Alom (IFCU)





 $\textbf{2. Keynote Speech - François Mabille,} \ Secretary \ General \ of IFCU, \ on$

IFCU and the Role of Catholic Universities in Shaping European Higher Education

3. Panel Discussion with Catholic Universities

with the interventions of:

Maria Amalia Silva de Oliva, Arturo Varona Bosque, Teresa Morales De La Fuente -

Universidad Pontificia Comillas (EUPeace)





Katrien Vanelven- KULeuven (Una Europa)

Ainhoa Jorquera Cascón - Universidad de Deusto (UNIC)





Adriaan Kühn - Universidad Francisco de Vitoria (ACE²-EU)



4. Closing Remarks & Takeaways