CREATING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FUTURE
ECIU is the leading international consortium of research intensive universities, with collective emphasis on innovation, creativity and societal impact, driving the development of a knowledge-based economy.

strong commitment to innovation and entrepreneurship

drivers of the regional development and innovation agenda

unconventional forms of teaching and learning

excellence in research

internationally minded staff and students

founded in 1997: Two decades of collaboration
ECIU UNIVERSITIES
COMMIT THEMSELVES TO

INNOVATE IMPACT

- Collaborate closely with society, public institutions and industry. Stimulate the elaboration of new value chains that support regional development, global impact, and fuel strong research.

- Engage in novel forms of partnerships by connecting to the local community and society at large.

- Design campuses focused on co-creation, co-innovation and co-location to boost (regional) impact and make open innovation flourish.

- Encourage interdisciplinarity, integrate social sciences and humanities and practise responsible innovation.

- Train researchers with a special focus on career development towards being active players in a Regional Innovation Systems (ECIU RUNIN ITN).

INNOVATE EDUCATION

- Embrace the role as lifelong educators, by offering inclusive and flexible education, independent of background, nationality and age.

- Engage with wider society, e.g. by involving stakeholders in developing curricular and problem-based learning, by encouraging business awareness and by offering meaningful entrepreneurship training and support, whilst ensuring the high quality that is expected from universities.

- Encourage students to engage with research and explore new knowledge as an integral part of their studies.

- Embrace change and respond to developments in society, such as the impact of digitalisation.

- Reinvent international education by developing content-based exchange products (ECIU Minors).
**INNOVATE GOVERNANCE**

- Explore alternative and new sources of funding.
- Be open to the world, embracing internationalisation and cultural diversity.
- Rethink university evaluation, rankings and reward systems.
- Include students and citizens in an open governance structure, in constant dialogue with the universities’ creative minds and society at large.
- Train future leaders on innovative university governance through the ECIU Leadership Development Programme (since 2003).
CREATING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FUTURE

The European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU) celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2017. On this occasion, ECIU renews its commitment to challenge conventional thinking. The ECIU Universities will continue their efforts to be truly innovative institutions that create significant impact at regional, national and international level. The ECIU Universities are ready to form a coalition of the willing, join forces with the EU and form a test-bed for practices strengthening the future of universities.

The ECIU Universities joined forces 20 years ago, based on a common track record. Each member University is a globally connected centre of research and education, and plays a significant role in (re)creating a regional knowledge economy. Since joining forces, the consortium used its common ground to further develop a modern approach to being a university. ECIU looks forward to working together with European stakeholders on the nature of a modern, innovative university.

The ECIU Universities have been pioneers, not only in being globally connected, but also in meeting regional, social and economic challenges. The world gets more complex and societies must maintain social cohesion. The future of work is uncertain, and global connectivity means that identities are not clear cut. ‘Innovative’ universities, as characterised by ECIU, are more than fountains of new knowledge. The ECIU Universities have shown their creative power to be the engines of regional transformation.

Universities must embrace global competitiveness and respond to local demands. Furthermore, global issues, like the UN Sustainable Development Goals, are best addressed from multiple perspectives. This calls for an interdisciplinary approach to training, research and collaboration. The ECIU Universities offer a wide range of expertise from natural to social sciences and engineering. With this offer, we are well-placed to deliver interdisciplinarity, innovative training and research that address the major societal challenges of today.
ABOUT THE EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM OF INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITIES

AALBORG UNIVERSITY

Ranked as the best European university for engineering.

DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY

Singapore’s University of Enterprise, leading for licensing and innovation partnerships with SMEs and multinational companies.

HAMBURG UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Offers one of the top 5 combined Management and Engineering study degree programs in Germany.

KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Return on Investment of business incubator Startup Space is 600% - taxes paid by startups in 5 years exceed the investment of the KTU 6 times.

LINKÖPING UNIVERSITY

Produced the highest number of innovative spinouts in Sweden during the last decade.

TAMPERE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Ranked on the 11th position in the world, and 4th in Europe for industry collaboration according to THE rankings.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Year Founded</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTERREY</td>
<td>1943</td>
<td>89,641</td>
<td>10,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>44,520</td>
<td>8,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITAT AUTÓNOMA DE BARCELONA</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>34,080</td>
<td>10,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF AVEIRO</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>1,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF STAVANGER</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>1,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>2,950</td>
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</table>

TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTERREY
Is in the Top 25 Undergraduate Schools (NO. 14) of the Princeton Review’s Top Schools for Entrepreneurship Studies for 2018.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
Has a £1.1bn economic impact on the UK every year.

UNIVERSITAT AUTÓNOMA DE BARCELONA
Led the UAB-CIE Sphere, comprising of scientific, technological and business parks, multinational companies, SMEs, foundations and city councils.

UNIVERSITY OF AVEIRO
Best practice by the National Strategic Reference Framework Observatory, for its close cooperation with the region.

UNIVERSITY OF STAVANGER
Produces more business ideas per researcher than any other university in Norway.

UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO
Leading University in Italy for quality of research and education. At the center of the economic and social innovation in the Trentino region.

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE
Europe’s most entrepreneurial university with more than 700 spin-offs.