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3rd EDUC ONLINE OUTPUT SHARING THEMED EVENT

Growing Excellence through Skills within the EDUC Alliance

Speakers

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Britta van Kempen

Britta is Vice President for Educational and European Affairs at the University of Potsdam and, since 2024, Head of the European University Alliance EDUC, coordinated by the University of Potsdam. She oversees strategic development, quality assurance in teaching and learning, and system accreditation, while coordinating several university centres dedicated to teaching quality, teacher education, educational research, languages and key competences.
She holds a Ph.D. in Philology (2004) and joined the University of Potsdam in 2009. After holding several advisory positions, she was appointed Vice President in July 2022, contributing to the development of educational policies and initiatives at the university.

Alessandra Carucci

Alessandra is a Full Professor in Sanitary-Environmental Engineering at the University of Cagliari.
She has published more than 150 papers, mostly on international journals, and has coordinated several national and European research projects.
She is an expert evaluator for the EU Framework Programmes. At the University of Cagliari, she has served as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture and Director of the Doctoral School in Environmental Engineering and Science. Since 2015, she has been serving as Vice-Rector for International Affairs.





Monica Heintz

Monica is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Paris Nanterre. She has done research on ethics, citizenship, open science and has conducted ethnographic fieldwork in transitional contexts in European societies. As deputy director for Educ at UPN and director of the UPN doctoral school 'Spaces, Times, Cultures', she has engaged in multiple institutional and social reflections on young scholars' pathways into global science.

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Federica Velli

Federica is a postdoctoral researcher in EU law at the Institut de l'Ouest: Droit et Europe (IODE) at the University of Rennes, where she is working on the research project "Promoting EU Values in a World in Crisis". Before joining IODE, she was a Blue Book trainee at the Legal Service of the European Commission. Federica holds a PhD in Legal Sciences and Law in cotutelle from the University of Cagliari and the University of Luxembourg, a first class LLM from the University of Cambridge, and an LL.B with the highest distinction from The Hague University of Applied Sciences, where she graduated as valedictorian.

Eva Nagyová

Eva works at Masaryk University as a science communication manager – she helps researchers increase their research impact and introduces them to science communication's methods, tools, and benefits. Outside of that, she organizes international events, deals with science communication topics in European projects, and cooperates on external and internal communication regarding research at Masaryk University. Eva is a media studies and journalism graduate with experience working in a daily newspaper and a for a medical research institution as a PR officer.

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Iva Šmídová

Iva is a sociologist, an Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. She has worked in the field of gender studies since the early 1990s in both research and teaching. She is a founding member of the gender studies community at the department. Her long-term research interest is in Critical studies on men and masculinities, with topical projects since 2003, and teaching on men since 1998. Her further research and publications stem from an interest in social inequalities, sociology of health, illness and medicine, bereavement studies, or gender relations in the family and education. She is a member of the EDUC alliance project team that developed online training on Female Empowerment in Academia.
More on Iva´s projects and publications:
https://www.muni.cz/en/people/7385-iva-smidova/projects

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Carla Argiolas

Carla is a Project Manager Assistant at UniCa for the EDUC Alliance. She holds an academic background in Modern Languages and International Relations, which led her to study and live in the United Kingdom for several years, gaining a professional foundation in the Education and TEFL sectors as a Celta qualified teacher and as a welfare officer for international students.
Passionate about multilingualism and multiculturalism, Carla contributes to the implementation of initiatives that foster staff and students' linguistic and cultural exchange across EDUC partner universities. She is also engaged in knowledge transfer and innovation activities within the alliance, contributing to the connection between academia and broader societal impact.

Rob Bongaardt

Rob holds a Doctorate in Psychology from the Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam. He works at the University of South-Eastern Norway as a full Professor of Mental Health. His teaching, research, and coaching affect the continuing professional development of mental health care professionals, leadership coaches, academic mentors, research leaders, research teams, and doctoral supervisors. In this capacity, Rob supports those who support others in various walks of daily life and work.





Barbara Vidale

Barbara is an Administrative Staff member at the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Cagliari. Her main responsibilities include the preparation and publication of calls for teaching and tutoring activities.
She also participated in the EDUC E-Tandem Programme in 2022, 2024, and 2025.

Mara Marcelli

Mara is the Welcome Desk Manager at the International Relations Office (IRO) of Jaume I University. She specialises in communication and project management, drawing on a multidisciplinary background and a holistic approach.
She also participated in the EDUC E-Tandem Programme on three occasions.



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Carlo Contu

Carlo works within the Communication, Student Services and General Services Directorate at the University of Cagliari. He holds a PhD in Philosophy and Master's degrees in Economics and Communication. His multidisciplinary academic background, combined with his expertise in communication and strong interest in design thinking, informs his professional approach and commitment to innovative solutions.

Jana Nová

Jana is HR Award Manager at the Personnel Management Office of the Rector's Office at Masaryk University. She is involved in developing modern human resources policies and promoting equal opportunities. She has played a key role in the launch and implementation of the HR Excellence in Research (HR Award) initiative, as well as in the preparation and implementation of Masaryk University's Gender Equality Plan (GEP). Her work contributes to improving the quality of the working environment, enhancing transparency and strengthening the university's international standing.





Umberto Santagata

Umberto is a Project Officer in the Una Europa Alliance Unit at Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna, where he works on the development and implementation of international educational formats.

Within the Una Europa Alliance, he has been involved in the WP "Empowering Staff" contributing to initiatives aimed at professional staff development, training and mobility. He is also a member of the Professional Development Working Group and contributes to the development of the UNA Europa Staff Week format.

Ieva Serapinaite

Ieva is a Policy Officer at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC). Before joining the European Commission, she worked as a Senior Adviser at the Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills. She has built extensive professional experience through higher education, continuing professional training and work with education in Belgium, Norway, Germany and Lithuania. She has been active in collaboration with university networks, as well as national and European stakeholder organisations.



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