



HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE UNIVERSITY TRANSNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE HELICI PROJECT

DECEMBER 11, 2024 FROM 10:30 TO 14:30 (CET)



Auditorium of the Fundación Ortega Marañón.
Calle Fortuny 53, Madrid.
Languages: Spanish and English

Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union 2022-2025
Call: KA220-HED - Cooperation partnerships in higher education
Project number-2021-1-ES01-KA220-HED-000023320

CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

On the occasion of the celebration of International Human Rights Day, the Conference aims to disseminate good practices carried out in the university sphere in the defence of human rights.

Speakers representing different Spanish universities will participate in initiatives aimed at promoting inclusive universities, the exercise of Human Rights and the eradication of racist, xenophobic, sexist and LGBTI-phobic manifestations. In addition, during the conference, the results of the transnational project HELICI: University Learning Community for inclusion and non-discrimination will be disseminated, with the participation of representatives of the European partner universities of the project.

The Conference is aimed at entities, social organisations and individuals interested in the promotion of Human Rights in the field of education.

Context and rationale

European Strategy for Universities (2022)

1. Strengthen the European dimension in higher education and research, helping universities to build bridges and take transnational cooperation to the next level.
2. Support universities as beacons of our European way of life, supporting universities to provide relevant quality and forward-looking skills, foster diversity and inclusion, promote and protect democratic practices, fundamental rights and academic values.
3. Empowering universities as agents of change in the dual ecological and digital transition
4. Strengthen universities as drivers of the EU's global role and leadership, through closer international cooperation within and outside Europe in education, research and innovation.



SECRETARÍA DE ESTADO DE MIGRACIONES





HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE UNIVERSITY TRANSNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE HELCI PROJECT

Erasmus+ Programme

Through the Erasmus+ programmes, the EU promotes international exchanges of students, academic staff and researchers, as well as structured cooperation between higher education institutions and public authorities in different countries.

Through Key Action 2, the E+ Programme expects cooperation between organisations and institutions to result in the development, transfer or implementation of innovative practices at organisational, local, regional, national or European level. This Action includes Cooperation Partnerships, which enable participating organisations to gain experience in international cooperation and strengthen their capacities, with the aim of developing and transferring innovative practices and fostering collaboration, peer learning and exchange of experiences at European level in the fields of education, training and youth.

The Erasmus+ programme reinforces its priority of inclusion and diversity in its new phase (2021-2027) by establishing a reference framework requesting National Agencies to equip themselves with Inclusion and Diversity Strategies.

[HELCI Project: “University Learning Community for Inclusion and Non-discrimination”.](#)

The main objective of the HELCI project is to promote the principle of non-discrimination and equal treatment and common European values in the field of Higher Education, fostering the transnational interconnection of Universities and the joint creation of innovative and inclusive contents that counteract the intolerant discourses Europe is facing, equipping its university communities with competences to promote Human Rights and eradicate manifestations of racism, xenophobia and discrimination on gender and affective-sexual grounds.

The project, which started in February 2022 and will run until February 2025, is a Partnership for Cooperation co-funded by the European Commission through the Erasmus+ Programme (PN-2021-1-ES01-KA220-HED-000023320). The initiative is led by the University of Salamanca and has as partners the Spanish Observatory on Racism and Xenophobia (OBERAXE), the Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania), the University of Vienna (Austria) and the social consultancy Cidalia.





HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE UNIVERSITY TRANSNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE HELCI PROJECT

The European Strategy for Universities considers that “diversity, inclusion and gender equality in the higher education sector are now more important than ever. Students, teachers, administrative staff and researchers from disadvantaged backgrounds continue to be under-represented in higher education”. The HELCI project partners, however, are aware of the challenge posed by the lack of awareness of diversity and inclusion and the scarcity of funding and resources at universities.

To raise awareness and promote inclusive practices and Human Rights in and from the university in a sustainable way, 4 Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on Human Rights, gender equality, racism and xenophobia and affective-sexual diversity have been created. The courses are aimed at training the entire university community (teaching staff, research and administrative staff and students) and have been designed by Transnational and National Learning Communities that have included the entire university community, civil society organisations, other educational entities and institutions that share their objectives. Their contents respond to the training needs identified after an assessment of the realities of inclusion and non-discrimination in the participating universities. With the aim of transferring the experience to all European educational entities, the project has produced two guides with the methodology used for the design of MOOCs and a roadmap for the creation of a network of inclusive universities.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

10:30	Reception of participants.
11:00	<p>Conference Opening Ceremony</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Karoline Fernández de la Hoz, Director of OBERAXE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>D^a. Pilar Cancela</i>, Secretary of State for Migration. • <i>D^a Marta Gutiérrez Sastre</i>, Vice Rector of Students, Inclusion, Equality and Social Commitment of the USAL. • <i>D^a Lucía Sala Silveira</i>, General Director of the FOM. <p>• Institutional photo.</p>
11:30	<p>Conference “The challenge of universities in the face of human rights”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Claribel del Castro Sánchez</i>. Professor of International Public Law (UNED).



SECRETARÍA DE ESTADO DE MIGRACIONES





DERECHOS HUMANOS EN LA UNIVERSIDAD CONFERENCIA TRANSNACIONAL DEL PROYECTO HELCI

CONFERENCE AGENDA

11:45	<p>Round table “Diverse university communities”. Rosa Aparicio. Researcher at the FOM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Fernando Barbosa.</i> Member of the working group “University and Afro-descendence” of the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM). • <i>Dr. Arantxa Elizondo.</i> Co-founder and director of the Master in Equality of Women and Men at the University of the Basque Country. • <i>Dr. Miguel Ángel López Sanz</i> of the Network of Universities for Diversity (RUD). • <i>Ms. Cristina Moreno Valderrey.</i> Inclusion and Diversity Strategy of the Erasmus+ programmes, SEPIE. <p>Family Photo</p>
12:25	Coffee Break
12:55	<p>Presentation “The HELCI Project: Higher Education Learning Community for Inclusion”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Concha Antón Rubio.</i> Project Coordinator (USAL)
13:15	<p>Human Rights Education at the University: Massive Online Open Courses of the HELCI Project. Moderator: Ms. Nuria Lores Sánchez, Cidalia, consulting in diversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Carmen Girón (OBERAXE).</i> Human Rights in and from the University. • <i>Dr. Kerman Calvo (USAL).</i> Building an inclusive university: learning about affective-sexual diversity and gender. • <i>Ms. Helena Segarra/ Ms. Lisa Tackie (University of Vienna).</i> Cultural diversity at university. • <i>Dr. Inga Juknytė-Petreikienė, (Mykolas Romeris University).</i> Gender equity at university.
14:10	<p>Closing of the day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dra. Rosa Aparicio (FOM)</i> • <i>Dra. Concha Antón (USAL)</i>