

TOWARDS A JOINT EUROPEAN DEGREE: PERSPECTIVES FROM ACROSS THE ECIU ALLIANCE

International Conference

29–30 September 2026
Lodz University of Technology, Poland



Lodz University
of Technology



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Towards a joint European Degree: Perspectives from across the ECIU Alliance

Venue: *International Cooperation Centre, Lodz University of Technology*
(36 Zwirki St., building A-16, Prof. Jan Krysiński Auditorium)

Day 1

08:30 - 09:00 - Registration and coffee break

09:00 - 09:15 - Official opening of the conference and welcome addresses

09:15 - 09:45 - Keynote speech

Speaker:

- **Dorota Piotrowska** (Lodz University of Technology)

09:45 - 10:30 - Joint Educational Opportunities Across ECIU: Results of TUL's Study

This session will present the results of a TUL-led study exploring joint educational opportunities across the ECIU Alliance, including joint and double degree programmes, flexible learning pathways, and other forms of educational collaboration. Drawing on over 30 interviews with representatives of ECIU member institutions and survey results, the session will highlight key findings on existing practices, opportunities, challenges, and perspectives relevant to the future of joint education in the context of the European Degree initiative.

Speakers:

- **Jolanta Jagiełło, Agata Kostrzewa, Maria Plucińska, Marta Rybicka**

10:30 - 11:00 - Coffee break

11:00 - 12:00 - Strategic Perspectives on Joint Educational Initiatives

Bringing together senior staff members representing selected ECIU member institutions and alliance's central office staff, the panel will explore how different institutions approach the development of joint educational initiatives, including joint and double degree programmes. Panellists will reflect on institutional priorities, strategic considerations, and the conditions needed to support sustainable collaboration in the evolving European higher education landscape.

Session moderator:

- **Dorota Piotrowska** (Lodz University of Technology)

Session panellists:

- **Andrea Brose** (ECIU)
- **Goretti Daughton** (Dublin City University)
- **Antonia Gohr** (Hamburg University of Technology)
- **Ramón Vilanova** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

12:00 - 13:00 - Joint and Double Degrees in Practice: Lightning Talks and Discussion.

This session will showcase practical experiences with developing and coordinating joint and double degree programmes at ECIU member institutions. Organised as a series of short lightning talks followed by a discussion, it will bring together speakers involved in specific programmes and institutional support structures to share insights into programme design, coordination, implementation challenges, and lessons learned.

Session moderator:

- **Mireia Gali** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

Session panellists:

- **Xavier Biarnès** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)
- **Claudia Tarzariol** (University of Trento)
- **Julie Trobitsch** (Dublin City University)
- **Tea Vellamo** (Tampere University)

13:00 - 14:00 - Lunch break

14:00 - 16:00 - Beyond Joint Degrees: Examples of Alternative Forms of Educational Collaboration

This session is dedicated to flexible learning pathways and other forms of innovative educational offer. Panellists will share insights from projects they have been involved in, highlighting alternative approaches to educational collaboration beyond joint degrees and the European Degree. Part of this session will cover the insights from the #edu4sdgs Erasmus+ Project. Participants will learn how micro-credentials, interdisciplinary learning opportunities, and cross-sector collaboration can contribute to more flexible, student-centred, and impact-oriented education.

Session moderator:

- **Andrea Brose**(ECIU) and **Rasma Pīpiķe** (Rigas Technical University)

Session panellists:

- **Henning Haschke** (Hamburg University of Technology)
- **Frauke Kasting** (Hamburg University of Technology)
- **Robert Blažlak** (Lodz University of Technology)
- **Ramón Vilanova** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)
- **Daniel Franco** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) #edu4sgs project
- **Rafał Nykiel** (Team Coaching) #edu4sgs project
- **Lina Landinez** (ACEEU) #edu4sgs project
- **Catarina Alves** (Asociación Bienestar y Desarrollo) #edu4sgs project

16:00 – 16:10 - Summary of Day I

Day 2

09:00 – 09:20 Coffee break and informal networking

09:20 - 09:30 Opening of Day II

09.30 - 10.30 European Label for micro-credentials. Presentation of the concept and discussion.

This session will introduce the concept of the European Label for Micro-credentials and explore its potential relevance for flexible and innovative educational offers within European University alliances. The presentation and discussion will provide space to reflect on possible applications, opportunities, and challenges related to recognising smaller learning experiences across institutions.

Speaker:

- **Mairéad Nic Giolla Mhichíl** (Dublin City University)

10.30 - 11.15 Operational guide for the Joint European Degree Label

This session will focus on practical and operational aspects related to the Joint European Degree Label, offering an overview of key steps, requirements, and considerations for institutions interested in its implementation. It will provide a basis for discussing possible challenges, support needs, and approaches to translating the concept into institutional and alliance-level practice.

Speaker:

- **Dorota Piotrowska** (Lodz University of Technology)

11:15 - 11:45 Coffee break

11:45 – 13:00 Panel Discussion: Joint Degrees Across European University Alliances

This panel discussion will bring together representatives of other European University alliances with experience in developing joint degree initiatives. Panellists will share perspectives on alliance-level approaches, institutional cooperation models, implementation challenges, and lessons learned from introducing joint educational programmes, while also reflecting on the implications of the European Degree initiative for European University alliances.

Session moderator:

- **Maria Niewiara** (Jagiellonian University)

Session panellists:

- **Karol Mojkowski** (Nicolaus Copernicus University)
- **Rafał Witkowski** (Adam Mickiewicz University)

13:00 - 13:15 Summary and closing

13:15 - 14:00 Lunch and networking

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