



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACROSS BORDERS

**Designing Inclusive Partnerships for
European Universities**

Blended staff week

Podgorica, Montenegro

Virtual component: 18-22 February 2027

Physical component: 1-5 February 2027

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACROSS BORDERS - Designing Inclusive Partnerships for European Universities

Summary of Information:

In which city is the staff week located?	Podgorica, Montenegro
Name of the hosting university?	University of Montenegro
Ulysseus topics?	• Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; • Citizen Engagement • Transversal/Interdisciplinary topics aligned with the Ulysseus Mission)
Expected participants (students, staff or the two ones) and the expected study level for students:	Academic and Administrative Staff at the partner universities
- Maximum number of desired participants - And if possible, precise, how many slots per university:	35 participants (5 per partner university)
Start/End dates of the virtual component:	18.02.2027 - 22.02.2027: 2 sessions will be scheduled within that period.
Start/End dates of the physical component:	01.02.2027 - 05.02.2027
(Expected) Workload (detail for physical component and the virtual one if possible):	40h physical + 6-8h virtual component
Language and level required:	English B2

Available funding:	<i>Consult your home university regarding available funding options</i>
Hosting university's registration deadline to receive the participant list	07 December 2026
Application Details:	Please contact your Ulysseus Local Mobility Officers in this table below. Feel free to reach out to them with any questions. They will manage the selection process internally.
Contact details of Ulysseus Local Mobility Officers:	
University of Seville:	mobilityulysseus@us.es
Université Côte d'Azur:	mobility-ulysseus@univ-cotedazur.fr
University of Genoa:	mobility.ulysseus@info.unige.it
Technical University of Kosice:	natalia.vaskova@tuke.sk
MCI The Entrepreneurial School®:	mobilityofficer.ulysseus@mci.edu
Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences:	mobilityulysseus@haaga-helia.fi
University of Münster:	mobilityulysseus@uni-muenster.de
University of Montenegro:	ulysseusmobility@ucg.ac.me

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(approximate size length 1200 * height 800 px)

General Course Information:

- Course Description:

This Blended staff week equips university staff with the knowledge, skills, and practical tools to design, implement, and evaluate inclusive community engagement initiatives. Through international collaboration, expert-led sessions, fieldwork, and challenge-based project development, participants will co-create innovative solutions that strengthen partnerships between universities and their communities. The programme will serve as a discussion ground to recognise and share the best practices in CE within the alliance and to provide inputs for the next stage of Ulysseus.

For more information about current Ulysseus Community Engagement approach and activities, please consult the page: <https://ulyseus.eu/get-involved/community-engagement/>

- Ulysseus Priority topics:
 - Citizen Engagement
 - Transversal/Interdisciplinary topics aligned with the Ulysseus Mission

- Target group:
 - Non-academic staff
 - Academic staff
- Course dates:
Physical component: **01/02/2027 to 05/02/2027**
Virtual component: **18/02/2027 to 22/02/2027**
- Hosting university's registration deadline to receive the participant list/ mobility contracts : **07 December 2026.**
Please be aware that your home university may set a different application deadline depending on their internal selection process (around 2-3 months).

Course Content:

- Course Outline:

Universities are increasingly expected to create societal impact by working collaboratively with local, regional, and international communities. Moving beyond the traditional missions of teaching and research, higher education institutions are embracing community engagement as a strategic approach to addressing societal challenges through partnerships based on reciprocity, inclusion, and co-creation.

This Blended staff week provides academic and professional staff with the knowledge, tools, and practical experience needed to design, implement, and evaluate meaningful community engagement initiatives. Through expert lectures, interactive workshops, field visits, and collaborative project development, participants will explore how universities can strengthen relationships with students, local communities, public authorities, industry, cultural institutions, NGOs, and civil society organisations.

The programme adopts a challenge-based and design-thinking approach. Working in international and interdisciplinary teams, participants will identify real community needs, map relevant stakeholders, and co-create innovative engagement

projects addressing themes such as student wellbeing, inclusion, cultural heritage, sustainability, lifelong learning, citizen participation, entrepreneurship, and regional development. Throughout the programme, participants will receive mentoring from experts in community engagement, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), project management, communication, and impact evaluation. The programme also aims to foster long-term collaboration among partner universities, contributing to stronger European university alliances and a shared culture of civic responsibility.

In addition, the blended staff week comes at a moment of co-creation of the next stage of Ulysseus so that the inputs collected will serve as an evidence-base for the design of the future approach to the alliance's CE strategy.

- Course content:
 - The programme explores contemporary approaches to community engagement in higher education, focusing on universities' societal role, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), stakeholder engagement, and participatory governance. Participants will learn methods for community needs assessment, design thinking, co-creation, partnership building, impact evaluation, and science communication, while developing practical community engagement projects in international teams. Through lectures, workshops, field visits, and collaborative project work, the course addresses engagement with students, staff, public authorities, industry, civil society organisations, and local communities, equipping participants with transferable tools to strengthen both internal cohesion of the Alliance and the societal impact of Ulysseus.

- Learning Outcomes:

Following this course, participants will be able to:

- understand European approaches to community engagement
- learn about best practices in university CE across Ulysseus and beyond
- implement Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) principles

- apply methods of co-creation in education, research and innovation with different stakeholder groups
- design transferable community engagement projects
- understand funding lines for CE in European programmes
- develop partnerships within and beyond Ulysseus
- produce an implementation plan for their institution
- co-create priorities for future Ulysseus CE strategy

Physical Mobility:

- The physical mobility part will be running from 01 to 05 February 2027 in Podgorica. The focus of the seminar is to develop

	Morning	Afternoon
Day 1	Welcome and Icebreaker <i>Building the Ulysseus Community</i> Keynote: Beyond the Third Mission: Universities as Catalysts for Community Transformation Lecture 1: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion as Foundations of Community Engagement	Inspiration Session: Good Practices from Ulysseus Workshop 1: Mapping Lab: Who Is Our Community? Workshop 2: Defining the Challenge
Day 2	Lecture 2: Community Needs Assessment: How Do We Know What Communities Really Need? Guest Panel: Community Voices	Workshop 3: Field Lab
Day 3	Reflection Session: From Observation to Opportunity	Lecture 4: Funding Opportunities for Community Engagement Community Design Sprint

	Lecture 3: Global Competences for Community Engagement	
Day 4	Lecture 5: From Activities to Impact Lecture 6: Building and Communicating Long-Term Partnerships	Community Design Refinement Peer Review
Day 5	Lecture 7: Scaling Community Engagement Across European Universities Inspirational Talk: Community Engagement Champions (FUNK)	Final Pitch Session Closing Discussion and Award Ceremony

Virtual Component/Part:

- Virtual component will be organised between 18.02.2027 and 22.02.2027 and include two main sessions:

Session 1: Community Engagement in European Universities

- What is community engagement?
- Third mission of universities
- Civic universities
- Examples from Ulysseus

Assignment: each participant prepares and shares one successful community engagement example from their university.

Session 2: Mapping Communities & Funding Opportunities

Stakeholder mapping exercise, where participants identify students, local citizens, NGOs, municipalities, schools, businesses, museums, tourism organisations, vulnerable groups, etc. In addition, main funding opportunities for projects related to community engagement will be presented in order for the participants to start preparing project pitches and proposals they find meaningful for the local stakeholders.

Requirements:



- The blended staff week is open to academic and administrative staff involved in project design, stakeholder relations, community engagement, international cooperation, student support, knowledge transfer, outreach, communication, and institutional development. The programme is particularly relevant for staff seeking to strengthen the societal impact of their institutions through collaborative, inclusive, and community-oriented initiatives.

Contact(s):

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Annex 1: ISCED CODES

Broad field	Narrow field	Detailed field
00 Generic programmes and qualifications	000 Generic programmes and qualifications not further defined	0000 Generic programmes and qualifications not further defined
	001 Basic programmes and qualifications	0011 Basic programmes and qualifications
	002 Literacy and numeracy	0021 Literacy and numeracy
	003 Personal skills and development	0031 Personal skills and development
	009 Generic programmes and qualifications not elsewhere classified	0099 Generic programmes and qualifications not elsewhere classified
01 Education	011 Education	0110 Education not further defined 0111 Education science 0112 Training for pre-school teachers 0113 Teacher training without subject specialisation 0114 Teacher training with subject specialisation 0119 Education not elsewhere classified
	018 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving education	0188 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving education
02 Arts and humanities	020 Arts and humanities not further defined	0200 Arts and humanities not further defined
	021 Arts	0210 Arts not further defined 0211 Audio-visual techniques and media production 0212 Fashion, interior and industrial design 0213 Fine arts 0214 Handicrafts 0215 Music and performing arts 0219 Arts not elsewhere classified
	022 Humanities (except languages)	0220 Humanities (except languages) not further defined 0221 Religion and theology 0222 History and archaeology 0223 Philosophy and ethics 0229 Humanities (except languages) not elsewhere classified
	023 Languages	0230 Languages not further defined 0231 Language acquisition 0232 Literature and linguistics 0239 Languages not elsewhere classified
	028 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving arts and humanities	0288 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving arts and humanities
	029 Arts and humanities not elsewhere classified	0299 Arts and humanities not elsewhere classified

Broad field	Narrow field	Detailed field
03 Social sciences, journalism and information	030 Social sciences, journalism and information not further defined	0300 Social sciences, journalism and information not further defined
	031 Social and behavioural sciences	0310 Social and behavioural studies not further defined 0311 Economics 0312 Political sciences and civics 0313 Psychology 0314 Sociology and cultural studies 0319 Social and behavioural sciences not elsewhere classified
	032 Journalism and information	0320 Journalism and reporting not further defined 0321 Journalism and reporting 0322 Library, information and archival studies 0329 Journalism and reporting not elsewhere classified
	038 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving social sciences, journalism and information	0388 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving social sciences, journalism and information
	039 Social sciences, journalism and information not elsewhere classified	0399 Social sciences, journalism and information not elsewhere classified
04 Business, administration and law	040 Business, administration and law not further defined	0400 Business, administration and law not further defined
	041 Business and administration	0410 Business and administration not further defined 0411 Accounting and taxation 0412 Finance, banking and insurance 0413 Management and administration 0414 Marketing and advertising 0415 Secretarial and office work 0416 Wholesale and retail sales 0417 Work skills 0419 Business and administration not elsewhere classified
	042 Law	0421 Law
	048 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving business, administration and law	0488 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving business, administration and law
	049 Business, administration and law not elsewhere classified	0499 Business, administration and law not elsewhere classified

Broad field	Narrow field	Detailed field
05 Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	050 Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics not further defined	0500 Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics not further defined
	051 Biological and related sciences	0510 Biology and related sciences not further defined 0511 Biology 0512 Biochemistry 0519 Biology and related sciences not elsewhere classified
	052 Environment	0520 Environment not further defined 0521 Environmental sciences 0522 Natural environments and wildlife 0529 Environment not elsewhere classified
	053 Physical sciences	0530 Physical sciences not further defined 0531 Chemistry 0532 Earth sciences 0533 Physics 0539 Physical sciences not elsewhere classified
	054 Mathematics and statistics	0540 Mathematics and statistics not further defined 0541 Mathematics 0542 Statistics 0549 Mathematics and statistics not elsewhere classified
	058 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	0588 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving natural sciences, mathematics and statistics
	059 Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics not elsewhere classified	0599 Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics not elsewhere classified
06 Information and Communication Technologies	061 Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)	0610 Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) not further defined 0611 Computer use 0612 Database and network design and administration 0613 Software and applications development and analysis 0619 Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) not elsewhere classified
	068 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)	0688 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)

Broad field	Narrow field	Detailed field
07 Engineering, manufacturing and construction	070 Engineering, manufacturing and construction not further defined	0700 Engineering, manufacturing and construction not further defined
	071 Engineering and engineering trades	0710 Engineering and engineering trades not further defined 0711 Chemical engineering and processes 0712 Environmental protection technology 0713 Electricity and energy 0714 Electronics and automation 0715 Mechanics and metal trades 0716 Motor vehicles, ships and aircraft 0719 Engineering and engineering trades not elsewhere classified
	072 Manufacturing and processing	0720 Manufacturing and processing not further defined 0721 Food processing 0722 Materials (glass, paper, plastic and wood) 0723 Textiles (clothes, footwear and leather) 0724 Mining and extraction 0729 Manufacturing and processing not elsewhere classified
	073 Architecture and construction	0731 Architecture and construction not further defined 0731 Architecture and town planning 0732 Building and civil engineering 0739 Architecture and construction not elsewhere classified
	078 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving engineering, manufacturing and construction	0788 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving engineering, manufacturing and construction
	079 Engineering, manufacturing and construction not elsewhere classified	0799 Engineering, manufacturing and construction not elsewhere classified
08 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	080 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary not further defined	0800 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary not further defined
	081 Agriculture	0810 Agriculture not further defined 0811 Crop and livestock production 0812 Horticulture 0819 Agriculture not elsewhere classified
	082 Forestry	0821 Forestry
	083 Fisheries	0831 Fisheries
	084 Veterinary	0841 Veterinary
	088 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	0888 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary
	089 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary not elsewhere classified	0899 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary not elsewhere classified

Broad field	Narrow field	Detailed field
09 Health and welfare	090 Health and welfare not further defined	0900 Health and welfare not further defined
	091 Health	0910 Health not further defined 0911 Dental studies 0912 Medicine 0913 Nursing and midwifery 0914 Medical diagnostic and treatment technology 0915 Therapy and rehabilitation 0916 Pharmacy 0917 Traditional and complementary medicine and therapy 0919 Health not elsewhere classified
	092 Welfare	0910 Welfare not further defined 0921 Care of elderly and of disabled adults 0922 Child care and youth services 0923 Social work and counselling 0929 Welfare not elsewhere classified
	098 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving health and welfare	0988 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving health and welfare
	099 Health and welfare not elsewhere classified	0999 Health and welfare not elsewhere classified
10 Services	100 Services not further defined	1000 Services not further defined
	101 Personal services	1010 Personal services not further defined 1011 Domestic services 1012 Hair and beauty services 1013 Hotel, restaurants and catering 1014 Sports 1015 Travel, tourism and leisure 1019 Personal services not elsewhere classified
	102 Hygiene and occupational health services	1020 Hygiene and occupational health services not further defined 1021 Community sanitation 1022 Occupational health and safety 1029 Hygiene and occupational health services not elsewhere classified
	103 Security services	1030 Security services not further defined 1031 Military and defence 1032 Protection of persons and property 1039 Security services not elsewhere classified
	104 Transport services	1041 Transport services
	108 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving services	1088 Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving services
	109 Services not elsewhere classified	1099 Services not elsewhere classified
99 Field unknown	999 Field unknown	9999 Field unknown