

2021-2022
Annual Report



compostela

GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES
GRUPO DE UNIVERSIDADES



The Compostela Group of Universities (CGU) took its first steps in 1994 and has grown in size over the years, with pilgrims from more than 60 universities across the world having since joined our international non-profit higher education association. Acting as a

crossroads for all of them, the CGU has become one of the largest such networks in Europe.

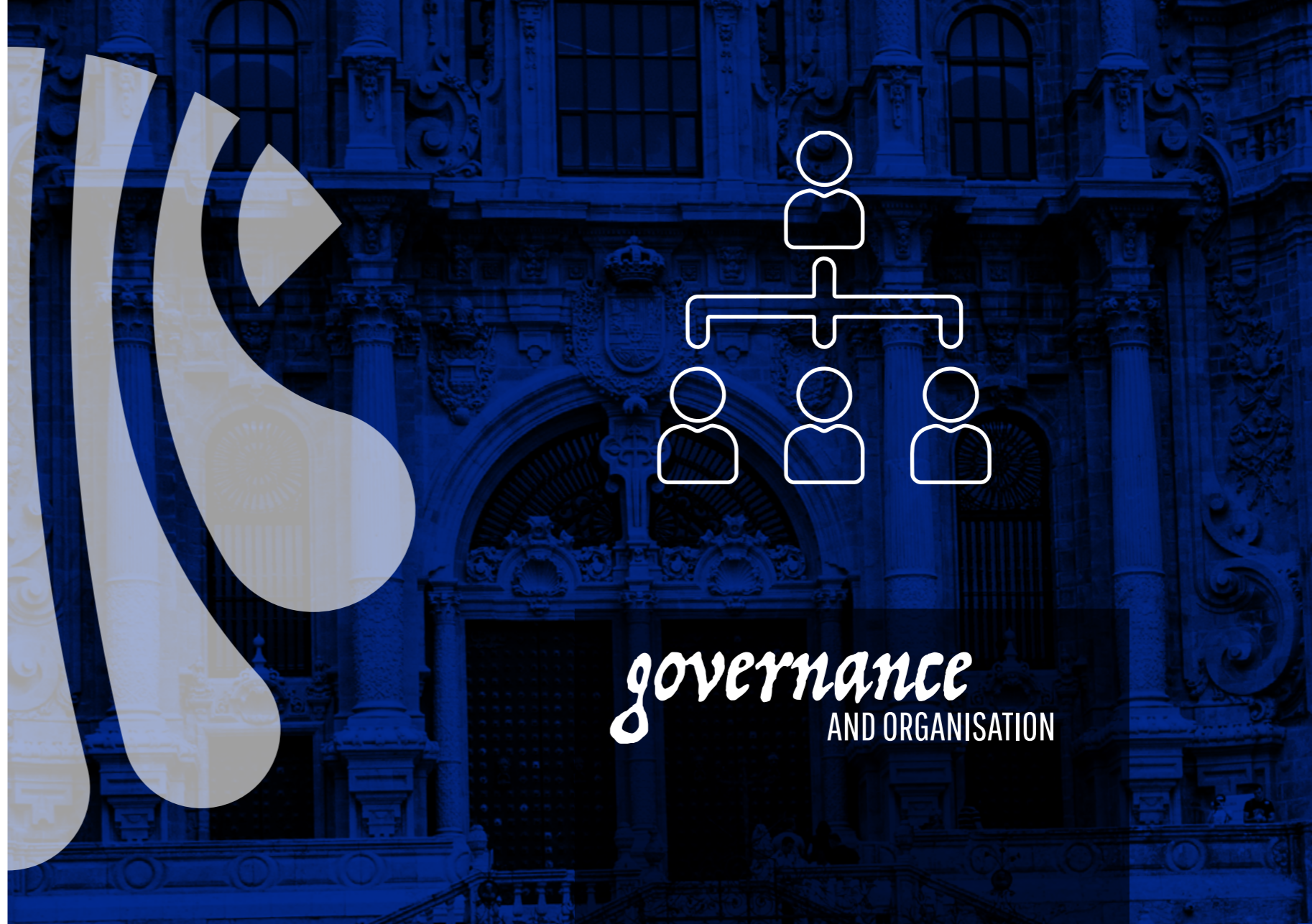
The CGU is the doyen of the international university networks to be based in Spain and the first to be recognised as an association of public benefit.



GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION	7
COMPOSTELA ACADEMY ON THE CAMINO	23
CORPORATE INITIATIVES	35
ACTIVITIES	43
PROJECTS AND COLLABORATIONS	53
JOIN US	59

The Compostela Group of Universities invites you to follow the path mapped out in this annual report, which will lead you on a journey of discovery through the activities of our network last year and will show you the route we plan to take in the year ahead. Let's walk together, pilgrims!

Buen camino!



governance
AND ORGANISATION

The XXVIII General Assembly of the Compostela Group of Universities will give us a space to reconnect as a community, to return to the warm sound of familiar voices, and to regain face-to-face contact. Over the last few years, we have had to adopt a hybrid approach to our activities due to the impossibility of getting closer physically. We are now leaving behind the cybernetic language to embrace the cultural mosaic that emanates from our meetings and the multilingualism that runs through its corridors.

Some of you may have already lived these experiences at the II International Meeting of Rectors of the CGU, an academic and cultural event that brought together representatives of the governing bodies of almost twenty of our member universities. In this context, a declaration was signed, in which we continue to advocate for sustainability within our global society. Through it, the participating institutions made a

commitment to strive to transition towards digitalisation, and advance territorial cohesion and social inclusion.

In our network, we not only defend sustainability as a pillar of the construction of contemporary society, but we have also been championing the capacity for dialogue and solidarity since the dawn of our foundation. For this reason, a few months ago we raised our voice to advocate for a peaceful conflict resolution in Ukraine. The members of the Executive Committee of the CGU disseminated a statement to condemn the Russian military actions in the country and expressed our solidarity with its people. Besides, our association backed the Scholars at Risk's statement in solidarity with the population and the higher education community in Ukraine.

Regarding our permanent activities, we have once again registered a record participation in one of them, the VI

edition of our Research Pitches Contest. Moreover, we have extended our mobility programmes to the teaching staff of our member universities with the Compostela Group of Universities-CETYS Chair. As for the Compostela Academy on the Camino, over the last two years our student community has explored the margins of artistic creation and has embarked on a Jacobean maritime route via the WithArt on the Camino and CGU Maris projects. They also improved their public speaking and debating skills through the intensive training under the Compostela Debate Tournament.

In the pages of this publication, you will find more details about the actions we have taken during the period 2021-2022 and our plans for the future. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Marek Kręglewski
PRESIDENT OF THE
COMPOSTELA GROUP OF
UNIVERSITIES



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Marek Kręglewski

Solidarity is one of the basic human virtues. How should it be absent at university level?



Antonio López

Solidarity, assuming as our own the cause of those who fight for freedom, equality or justice from a position of plurality and diversity, is essential in the university environment and this is how we have defended, promoted and instilled it at the University of Santiago de Compostela throughout our more than five centuries of history.



Carina Eriksson

Striving to integrate diversity and inclusion at universities and in academic programmes is of the greatest importance. Working united in solidarity towards shared interests can, I believe, support networks and universities in becoming more inclusive and contributing to improved education and research.



István Tarrósy

Solidarity, mutual understanding and trust are key elements to meaningful cooperation. Solidarity feeds any community, but it also needs to be fed by the openness and frankness of the members of the community. A shared and trustworthy community in the form of a university based upon solidarity and cooperation can help us overcome many of the difficulties of our time.



Manuel Freire-Garabal Núñez

Higher education institutions have an essential role in promoting social responsibility in communities, largely by educating future generations in a spirit of solidarity and cooperation. This facilitates social trust and welfare. Networks like the CGU can enable us to tackle bigger challenges on a global scale.



Maurits Van Rooijen

The family tree of academe covers a millennium and over the decades and centuries institutions have taken the associated 'academic family values' very seriously.

The same applies within our respective universities: we are all foster children of our Alma Mater, the nourishing mother.



Violeta Osouchová

For Masaryk University, it is essential to implant the values of solidarity. Universities have the most treasured resources – the departments' expertise and students' enthusiasm – so our obligation is to help those in dire need. It is also a unique role we have: to teach young generations how to share and be open to help.

President of the CGU

Marek Kręglewski
ADAM MICKIEWICZ UNIVERSITY, POZNAŃ (POLAND)

Executive Committee

Marek Kręglewski
PRESIDENT
ADAM MICKIEWICZ UNIVERSITY, POZNAŃ (POLAND)

Inmaculada Fortanet
VICE-PRESIDENT
JAUME I UNIVERSITY (SPAIN)

Slavomír Rudenko
TREASURER
PAN-EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY (SLOVAKIA)

María Teresa Carballeira Rivera
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (SPAIN)

Antonio López Díaz
PERMANENT MEMBER
UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (SPAIN)

Carina Eriksson
KARLSTAD UNIVERSITY (SWEDEN)

Carla Martins
UNIVERSITY OF MINHO (PORTUGAL)

Executive Secretary of the CGU

María Teresa Carballeira Rivera
UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (SPAIN)

István Tarrósy
UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS (HUNGARY)

Jan Pavlík
MASARYK UNIVERSITY, BRNO (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Jean Pierre Roose
HONORARY MEMBER

Joan Antoni Martín Montaner
JAUME I UNIVERSITY (SPAIN)

Juan Francisco García Marín
UNIVERSITY OF LEON (SPAIN)

Manuel Freire-Garabal
UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (SPAIN)

Maurits van Rooijen
NOMINAL MEMBER
GLOBAL UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS (THE NETHERLANDS)

Thomas Martin Buntru
UNIVERSITY OF MONTERREY (MEXICO)

General Council

Composed of representatives of the full members of the Compostela Group of Universities.



The new members of our network, who joined us at the last general assembly, share their experiences of their first year as part of the CGU.

For Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, which is the oldest and biggest public university in Georgia, joining the Compostela Group of Universities is yet another opportunity for and commitment towards more internationalisation of our teaching, research and service to community activities. It also opens up numerous new cooperation channels among the CGU member institutions and helps us strengthen our institutional capacity through various mechanisms the network has been offering to its members.

Professor George Sharvashidze
RECTOR OF IVANE JAVAKHISHVILI TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

MEMBERS

The CGU brings together 68 members and collaborators from 25 different countries, sharing the path to knowledge and the goal of improving Higher Education for a better society.

AMERICA 16 UNIVERSITIES

- Anahuac Xalapa University
- Autonomous University of Chihuahua
- CETYS University
- Columbus University
- ESAN University
- National University Mayor de San Marcos
- Peruvian University of Applied Sciences (UPC)
- Pontifical Catholic University of Peru
- Technological Institute of Santo Domingo

- Technological of Monterrey
- UNESP - São Paulo State University
- University La Salle, AC
- University of Guadalajara
- University of Lima
- University of Monterrey
- University of Piura

- Brazilian Association for International Education (FAUBAI)
- Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC)
- Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)
- Scholars at Risk

EUROPE 42 UNIVERSITIES

- Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań
- Cadiz University
- Ilia State University
- International Telematic University UNINETTUNO
- Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University
- Jaime I University
- Karlstad University
- Łódź University
- Masaryk University
- Pan-European University
- Philipps-Universität Marburg
- Rey Juan Carlos University
- Technical University of Cartagena

- Technical University of Madrid
- University Business Academy in Novi Sad
- University Kore di Enna
- University of A Coruña
- University of Almeria
- University of Burgos
- University of Extremadura
- University of Fribourg
- University of La Laguna
- University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
- University of Leon
- University of Lleida
- University of Malaga
- University of Malta
- University of Minho

- University of Nantes
- University of Oviedo
- University of Pécs
- University of Regensburg
- University of Salamanca
- University of Santiago de Compostela
- University of Seville
- University of the Basque Country
- University of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro
- University of Valencia
- University of Vigo
- University of Worcester
- Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno
- Zaragoza University

- AKMI Metropolitan College
- CETT- Barcelona School of Tourism, Hospitality and Gastronomy
- Eastern European University Association (EEUA)
- EMUNI
- Erasmus Compostela
- QS Asia Quacquarely Symonds Pte. Ltd.

legend

- member universities
- associate members
- collaborators

XXVIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The University of Fribourg (UniFR), located in Switzerland, hosted the XXVIII General Assembly of the CGU on 8-9 September 2022. The event was entitled ‘The challenge of

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bilingualism and multilingualism in the University of the 21st Century’ because UniFR wanted to bring to dialogue the advantages, needs and challenges of implementing education in a multicultural environment.

During the academic sessions, the participants joined round tables focusing on topics such as the evolution of the concepts of multilingualism in universities, in addition to panel discussions on the application of multilingualism in the

teaching and administrative areas of higher education institutions.

The event also included activities through which attendees discovered the cultural and natural wealth of the area, as well as its links with the Camino de Santiago.



XXIX GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The XXIX General Assembly of the CGU will take place in September 2023 at the University of Seville (Spain). The institution joined the CGU in 2017 and is pleased to welcome the network’s members for the first time.

The focus of the meeting will be ‘Networks of Networks, quickly approaching the future’. University alliances, associations, and networks play a fundamental role in the progress of their increasingly interlinked missions: education, research, and innovation, for the service to society. In a near future, joining forces by building ‘networks of networks’ will multiply the potential to deliver transformative solutions in the face of pressing global societal challenges, including by achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Born in 1505, the University of Seville (USE) is the second largest in Spain in terms of the number of

students. It is one of the Spanish leading universities, with a proven academic and research tradition and rich historical and artistic heritage, and a leader in knowledge transfer. The USE offers comprehensive teaching, research, and technology transfer. Among its strategic lines are

the defence of equal opportunities, steady excellence and the promotion of entrepreneurship, public engagement, and international outreach. In addition, the USE promotes high-quality management of its resources, culture, sports, and social and environmental

commitment. The USE aims at participating in the construction of a more balanced, fair, and helpful world.

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Our network receives numerous proposals for participation in projects and activities, both internal and external. To underline its commitment to their development, the CGU signs agreements.

Besides, by signing declarations, our association expresses its position in conflict situations and its support for initiatives in line with our core values.



CETYS UNIVERSITY

The CGU and CETYS University signed on 30 November 2021 a collaboration agreement through which the Compostela Group of Universities–CETYS Chair was created. It was subscribed by the president of the CGU, Marek Kręglewski, and the rector of the Mexican university, Fernando León García.

The objectives of the collaboration are to promote international experience, mobility and the exchange of teachers and researchers, in order to strengthen ties of collaboration between the CGU member universities and the network itself.



UKRAINE

The members of the Executive Committee of the Compostela Group of Universities issued on 28 February 2022 a statement to condemn the Russian military actions in Ukraine. In it, they reproved ‘the unprecedented malicious aggression

of the Russian Federation against the territorial integrity of another independent country’.

Besides, in the text, they expressed their solidarity with the Ukrainian people, and especially with their ‘university colleagues, friends, families and students’.



Group photograph of the attendees and authorities present at the signing of the Declaration of Presidents and Rectors on 'Camino de Santiago between Volcanoes', courtesy of the Government of the Canary Islands and the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC). At the centre, from left to right, the following authorities: Rosa María Aguilar Chinea, Rector of the University of La Laguna; Lluís Serra Majem, Rector of the ULPGC; and, Marek Kreglewski, President of the CGU.

THE DECLARATION OF PRESIDENTS AND RECTORS 'CAMINO DE SANTIAGO BETWEEN VOLCANOES'

The institutional declaration was signed on 20 May 2022 by the representatives of the 17 international universities participating in the II International Meeting of Rectors of the Compostela Group of Universities. Through it, the Government of the Canary Islands and these higher education institutions expressed their support for sustainable tourism and advocated for better land management.

The signatories agreed to work in favour of searching for paths of encounter, developing closer collaboration policies, and transitioning towards digitalisation, territorial cohesion and social inclusion. They consider this work to be reflected in initiatives such as the one represented by the Camino de Santiago between Volcanoes, a 'symbol of solidarity, the meeting of civilisations and the union of continents'.



Scan the QR code with your phone or click on the image to read the full text of the statement and the declaration.



compostela
academy
ON THE CAMINO



Participants attending the lecture given by Maria Pilar Alonso Abad, professor of Art History at the University of Burgos. Photograph taken by José Pardo.

WITHART ON THE CAMINO

The objectives of the project 'WithArt on the Camino. Fine Arts for the transfer of universal values of the Camino' were to enhance the heritage legacy of the Camino de Santiago, convey the universal values of the route to society, and bring artists closer to Galicia.

A total of 13 students of Fine Arts from five CGU member universities were given grants to cover the costs for accommodation, meals, local transport, materials for their artistic creations and civil liability insurance during the implementation of the initiative.

The activities of WithArt on the Camino took place on 23-30 September 2021, in the cities of Santiago de Compostela, Ferrol and neighbouring municipalities. Through them, the students received

training and became familiar with Galicia's tangible and intangible heritage. With the acquired knowledge and the experience gained, they developed individual and collective creative projects linked to their artistic branch. Their creative works were part of a temporary exhibition at the Torrente Ballester Centre in the Galician city of Ferrol. The exhibition was open to the public during the month of October 2021.

The initiative, sponsored by the Regional Government of Galicia (Xunta de Galicia) under the programme O Teu Xacobeo, was supported by the European Institute of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the Ferrol City Council. Furthermore, the universities of Santiago and A Coruña served as co-leaders.

Students displaying their creative projects at the neighbourhood of Canido in Ferrol, accompanied by their artistic mentor, Eduardo Hermida. Photograph taken by José Pardo.



The Rectors and representatives of the CGU member universities at the official opening held at the Rectorate of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC). At the centre, from left to right, the following authorities: Marek Kreglewski, President of the CGU; María Teresa Carballeira Rivera, Executive Secretary of the CGU; Lluís Serra Majem, Rector of the ULPGC; and, Yaiza Castilla Herrera, Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce of the Government of the Canary Islands.

II INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF RECTORS OF THE COMPOSTELA GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES

The II International Meeting of Rectors of the Compostela Group of Universities brought together 30 rectors and representatives from 14 CGU member universities on 19-20

May 2022 on the island of Gran Canaria (Spain). During the event, the attendees engaged in debates about tourism from the perspective of sustainability, territorial integration, digitalisation and diversification.

The academic programme was complemented by cultural activities such as a walk through the historic

centre of the city of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria with the official chronicler Juan José Laforet, or a cooking workshop with local products. Besides, the attendees subscribed the Declaration of Presidents and Rectors 'Camino de Santiago between Volcanoes' and

completed the Ventana del Nublo hike.

The University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and the Directorate General for Tourism Planning and Promotion of the Government of the Canary Islands collaborated in the organisation of the meeting.

The attendees at the conference on the potential of universities and the land use planning within the II International Meeting of Rectors of the CGU.

The participants in the II International Meeting of Rectors of the CGU during the walk to Ventana del Nublo. Photo courtesy of the Government of the Canary Islands and the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.



COMMUNITY FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION OF THE COMPOSTELA GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES

The goal of the 'Community for voluntary action of the Compostela Group of Universities' was to build a group of volunteers to attend to needs of social interest around the Camino de Santiago in educational, cultural and business areas.

Three young people cooperated in the organisation of the activities and accompanied the participating students of the WithArt on the Camino project. They received an official diploma issued by the Galician Registry of Voluntary Action of the Xunta de Galicia acknowledging their volunteer work during September-October 2021.

To develop the volunteer programme, the CGU was selected for receiving a grant from the Regional Ministry of Social Policy of the Xunta de Galicia.



José Ramón Miguéns, coordinator of the programme, with the volunteers.

VII GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

The Executive Secretary of the Compostela Group of Universities, María Teresa Carballeira Rivera, introduced several proposals for collaboration at the VII General Assembly of the Association of Municipalities of the Camino de Santiago (AMCS). The event brought together all the mayors and representatives of the 109 municipalities of the French Route that are part of the association in the Spanish city of Jaca on 3 June 2022.

It is worth remembering that our network and the AMCS signed a framework agreement in September 2018 during the XXIV General Assembly of the Compostela Group of Universities. In the summer of 2019, the University Walking Community volunteer programme was launched as a first joint initiative. Hopefully, more will come after our presence at their annual gathering.





CGU MARIS

The CGU Maris project aimed at contributing to the improvement of training and the development of the skills of young people, promoting the knowledge of the tangible and intangible heritage of the Camino de Santiago, and facilitating the enjoyment of a multicultural experience. It ran from 17 to 24 July 2022 between Portugal and Galicia.

A total of 15 students from six CGU member universities were picked to complete the seven-day voyage aboard the schooner Atyla, during which they broadened their knowledge and skills in the areas of sailing and physical health. The vessel departed from the Portuguese city of Porto and arrived at the Spanish city of Vigo. Afterwards, they covered the



last kilometres of the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela on foot.

Traslato Foundation, Sail Training España and Cenaútica granted three scholarships to students from the Galician University System whose family unit income were less than 20,000 euros per year. They covered their registration fee and round-trips from their homes to the docks.

The initiative was funded by the General Secretariat of Universities of the Xunta de Galicia and developed in conjunction with the Traslato Foundation through its Iacobus Maris programme, which commemorates the journey of the body of the Apostle James from the Palestinian port of Jaffa to its culmination in the capital of Galicia, crossing the Mare Nostrum from east to west.



As a professor at the University of Malaga and as a skipper, I felt very fortunate to participate in a project that rescues history and values in an academic environment of coexistence and marine experience. Given that the training ship already had an educational environment in emotional and social skills, together with the project management we opted for the development of a

transversal and enriching university programme. This covered various topics on active lifestyles, health and group cohesion. Furthermore, it was delivered through dynamic didactic models to facilitate a meaningful teaching/learning process and appropriateness to this unique and epic context.

From a personal point of view, the experience was a great opportunity

for me to take on an active role, merging my two passions, teaching and sailing, in addition to doing so on a schooner steeped in history and charm, as well as participating in a maritime festival accompanied by other international training ships.

Antonio Cuesta Vargas
PROFESSOR OF
PHYSIOTHERAPY AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF MALAGA

CAMIÑOLAB.gal



CAMIÑOLAB II

The initiative ‘CAMIÑOLAB II. A space for the sustainable revitalisation of the Jacobean cultural heritage’ is part of the sustainability plan of CAMIÑOLAB, a project that promoted the creation of an observatory of international scholars focused on the heritage of the Camino de Santiago. Both projects received funding from the O Teu Xacobeo programme and Axencia Turismo de Galicia of the Xunta de Galicia.

The first face-to-face meeting of its scientific committee will take place

in Santiago de Compostela on 27-29 September 2022. The event will bring together academics and scholars of the University of Burgos (Spain), the University of Seville (Spain), the Rovira i Virgili University (Spain), the University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), Academia Xacobeo (Spain) and the European Institute of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (France).

At this meeting, they will continue to make further progress on actions such as producing scientific content for the website of the project, transferring knowledge through

specialised training in cultural heritage management, as well as publishing scientific, literary and audiovisual material to strengthen the link between the Jacobean heritage and society.

In parallel, a seminar for technical staff and professionals in management of Pilgrim routes will be held at the Faculty of Law of the Spanish University of Santiago de Compostela (USC). 20 placements are available for the training and those who pass will receive a diploma.



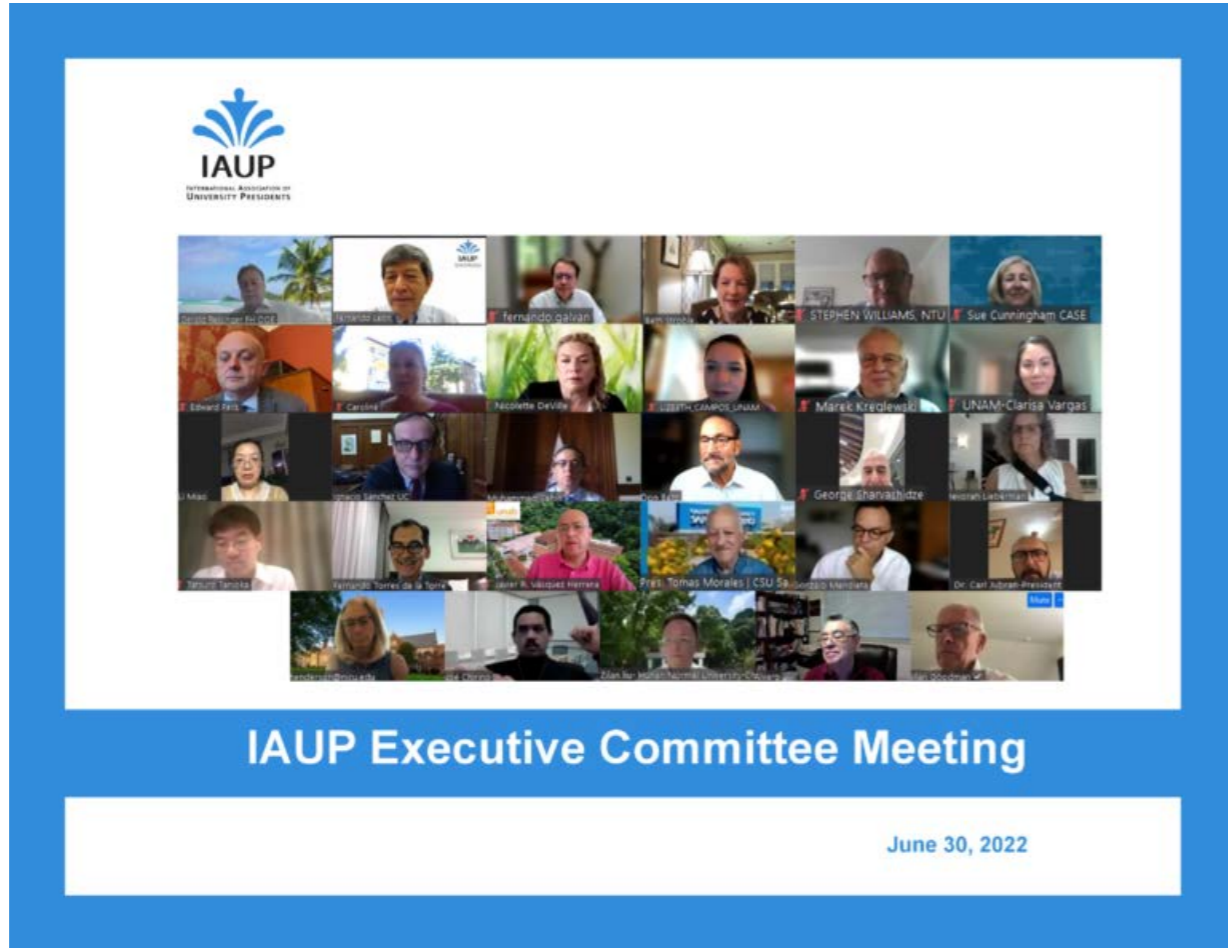


corporate
INITIATIVES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS

The president of the Compostela Group of Universities, Marek Kręglewski, has represented the network at the Executive Committee of the International Association of University Presidents (IAUP) since December 2021. The Executive Committee is an advisory body of IAUP's Board of Directors and provides input on IAUP's policies and strategies. This body is composed of 38 representatives of universities and associations across the world which are connected to higher education.

In the last two years, Mr Kręglewski has participated in three meetings that covered past and upcoming IAUP activities such as its Triennial Conference, the International Business Model Student Competition, the Borderless Professor Initiative or the Leadership Development Program for New Presidents and Emerging Leaders.



SCHOLARS AT RISK'S AWARD

In May 2022, a SAR award was bestowed on the representative of the CGU at the Scholars at Risk (SAR) network Julia Wojnowska-Radzińska 'in recognition of outstanding dedication to protecting at-risk scholars and promoting academic freedom'. Since November 2017, Ms Wojnowska-Radzińska has been a member of the SAR International Advisory Committee, which advises the secretariat and board on matters relating to national sections and partner networks.





GOLDEN PIN

The Golden Pin emerged as an expression of appreciation to those individuals that have left their mark on our network. Although its awarding dates back to the dawn of the association, the award lacked a logo. In line with the corporate identity, the Cardo Bold font and the main blue colour of the CGU's

chromatic range were kept as central elements. In addition, the idea was reinforced with the presence of the shell, the symbol of the network.

At the same time, figurative elements linked to the award were incorporated. The central piece of the logo is a pin and the yellow colour is a derivation of gold, linked in collective imagination to the highest recognition.

At our XXVIII General Assembly, Inmaculada Fortanet received the Golden Pin. The prize was bestowed for her commitment to the improvement and growth of our association, as well as for her extensive contributions as a member of the Executive Committee and vice-president of the Compostela Group of Universities since 2011.





CGU'S WEBSITE

The website of the Compostela Group of Universities is a living element in constant evolution. Therefore, every year we devote time to the introduction of improvements aimed at making it easier for visitors to access information in a more user-friendly environment. We also updated its design to make it visually appealing.





activities

XXVI International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia

The XXVI International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia was bestowed on the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer, for his role in strengthening humanitarian diplomacy to ensure respect for international law.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO RECEIVE THIS RECOGNITION OF YOUR WORK AT THE HEAD OF THE ICRC AT A TIME WHEN YOU WILL BE STEPPING DOWN AS PRESIDENT?

It is an honour that the work of the International Committee of the Red Cross has been recognised in this way and although I am retiring as president, I know the ICRC's work will continue strong into the future.

The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement around the globe works to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found, and to protect life and dignity. Today, in more than fifty situations of armed conflict around the world, we see violations of international humanitarian law, leading to the death and disappearance of civilians, the destruction of their homes, hospitals, schools, water and electricity supplies, and the separation of families.

In response, our teams are working in close proximity to communities, listening to their

needs, their expectations, hopes and fears, and try to design the most relevant response. We support people's agency as experts of their own situation with skills, capacities and enormous resilience.

WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF YOUR DECADE AS LEADER OF THIS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION?

Over the years I have spoken to people who are suffering in the major conflicts of the world. Indiscriminate warfare has an immense cost to

communities: I have met those who have lost family members, their homes and livelihoods. They are exhausted with the years of violence, and they describe wars fought without mercy or humanity. The level of suffering is simply unacceptable.

The ICRC works to alleviate their suffering, adapting to the challenges that we witness. Over the decades, more challenges, not fewer, have been added to the list. The enormous kinetic impacts of war are now complicated by global trends including climate change, and digital transformation leading to the rapid spread of misinformation and hate speech. The picture is more complex. At the same time I am proud of the efforts that the ICRC has made to adapt its work to meet the needs of people in this new environment. We are increasingly using digital tools

to deliver services; for example, telemedicine can help reach remote areas, big data analysis allows for sharper assessment of needs, and virtual training can teach soldiers how to comply with international humanitarian law (IHL) in real combat situations.

WHAT VALUES DO THE ICRC AND THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO SHARE?

Through the ICRC's humanitarian mandate, we strive to promote mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all people. This spirit of fraternity that we share with the Camino de Santiago. Brotherhood and sisterhood are at the basis of humanitarianism, which transcends cultures, religions, times and spaces. Fraternity is about expanding the comfort

zone of close family to the other, the unknown, the stranger, but also to the disadvantaged, the marginalised, those who suffer. I believe it is through practical action of solidarity that trust can be built and divisions can be overcome.

Humanitarian values also need networks of influencers. We also need people from across the community, from academia, from civil society and from all professions who can add their voice, bring their skills and expertise and support neutral and independent humanitarian action. With such complexities in contemporary warfare we also need researchers and thinkers to generate broad support for IHL. For this, I welcome the strong engagement that supporters of the Camino de Santiago can make.

Photograph of the award winner, provided by ICRC. Image credits: Peter Maurer CC BY-NC-ND / ICRC.



COMPOSTELA GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES-CETYS CHAIR

The Compostela Group of Universities-CETYS Chair seeks to strengthen collaboration ties between our network, our members and CETYS University. Moreover, it promotes the internationalisation, mobility and exchange of faculty members and researchers.

Annually, CETYS University offers a visiting professor mobility position, and each one of the calls will focus on a field of knowledge designated by the host institution, which provides the necessary funding to develop the activity.

The objective for the first edition was to receive applications from teaching and research staff working on the areas of knowledge linked to its College of Business Administration. Candidates from six member universities participated in the call.

The beneficiary of the Compostela Group of Universities-CETYS Chair, David Rodeiro, shared with us what he hopes the experience will bring him.

Personally and professionally, these chairs are a magnificent tool for establishing contacts on a personal and institutional level. Therefore, I wish the collaboration to be not only restricted to the duration of the visit but to last over time as well.

Besides, I hope to see what systems they use in other types of universities, particularly in a private university in another country. It may be an example of an institution that carries out outreach activities differently from the universities in Galicia.

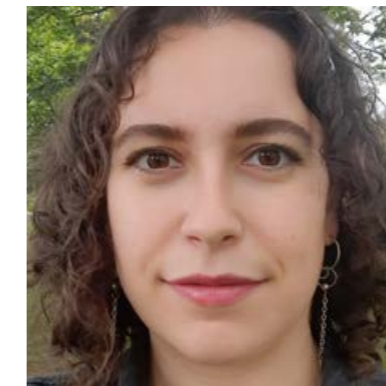
María Teresa Carballeira, Executive Secretary of the CGU, and David Rodeiro, recipient of the Compostela Group of Universities-CETYS Chair.



VI RESEARCH PITCHES CONTEST

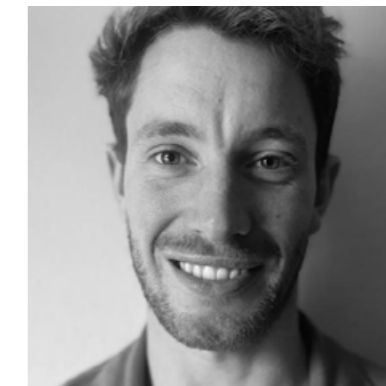
An instrument for promoting research activities within our network, the annual Research Pitches Contest recognises researchers from the CGU member universities who can best communicate and express the importance of their work and its contribution to society.

The number of applications received makes the 2022 edition the most successful since its launch. For this year's edition, the members of the research teams of 10 member universities presented 30 applications.



1st Prize

In her pitch *Magnetic Nanoparticles for Enhancing Cancer Immunotherapy*, the PhD student of the Materials Science programme of the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC) **Ángela Arnosa Prieto** tackles the use of magnetic nanoparticles to enhance cancer immunotherapy through the application of magnetic hyperthermia.



2nd Prize

The PhD student of the programme in Chemical and Environmental Engineering at the USC **Lucas Van der Hauwaert** explains how bioreactors can help make products more sustainable in his video presentation *Alchemy: A modeling framework for biorefinery design integrating predictive bioreactor models*. His research project focuses on finding refinery designs that incorporate bioreactors.



3rd Prize

The researcher of the programme Leaders for Technical Industries of the University of Minho **Helena Pereira** submitted the pitch *Guided Absorption Bone Substitutes*. In her research work, she shows that by using degradable calcium phosphates it is possible to obtain a substitute with controlled dissolution compatible with the rate of bone regeneration.

STELLA JUNIOR

The Stella Junior programme supports the training of students from the CGU member universities. Through the exchanges, they can enjoy an intercultural experience and enhance their language and professional skills.

In response to the 2022 call, 16 member universities joined the programme by offering 28 placement offers in six countries, all of them for the in-person modality and in areas such as internationalisation, cooperation, biology, educational sciences, physical therapy, libraries, business administration, law or architecture.

The Stella Junior's Selection Committee reviewed the 33 applications submitted by students of 10 higher education institutions affiliated with the CGU and decided

on the awarding of the 10 grants of the programme.

The doctoral scholar in Geoarchaeology and Archaeometry from the Department of Earth Sciences of the University of Cádiz Abdelrhman Fahmy received in 2021 a grant for an online training stay at the International Department of the University of Worcester.

The placement offer focused on educating students, especially those carrying out exchanges, about the relevance of reducing their carbon footprint to contribute to the preservation of the environment. This topic interested me, so I started searching for information and reading content about methods related to it.

The international mobility coordinator of the University of Worcester, Cristina Muradore, introduced me to the office and the head of International Experience at the institution, Catherine Hyde. We had very fruitful talks about sustainability and the environment.

Moreover, I attended a workshop on sustainability in internationalisation and was trained on social media design by the international student ambassador Iva Lucija Babić. It was very useful and made a difference in my work for



designing more effective and attractive posts for students.

At the end, I prepared a presentation about archaeology and sustainability for all the international office staff.

Compostela Debate Tournament

The Compostela Debate Tournament contributes to the development and improvement of public speaking and debating skills of students from the CGU member universities. They are trained online in techniques related to those skills to help them in their professional development and future career.

The first online Compostela Debate Tournament was jointly organised by the University of Pécs and the CGU on 2-5 November 2021. Twenty-six bachelor's, master's and doctoral students from eleven CGU member universities registered for the activity. Twenty-two of them were selected to receive training on how to make

arguments using British parliamentary debate techniques taught by highly qualified international debate trainers. Those who passed received a diploma of recognition and earned three ECTS credits accredited by the University of Pécs.

The programme also included their participation in an online debate tournament, where they presented both written arguments and real debate speeches. After the tournament, those trainees who excelled were awarded a prize. The student of Labour Relations and Human Resources Management at the University of Santiago de Compostela Yufan Song and the student of Corporate Law at ESAN University Abel Tejada were recognised as the best speaker team. Besides, the student of Management at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru Martín Villanueva was awarded the prize for best speaker.

EXPERIENCES OF THE PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

We share with you the statements of two of the trainees who took part in the activity.

I am a believer that practice makes you perfect. Many thanks for the opportunity given by the Compostela Debate Tournament. I sharpened my debate skills and every class was truly motivational and practical. I liked the dynamics of the groups, where I was able to meet partners from around the globe with the same passion for debate. Every member of the Compostela Debate

Tournament showed commitment and generosity; it felt like home The student of the National University of San Marcos **Almendra Chumpitaz Contreras.**

Participating in the online Compostela Debate Tournament was an enriching experience because of the knowledge I gained as well as the multicultural environment. Although it was challenging since we had to debate in a language in which I was not a native speaker, I would advise all students to take this opportunity. The student of the University of Piura **Gabriela Meléndez.**



STELLA FOR STAFF

The Stella for Staff programme facilitates career and intercontinental mobility for the service staff of the CGU and the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC) members. It furthers the exchange of best practices through professional placements in both networks.

In response to the 2022 call, 22 CGU institutions and three member universities from CONAHEC proposed 56 placement offers in 11 countries, all of them for the in-person modality and in areas such as internationalisation, library, marketing, communications, human resources, research, student recruitment, social responsibility and cooperation.

The Stella for Staff's Selection Committee examined the 33 applications sent by services staff of 13 higher education institutions affiliated with the CGU and CONAHEC. The Selection Committee selected 16 candidates to receive a grant within the programme.

The CGU Stella for Staff programme has been managed internally at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, sending and receiving administrative staff since 2014, with great excitement and enthusiasm. Participating in the programme means having a great opportunity to improve and acquire professional skills in the field of university management; on a personal level, to develop essential elements in multicultural workplaces, such as tolerance and appreciation for different cultures. It is a very enriching experience for all participants and we are very happy that the PUCP is part of the programme. Manuel Alcántara. Academic Internationalisation Section of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.



TRAINING COURSES

Our online training catalogue keeps growing with a course focused on improving skills related to structuring and mastering academic language for scientific writing.

A total of 38 students and members of the research, teaching and services staff of 10 higher education institutions affiliated with the CGU registered for the four online courses in teacher training and educational innovation proposed for the 2021-2022 period.

'Structures and Other Strategies in Academic Writing in the Anglo-Saxon Sphere'

The course targeted the entire university community – undergraduate and postgraduate students, faculty members and researchers – with a willingness to learn how to communicate their research work in the international sphere. During the training, the participants were helped to become aware of, review and improve their skills in structuring and mastering academic language for scientific writing.

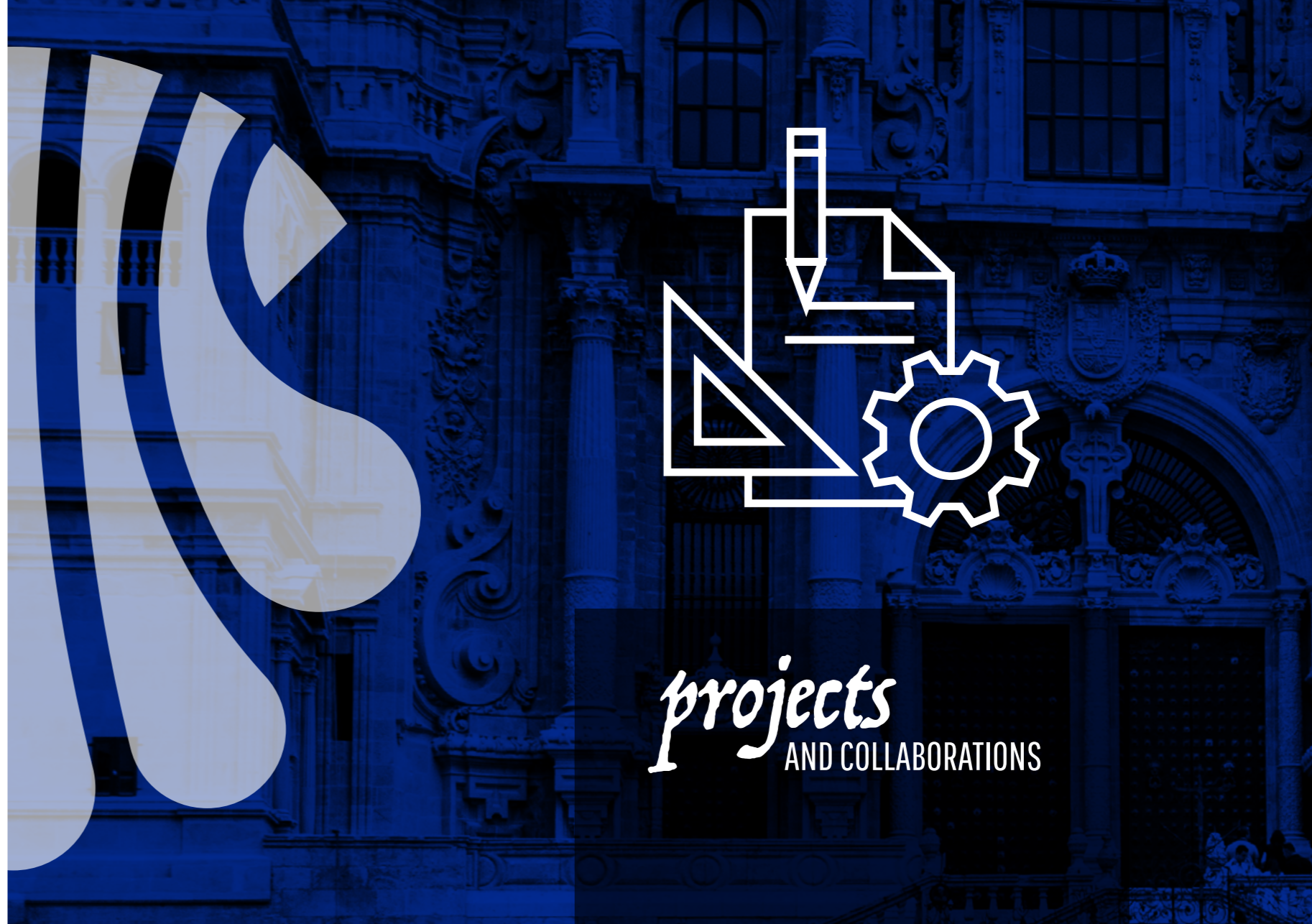
'Publish your book', 'Graphic design' and 'Creating a professional website'

This is the second consecutive year in which our network has included in its training catalogue these courses also addressed at the CGU's entire university community. The pupils of the 'Publish your book' course gained the knowledge and assimilated the necessary techniques to lay out printed and digital publications.

As for the course 'Graphic design and infographics', the trainees learnt the basics of graphic design and typography, to achieve autonomy to design and disseminate their own

graphic materials. The goal was to improve the visibility and knowledge of their personal or work-related projects.

In the course 'Creating a professional website', those enrolled mastered how to build and develop a functioning site by using the WordPress and Divi platforms. A space for disseminating their work, sharing diverse content or finding international partners.



projects
AND COLLABORATIONS

Since 2004, our network has contributed to the development of almost 50 projects co-funded by the European Commission, providing its expertise in dissemination actions and in the search for partners and experts.

CALOHEX

The composition of the five subject area groups of the project CALOHEE Extension (CalohEx) – Business Administration, Creative and Performing Arts, Information and Engineering / Information and Communication Technology, International Relations and Medicine – was completed in November 2022, with the support of five university networks, including the CGU. The Italian universities of Pisa and Bologna hosted the first face-to-face meetings of these groups for the 2021-2022 period. In the meetings, they took the first steps in the development of subject area-based qualifications reference frameworks for these fields of study. Afterwards, they continued to work on the frameworks for both bachelor's and master's degrees.

The project outcomes intend to strengthen the position of the European and national higher education sector and the degree programmes offered, by evidencing what is actually learnt. This involves the development of subject area-based qualifications reference frameworks (bachelor's and master's degrees) for the wider public and all stakeholders and more detailed assessment reference frameworks for specialists in the field.

CALOHEE2

The University of Thessaloniki (Greece) hosted the CALOHEE Phase 2 (CALOHEE2) consortium face-to-face meeting in April 2022, following up on an online meeting that took place in January 2022. A total of 40 experts from the academic fields of civil engineering, history, nursing, physics and teacher education took stock of the actual level of implementation of the qualifications reference frameworks and related assessment frameworks. Furthermore, they undertook the identification of common ground for developing internationally applicable and comparable assessments, as well as identifying existing models that can be applied and developing new models.

The second face-to-face meeting was held at the University of Padua in June 2022. At this meeting, an initial draft of the general Tuning-CALOHEE Qualifications Reference Frameworks based on the merger of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning and the Qualifications Frameworks in the European Higher Education Area for the first and second cycle was presented and discussed. It is planned to make these also for the short cycle and the third cycle.

Besides, at the gathering, initial outlines were made for qualifications reference frameworks for civic, social and cultural engagement. In addition, the five subject groups worked on the development of international assessments formats for their disciplines based on the work already established.



EU GREEN

The Compostela Group of Universities is an associate partner for dissemination on the European Universities Alliance for Sustainability: Responsible Growth, Inclusive Education and Environment (EU GREEN). The project led by the University of Extremadura (Spain) obtained funding of the European Commission in July 2022 within the European Universities initiative.

The alliance also includes the University of Gävle (Sweden), Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences (Poland), the University of Parma (Italy), the University of Angers (France), the University of Évora (Portugal), Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg (Germany), South East Technological University

(Ireland) and the University of Oradea (Romania).

EU GREEN aims to be a broad European hub for education, research and innovation in sustainability that goes beyond the consortium borders and acts globally to provide solutions to local or regional challenges, which can be replicated at a global level.

Our network is an associate partner for dissemination and communication activities for ARTIIS 2022, UNISF and EDUC Alliance.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADVANCED RESEARCH IN TECHNOLOGIES, INFORMATION, INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

The International Conference on Advanced Research in Technologies, Information, Innovation and Sustainability (ARTIIS 2022) will be held on 12-14 September 2022 in Santiago de Compostela (Spain). The event will be an international forum for researchers and practitioners to present and discuss the most recent

innovations, trends, results, experiences, and concerns in the area of information systems.

ARTIIS 2022 is organised by the CIST Research and Innovation Center of the Peninsula of Santa Elena State University (Ecuador) and the Algoritmi Research Centre of the University of Minho (Portugal). The following institutions are also cooperating in the conference: the University of León (Spain), the Madrid Open University-UDIMA (Spain), the interdisciplinary research group BITrum and the Xunta de Galicia (Spain).



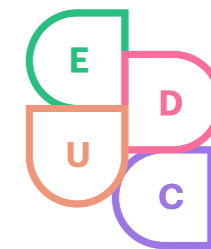
UNIVERSIDADE SEM FRONTEIRAS

The Universidade sem Fronteiras (University without Borders, UNISF) is the result of a collaboration between the six public universities of the Galicia-North Portugal Euroregion, led by the University of Minho, and the Centre for Euroregional Studies Foundation.

The UNISF network includes the University of A Coruña, the University of Santiago de Compostela, the University of Vigo, the University of Minho, the

University of Porto and the University of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro.

The purpose of the network is to implement four pilot programs of innovative, cooperative, more creative degrees with a clear cross-border and multidisciplinary component in which the higher education institutions of the Euroregion participate.



European Digital UniverCity

EDUC ALLIANCE

The European Digital UniverCity (EDUC) is one of 17 pilot European University initiatives funded by the European Union since 2019. In July 2022, the European Commission approved the financing of the initiative for another five years.

The alliance is led by the University of Potsdam (Germany) and comprises the University of Cagliari (Italy), Masaryk University (Czech Republic), the University of Pécs (Hungary), Paris Nanterre University (France), the University of Rennes 1

(France), Jaume I University (Spain) and the University of South-Eastern Norway.

In the extension phase, EDUC partners will deepen their cooperation in the area of innovative mobility scenarios and the internationalisation of curricula. Over the next four years, they intend to develop their joint virtual campus further, link research and innovation with teaching using problem-based projects, promote the exchange and further the training of their scientific and administrative staff, and strengthen their dialogue with society.



join
US

DO YOU WANT TO JOIN US?

First, you have to decide which type of membership suits your organisation:

- Full membership for higher education institutions.
- Associate membership for enterprises, publishing houses and other commercial organisations.
- Collaborative membership for institutions and other not-for-profit organisations related to or interested in higher education.

Next, follow these simple steps:

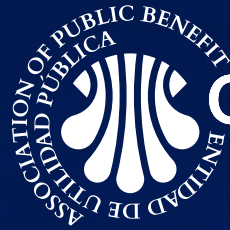
- Fill the documents according to the type of membership you have chosen.
- The Rector or Senior Executive of your organisation must sign and stamp the application form. This application must be sent by ordinary post to the Secretariat of the Compostela Group of Universities along with the followings items: a written request to the President of the CGU and a presentation of your organisation.

BENEFITS OF BEING A CGU'S PILGRIM

- Worldwide recognition and visibility through CGU's communications channels.
- Benefit from special conditions due to CGU's connections with official institutions, networks and enterprises.
- Exchange of good practices and access to training and professional development programs.
- Access to an extensive and diverse database of universities.
- Being part of an international community that cooperates in the organisation of European Commission projects and CGU activities.

Scan the QR code with your mobile phone or click on the image to visit our website, where you will find more information about how to become a member.





compostela

GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES
GRUPO DE UNIVERSIDADES

FIND YOUR
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