



2023-2024  
Annual Report





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

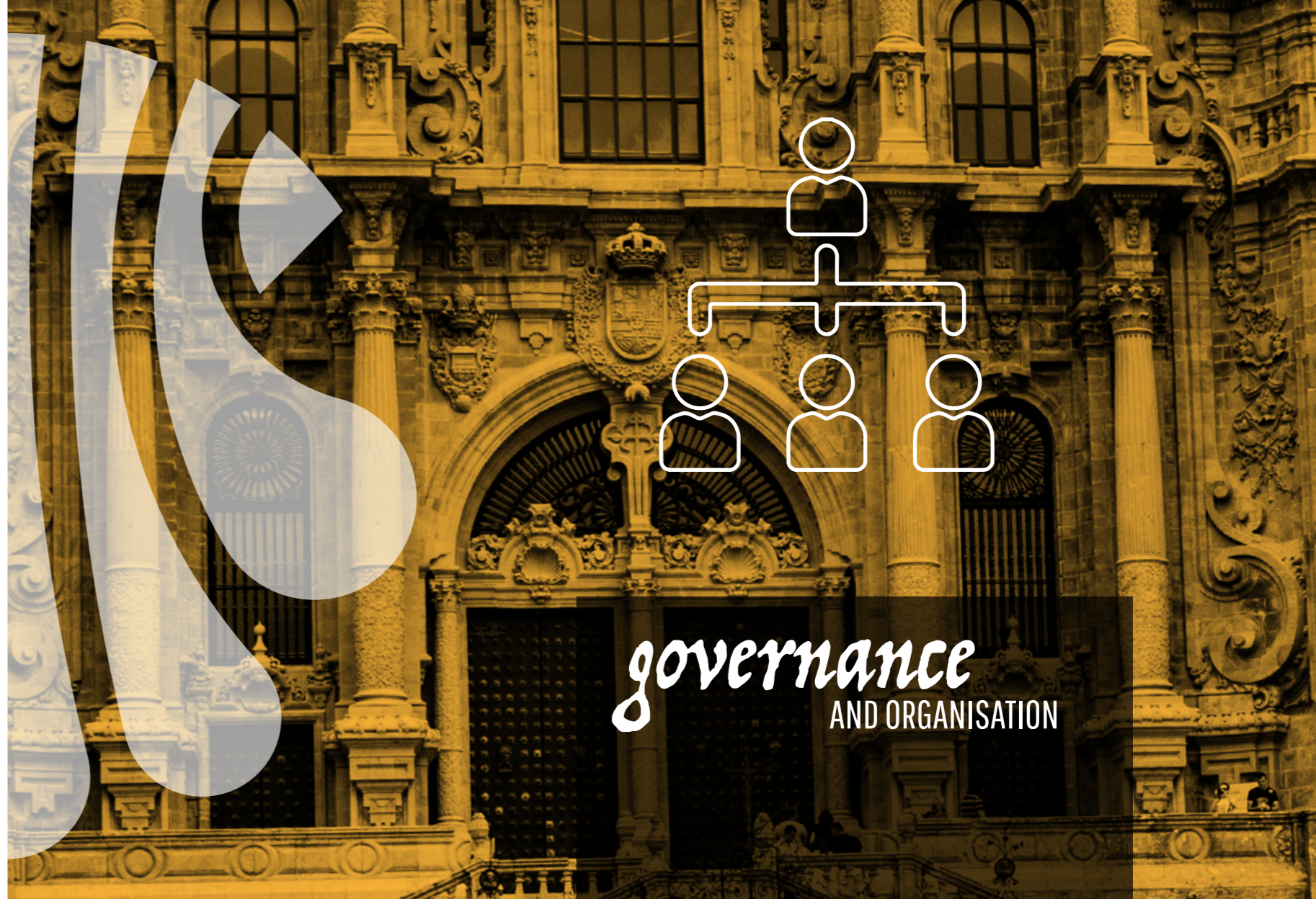
crossroads for all of them, the CGU has become one of the largest such networks in Europe.

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

The annual report of the Compostela Group of Universities is our pole star, the guide that illuminates our future, without forgetting the traces of our steps over the past year. Join us on this journey!



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*governance*  
AND ORGANISATION

In this first year as president of the Compostela Group of Universities (CGU), I have had the privilege of leading a network committed to internationalisation and academic excellence. This period has been an opportunity to consolidate strategic alliances and to give continuity to the values that have made the CGU a reference in global higher education.

We have made significant progress in creating spaces for international collaboration, laying the foundations for new projects that promote the exchange of knowledge and the strengthening of our member universities. Sustainability (both environmental and social) has been a priority, guiding our initiatives towards a more responsible and lasting impact.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on expanding our global networks, implementing innovative strategies and strengthening our commitment to sustainable development. We aim to energise academic mobility, intercultural dialogue and the development of leaders capable of meeting the challenges of a changing world.

This annual report reflects the collective effort of all our member universities, their people and those who work to achieve the great goals that await us in the coming years. I am deeply grateful for the trust placed in this team and excited about what we can achieve together.

**Carla Martins**  
PRESIDENT OF THE  
COMPOSTELA GROUP OF  
UNIVERSITIES



## Steps taken

During the XXXIX General Assembly of the Compostela Group of Universities, held in September 2023 at the University of Seville, elections for the executive committee took place, marking a pivotal moment for the network. In this democratic process, Carla Martins was elected as president, leading a completely renewed team.

This change in leadership reinforces the group's commitment to transparency, diversity, and international cooperation. Under Carla Martins' leadership, the Compostela Group embarks on a new phase aimed at addressing future challenges and strengthening collaboration among its member universities.

This annual report intends to reflect the results of the implementation of the new agenda of the president and the executive committee.





**Carla  
Martins**

President · 2023-2027  
University of Minho (Portugal)  
Associate Professor of Psychology



**Slavomír  
Rudenko**

Vice President · 2023-2027  
Pan-European University (Slovakia)  
Director for International Affairs



**María Teresa  
Carballeira Rivera**

Executive secretary · 2023-2027  
University of Santiago de Compostela  
(Spain)  
Full Professor in Administrative Law



**María  
Fernández Flecha**

Treasurer · 2023-2027  
Pontifical Catholic University of Peru  
(Peru)  
Head of Academic Internationalisation



**Carina  
Eriksson**

Member · 2019-2024  
Karlstad University (Sweden)  
Director of International Relations



**David  
Green**

Member · 2023-2024  
University of Worcester (United  
Kingdom)  
Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive



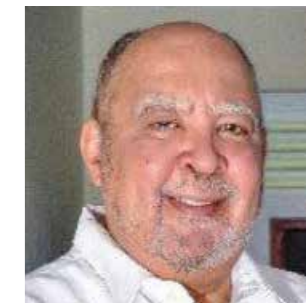
**István  
Tarrósy**

Member · 2019-2024  
University of Pécs (Hungary)  
Director of the International Centre



**José Celso  
Freire-Junior**

Member · 2023-2024  
UNESP- São Paulo State University  
(Brazil)  
Associate Provost for International  
Affairs



**Julio  
Sánchez Maríñez**

Member · 2023-2024  
Technological Institute of Santo  
Domingo-INTEC (Dominican Republic)  
Rector

The new executive committee team has established itself as a united and coordinated force. Their enthusiasm has brought renewed energy to the close-knit community network, through which new alliances have been forged within and beyond the association.



**Virginia Díaz**

Member · 2023-2024  
 Technical University of Madrid (Spain)  
 Deputy Vice Rector for International Cooperation and director of the Area for Latin America and Africa



**Jin Taira**

Member · 2023-2024  
 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria University (Spain)  
 Vice Rector for Internationalisation, Mobility and International Projection



**Valeria Padilla Navarro**

Member · 2023-2024  
 University of Guadalajara (Mexico)  
 Coordinator for Internationalisation



**Antonio López Díaz**

Permanent Member · 2019-2024  
 University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain)  
 Rector



**Marek Kręglewski**

Nominal member · 2023-2024  
 Adam Mickiewicz University, in Poznań (Poland)  
 Full Professor at the Faculty of Chemistry

The CGU continues to progress steadily, always remembering those who have made significant contributions and still do, to the network's success. Thus, there is unanimous recognition, appreciation, and gratitude for the honorary members designated for the 2023-2024 academic year, and the Peruvian city of Lima was a witness to it on June 3-4, 2024, during the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the network and its general assembly.

## Honorary president of the CGU

### DARÍO VILLANUEVA PRIETO

FULL PROFESSOR OF LITERARY THEORY AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE  
 UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Professor Villanueva has been recognised with the title of honorary president of the CGU for his commitment to the network since its foundation and his sustained dedication to the University and Higher Education.



## Ad honorem member

### MANUEL FREIRE-GARABAL NÚÑEZ

PROFESSOR OF PHARMACOLOGY  
 UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Professor Freire-Garabal has been distinguished with the title of ad honorem member for being a living memory of the CGU from its very beginnings and in recognition of his proven spirit of collaboration with the network and its community.





## Five new institutions join the CGU to broaden horizons

The Spanish University of La Rioja, the Peruvian Universidad del Pacífico, the Colombian Corporation for Biological Research and both the Mexican Autonomous University of Guerrero and the Autonomous University of Chiapas decide to apply for membership in the CGU, enhancing the network's positioning and expanding its sphere of influence internationally.

The affiliation of the University of La Rioja, Universidad del Pacífico, Autonomous University of Guerrero and Autonomous University of Chiapas as full members of the network was ratified by the general

council at the XXIX General Assembly held in Seville on September 2-3, 2023, while that of the Corporation for Biological Research as an associate member was in Peru on June 3-4, 2024.



UNIVERSITY OF LA RIOJA



AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF GUERRERO



AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF CHIAPAS



UNIVERSIDAD DEL PACÍFICO



CORPORACIÓN PARA INVESTIGACIONES BIOLÓGICAS

The CGU brings together 74 members and collaborative members from 29 different countries. The list of institutions continues to grow, and more importantly, they are coming to become an active and permanent part of the network

**AMERICA**  
22 UNIVERSITIES

- Anahuac University
- Autonomous University of Chiapas
- Autonomous University of Chihuahua
- Autonomous University of Guerrero
- CETYS University
- Columbus University
- ESAN University
- National University Mayor de San Marcos
- Peruvian University of Applied Sciences
- Pontifical Catholic University of Peru
- Technological Institute of Santo Domingo
- Technological of Monterrey
- São Paulo State University
- Universidad del Pacifico

- University of the East UNIVO
- University La Salle Bajío
- La Salle Morelia University
- La Salle University
- University of Guadalajara
- University of Lima
- University of Monterrey
- University of Piura

- Corporación para Investigaciones Biológicas (CIB)
- 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 in Poznań
- Cadiz University
- Ilia State University
- International Telematic University UNINETTUNO
- Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University
- University Jaume I
- Karlstad University
- University of Lodz
- 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
- Kore University of Enna
- University of A Coruña
- University of Almeria
- University of Burgos
- University of Extremadura
- University of Fribourg
- University of La Laguna
- University of La Rioja
- University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
- University of León
- University of Lleida
- University of Malaga
- University of Malta

- University of Minho
- 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
- University of Zaragoza

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

**Legend**

- Member universities
- Associate members
- Collaborators

FROM PERU 2024

## XXX GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PERUVIAN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES - UPC JUNE 3-4, 2024



The XXX General Assembly of the Compostela Group of Universities was held on June 3 and 4, 2024, at the Peruvian University of Applied Sciences (UPC), marking a significant milestone as it was the first time the event took place in South America. This occasion also coincided with the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the network, making the celebration even more special and memorable.

The central theme of the meeting was "The Role of Universities in the Era of Disruption and Innovation", addressing key global challenges in higher education and the importance of innovation in this context. The assembly brought together over 70 rectors and representatives from universities worldwide to foster academic exchange and strengthen international cooperation ties.

## XXXI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UNIVERSITY OF TRÁS-OS-MONTES AND ALTO DOURO, PORTUGAL SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2025

The University of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro (UTAD), located in Vila Real, Portugal, is enthusiastic to host the XXXI General Assembly of the Compostela Group of Universities on September 15 and 16, 2025. This event, of great international relevance, will focus on the key theme of the challenges of scientific production to drive economic development, exploring how research and innovation can enhance global competitiveness.

One of the most notable activities in the programme is the Compostela Connection on Sustainability. This space will encourage the exchange of ideas and proposals to implement sustainable solutions within universities and their surrounding communities. Additionally, the day will feature the awards ceremony, recognising the best research pitches and best practices in

sustainability. The day will culminate with the prestigious ceremony of the XXIX International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia.



TO PORTUGAL 2025

Our network receives internal and external proposals every year to cooperate in the development of joint initiatives. To specify the conditions of these collaborations, the CGU signs agreements with them.

## AMPEI

In January 2024, César Eduardo Gutiérrez Jurado, president of AMPEI, and Carla Martins, president of CGU, signed a framework agreement to foster collaboration on science, culture and higher education. The agreement sets generic guidelines for developing joint initiatives.

AMPEI, established in 1992, is a non-profit civil association with 217 members across Mexico, the U.S., and Canada, promoting international education and multicultural understanding through exchanges and research.



## UDUALC

In February 2024, Carla Martins, president of CGU, and Roberto Iván Escalante Semerena, general secretary of UDUALC, signed a collaboration agreement to strengthen ties between the two organisations on science, culture and higher education.

The relationship was reinforced with the signature of a partnership commitment in the CGU annual meeting, held in Lima on 3-4 June.

UDUALC, a UNESCO-recognised non-profit association founded in 1949, represents over 240 universities across Latin America and the Caribbean, promoting academic exchange, mobility and quality.



## Alumni USC

The framework collaboration agreement between the Alumni Association of the University of Santiago de Compostela (Alumni USC) and the Compostela Group of Universities (CGU) establishes a partnership to develop joint activities in areas such as academic, research, cultural and educational fields. The agreement, signed in March 2024, outlines collaboration methods, including the exchange of information and resources as well as the coordination of specific projects.



## ASCUN

Carla Martins, president of CGU, and Óscar Domínguez González, executive director of ASCUN, signed a protocol of intentions to coordinate, implement and manage common programmes.

This relationship focuses on fostering internationalisation, academic cooperation, teaching quality, research collaboration and academic mobility. It also aims to strengthen relationships between the member institutions of both organisations and facilitate the sharing of best practices.





*corporate*

INITIATIVES

## The CGU Galicia-America High Level Table



## Invitation to participate in ANUIES 2023

The Compostela Group of Universities (CGU) participated in the ANUIES 2023 International Conference on Higher Education and the Construction of a Culture of Peace. This event took place in Puebla, Mexico, where key representatives from CGU, including its president Carla Martins, vice president Slavomír Rudenko, and executive secretary Maria Teresa Carballeira, took part in discussions

on the role of higher education in fostering peace. The conference aimed to highlight how universities can promote dialogue, understanding, and the development of peace by enhancing humanistic values, scientific innovation, and civic responsibility. Through these efforts, the CGU and other institutions explored ways to contribute to global peace-building through education.



Visits to our La Salle member Universities in Mexico City, Mexico



Meeting with representatives of the Popular Autonomous University of the State of Puebla-UPAEP, Mexico.



Participation as guest speaker at the AMERELAF congress, Guadalajara, Mexico.



## International day

The Compostela Group of Universities (CGU) participated in the 2023 edition of the 'International Students Welcome Day' hosted by the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC) at the emblematic Garden of Fonseca Palace, in its Historic Campus. With the support of volunteer Adrián, the CGU showcased its activities to the 400 international students from over 40 countries who attended the event to begin their academic journey at USC.



## CGU Executive Committee in Novi Sad

In March 2025, the CGU's executive committee meeting took place in Serbia at the invitation of our partner, the University Business Academic in Novi Sad.

Additionally, in its framework, the executive committee members held other meetings with universities in the area to promote the network and establish further links.

The team of the Faculty of Law for Commerce and Judiciary in Novi Sad, led by its dean and vice rector for Science, Milan Počuča, and the vice dean for International Cooperation, Marijana Mladenov, prepared an academic and cultural programme that facilitated the labour of the executive committee during the visit.



## Bridge to Africa - ULPGC

On May 20-25, 2024, István Tarrósy, a member of the CGU's executive committee, participated in the "Bridge to Africa" programme hosted by the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC). This initiative brought together experts to discuss topics such as Africa-focused research, sustainable development,

and collaborative opportunities between Europe and Africa.

Tarrósy contributed through his expertise at the Africa Research Centre at the University of Pécs, addressing key challenges and sharing insights on African networks and partnerships within the academic context.



The year 2024 has been a year of celebration.

## The CGU turned 30 years of activity

The year 2024 was a year of celebration for the community of the Compostela Group of Universities (CGU), as we commemorated its 30th anniversary holding several acts on June 4, 2024, in the framework of the XXX General Assembly that took place in Lima, Peru.

Both a promotional video and a digital book titled 'Compostela

Group of Universities – Birth and Consolidation of a Network' were released with impressions, testimonies and the most significant milestones of the association since its birth in 1994. Rectors, presidents and other officials from the member universities actively participated in these activities. It is an emotional material full of memories that inspires our future.



## Grupo Compostela de Universidades

Nacimiento y consolidación de una red



compostela  
GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES  
GRUPO DE UNIVERSIDADES



*compostela*  
*academy*  
ON THE CAMINO

## Reflections on the Connection between the Qhapaq Ñan Route and the Way of St. James of Compostela



Strengthening ties with other member and non-member Latin American universities with similar interests, using Andean cultural routes as a vehicle for interconnections.

The CGU played a pivotal role in the organisation of the conference titled 'Reflections on the Connection between the Qhapaq Ñan Route and the Camino de Santiago de Compostela'. It was an event that took place in the splendid city of Cusco, Peru, on June 5, 2024, and where members of the CGU community, such as our honorary president, Darío Villanueva Prieto, and our executive secretary, María Teresa Carballeira Rivera, actively participated as speakers, sparking the interest of the attendees.



## XXVIII International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia

The XXVIII International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia has been awarded to Paolo Caucci von Saucken, a distinguished professor of Spanish Literature and honorary president of the International Committee of Experts on the Camino de Santiago. The jury highlighted his outstanding academic and scientific career in the Humanities and Social Sciences, focusing on promoting the Camino de Santiago and university culture.

The 2024's prize-winner, Paolo Caucci, is particularly recognised for his distinguished role in the cultural and touristic revival of the Jacobean pilgrimages since the 1980s and his key contributions to the Camino's designation as the First European Cultural Route by the Council of Europe in 1987.

The award ceremony took place on June 3, 2024, during the XXX General

Assembly of the Compostela Group of Universities.

Paolo Caucci's extensive academic legacy includes serving as a university professor, teaching at several renowned institutions on the international stage, including the University of Santiago de Compostela. He has led numerous initiatives related to the Camino de Santiago and

authored a vast body of work translated into multiple languages.

His accolades include multiple recognitions such as the Order of Isabella the Catholic awarded by the Spanish government and other unparalleled honours, to which is added the International Prize Grupo Compostela-Xunta de Galicia.



## VIII Research Pitches Contest

The Annual Research Pitches Contest organised by the Compostela Group of Universities serves as a platform to promote research activities within the network.

The jury, composed of researchers from the University of A Coruña (Spain) and University La Salle Bajío (Mexico) under the leadership of our president, did not have an easy task as this edition was one of the most competitive so far. A total of 42 pitches were received for the contest from 36 different research departments of 13 member universities.



1<sup>st</sup> Prize

*The protection of environmental interest using the tools of contract law.*

by **Hernán Cortez López**

UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (SPAIN)

He works on the promotion of circular economy and ecological values, an up-to-date topic tackled from a novel perspective as his doctoral research focuses on using contract law to protect environmental interests.



2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

*Incorporating justice in disaster risk management to enhance sustainable development.*

by **Mathilde de Goër de Herve**

KARLSTAD UNIVERSITY (SWEDEN)

She has developed a theoretical framework and tool to help decision-makers incorporate justice into risk management, considering not only social and spatial aspects but also ecological and temporal ones.



3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

*Assessing bumblebee habitat quality in grasslands using remote sensing data.*

by **Claudia Andrea Tapias Arenas**

UNIVERSITY OF WORCESTER (UNITED KINGDOM)

Her research examines the use of multiscale remote sensing data to understand bumblebee habitat preferences in wildflower meadows. Biodiversity, data collection, technology in research and climate change are subjects the pitch covers.

## “Virtual Mobility” Programme

Training and teaching innovation course on virtual mobility



## Training and teaching innovation course on virtual mobility

Through the virtual mobility training and innovation course, teaching staff from the CGU and a collaborator's, the Organisation of Ibero-American States (OEI), have acquired the knowledge and tools to integrate virtual mobility into their classrooms, while exploring the opportunities that internationalisation-at-home offers to their students.

The teaching team and advisors of the activity have been composed by professors from the Pontifical University

Catholic of Peru (Peru), University of Monterrey (Mexico) and University of León (Spain), with additional support from the OEI and the sponsorship of the General Secretariat for Universities of the Xunta de Galicia.

Upon completing the course, participants are required to develop virtual mobility projects for their classrooms during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 academic years. The two most outstanding projects in terms of quality and implementation will be recognised.



## CGU Chair 2024

The Compostela Group of Universities Chair is an initiative created in collaboration with the CETYS University of Mexico in 2020.

The CGU Chair is aimed at promoting academic mobility and international collaboration among member universities. It enables faculty and researchers to undertake visiting professorships at other institutions within the network, fostering the exchange of knowledge and expertise across diverse academic fields.

In the 2024 edition, the chair has been awarded to Lilla Garayová, who is an associate professor of the Pan-European University (Slovakia)

with extensive experience in international law and a work programme for the Chair aiming to bring substantive contributions to the host university's academic environment in terms of teaching, research and international collaboration.

The CGU Chair allows her to visit CETYS University, where she plans to carry out a series of activities, lectures and seminars across the various campuses of the university on assisted reproductive technologies, law, and artificial intelligence from different legal perspectives, including children's rights.

The alternate finalists of the Chair 2024 have been two Spanish professors from the University of Vigo and the University of Seville.



## Stella Programme

The Stella Programme is organised by the Compostela Group of Universities to foster and increase opportunities for mobility of our community.

It includes two key activities: The Stella for Staff and the Stella Junior.

compostela  
GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES  
GRUPO DE UNIVERSIDADES



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The Stella for Staff programme promotes mobility and professional development for the administrative and service staff of its member institutions.

Since its inception in 2002, it has enabled participants to engage in short-term exchanges, fostering international experience and sharing best practices in their fields.

For 2024, twenty individuals from various universities around the world were selected to participate, highlighting the programme's global reach and its commitment to fostering collaboration and cultural exchange across diverse higher education institutions.

The Stella Junior Programme provides students from member institutions with the opportunity to undertake internships at different universities within the network.

Since its launch in 2011, many undergraduate and graduate students have benefited from this programme, enhancing their skills and gaining international experience.

In 2024, ten students from member universities in Spain, Poland, Mexico, and Brazil were selected for mobility, promoting cultural exchange and professional development in an international setting.

## Compostela Debate Academy

The Compostela Debate Academy included another online training course to enhance the public speaking and debating skills of students from CGU member universities.

Held from November 6 to 10, 2023, the academy provided 32 selected students with the tools to improve their critical thinking, argumentation, and rhetorical abilities through the practice of British parliamentary debate techniques. Participants were engaged in an online debate tournament where they presented written arguments and delivered live debate speeches. The programme has been conducted in English and

opened to bachelor's, master's, and doctoral CGU's students.

The academy not only focused on building public speaking and debate skills but also encouraged students to critically observe and connect with audiences in persuasive ways. Upon successful completion, participants received a certificate, and some universities offered academic credits for participation.



## STUDENTS' TESTIMONIALS

**Zuzanna Witt**

ADAM MICKIEWICZ UNIVERSITY IN POZNAN (POLAND)

*"Participating in the online Compostela Debate Tournament has been a meaningful and enriching experience, This course not only strengthened my skills in debating, but also introduced me to new cultures and people from different regions."*



**Isis Jimenez Arizmendi**

AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF GUERRERO (MEXICO)

*"My experience has been incredible. I met wonderful people from many countries with whom I made a great team, I learned a lot from my instructors who taught me a lot about the culture of debate and its importance, in addition to encouraging critical thinking and self-confidence."*



## ATENEO STELLA

Ateneo Stella has been created to acknowledge the contribution of the CGU member universities to the growth and success of the Stella programme.

This initiative was launched in December 2022 to recognise those institutions that incorporate in their placement offers complementary services that facilitate and improve the quality of students' and staff exchange. Depending on the benefits provided, they can obtain Stella Gold or Stella Premium status.

A good number of member universities decided to join Ateneo Stella Junior, and some of them have already achieved a Stella Gold status.

### STELLA GOLD 2023-2024



University of Guadalajara  
(MEXICO)



CETYS University  
(MEXICO)



University La Salle Bajío  
(MEXICO)



University of Monterrey  
(MEXICO)



UNESP – São Paulo State University  
(BRASIL)

*projects*  
AND COLLABORATIONS

## European Universities Alliances

In thirty years of activity, the CGU has contributed to the development of more than a hundred of European Commission (EC) co-funded projects, both as a partner and as an associate, including the European University Alliances.

Collaboration between universities benefits their students, staff and the society. This is why an increasing number of universities are partnering with projects to improve international competitiveness and promote their European values and identity, getting funds or recognition under the Erasmus+ programme.

Since the launch of the programme in 2019, a total of 30 CGU's member institutions have joined one of the 65 EC co-funded University Alliances. In addition, two other Spanish

universities –the University of Lleida and the University of Vigo– are involved in projects that have been recognised with the Erasmus+ Programme Seal of Excellence, a quality label awarded by the EC to support proposals that did not receive funding through Erasmus+ due to budgetary constraints, but whose quality it wishes to highlight.

The CGU echoes their success while supporting those alliances in achieving their objectives.



## KA130 - Consortium for Mobility CGU EU-America

A CGU project recognised within the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union under the call KA130-HED – Erasmus Accreditation for Higher Education Mobility Consortia (2024-1-ES01-KA130-HED-000212899).

The Consortium for Mobility CGU EU-America has been created by the CGU to contribute to the achievement of the goals set by the network in terms of Initiative, Sustainability, Strategy, Growth, Communication and Future in the horizon 2024-2027.

It has been born as an instrument of Spanish university institutional cohesion in the South of the European-Atlantic Axis, to promote mobility and knowledge transfer initiatives to favour the holistic development of the European peripheral area.



**THE CONSORTIUM IS LED BY CGU AND COMPRISES THE SPANISH UNIVERSITIES OF A CORUÑA, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, LEÓN AND OVIEDO.**

The staff involved in the consortium will work together over the next four years to create new projects that contribute to the socio-economic growth of the Eurozone and the vulnerable area of the partner institutions, developing initiatives for

entrepreneurship, employability, innovation and digital transition. Also, the team intends to contribute to strengthening the international strategy and social responsibility of the partner institutions and the triangular dialogue and cooperation between Europe and America.



## PROJECT KA171 - Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Doctoral Student Mobility CGU EU-AMERICA 2024-2027

The first initiative of the Consortium for Mobility CGU EU-America is co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union under the call KA171-HED Mobility of higher education students and staff supported by external policy funds (2024-1-ES01-KA171-HED-000239621).

This KA171-HED is the first project created by the Consortium for Mobility CGU EU-America. The universities of A Coruña, León, Oviedo and Santiago de Compostela

in Spain have joined forces with the Corporation for Biological Research in Colombia, the Autonomous University of Guerrero in Mexico and University of the East UNIVO in

El Salvador to foster mobility of doctoral students and recent graduates. It is a project that supports inclusion by reserving 60% of the mobility for

vulnerable students from the new and emerging technologies, earth, environment and renewable energies, social responsibility and international politics academic fields.



## Impulsa Programme

The Impulsa programme enhances further alliances between the network and the Galician University System, focusing on America and Europe.



The potential of the CGU as a global player in higher and social education has enabled the network to activate the Impulsa programme successfully. The programme was born in 2023 to promote the European university system in the Americas and highlight talent and strengthen the search for opportunities for training, exchange and collaboration in inter-university postgraduate and doctoral programmes.

In its first year running, a CGU Galicia-America High-Level Table was held in November 2023, where experts from twelve partner universities across five Latin American and seven European countries gathered to build relationships and form working groups aimed at defining strategies to achieve the programme's goals in the medium to short term.

Additionally, the CGU presidency undertook a series of institutional visits to project the network in new strategic circles of other associations and organisations with common interests, exploring how to collaborate effectively.

In this framework, other instrumental initiatives have emerged. Merit-based actions, mentoring and sponsorship for alumni, as well as plans for celebrating an international conference on universities and cultural itineraries, are some of those initiatives to develop in the near future at the CGU.

The Impulsa Programme has been set to run for an initial period of three years, sponsored by the Galician Regional Minister for Education, Science, Universities and Vocational Training.

## EUni-Well enters a second phase

The activity of the European University for Well-Being (EUni- Well) has experienced significant growth in the 2023-2024 academic year.

The University of Santiago de Compostela and other ten universities in nine European countries that are involved in this project have fostered a good number of events. Workshops on diversity, civic education or women's health, courses on nature, culture, science communication or data visualisation, conferences and lectures on sustainability or urban transition, a series of calls and awards for the university community, are good examples of the intense activity of this European Initiative.

When the CGU decided to join the initiative in 2023, it supported the

importance of universities in achieving a Well- Being Economy and the mindset shift that is so necessary to combat the obstacles that threaten it. The Well-Being Alliance seeks to play a critical role in shaping research-based policy and pedagogies to inform decision-making, contribute to skills development and positively impact the learning experience of students and citizens.

The initiative is backed up by other 59 associated partners from all sectors of society, including university cities and regional authorities, cultural and



### European University for Well-Being

educational institutions, research centres, science parks, hospitals and medical centres, NGOs as well as a large number of business companies.

As a result of this and the goals met, it is now in its second phase of

implementation, with the focus always on research, education, innovation and social commitment, which are also part of the mission of the CGU.



## CGU President appointed as network representative at EWP University and Student Forums

The President, Carla Martins, represents the CGU at the annual Erasmus Without Papers University and Student Forums. She meets online twice a year with different users and stakeholders composed of students, other university networks and European Alliances to advise the consortium and the European Commission on relevant issues to undertake appropriate decisions and ensure wider dissemination of project information and its development. With such a relevant role, the CGU is

contributing to determining the path of the initiative.

The EWP initiative was born in 2015 as an Erasmus+ project to make it easier for institutions to manage their student mobility through a digital exchange of information, which would make the process faster, safer and more effective. Over time, it has become part of the European Commission's management tools in the framework of Erasmus+, aiming at promoting a stronger European student identity.



## The CGU invited by the Council of Europe to the III Meeting of Managers of Cultural Routes in Spain

The CGU network was represented by Roberto Baelo, vice rector of the University of León, at the III Meeting of Managers of Cultural Routes in Spain, held on May 8-9, 2024 in the Cantabrian town of Santillana del Mar (Spain).

The delegate of the CGU presidency joined the group of representatives of 24 cultural routes certified by the Council of Europe in Spain and was

one of the speakers on the programme, whose central theme focused on the collective dimension of cultural routes, on the way they weave networks, create alliances and combine wills and efforts to draw the cultural map of a cross-border and multilingual Europe.

The event, which encouraged the exchange of experiences and ideas on the themes of European planning, the

potential of cultural routes in Latin America and European citizenship, was organised by the Subdirector General for the Management and Coordination of Cultural Assets of the Spanish Ministry of Culture as well as the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, in cooperation with the European Cultural Routes Institute.



*Roberto Baelo, third from the right, representing CGU at the III Meeting of Managers of Cultural Routes*



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## 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.

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