

NEWSLETTER TRANSFORM4EUROPE

2/2025

OUR INITIATIVES

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

PAST EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

PROJECTS

Dear T4EU People, we bring you the next edition of the T4EU newsletter. If you would like to express your opinion, ask a question, or suggest changes, please contact us at transform4europe@us.edu.pl.

OUR INITIATIVES

→ T4EU BUDDIES PROGRAMME

We're thrilled to announce the official launch of the T4EU Buddies Programme! Buddies will play a crucial role in supporting T4EU events and assisting all incoming T4EU students, ensuring a smoother transition and a more enriching experience within our Alliance. [Find out more.](#)

→ SCIENCE COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS NOW ON YOUTUBE

The [video recordings of two recent science communication workshops](#), held in April 2025, are now available on the official T4EU YouTube channel. The workshops, conducted via Zoom and aimed at enhancing communication skills among students, researchers, and academic staff, drew participants from across the Alliance.



Saarland University
Germany



University of Alicante
Spain



EKA
Estonian Academy of Arts
Estonia



University of Silesia in Katowice
Poland



Sofia University
"St. Kliment Ohridski"
Bulgaria



University of Trieste
Italy



Vytautas Magnus
University
Lithuania



Universidade Católica
Portuguesa
Portugal



University of Primorska
Slovenia



Jean Monnet University
France



Mariupol State University
Ukraine (associated partner)

→ **PODCASTS**

The two-part Reach Out podcast—'[Circular Economy – General Concept and Theme Introduction](#)' and '[Innovation in Circular Economy](#)'—explores circularity's role in sustainability, focusing on zero waste, innovation, and cross-sector collaboration. Experts Pintado and Bortoluzzi emphasize the need for a sustainable mindset to drive real-world solutions.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

→ **BACHELOR TRACKS**

The new T4EU BA Course Catalogue for 2025/2026 is now available! This semester, we're introducing a brand-new dedicated course platform — the T4EU Metacampus to make browsing and selecting courses even easier and more user-friendly. [Find out more.](#)

→ **STUDENT INITIATIVES 2025**

Deadline: 1 August

Do you have a great idea on how to improve your campus and the Transform4Europe Alliance (T4EU)? Find like-minded students and together create an initiative that will improve collaboration, cooperation, and sustainability of T4EU, as well as benefit general well-being on the university level! [For more information, visit the T4EU website.](#)

→ **T4EU SEED FUNDING PROGRAMME**

Deadline: 30 September

The Transform4Europe Seed Funding Programme is now accepting applications. This is your chance to bring innovative, collaborative educational projects to life across our Alliance. What's funded? Joint study programmes and course development, mobility schemes and exchange opportunities, micro-credentials and lifelong learning offers, PhD programmes and tracks, interdisciplinary projects focusing on environmental, digital, and societal transformation. [Find out more.](#)

→ **T4EU INNOVATION AGORA**

Deadline: 1 August

Registration is currently open for the Innovation Agora, which will take place during the T4EU Strategic Assembly meeting on October 21–22 at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. Innovation Agora will function as an open space for dialogue and collaboration, showcasing diverse resilience initiatives from across Europe. The organizers invite presentations in poster and interactive formats. [Find out more.](#)

→ **TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME**

25 July

Universities are complex institutions, whose leaders often learn on the job and come from diverse academic backgrounds. Delegation is a vital skill for improving efficiency but also depends on values, self-awareness, and leadership style. The [‘Too Much, Too Extensive, Too Busy: Navigating through Delegation’](#) workshop will explore delegation in context, with group discussions and reflections on key concepts and theoretical background.

→ **MATCHMAKING EVENT**

4–5 September

This September, young researchers and PhD students of heritage from across the Alliance are invited to register for an inspiring [two-day Matchmaking Event](#) hosted by the University of Primorska. Focused on heritage and heritage sciences, the event will spark fresh ideas, bold conversations, and exciting interdisciplinary connections under the theme Heritage – Research and practices in a rapidly changing world.

→ **T4EU SUMMER SCHOOL**

1–6 September

The [T4EU Summer School](#), taking place in Sofia, is designed specifically for refugee researchers and scholars at risk at any stage of their academic career – from PhD students to postdocs and experienced researchers. It addresses the critical need for support in navigating new cultural, research, and labour environments. The program combines presentations, group work, discussions, and networking led by experienced practitioners and university representatives from the Alliance.

→ **T4EU WEEK IN KAUNAS**

20–24 October

What if university was less about answers and more about asking better questions? Rooted in the Liberal Arts tradition, Vytautas Magnus University offers a space where curiosity thrives, ideas collide, and learning becomes a journey. Over five days, you'll explore themes where tradition meets innovation. No final exams — just deeper questions to take home and grow as a thinker and a human being. Join us at the [T4EU Week in Kaunas](#) and expect thoughtful reading, sharp thinking, and meaningful debates.

→ **T4EU STRATEGIC POLICY CONFERENCE**

21–22 October

We are pleased to invite you to register for the upcoming Strategic Policy Conference taking place at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, marking the conclusion of VMU's presidency of the T4EU Alliance. Leaders from academia, politics, and beyond will explore how universities drive resilience through innovation, democracy, and societal renewal. [Find out more.](#)

PAST EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

→ T4EU WEEK IN FRANCE

Jean Monnet University in Saint-Étienne, France, hosted its T4EU Week themed 'Design in All Its Forms' from 19 to 23 May 2025, welcoming students from the all across the Alliance. Take a minute and explore daily highlights from the event:

- [Day 1: Welcome in France](#)
- [Day 2: Language, Trips, and Cooperation](#)
- [Day 3: Yoga Session and Meetings](#)
- [Day 4: Workshops, FestU Performances, and Conference](#)
- [Day 5: Time to Say Goodbye](#)
- [Recap video](#)

→ T4EU AWARDS RECOGNISED!

Vytautas Magnus University (VMU), member and current president of the Transform4Europe Alliance, hosted the award ceremony for innovative teaching and, for the first time, non-academic staff. The awards recognised the most innovative practices introduced by the employees of the Alliance's universities. [Find out more.](#)

→ MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

For years, the Slovene Centre for Suicide Research of the Andrej Marušič Institute at the University of Primorska has been organising its conference 'Intuition, Imagination and Innovation in Suicidology', which attracts many participants from all over the world. This year's [16th edition of the conference](#), organised between 28 and 29 May, was further enriched by a T4EU workshop in which participants could share their valuable insights and experiences on the pressing topic of helping people in severe distress.

→ T4EU AT THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY NETWORK FORUM

On 12–13 June 2025, Transform4Europe representatives took part in the European University Network Forum in Wrocław, held under the Polish EU Council Presidency, to discuss the future of European higher education. Prof. Małgorzata Myśliwiec contributed to a key session on strengthening partnerships beyond academia, highlighting the Alliance's active role in shaping an innovative European educational space. [Find out more.](#)

→ **NEW T4EU MICROCREDENTIAL OPPORTUNITY**

Are you ready to elevate your professional profile and thrive in multicultural and interdisciplinary environments? Join our dynamic microcredential course designed for students across the alliance who aspire to succeed in today's global workforce. For more information, [visit the T4EU website](#).

→ **T4EU CHAIRS AT SOFIA UNIVERSITY**

T4EU Chairs Małgorzata Poks, PhD, DLitt (USil) and Martina Paradiz, PhD (UP) delivered lectures and led discussions at Sofia University on topics ranging from climate change, sustainability, and biosemiotics to AI in research and language learning. They also participated in key events and conferences addressing global challenges and the role of universities, presenting research on climate education, intercultural learning, and AI bias in line with EEA and EU goals. [Find out more](#).

→ **3RD SERVICE-LEARNING WORKSHOP**

On 2–3 June, Universidade Católica Portuguesa hosted the [3rd Transform4Europe Service-Learning workshop](#) in Porto and online. Led by Prof. Robert G. Bringle, the sessions explored civic engagement in higher education and the integration of Service-Learning into curriculum and teaching practice.

→ **T4EU STUDENTS AT THE EUROPEAN STUDENT ASSEMBLY**

On 26–28 May 2025, T4EU students joined peers from across Europe at the European Student Assembly in Strasbourg to debate key EU challenges and shape policy proposals. Actively involved in five of eight panels, T4EU students contributed to discussions on mental health, AI and democracy, lifelong learning, housing, and cultural inclusion, helping draft 74 adopted recommendations and showcasing the Alliance's commitment to civic engagement and innovation. [Find out more](#).

→ **'I'LL DO IT TOMORROW'**

On 3 June 2025, an online workshop [I'll Do It Tomorrow: The Psychology of Procrastination](#), organised by the University of Primorska, focused on understanding procrastination, its connection to stress, and the role of mindfulness in overcoming it. Participants learned practical strategies to boost focus and build healthier study habits through mindful techniques.

→ **INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE**

The University of Silesia in Katowice organised an international scientific conference entitled '[Industrial Heritage and the Traces of Industrialization in Urban Space](#)'; the event took place on 6 May 2025 in Katowice. It was devoted to multifaceted reflection on the industrial heritage and traces of industrialisation in contemporary urban spaces.

→ **T4EU REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS**

Transform4Europe took part in the 'Choose Europe for Science' event in Paris, hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron to advance European higher education and research collaboration. T4EU's delegation, including Prof. Dominik Brodowski, Klavdija Kutnar, Prof. Tomasz Pietrzykowski, and Agnieszka Turska-Kawa, joined European leaders and academics in supporting this initiative. [Find out more.](#)

→ **EUROPE WEEK**

From 5 to 9 May 2025, Saarland University hosted [Europe Week](#) in partnership with Transform4Europe and UniGR. The event featured daily canteen menus inspired by partner countries under the motto 'The way to anyone's heart is through the stomach', and info booths showcasing European collaborations, including special focuses on Luxembourg and the France Center.

→ **SEMINAR: 'UPDATING UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP...'**

On 2-3 June, Universidade Católica Portuguesa organised the seminar '[Updating University Leadership to Address New Societal Challenges](#)'. The programme included a combination of online sessions and four in-person seminars held at different universities, with the following topics: Responsible Leadership, Global Leadership, Leadership in AI-Driven Environments and Sustainable Leadership. taking place on 2 and 3 June.

→ **PROF. VESSELIN POPOVSKI VISITS THE USIL**

In April 2025, Prof. Vesselin Popovski from Soka University in Japan was a guest of the University of Silesia in Katowice and delivered a lecture entitled 'The Second Charter: Reimagining the UN'. The visit was also an opportunity to talk to staff from the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Silesia in order to discuss potential research opportunities. [Find out more.](#)

→ **TIME MANAGEMENT AND PROCRASTINATION**

On 5 May 2025, Transform4Europe and Universidade Católica Portuguesa held an online training session on time management and procrastination for university leadership. Led by coach João Brás, the workshop covered goal setting, prioritization, and strategies for managing distractions and saying "no" effectively within institutional contexts. [Find out more.](#)

→ **BOOK PRESENTATION**

On 10 April 2025, the University of Trieste hosted a presentation of *Multicultural Cities of the Habsburg Empire, 1880-1914. Imagined Communities and Conflictual Encounters* by Catherine Horel. The book offers a comparative analysis of 12 cities, exploring their cultural, educational, and political life between 1880 and 1914. The

event featured a discussion with historians Borut Klabjan, Francesco Toncich, and Tullia Catalan. [Find out more.](#)

→ **UP AT THE EUA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Prof. Klavdija Kutnar, Rector of UP, attended the annual conference of the EUA – European University Association, which took place on 10–11 April 2025 and was hosted by the University of Latvia in Riga. The 28th General Assembly of the EUA was also held during the conference. [Find out more.](#)

→ **ANNUAL PHD CONFERENCE**

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski hosted the Annual T4EU PhD Conference '[Societies on the Move: Challenges of Today, Prospects for the Future](#)' on 1–2 April 2025. The conference gathered together around 60 participants, most of whom are PhD students from T4EU Alliance partners. The keynote speeches were connected to researchers' personal branding, specifics of defending PhD dissertations around the world, populism and contemporary societal challenges.

→ **T-LAB AND STAKEHOLDER CHALLENGE**

On 2–4 June 2025, the [First T-Lab Fair & Second Stakeholder Challenge](#), organised by T4EU, was officially launched at the Rectorate Building of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. This initiative, part of the T4EU Environmental Transformation Lab 'Smart cities and regions', aimed at engaging young researchers and graduate students in the Alliance's outreach, stimulating interdisciplinary research, and fostering collaboration with key stakeholders.

→ **5TH T4EU SCIENCE CAFÉ**

On 14 May 2025, the [5th T4EU Science Café](#) took place during Universidade Católica Portuguesa's Innovation Day, highlighting how universities can drive innovation through collaboration with industry. Discussions focused on the challenges and opportunities of applying scientific research to real-world solutions, including examples in circular economy and sustainable technology.

→ **MATCHMAKING EVENT FOR JOINT STUDIES**

The [Matchmaking Event for Joint Studies](#), hosted by Jean Monnet University, was held on 31 March and 1 April 2025; it brought together vice-presidents, rectors, programme coordinators, and academic staff from 10 universities across Europe for two dynamic days of discussion, collaboration, and innovation.

→ **GLOBAL ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP SEMINAR**

A seminar entitled '[Global Academic Leadership](#)' was held at the University of Silesia on 3 April 2025 as part of the Academy for Professional Excellence initiative of the Transform4Europe project. The meeting explored global challenges in academic

leadership, sharing research and policy responses to transnational trends in higher education.

PROJECTS

→ LETSGROW – PROJECT LAUNCH

[LETSGROW](#) has officially launched with a vibrant [two-day kick-off event](#) marking the beginning of a collaborative journey to foster cross-sector talent development in the agri-food industry, academic and non-academic intersectoral mobility, and innovative training across the continent.

→ T4EU AND BIKE-HEI PROJECT

The University of Alicante (UA), represented by Noelia López, took part in the panel discussion 'Inclusion and Diversity in Science and Entrepreneurship', held within the framework of the 'Inspiring the minds' project during the CloudEARTH*i* Conference. The UA participated on behalf of the T4EU Alliance and the BIKE-HEI project, highlighting their commitment to inclusive and sustainable innovation. [Find out more.](#)