More than 1300 people visit the Oceanograf

SEA-EU DAY presents the best achievements of this first phase

SEA-EU present at the EuroCampus in Versailles

SEA-EU Governing week in Kiel

reSEArchEU latest news

Campus of Alliances

With a view to the second phase of the initiative, representatives of the 41 European University Alliances met on 30 June at the Versailles Conference Centre. Hundreds of professionals, people who in some cases knew each other only by email or by screen, met to share their experiences during these years in which the Alliances have started to walk. Frustrations, fears, barriers, but also objectives, illusions or satisfactions that are part of what it means to work for a total transformation of the higher education system. The problems are common, as well as the motivations that lead to overcome them, and having the opportunity to share them with professionals from all over Europe, undoubtedly served to reinforce the certainty that the initiative is on the right track and that the Alliances have a long, complex and transforming future.
The SEA-EU DAY presents its main achievements

Held on 22 June, it was an open session to which all Higher Education stakeholders were invited. A day to share the achievements and experiences of the Alliance in its first phase, to introduce new members in the second phase and to discuss and learn with representatives of other Alliances in the European University Initiative.

So, if you work in a university, if you are a member of an Alliance, if you would like to become a member or if you are one of the many associate members or partners of this initiative, you can watch the full video [HERE](#).

From the Rector’s Delegation for the European University of the Seas at the University of Cadiz, we wanted to celebrate with the whole community the closing of this first period, welcoming a second period, much more ambitious, in which we incorporated three new partners: the universities of Algarve, Naples Parthenope and NORD.

In order to involve all citizens in this celebration, from 17 to 22 June we proposed a series of activities open to the public.

One of the most important activities, due to its complexity and scope, that we have carried out within the Alliance is the first SEA-EU Oceanographic Campaign. A campaign on board the Oceanographic Vessel of the University of Gdansk with a total duration of 47 days, departing from Gdynia, arriving in Cadiz and returning to Poland.

On the occasion of the arrival of this ship in the city of Cadiz, an exhibition and guided tour of the ship took place on 17 and 18 June at the glass terminal of the Muelle Ciudad. This activity was completely free and open to the general public, where adults and children were able to discover the details of this ship and the campaign that SEA-EU has carried out to investigate the pollution of the seas. The exhibition also explored the importance of the ocean for humanity and for the city of Cadiz, as well as its protection and care. More than 1300 people of all ages visited the exhibition and the ship. [more]
SEA-EU at the EuroCampus in Versailles

The European University of the Seas SEA-EU participated in the EuroCampus of Versailles in Paris, a forum organised by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research that brings together technical and institutional representatives of the 41 European university alliances. The SEA-EU delegation was attended by the Vice-Rector for Internationalisation, Rafael Jiménez, the General Coordinator of SEA-EU, Fidel Echevarría, the director of the SEA-EU Secretariat for Educational Internationalisation, Laura Howard, as well as the technical and local managers, Belén Chinchilla and Irene de Andrés, respectively. Zoe Abarnou, student at UBO, Delphine Muths and François-Xavier Roux, technician and Vice-Rector at UBO, as well as Roko Glavinovic, student at UNIST, and Linda Pialek, responsible at CAU, completed the expedition.

SEA-EU Governing Week in Kiel

During the last week of May, the SEA-EU consortium week took place in Kiel, with meetings of the Executive Committee, Governing Board, Technical Working Group, as well as several reSEArchEU pilot project meetings and bilateral meetings between experts. In addition to the official meetings, the hosts of the University of Kiel offered different activities to promote the coexistence between work teams that enjoyed the city and a visit to the Oceanographic Vessel of the University of Gdansk that was making a stop to collect samples on its voyage to Cadiz.

SEA-EU volunteering

The first SEA-EU volunteer programme is already underway thanks to the International Cooperation Office of the Vice-rectorate for Internationalisation. Enora Magueur and Amélie Jacopin arrived in Cadiz on the 1st of July to volunteer in local entities such as Alendoy, EQUA or SóloSurf, which work with groups at risk of exclusion in the city. This initiative is part of the Alliance’s work package dedicated to Inclusion and citizen participation.
As announced in our previous newsletter, the University of Split presented the first version of the Guiding Principles for the SEA-EU Academy at the meeting of the Extended Executive Committee of SEA-EU in Gdansk. Last June, at the meeting of the governing body of the Alliance in Kiel, the final version of these guiding principles was concluded and the virtual platform hosting the Academy was launched.

The SEA-EU Academy is guided by three main objectives: to provide access to skills and know-how from SEA-EU professionals, to deliver training in entrepreneurship and innovation and improve universities’ staff skills in a broad range of topics and fields. It is inspired by the human-centred design methodology and grounded on a Focus Group who allowed to identify the set of core ideas underlying the initiative. As of September 2022, the SEA-EU Academy will start to host educational content emerged in other initiatives of the project, such as the Spin-Off Competence Lab.

The reSEArch-EU project, in charge of the consolidation of the Research Area at the European University of the Seas, kicked off in January 2021 and will end in December 2023. Therefore, in June 2022 the project has reached its equator and it is a good moment to recapitulate on everything done during its first eighteen months. The construction of a proper knowledge basis was an essential requirement for the consolidation of joint research infrastructures, and the main results achieved up to this moment have gone in that direction.

· The report on best practices in Open Science has allowed to identify the current state of art in each partner university in open science.
· The compilation of stakeholder engagement strategies has made it possible to acquire a clearer definition of concepts such as stakeholder or citizen science and to share experiences up to this date in co-creation projects.
· The case study on remotization of research and innovation practices allowed the SEA-EU partners to know the state of art and the prospects of remotization of research at the Alliance level.
· The SEA-EU Academy has been designed as a virtual training space that will improve researchers’ abilities in a variety of topics ranging from digital skills to entrepreneurship.
· The SEA-EU position paper on the carbon footprint emitted by research and innovation activities set a milestone in the ambitions of the Alliance when it comes to reduce the environmental impact of all the activities held, including research and innovation.

Some of these results have been addressed at previous editions of this newsletter, therefore the next two sections will focus on the latest results achieved in June 2022.
Position Paper on the Carbon footprint

With the Position Paper on the environmental impact of research activities, delivered last June, the European University has elaborated a joint mission statement that sheds light into the current awareness level of the environmental impact created by the universities of the Alliance. All previous initiatives related to measuring the environmental impact of activities conducted at the universities were collected and analysed, and the importance, long-term significance of measuring the carbon footprint at higher education institutions in Europe were pondered. The acknowledgement of what has been already done to measure the carbon footprint at each partner university, in addition to the recognition of their relevance, allowed to propose a common roadmap that may allow harmonization of objectives, efforts and methodologies across the Alliance.

Other activities from the last months

The Alliance offers numerous and diverse activities on a regular basis to students and staff of the partner universities, as well as to the general public. Recent months have seen, among others, the Transfer Staff Week in Kiel, the Mobility Staff Week in Split, the launch of our new teaching innovation tool DIGICRUISE, developed by the University of Kiel, the Open Forum on SDGs in Education, held in Cadiz. Registration has been opened for intensive courses on amber chemistry, design and research, among others. Finally, during this quarter SEA-EU has participated as a collaborating entity in different events of other consortia, highlighting the reception at the University of Cadiz of the annual congress of EUROSEA, an H2020 project in which our associate members ICMAN-CSIC and GEOMAR participate.

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