



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture  
**Youth, Education and Erasmus+**

Higher education

**DRAFT Agenda**  
**High-level meeting**  
**on the European Universities initiative**  
**26-27 February 2025**  
**The Square, Mont des Arts, 1000 Brussels**

**26 February 2025**

**Closed meeting with Rectors of European Universities alliances**

14.00 – 14.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Registration and welcome coffee</li></ul>
14.30 – 15.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Welcome by Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen</b>, Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture</li></ul>
15.00 – 16.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Keynote intervention of Roxana Mînzatu</b>, Commission Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness</li><li>• <b>Executive Vice-President Roxana Mînzatu interviewing three Rectors</b> on their views on the future of the European Universities initiative in driving transformation of the European higher education sector and boosting future-proof skills for enhancing Europe's competitiveness, strategic autonomy and preparedness</li><li>• <b>Open exchange between Executive Vice-President Roxana Mînzatu and all Rectors</b> on the future of the European Universities initiative in the context of the upcoming Union of skills initiative</li></ul>
16.30 – 16.35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Rectors' group photo</b> with Executive Vice-President Mînzatu</li></ul>
16.35 – 17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coffee break</li></ul>
17.00 – 18.50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>High-level discussions for and between rectors</b></li></ul>
18.50 – 19.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Closing words by Pia Ahrenkilde-Hansen</b>, Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture</li></ul>
19.00 – 22.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cocktail and walking dinner in Bozar</li></ul>

**27 February 2025:**  
**Conference: Shaping the future: European Universities alliances for a competitive Europe**

08.30 – 09.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration and welcome coffee</li> </ul>
09.30 – 10.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Keynote speeches</b></li> </ul>
10.00 – 10.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group photo</b></li> </ul>
10.10 – 10.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Artistic impression/performance</b> from a European Universities alliance</li> </ul>
10.20 – 10.40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Testimonies</b> of a European Universities' student and coordinator</li> </ul>
10.40 – 11.40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High-level panel: The role of European Universities alliances in transforming the higher education landscape.</b> What have we achieved so far? How can we further leverage the impact of the alliances?  With insights from Member States representatives, the European Parliament, rectors, students and stakeholders (moderation by the European Commission)</li> </ul>
11.40 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coffee break</li> </ul>
12:00 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High-level panel: The role of European Universities in strengthening cooperation between innovation ecosystems, boosting Europe's regions.</b> Further developing the European Universities alliances across all their missions (education, research and innovation at the service of society)  With insights from Member States representatives, the European Committee of the Regions, rectors, students and stakeholders (moderation by the European Commission)</li> </ul>
13:00 – 14.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lunch break</li> </ul>
14.15 – 17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parallel break-out sessions on the future of the European Universities initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>14.15 – 15.15 break-out sessions part I</b></li> <li>✓ 15.15 – 15.45 <i>coffee break</i></li> <li>✓ <b>15.45 – 16.45 break-out session part II</b></li> <li>✓ 16.45 – 17.00 moving back to plenary</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
17.00 – 17.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Key-take aways of the day</b></li> </ul>
17.30 – 17.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Closing words by Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen</b>, Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture</li> </ul>
17.45 – 19.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Networking cocktail</li> </ul>