



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

News Release

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Innovative European alliance receives funding

An initiative that seeks to redesign the European education sector has received €5 million of funding.

UNA Europa – a group of seven leading universities including Edinburgh – will use the money to launch the 1EUROPE project, which aims to create a Europe-wide research environment.

Benefits will include enabling Edinburgh students and staff to undertake research in seven EU countries.

1EUROPE aims to provide international mobility opportunities for half of UNA Europa students by 2025.

The project will also deliver several European joint degree programmes and aims to benefit two million Europeans through educational and civic engagement programmes.

The initiative will focus on four interdisciplinary areas – European studies, sustainability, cultural heritage and data science. The project offers a variety of online and face-to-face teaching and learning.

The three-year project, which launches in December, aims to attract the best and brightest talent from around the world.

Edinburgh is one of the founding members of UNA Europa, alongside Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna, Uni-versité Paris 1 Panthéon – Sorbonne, KU Leuven, Freie Universität Berlin and Jagiellonian University, Krakow.

The group is developing long-term cooperation and integration between its members, focusing on innovative research and teaching and boosting international opportunities for students and staff.

Students from the participating universities will be able to combine studies in Spain, Italy, France, Belgium, Poland, Germany and the UK.

Ranked among the top universities in the world

University leaders believe that by going beyond traditional boundaries – both geographical and interdisciplinary – the collaboration will better equip graduates for the future.

The project has received funding under the Erasmus+ Pilot Call for European Universities.

Professor James Smith, Vice-Principal International at the University of Edinburgh, said: “Edinburgh is delighted to be involved in this exciting programme. This funding for UNA Europa gives us the opportunity to create new multi-country, multi-institution and multilingual degree programmes, student exchanges and research collaborations with some of Europe’s best universities.”

The UNA Europa group is the latest development in Edinburgh’s long-standing links with Europe.

Edinburgh is the UK’s largest participant in Erasmus+ and the most popular destination in Scotland for inbound Erasmus students.

Since 1987, the University has enabled more than 12,000 students to work and study in mainland Europe, with a similar number coming to Edinburgh.

Edinburgh has participated in more than 300 large European collaborative projects, contributing to areas such as health research, information and communications technology and high-performance computing.

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