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(French and Italian versions below)

ITALIAN AND FRENCH UNIVERSITIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES INITIATIVE

Universities and all higher education institutions in Europe are called upon to cooperate within the framework of the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area. This transnational cooperation offers a strong potential to strengthen bilateral cooperation between the universities of Italy and France, two of the founding countries of the European Union.

The "European Universities" initiative, proposed in 2017 and launched in 2018, has been structured through various Commission calls that have led to the existence of **44 alliances to date**, involving more than 340 institutions from 31 countries and among them 26 Italian and 36 French universities. 24 of these 44 alliances include at least one Italian and one French university, involving nearly 50 institutions. The initiative has the ambitious vision to build "globally competitive and attractive European Education Area and European Research Area, in full synergy with the European Higher Education Area, by helping to boost the excellence dimension of higher education, research and innovation, while promoting gender equality, inclusiveness, and equity, allowing for seamless and ambitious transnational cooperation between higher education institutions in Europe, and inspiring the transformation of higher education."

The Quirinal Treaty, signed in November 2021 between Italy and France, commits to "actively promote the participation of Italian and French universities in the project of European universities."

For more than two decades, the **Franco-Italian University/Italo-French University (UFI/UIF)** has been promoting academic and scientific collaboration between France and Italy through its calls for proposals. It thus fosters the integration of European university education and research systems. On the other hand, the **University of Turin**, member of the executive committee of the Franco-Italian University, actively participates in the initiative of European universities as coordinator of the **UNITA - Universitas montium alliance**.



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With the objective of showcasing the multiple dynamics of these alliances, the University of Turin and the Franco-Italian University propose to bring together Italian, French and European universities on **March 30, 2023 at the University of Turin** for a day that aims first and foremost to raise awareness around concrete projects, existing alliances and initiatives being deployed in Italian and French universities in terms of mobility, research projects, projects aimed at territories, innovative teaching and forms of internationalisation of teaching within European alliances and student initiatives. Ongoing or planned joint training courses and the creation of degrees at the alliance level are also of interest under this initiative.

UNITO, UFI/UIF, UNITA and its institutional and academic partners propose that Italian and French universities contribute to this day through:

- specific interventions presenting *a specific initiative or project* underway within one of the alliances (max 1 presentation for each alliance, 5-8 min.);
- participation in thematic workshops with short interventions and discussion;
- informal meetings or speed dating events that allow universities to learn more about the alliances and establish new partnerships;

Proposal for the thematic sessions are as follow:

1. **Education:** Innovative learning paths within the Alliances (i.e.: new joint curricula; flexible learning opportunities)
2. **Mobility:** Mobility formats for the EU Inter-university 'campus' (Seamless mobility toward EU Inter-university campus)
3. **R&I:** R&I and entrepreneurship for the local ecosystems
4. **Students:** Student's engagement in EU Universities

Possible session to be added:

5. Transformative impact of the European Universities Initiative at institutional level

Torino, December 22nd 2022