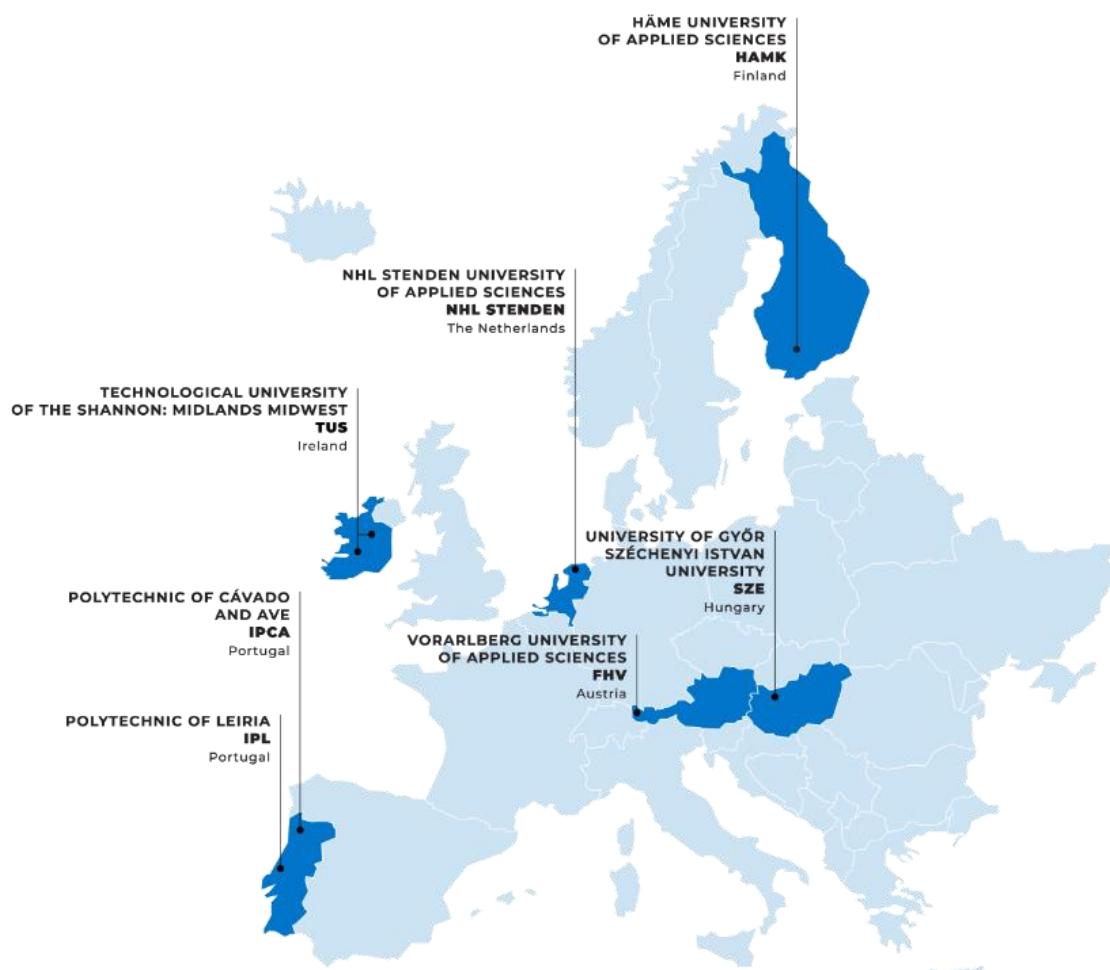


# OUR STUDENTS WILL INHERIT THE FUTURE

# DELIVERING FUTURE AND ADVANCED SKILLS FOR SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE EU REGIONS



## Who we are

RUN-EU is an alliance of seven like-minded higher education institutions drawn from all regions of Europe and established in 2020 under the [European Universities Initiative](#). We are creating a regional development-oriented European University that embodies the values of sustainability, multiculturalism, and inclusiveness in all its work. We focus on providing our students and regional stakeholders with the necessary skills to successfully meet the challenges of the future and have a positive impact on society.

## Our mission

We will strive to secure the sustainable economic, social, cultural, and environmental progress of our regions and stakeholders, by equipping our students, researchers, and academics with green, of their regions and reduce existing regional development disparities in the European Union. By 2030, RUN-EU will be a fully engaged European University that has developed a unique new type of multinational interregional alliance, a European Zone for Interregional Development.



**UNITED BY A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION MODEL**

## Our universities

**Polytechnic of Leiria** • Portugal

**Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest** • Ireland

**Polytechnic of Cávado and Ave** • Portugal

**Häme University of Applied Sciences HAMK** • Finland

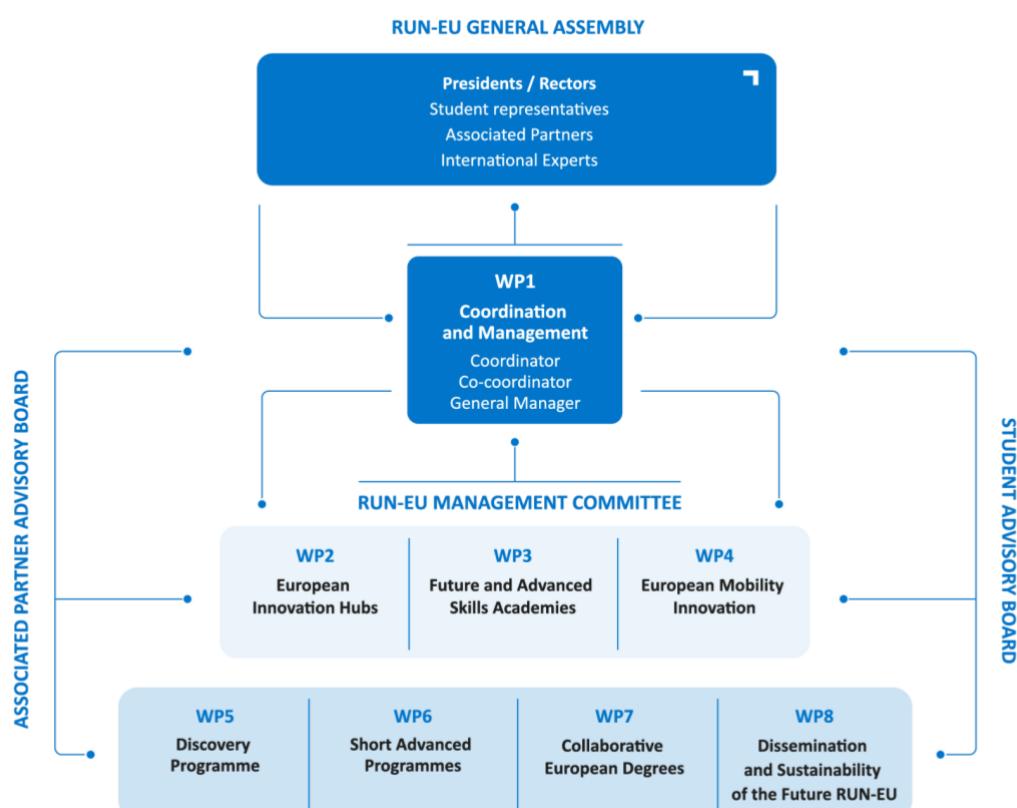
**University of Győr – Széchenyi István University** • Hungary

**NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences** • The Netherlands

**Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences** • Austria

## Coordination

As a geographically dispersed European University, RUN-EU relies on a robust and transparent management structure that uses international best practices to ensure the effective participation of all members. The development and implementation of our long-term vision goals are based on the activities of six work packages (WPs), while the governance, quality assurance, communication and dissemination of activities, and sustainability of the results are assured by WP1 and WP8.



# CO-CREATING THE FUTURE OF RUN-EU



The General Assembly is a strategic governing body that acts as a senate for the alliance and as a venue for the RUN-EU Student Week.

It meets once a year to discuss ways to improve cooperation between the seven higher education institution members and associated partners to achieve the goals of RUN-EU and cooperate towards the development of the associated regions.

It is composed of:

- the rectors and/or presidents of all the RUN-EU higher education institutions
- four elected representatives of the Associated Partner Advisory Board
- elected representatives from the Student Advisory Board (one per university)
- and international experts drawn from higher education, research and innovation, regional government, business, and society.

# **RUN-EU IS A SPACE FOR DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION, WHERE THE STUDENTS' VOICE IS HEARD AND PLAYS AN ACTIVE ROLE IN DECISION-MAKING**

## **The Student Advisory Board**

The Student Advisory Board (SAB) strategically advises the work of RUN-EU, with an emphasis on student engagement activities, inclusion, and multiculturalism, as well as on the implementation and format of the innovative mobility programmes.

Each member higher education institution has its own regional SAB, composed of 15 students (10 national and 5 international [from outside Europe]) who meet every six months to review and advise on the RUN-EU strategy, achievements and its impact at the institutional level.

During RUN-EU's Annual Student Week (organised during the General Assembly), the students that compose each regional board come together to integrate one general European SAB.

The European SAB then elects eight members (one per each RUN-EU alliance member) to participate in the RUN-EU General Assembly management meetings.

# **ENGAGING BUSINESS AND SOCIETY TO ESTABLISH A EUROPEAN ZONE FOR INTERREGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (EZ-ID)**

## **The Associated Partner Advisory Board**

The Associated Partner Advisory Board meets yearly (during the General Assembly meetings) to advise on the societal engagement of the universities of RUN-EU and the most urgent challenges to be tackled by our society, assuring the regional, national and international relevance of the alliance and its activities.

The group is composed of regional and national authorities, chambers of commerce, higher education institutions, research centres, international policy units, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and businesses.

ASSOCIATED PARTNERS	TYPE	COUNTRY
<a href="#">AIT Enterprise Forum</a>	Enterprise/Higher Education Institution	Ireland
<a href="#">AUDI Hungária Zrt.</a>	Enterprise	Hungary
<a href="#">Business Association of the Leiria Region (NERLEI)</a>	NGO	Portugal
<a href="#">Centre of Expertise Water Technology / WaterCampus Leeuwarden</a>	Research Centre	The Netherlands
<a href="#">Centro Regional Coordination and Development Commission (CCDR-C)</a>	Public Body	Portugal
<a href="#">Circular Friesland Association</a>	NGO	The Netherlands
<a href="#">CONFIRM</a>	Research Centre/Enterprise	Ireland
<a href="#">Dutch TechZone</a>	NGO	The Netherlands
<a href="#">Fáilte Ireland</a>	NGO	Ireland
<a href="#">Győr Philharmonic Orchestra</a>	NGO	Hungary
<a href="#">Hämeen Yrittäjät</a>	NGO	Finland

ASSOCIATED PARTNERS	TYPE	COUNTRY
IAPMEI	Public body	Portugal
Industriellenvereinigung Vorarlberg (Federation of Austrian Industries)	NGO/Lobby Organisation	Austria
Innovate Limerick	Public Body	Ireland
Innovatiepact Fryslân (Innovation Pact Friesland)	NGO	The Netherlands
International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory	Research Centre	Portugal
InvestBraga	Private Agency of Public Interest	Portugal
Irish Bioeconomy Foundation	NGO	Ireland
Irish Development Agency Ireland	Semi-State Body	Ireland
Limerick Chamber of Commerce	Public Body	Ireland
Limerick City and County Council	Public Body	Ireland
Limerick for Engineering	NGO	Ireland
MediKlaszter	NGO	Hungary
Midlands Regional Skills Forum	Enterprise – Upskilling Training	Ireland
Municipality of Győr	Municipality	Hungary
Norte Regional Coordination and Development Commission (CCDR-N)	Public Body	Portugal
OECD Higher Education Policy Team	Worldwide Policy Unit	Worldwide
PH Vorarlberg: Pädagogische Hochschule Vorarlberg	Higher Education Institution	Austria
Province of Fryslân	Public Body	The Netherlands
Regional Council of Häme	Public body	Finland
SPEAK	NGO	Portugal
Tourism Collective Friesland	NGO	The Netherlands
Vorarlberger Landesregierung	Government	Austria
Wirtschafts-Standort Vorarlberg GmbH (WISTO)	NGO	Austria

## Our journey

When RUN-EU was launched, in 2020, it promised to transform higher education in Europe, create opportunity, and enrich society. One year has passed since then and RUN-EU has established the pillars for sustainable and long-term cooperation between all member universities and partners in the collaborative co-design and co-creation of pedagogical, research, innovation, and engagement activities.

The main achievements of this first year are on track with the goals proposed for the establishment of a true pan-European University focused on delivering future and advanced skills programmes and becoming an engine of regional development.

In the years ahead, the alliance aims to share best practices and positively influence the future strategies of each of its seven higher education institutions, as well as wider European agendas, including the development of the European Education Area, the European Commission Higher Education Policy and the renewed European Union agenda for higher education.

## First year achievements and plans

### WP1 – Coordination and Management

WP1 lays the foundations of the cooperative work, management, and quality assurance of the alliance. Based on a set of internal guidance tools, WP1 carries out regular (online and face-to-face) transnational meetings, assures the communication and engagement of all members, guarantees the project monitoring, quality control and evaluation of the results, and produces official reports.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of management tools: Project Management and Quality Handbook</li> <li>• Regular RUN-EU coordination and management meetings</li> <li>• First RUN-EU General Assembly</li> <li>• Monitoring, quality control and evaluation tools: Evaluation Plan and first Report</li> <li>• Collaboration with the European Commission (EC) and other European University alliances           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– European Higher Education and Research Transformation Agenda.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project management, including:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Project Management Committee Meeting (March 2022, NHL Stenden)</li> <li>– General Assembly (October 2022, HAMK)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Monitoring, Quality Control and Evaluation and progress report</li> <li>• Collaboration with the EC and other European Universities on the European Higher Education and Research Transformation Agenda and challenges facing the European Universities</li> <li>• Long-term funding and further roll-out in the framework of the EC European Universities Initiative.</li> </ul>

## WP2 – European Innovation Hubs

WP2 focuses on the creation and growth of sustainable cutting-edge knowledge networks to drive innovation and collaboration in the RUN-EU target areas (Future Industry and Sustainable Regional Development, Bioeconomy, and Social Innovation). It will develop advanced, pan-European Innovation Hubs that will bring together challenge-based international research teams and the RUN-EU associated partners.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Detailed audit and characterisation of the existing regional innovation clusters, Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) teams and their activities</li><li>• European Innovation Hubs Strategic Plan</li><li>• Memorandum of Understanding between RUN-EU and Regional Government Partners on the Development of a European Zone of Interregional Development (EZ-ID)</li><li>• First networking meeting with RUN-EU associated partners and regional stakeholders (June 2021, Online)</li><li>• RUN-EU European Innovation Hubs Virtual Conference (November 2021, TUS and online).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of sustainable strategies for the co-design of the European Innovation Hubs</li><li>• Establishment of the first RUN-EU European Innovation Hub</li><li>• Multinational spinout and SME support infrastructure</li><li>• Sustainable, regional, and interregional Innovation and Development</li><li>• Identification of interregional education and training opportunities and future skills needs</li><li>• Development of a European Innovation Hubs Operational Report.</li></ul>

## WP3 – Future and Advanced Skills Academies

WP3 is responsible for designing future and advanced skills programmes based on innovative pedagogical models and practices to provide students with challenging and flexible learning experiences containing the most up-to-date knowledge and skills in cutting-edge areas.

The Future and Advanced Skills Academies (FASA) also assess the relevance and quality of the RUN-EU's Short Advanced Programmes and Double and Joint Degree Programmes.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Central FASA and eight Institutional FASAs</li> <li>• Skills Bulletin and Framework for innovative pedagogical approaches and good practices report</li> <li>• First edition of the Continuous Development Advanced Programme for teachers</li> <li>• First International Design Factory Bootcamp for teachers</li> <li>• Pedagogical guide for SAPs and Joint Degree Programmes implementation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of the Central FASA and the Institutional FASA</li> <li>• Promotion of best pedagogical practices for new Short Advanced Programmes and collaborative degrees to deliver the future skills</li> <li>• Assessment of the relevance and quality of the RUN-EU innovative educational offers</li> <li>• Design Factory Bootcamp and Continuous Development Advanced Programme for teachers</li> <li>• Design Factory Workshop for students</li> <li>• FASA new skills programme annual Relevance, Quality, and Impact report – second report</li> <li>• Framework for innovative pedagogical approaches, good practices, and Skills Bulletins.</li> </ul>

## WP4 – European Mobility Innovation

WP4 defines the joint RUN-EU mobility strategy and mobility matrix to facilitate and promote an increase in student, researcher, and staff mobility opportunities within RUN-EU. The European Mobility Innovation Centre has the mission to build and share expertise in innovative international student and staff mobility in European higher education and to monitor the quality of the mobilities enabling the achievement of the defined goals.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Evaluation of current models of students and staff mobility.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consolidate joint RUN-EU mobility strategy and mobility matrix</li><li>European Mobility Innovation Centre to build and share expertise on innovation in international student and staff mobility</li><li>Student-centred information materials</li><li>Promote multilingualism and multiculturalism network.</li></ul>

## WP5 – Discovery Programme

WP5 focuses on the operationalisation of the RDI activities, through strong collaboration between regional innovation clusters and the European Innovation Hubs. It will create future-looking joint RDI teams and procedures to increase and embed sustainable interregional research and innovation projects across the RUN-EU alliance.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit and characterisation of the RUN-EU RDI units</li> <li>• RUN-EU research framework</li> <li>• Research and innovation teams           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– RUN-EU collaborative projects: 30 project submissions, 16 projects approved, and 6 joint supervisions (PhD and master's students)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Design of the RUN-EU international RDI mobility programme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RUN-EU Discovery Programme (internship programme for the mobility of research students and staff), including:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 4-week mobility for research staff – 36 grants</li> <li>– 12-week mobility for research staff – 12 grants</li> <li>– 4-week mobility for research and postgraduate students – 36 grants</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Support work of international research and innovation teams</li> <li>• Joint research and innovation projects.</li> </ul>

## WP6 – Short Advanced Programmes

WP6 designs and delivers Short Advanced Programmes (SAPs) based on transnational curricula, and focuses on the future and advanced skills needs, enabling the promotion of flexible international mobility of students, innovative pedagogies, and blended learning activities.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First report on SAP opportunities, with 80 initial proposals in Phase 1 and 24 “Green” SAPs ready to start in Phase 2</li><li>• Groundwork for the implementation of the SAPs: foundational principles, shared definition, distinctive features, critical information elements, typologies, minimum requirements, and collaborative approach</li><li>• Eight SAPs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Audits and characterisations of the existing programmes and areas of cooperation</li><li>• Support design and delivery of 24 SAPs</li><li>• 336 students and 48 academic staff mobility activities</li><li>• Digital platform for the RUN-EU SAPs proposal, dissemination, application, and management.</li></ul>

## WP7 – Collaborative European Degrees

WP7 aims to design and deliver collaborative European degrees, which will include regionally relevant Double Degree Programmes and Joint Programmes (bachelor's, master's, and PhD) based on transnational curricula and focusing on the future and advanced skills needs, enabling the promotion of flexible international mobility of students, innovative pedagogies and blended learning activities.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of guidelines and practical toolkit for the development of Collaborative European Degrees</li> <li>• Report on relevant national and European legislation and regulation impacting Double Degree Programme and Joint Programme design</li> <li>• Creation of an Interuniversity Recognition Team</li> <li>• Identification of more than 250 potential Collaborative Degree Programmes within the RUN-EU network</li> <li>• Organisation of five online Group Exploratory Missions, with 175 programme directors and university management team members.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four double degrees, involving 32 students in mobility actions of 12-week duration and eight teachers in mobility actions of 2-week duration</li> <li>• Design of Double Degree Programmes and Joint Programmes</li> <li>• Organisation of 16 Exploratory Missions and eight Design Missions, involving 72 staff mobility activities</li> <li>• Creation of a Recognition Manual.</li> </ul>

## WP8 – Dissemination and Sustainability of the Future RUN-EU

WP8 implements the communication, dissemination and exploitation strategies linked to all work packages, reflected in the establishment/promotion of a sound and consistent brand, in the creation/animation of the communication channels (particularly the website and social media), in the development and distribution of several attractive promotional materials and the organisation of dissemination and exploitation events.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS	PLANS FOR THE SECOND YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of the RUN-EU Communication and Dissemination Strategy</li><li>• Creation of the RUN-EU website, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn</li><li>• Development of the RUN-EU Brand Book</li><li>• Dissemination of the conference ‘European Universities: pioneering transformation in education, research and innovation’, organised in the framework of the Portuguese Presidency of the European Council (April 2021, Leiria and online)</li><li>• Dissemination of the first RUN-EU General Assembly and Students Week (including four SAPs with 94 students and nine teachers).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New RUN-EU website and promotional brochure</li><li>• Social media channels, newsletter, online leaflets, and regular press releases</li><li>• Raise awareness for the alliance among the target groups and enhance RUN-EU internal and external communication</li><li>• Development of an Exploitation Strategy</li><li>• RUN-EU events, including the second RUN-EU Students’ Week (October 2022, HAMK).</li></ul>

# GET INVOLVED

RUN-EU has a wide range of events  
and activities planned for you.  
Find out what we have to offer  
and join our community as we build  
the University of the Future.

[www.run-eu.eu](http://www.run-eu.eu)



Technological University of the Shannon:  
Midlands Midwest  
Ollscoil Teangeolaíochta na Sionainne:  
Lár Tíre Iarthar Lár



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Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

The content of this publication represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for  
use that may be made of the information it contains.  
Grant Agreement Number: 101004068.