

The Alliance 4 Universities

OPERA

15 years in Brussels!!!



UAB
Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

UAM
Universidad Autónoma
de Madrid

uc3m
Universidad
Carlos III
de Madrid

upf. Universitat
Pompeu Fabra
Barcelona

OPERA: the Office for the Promotion of European Research Activities

A-4U

Objectives and Joint Actions



1. **Promotion of European research** activities through a permanent office in Brussels (OPERA), which facilitates participation of A-4U researchers in European programmes and decision-making



2. **IUNE Observatory** an information database for the evaluation of research in Spanish universities, recognised by the Ministry of Education of Spain



3. **Common strategy of internationalisation**
Russia, India, Iran, ASEAN, Africa:
South, West...
4. **Joint undergraduate programmes**
Philosophy, Politics and Economics (since 2013)
Sciences (since 2020)
Science, Technology and Humanities (since 2021)
Partially English-taught

What is **Alliance** **4 Universities?**

A strategic partnership of 4 leading
Spanish Public Universities

4 Universities

2 Cities

1 Alliance



MADRID

Universidad Autónoma
de Madrid

Universidad Carlos III
de Madrid



BARCELONA

Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona






Universitat Pompeu Fabra
de Barcelona

Why this Alliance?


- A-4U members are **4 public universities** which are national leaders in teaching and research. All four are in **Top rankings at European and worldwide level**
- A-4U members have a **Common strategy of internationalization**
- Support by the **Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)** and the **Spanish Institute of Foreign Trade (ICEX)**








Key Universities Figures at Alliance 4 Universities

University Figures	 UAB Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	 UAM Universidad Autónoma de Madrid	 uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	 upf. Universitat Pompeu Fabra Barcelona	
Founded in	1968	1968	1989	1990	2009
Total number of Students (22/23)	35.015	30.477	24.641	13.005	103.138
... of which PhD Students	4.587	4.164	1.301	1.288	11.340
Positions in Rankings					
QS 2024	149	199	319	310	n/a
THE 2024	201-250	351-400	801-1000	201-250	n/a

Key
Universities
Figures at
Alliance 4
Universities

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Horizon 2020 (Nr Projects)					
Cross Theme (EIC-FTI)	1	0	0	0	1
Euratom	2	3	1	1	7
Excellent Science	115	81	60	115	371
ERC	27	18	15	33	93
FET	7	8	14	9	38
MSCA	73	51	26	63	213
Research Infrastructures	8	4	5	10	27
Industrial Leadership	13	4	46	18	81
Advanced manufacturing	1	0	1	0	2
Biotechnology	3	3	0	0	6
ICT	7	0	37	18	62
Space	2	1	8	0	11
Science with and for Society	7	1	5	7	20
Societal Challenges	52	15	22	22	116
Climate	16	1	0	0	17
Innovative Societies	11	2	3	11	27
Food	9	4	1	0	14
Health	3	6	1	12	22
Secure Societies	5	0	6	4	15
Energy	3	2	0	0	5
Transport	5	0	11	0	16
Widening	3	0	1	0	4
TOTAL	193	104	135	168	600
TOTAL (EU Net Contribution M€)	85,0	40,4	64,1	83,6	273,0

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HORIZON EUROPE (Nr Projects)					
Pillar I: Excellence Science	69	36	20	54	179
ERC	25	3	2	20	50
MSCA	42	29	15	31	117
Research Infrastructures	2	4	3	3	12
Pillar II: Global Challenges	53	11	36	20	120
Climate, Energy and Mobility	10	1	9	0	20
Culture, creativity and inclusive society	18	3	7	3	31
Digital, Industry and Space	7	2	20	6	35
FOOD, Bioeconomy Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment	13	2	0	3	18
Health	5	3	0	8	16
Pillar III: Innovative Europe	2	7	2	3	14
European innovation ecosystems	0	1	0	0	1
EIC	2	6	2	3	13
WIDERA	2	1	1	3	7
Widening	0	0	1	3	4
ERA	2	1	0	0	3
TOTAL	126	55	59	80	320
TOTAL (EU Net Contribution M€)	71,41	15,35	21,17	42,77	150,7

Research at Alliance 4 Universities

A-4U enhances the strategic collaboration between Madrid and Barcelona as the two most R&D intensive regions in Spain



6,26%

of the Permanent Research and Teaching Staff in the Spanish University System



17%

of the scientific production (papers) in the Spanish University System



22,5

Cites per publications



12%

funding from Spanish R&I National Program



600 H2020

projects with a total EU-funding of **273 M €**



58,81%

of the sci papers with International Collaboration



320 HE

projects with a total EU-funding of **150 M €**

OPERA – Added Value



Promotion of European research activities through a permanent office in Brussels (OPERA), which facilitates participation of A-4U researchers in European programmes and decision-making

- ✓ Radar to strategic information and opportunities (new programs, new initiatives)
- ✓ Digestion of all the information created daily in Brussels and inform adequately the Unis Research Support Offices (periodic bulletins and dedicated emails)
- ✓ Meeting spaces for University Researchers
- ✓ Participation in brokerage events and position research and researchers

OPERA – Examples



Meeting SouthAfrica Embassy – CoRE – The Guild-ARUA – African Innovation Agenda



ARMA-NL Diversity in RSOs



Meeting Science Business Blue Economy



EUTOPIA European University Creation EU Parliament



EU Project Policy Papers Presentation



Deep Tech – Spanish Presidency – Brussels

Thank you for your attention



For more information:

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