



Universities Informal Liaison Offices

UnILiON

*Your gateway to more than 150
excellent universities around the world*

2024



Salla Kaasamainen
Deputy Director General
Joint Research Centre

Alessandro Allegra
Case Director of Science for Policy activities in the
Department of Economic Research and Innovation

Mariel Attans
Secretary General of Leaps

Paolo Lugli
Rector, Free University of
Bozen-Bolzano

Ariel Stanculescu
Vice President for Life Economics and
Management at Babeş-Bolyai University

Peter Székely
Vice Rector, Finance and Administration

Moderator:
Massimo Burselli, Director of UNILION Office



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What UnLiON is...

- An **informal network** of over 50 university liaison offices collaborating together in Brussels and representing **more than 150 universities**.
- An effective **information multiplier**.
- “*A single entry point to a world of excellent universities*” – thanks to UnLiON you can easily **access** some of the most active research, higher education and innovation players in Europe and beyond.
- “*A **gateway** to European Institutions and partners*” for the universities participating in UnLiON.



What UnLiON is not...

- a **lobbying** entity
- a **formal** organisation aimed at representing interests
- a network, which submits **common position papers**



Member roles	Main tasks	Working Groups
Chair: Massimo Busuoli	Secretariat coordination, external liaison, working groups coordination dialogue, and UnLiON4UKRAINE implementation.	
Deputy-Chair: Charlotte Eide	Alternate of the Chair, organizing focus talks and strategic dialogues.	
External Communications: Orsolya Lugmayer	Management of website, guest mailing list, LinkedIn, annual event initiator and responsible for UnLiON labelling procedure.	
Collaboration Facilitator / Brokerage Events: Aiki Varella	Coordination of the brokerage events organisation and facilitation of lower-scale follow-ups.	
Open Talks Responsible: Gregg Jones	Definition of the annual programme of open talks and revision of the current instrument and procedures.	
Dialogue Facilitation and Enhanced Cooperation: Eric Foucher	Exploitation of the network as a tool and proposal of relevant initiatives where members can participate at “variable geometry” level.	
Treasurer: Fèlix Ruiz Cabre	Financial oversight and membership management.	
Socialisation / Membership Relations/Engagement: Ignasi Salvado	Planning of social activities and team-building events, and in charge of the mid-term evaluation and monitoring of members’ engagement.	
Special Advisor: Karl Stoeckel	Ensuring continuity with the previous Secretariat with the possibility to get engaged in specific tasks.	



Working Groups

- Horizon Europe and Future Policy
- Innovation
- International Cooperation
- Excellence (hybrid)
- Higher Education (hybrid)



...and, if necessary, several task forces, e.g. for brokerage events & annual events

...Members have the opportunity to set up new WGs



Activities

UnLiON Core Meetings

knowledge and intelligence sharing, peer support, sparring partners, find partners for joint EU funding programme proposals, steer the network, etc.

UnLiON Open Talks

presentations from the European Institutions on the **latest policy developments and funding programmes**; informal platform for debates; open to external participants

UnLiON Social

informal get together, **network** and have fun



Selling UnLiON @home

UnLiON colleagues

- are your sparring partners to help you to **timely and better understand R&I and Education policy developments**
- are your entry ticket to help you find **partners for your European projects**

UnLiON

- gives your office **visibility**



How to engage

Are you interested in cooperating with UnLiON?

- We can:**
- Be your **gateway** to more than 150 excellent universities
 - Provide **access to potential partners** for collaborative projects either directly or by co-hosting consortia building activities
 - Represent an **efficient information multiplier** towards our network participants
 - Inspire our universities to **contribute/participate** to specific actions/surveys/events



Eligibility criteria for membership

In order to qualify

You should

- be a **Brussels-based liaison office** representing one or multiple universities, or
- a Brussels-based liaison office of a higher education institution (granting diplomas or titles recognized by the state) performing research activities.

On top of that

The CORE Groups checks

- if membership applications are in line with the **approved guidelines** of the network.
- If the applicant fits the spirit of UnLiON (focused on the network's scope and aims, actively involved in UniLiON activities, being trustworthy, inspiring etc.).

The CORE Group makes the final decision to grant the membership status.

THANK YOU!



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INFO



www.unilion.eu



Secretariat: secretariat@unilion.eu



Chair: chair@unilion.eu