

## 2023 EUA-CDE THEMATIC WORKSHOP

# Sustainability in doctoral education: Developing a strategic approach

Hosted by University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca  
19-20 January 2023 | Cluj-Napoca, Romania

### **Programme**

EUA-CDE's vision for the future of doctoral education in Europe asks universities to "embrace the Sustainable Development Goals as a holistic framework providing a context for and supporting the delivery of doctoral education". An essential part of this framework, though not the only one, is the climate crisis and its impact on the provision of doctoral education. Institutions are hereby asked to "green" doctoral education so that they can adapt, tackle the challenges the world is confronted with and comply with their societal roles. This includes several key aspects, including the short- and long-term mobility of doctoral candidates, digitalisation and access to research infrastructures and new skills needs and career profiles.

According to a survey with participants of the 2022 EUA-CDE Annual Meeting in June, there is still a great majority of doctoral schools and programmes in Europe that do not have a greening and sustainability strategy in place. This is in contrast to universities, where most institutions have developed such a strategy. In preparing future generations of researchers and knowledge workers, doctoral education has a unique contribution to make to this topic and specific interests. This results in the need to develop a strategic approach to the subject. Indeed, creating such a strategic approach will be the topic of the 2023 EUA-CDE Thematic Workshop. Through panel discussions and interactive formats, EUA-CDE member universities will come together to discuss how doctoral education can tackle climate change, contribute to achieving the SDGs and be ready for the challenging future to come.

### **Thursday 19 January 2023**

08:30 – 17:00 EET *Registration desk*

08:30 – 09:30 EET *Welcome coffee*

09:30- 12:00 **Pre-meeting session: Co-tutelles at European universities** (*No. of participants limited*)

This additional workshop session follows the EUA-CDE Thematic Peer Group on co-tutelles and joint doctorates, and serves two purposes. Firstly, to share the findings of [the publication](#) resulting from this working group with the EUA-CDE community and a wider group of stakeholders. And secondly, to enable a discussion on the challenges identified in the report with the participants and possible solutions in small groups.

- 09:30 – 10:15      Panel discussion
- Laurinda Leite, Chair of the EUA-CDE Thematic Peer Group “Co-tutelles and Joint Doctorates”; Professor at the Institute of Education, University of Minho, Portugal
- Chair: Martine Rahier, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member, Vice-President, European University Association*
- 10:15 – 11:30      Gallery walk
- Small groups of participants will circulate among flipcharts containing key questions and are invited to discuss the issue together and write their comments underneath, as well as to comment on the statements of other groups.
- Building an institution-wide strategy***
- Moderator: Emer Cunningham, Head of Graduate Research & Strategic Development, University College Dublin
- Administrative procedures***
- Moderator: Luisa Lorenzi, Administrative Head of the Doctoral School, University of Milan Bicocca
- “Alternatives” and different kinds of co-tutelles***
- Moderator: Ana-Maria Peneoasu, Policy & Project Officer, EUA-CDE
- Doctoral candidates’ experience***
- Moderator: Alexander Schwarzkopf, Program Manager for International Mobility of Early-Stage Researchers, Friedrich Schiller University of Jena
- 11:30 – 12:00      Report of the gallery walk and final discussion
- 12:00 – 13:00      *Lunch*
- 13:00 – 13:30      **Official opening**
- Ligia Deca, Minister of Education, Romania
  - Emil Boc, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca city, Romania (video message)
  - Cornel Cătoi, Rector, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania
  - Aleksandra Kanjuo Mrčela, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair; former Head of the Doctoral School and Professor of Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

13:30 – 14:30

**Plenary session I****Developing institutional practices in creating sustainable and green doctoral education**

Greening and sustainability are holistic endeavours that affect the whole university. In this introductory session, we will describe what a strategic approach to this might look like.

- Douglas Halliday, Director of the Global Challenge Centre for Doctoral Training, Durham University, UK; former Chair of the Executive Committee, UK Council for Graduate Education
- Santiago García-Granda, President of the Commission for Agenda 2030, Conference of the Rectors of the Spanish Universities (CRUE), Spain
- Ylva Hillbur, Pro Vice-Chancellor for International Relations, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden

*Chair: Peter Hanenberg, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member; Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, Catholic University of Portugal, Portugal*

14:30 – 15:00

*Group photo followed by coffee break*

15:00 – 16:30

**Breakout sessions*****Greening of doctoral schools' activities***

*This session will address the question of how doctoral education activities, such as use of energy, waste management or the organisation of events can better account for the environment.*

*Chair: Irma Grdzeldze, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member; Head of Quality Assurance Service, Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia*

***Opportunities and challenges of digitalisation for sustainable doctoral education***

*This session will look at how digitalisation can lead to a more sustainable doctoral education.*

*Chair: Alexander Hasgall, Head of EUA-CDE*

***Role of doctoral candidates and doctoral education in green innovation***

*How will sustainability affect researchers' careers?*

*Chair: Andrei Terian-Dan, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member; Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation & Internationalisation, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania*

***Green technologies, research infrastructures and the environmental impact of lab research***

*This session will discuss how technological developments are related to greening.*

*Chair: Paolo Biscari, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member; Former Dean of the Doctoral School and Professor in Condensed Matter Physics, Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy*

16:30 – 17:15

**Plenary session II****The SDGs: How to maintain the basic research focus while contributing to address global challenges**

Transforming the world to be more sustainable requires addressing fundamental technological, economic, social and cultural issues. At the same time, given the urgency of the issue, there is often a focus on applied research which promises fast results. This panel will discuss the relationship between these two areas and how this can create new potential for collaborations between academia and industry and for developing doctoral candidates' careers.

- Michel Spiro, President, International Union of Pure and Applied Physics; former President, CERN Council; Chair of the UNESCO International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development in 2022

*Chair: Åse Gornitzka, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member; Pro-Rector, University of Oslo, Norway*

19:00 – 22:30

*Reception and Gala dinner (Ball Room, Radisson Blu Hotel, Aleea Stadionului 1, Cluj-Napoca 400372)*

**Friday 20 January 2023**

09:00 – 10:00 EET

**Plenary session III****Mobility and global collaboration: How to make it sustainable and impactful?**

Climate change and the impact of air travel on the environment have challenged the current practice of academic travel. This has been exacerbated by the increasing use of digital communication tools. This session will discuss how this change can be organised in a way that ensures both exchange (whether researchers or staff) and geographical diversity and inclusion.

- Sohail Luka, Policy Officer, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, European Commission
- Karl Kilbo Edlund, Doctoral Training Working Group Co-coordinator, European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers (Eurodoc); Doctoral candidate, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Angeliki Psychogyiou, Policy & Project Officer, Academic Cooperation Association (ACA)
- Laura Gallardo Klenner, Director for Postgraduate Studies, University of Chile, Chile

*Chair: Aleksandra Kanjuo Mrčela, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair; former Head of the Doctoral School and Professor of Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia*

10:00 – 10:30

*Coffee break*

10:30 – 11:45

**World Café**

Based on the exchanges of the previous day, this world café session will focus on what key elements of a sustainability strategy can be, what principles they should follow and how the different elements of doctoral education's response to the climate crisis are being connected to other Sustainable Development Goals. Four tables will be dedicated to an SDG, and participants will discuss how greening can be strategically connected to these SDGs.

Table 1: Gender equality

*Chair: Aleksandra Kanjuo Mrčela, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair; former Head of the Doctoral School and Professor of Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia*

Table 2: Mental health and wellbeing

*Chair: Paolo Biscari, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Member; Former Dean of the Doctoral School and Professor in Condensed Matter Physics, Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy*

Table 3: Reducing inequality

*Chair: Alexander Hasgall, Head of EUA-CDE*

Table 4: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

*Chair: Stephane Berghmans, Director for Research & Innovation, European University Association*

11:45 – 12:30

**Final panel**

Report of the breakout sessions

*Chair: Alexander Hasgall, Head of EUA-CDE*

12:30 – 13:00

**Closing session**

- Andrei Mihalca, Vice-Rector for International Relations, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania

*Chair: Aleksandra Kanjuo Mrčela, EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair*

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 18:00

*Social programme (Turda Salt Mine)*