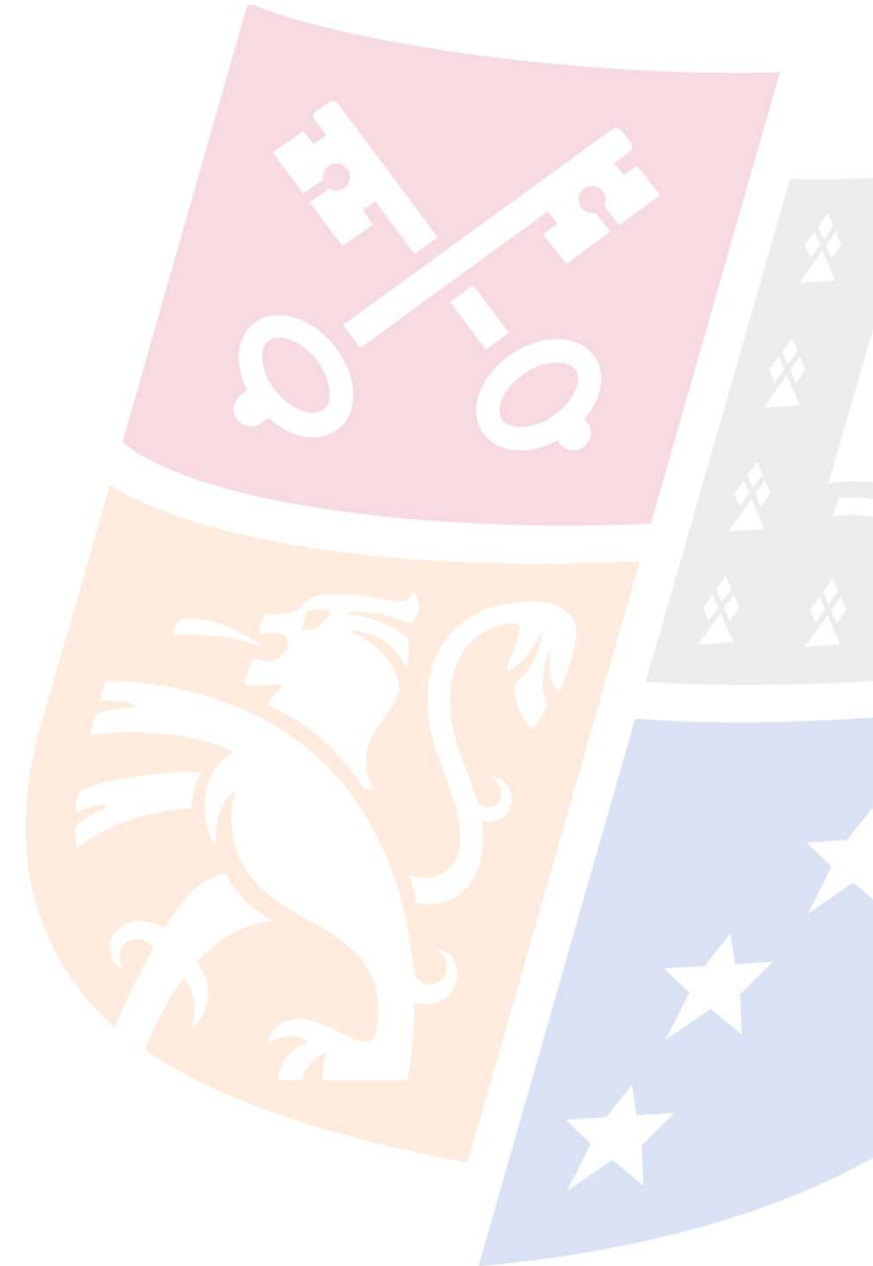




Université
Catholique
de Lille 1875

With great power comes great responsibility

Pr. Ioannis PANOUSSIS - 2026 EUA annual conference



Université Catholique de Lille

- **Since 1875**
- Rooted in the Christian humanist tradition
- Founded by Camille Feron-Vrau, doctor in medicine and entrepreneur , and Philibert Vrau, industrialist



Largest private not-for-profit university in France

Triple mission

- Teaching
- Research
- Service to society

*We place the individual at the heart of our concerns - **We care***

Values

- Solidarity and fraternity
- Awareness-raising and education
- Openness to the world and recognition of otherness
- Responsibility towards others and the planet
- Full and complete commitment
- Ethics in all our actions

Key figures 2026

INSTITUTIONS & PARTNERSHIPS



23

training institutions



360

degree programs



9

health and social care institutions



2,000

beds in the hospital group & assisted living facilities



580+

partner universities worldwide

HEADCOUNT



43,000

students



8,800+

international students



500+

student associations



900

academic staff (teaching & research)



7,000

staff members

Two initiatives to put our values into practice

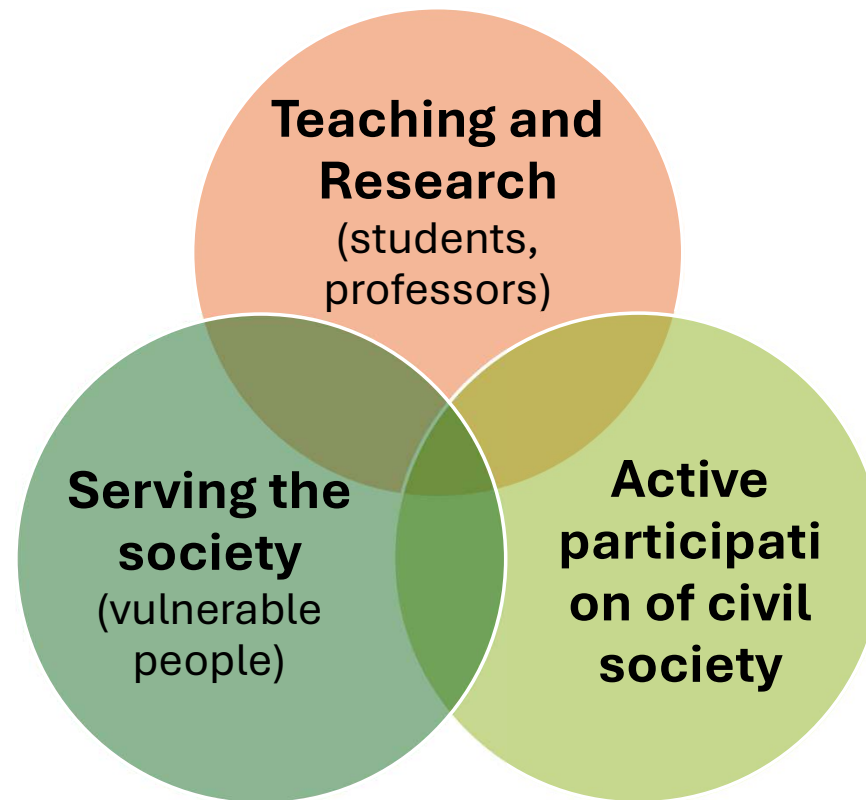
HUMANICITE
neighbourhood



Law Bus
Bus de l'Accès au Droit



Committed to society and the common good



Humanité



“Living together” as a shared project

CARING

- Dependant elderly people
- People in highly precarious situations
- Patients in palliative care
- Children or adults with severe disabilities

INCLUDING

- Economic inclusion
- Social inclusion
- Generational inclusion

INNOVATING

- Creating a social innovation district that benefits everyone
- Sustainable, vibrant and community-focused neighbourhood

BRINGING TOGETHER

- All kinds of activities:
 - Housing
 - Businesses, shops and services
 - Health, medical and social services
 - Academic life
 - Cultural activities

CONNECTING

- Immediate connection with our hospitals
- Between two cities and the MEL
- University
- Associations
- ...

BUILDING

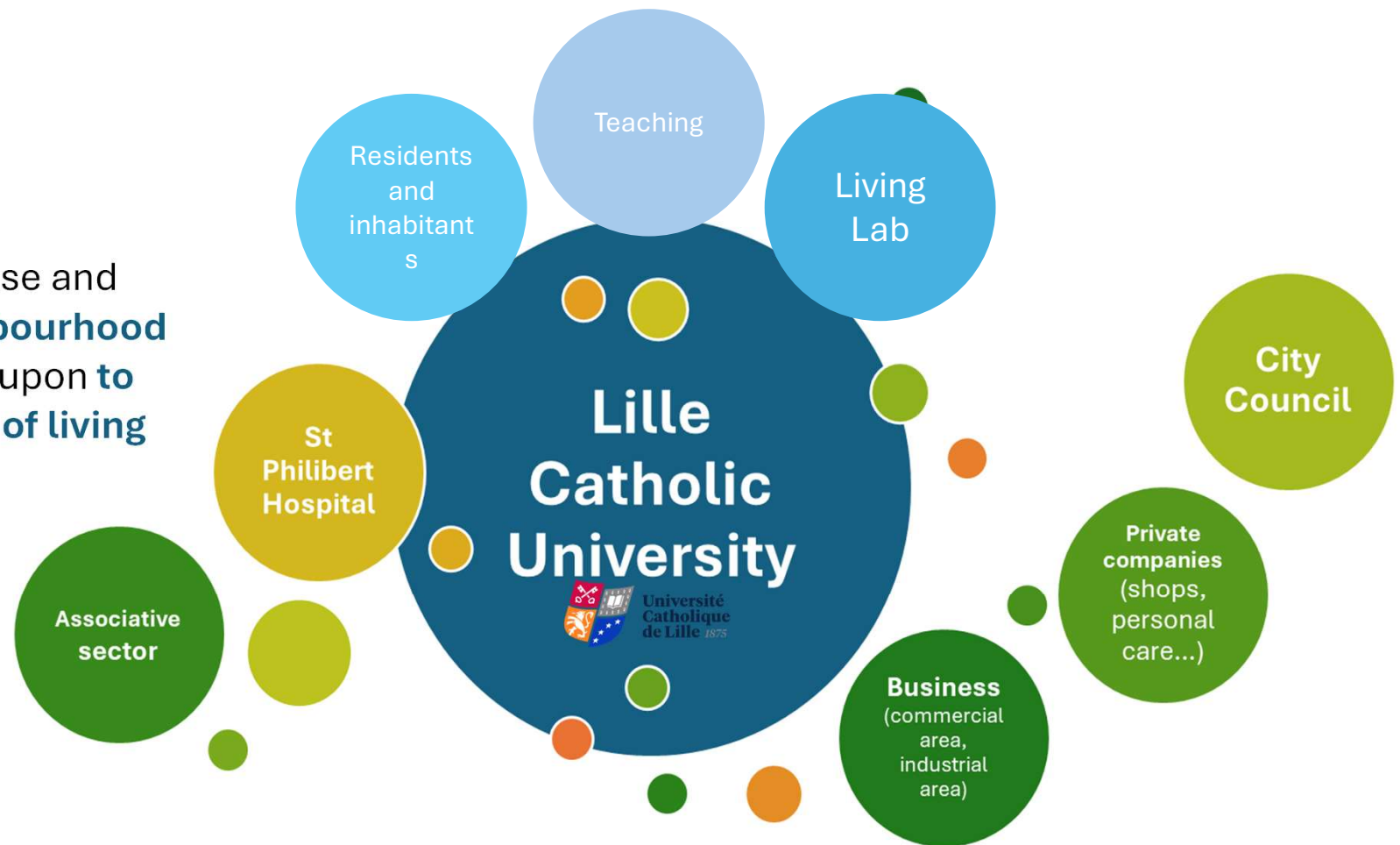
- Relational and protective urban planning (SDG's)
- A community of inhabitants, residents, students... in blocks encourages diversity

A living space created with and by the residents

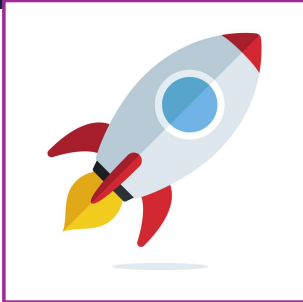
The city as a common good, enabling everyone to flourish

A diverse and active group of stakeholders

All the actors in this sustainable, intense and **solidarity-based neighbourhood** in the making are called upon to **invent a rewarding way of living together**.



A social innovation district that benefits everyone



Challenges

- **Fostering** a sense of community (local governance)
- Placing the **University at the heart of the project**
- Developing the **research aspects** of the project
- Maintaining **financial stability**
- **Working with** local councils, architects, urban planners, lawyers, doctors



Benefits

- **Integration** of vulnerable people and ordinary people (offer of specialised services as daily life services)
- Development of the **Living Lab** methodology
 - Active participation
 - Shared governance
 - Co-creation and coproduction
 - Constant exchange of knowledge

Committed to society and the common good

- Our initial and permanent goal of **serving the community** has been reached.
- The triple mission is animated:

Education

Provided through:

- **Faculty of Medicine**, Midwifery, and Health Sciences
- **student experience** at *Ensembl*

Research

Conducted through:

- **Living Lab *Ensembl*** (as research field, research object, and ongoing methodology)
- **ETHICS academic research unit**
- **clinical research** at the University hospitals

Service to society

Provided through:

- Saint François de Sales **nursing home**
- **Saint Philibert Hospital**
- **activities** developed in conjunction with the University in this new urban residential district



Humanité in 1983

St Philibert Hospital (built in 1977)

+

Metro station (opened in 1983)

Humanité in 2026



Humanicité in figures



2 500
inhabitants



670
Positions
established

(including 370 jobs created
at Humanicité since 2010)



900
lodgings



257
residents
(including 175 in medically supervised
residences and 82 in nursing homes)



2 200
employees
(including 1 500 University
hospital group employees)



475
patient beds



1 100
students

Law Bus

Bus de l'Accès au Droit



Law Bus

Free, walk-in legal consultations

Many **people do not exercise their rights** due to geographical distance, financial constraints, social barriers, or the perception that the legal system is complex and intimidating.



.At the beginning... Regional **Law Bar**, National Law Bar, **City halls** and mayors

.Then... **Associations** (Soup Kitchen, care for people with intellectual disabilities, migrant people)

.And recently... **Governmental structures** (child welfare)

Professional lawyers deliver legal consultations with the active involvement of **law students**.

Restore access to justice



Challenges

- Getting **regional and national Bars** to buy the idea
- **Involving professional lawyers** volunteering daily
- Strike the **right balance** with government services
- Extension to **academic research** activities



Benefits

- **Commitment to serving** the most vulnerable
- **Impact** on territory
- Strong **professional links** between the Law Faculty and legal professionals
- **Student training**
- Implementation of **Service-Learning**

Service Learning?

The **Law Bus** is fully embedded within a **Service-Learning** framework, structured around 3 key dimensions:

▪ Academic study

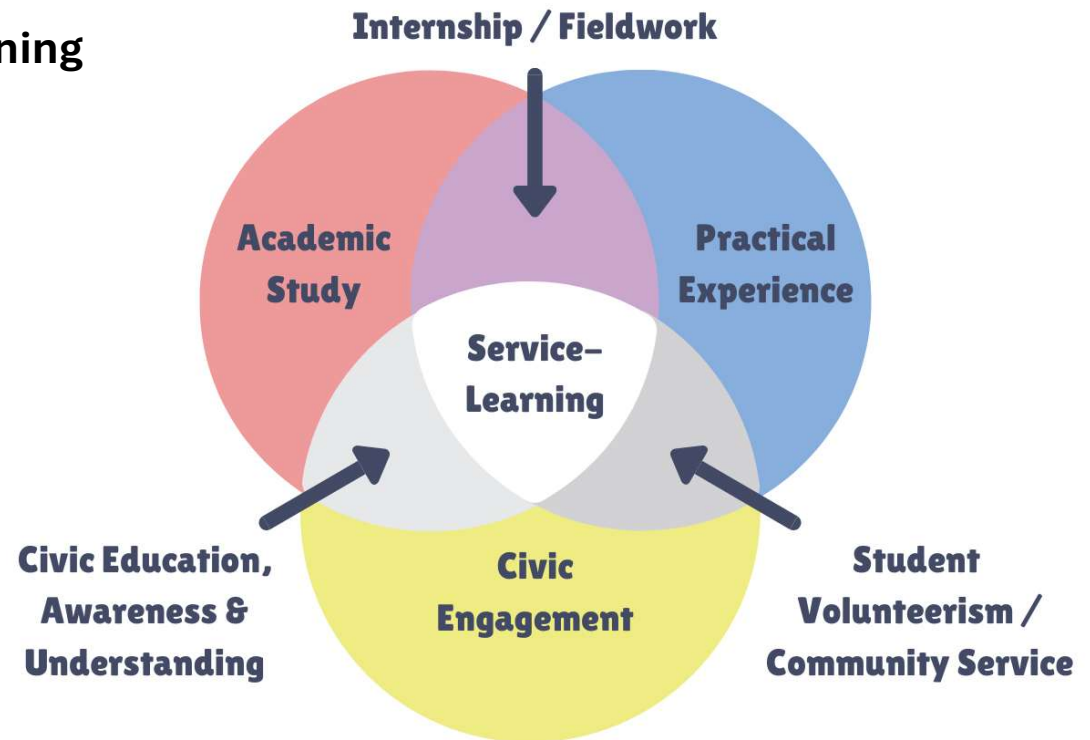
Law students engage directly with beneficiaries, identify legal issues, and contribute to the delivery of accessible legal information under professional supervision. Students develop not only **legal knowledge**, but also **essential transversal skills**: communication, empathy, ethical awareness, and the ability to adapt legal concepts to real-life situations.

▪ Civic engagement

As part of their academic training.

▪ Practical experience and reflective practice

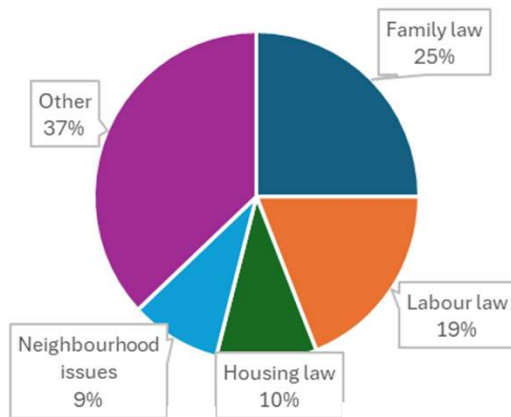
Reflective tools (such as logbooks and debrief sessions) enable students to **critically analyse** their role, their learning, and the societal impact of their engagement.



**UNISERVITATE
AWARD 2024**
Service-Learning Experiences
in Catholic Higher Education

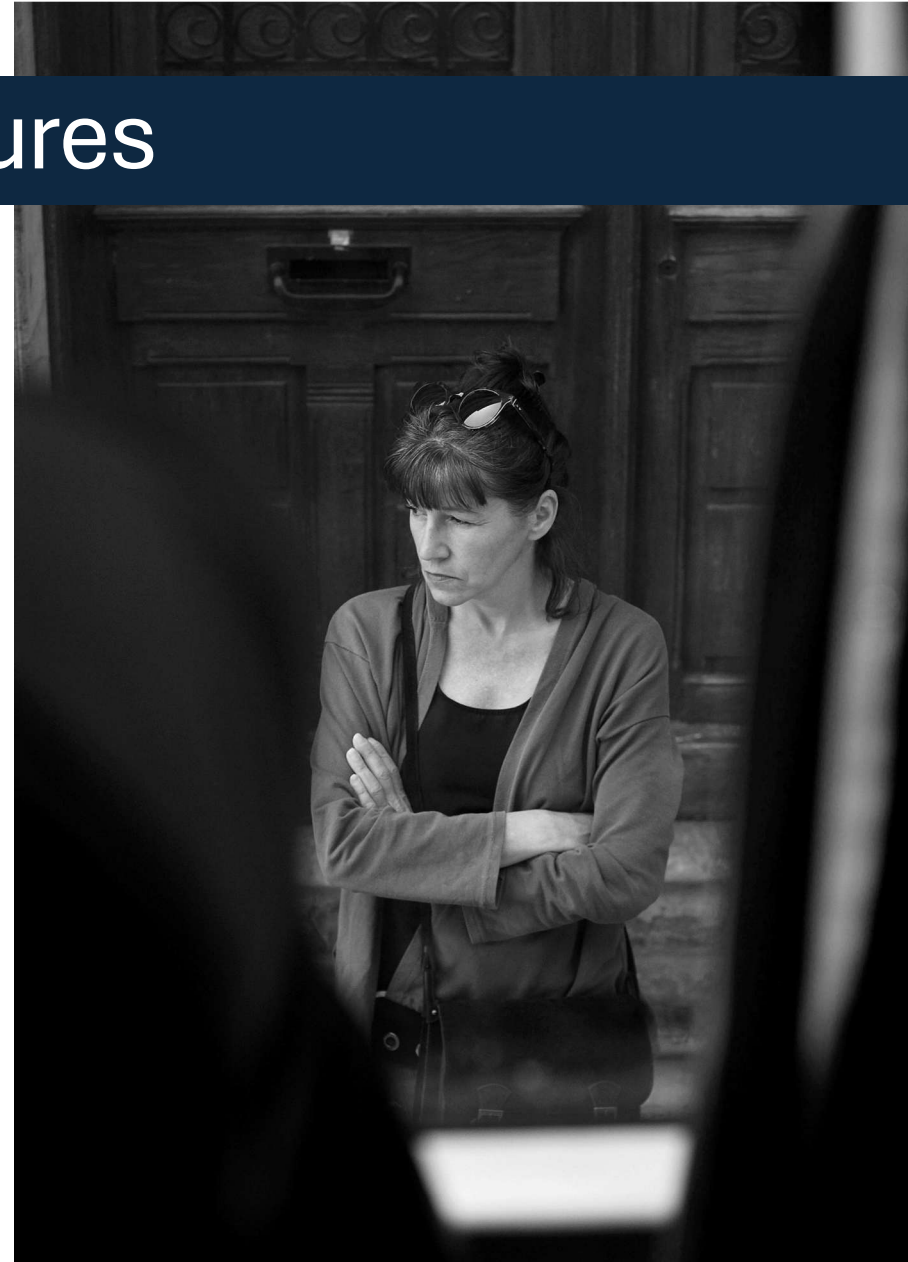
Law Bus in figures

Most common topics



Visitors

- Total: 9,318 people
(Oct.2019-Jul.2025)
- 18 cities involved each year
- Special drop-in sessions at soup kitchens (4 locations)
- Special drop-in sessions at centres for people with mental disabilities
- Special drop-in sessions for migrants at the French-British border (approx. 400 people)



With great power comes great responsibility



Thank you



**Université
Catholique
de Lille** *1875*