



Call for applications

New opportunities for Academic staff members of CIVIS universities to develop new collaboration and create new educational activities! With this education call CIVIS aim to open two levels of educational activities: Joint bachelor's degrees and online innovative educational activities.

Information session on this Call

An information session will be organised in September so to inform all potential applicants on the call and its objectives and answers question.

Even if the date is not settled yet, you can already [register here](#) to be informed of the next steps.

Background and objectives

CIVIS Europe's Civic University Alliance is actively **seeking innovative educational proposals that align with our commitment to interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, and civically engaged education across our network.**

This call seeks to **support proposals that showcase co-creation, challenge-based learning, innovation, civic engagement, and societal connectivity.**

It aims to promote educational activities, such as **joint Bachelor degrees, Single Learning Activities (SLAs) in online format.**

Who can apply?

We warmly invite all CIVIS academics to join us in this collaborative endeavour. Your participation will bolster our ongoing commitment to inclusivity and academic excellence, enriching our collective capacity to innovate and excel.

Applicants must be permanent faculty members or employees with a long-term contract. The duration of the contract of the faculty members or employees involved must go beyond the end of the funding period and allow for contributing to the sustainability of the activity after its completion. For organisational reasons, the contact person for the proposal (main applicant) should be a member from a CIVIS University in Europe.

Strategic partner universities in Africa are included in this Call. Funding and regulatory constraints apply though (see below "Which costs are eligible?"). Hence, academics from these institutions should apply together with colleagues from at least three European CIVIS universities. One of the latter would have to coordinate a joint application.

What types of activities are funded?

This call includes two levels of educational activities:

- Joint bachelor's degrees
- Single Learning activities
- Micro-credentials
- COILs.



A. Joint Bachelor Degrees

Development of **NEW Joint bachelor's degrees** that are inter/transdisciplinary and that takes into account the current European process towards establishing a [framework for a European Degree](#) by targeted dates: **agreement signed among the HEI's involved by September 2026 for Bachelors that can be:**

- a) **newly developed bachelor** offerings to foster broader participation and innovative delivery.
- b) **redevelopment of an existing bachelor** and forming a new consortium.

Recommendations:

Not all CIVIS universities involved need to award the degree (only three) but instead they can participate in co-teaching, with modules or include extracurricular or non-credit activities like summer schools, and BIPs, seminars, internships, etc.

The degrees mentioned in this context are required to feature at least one transdisciplinary module. This module should be designed in such a way that it can be seamlessly integrated into existing degree programmes. Alternatively, it can function as a standalone module tailored to address specific educational needs.

The inclusion of a transdisciplinary approach encourages the blending of insights from various disciplines, fostering a more holistic and integrated educational experience.

The development of modular offer will lead to a new educational offer aligned with the European Commission recommendations. The incorporation of already existing BIPs is also encouraged.

Specific Requirements for bachelor's degree programmes:

- A detailed **timeline** for implementing the proposed programme, including the expected accreditation process for bachelor's degree. [This timeline should be established in collaboration with the CIVIS Education Unit, the local faculties involved, and all other relevant local departments]
- A **report** on the added value of the CIVIS degree on job market integration and its standing relative to potential competitors (other existing bachelor's programmes).
- A detailed description of the expected **number of academic staff** involved in the delivery per HEI, including the commitment of the relevant authorities (department, faculty, university) to dedicate these resources to the programme.
- An estimated number of **students expected** to participate based on market analysis.
- A detailed description of the **planned mobilities of staff and students** per semester, including housing considerations.
- A detailed description of the **administrative support structures** envisaged for the programme (including selection, admission, enrolment, exams & registrar, fees and finances, and sustainability of the programme).

B. Single Learning Activities (SLAs)

Single Learning Activities (SLAs) are flexible, targeted learning units offered by CIVIS, designed to **address specific skills and knowledge areas** relevant to your field of expertise. SLAs can take various formats, including **short courses, webinars, and workshops**. Each SLA is characterised by a coherent approach to content and thematic areas, ensuring that learners achieve clearly defined learning outcomes that align with the broader educational goals of the CIVIS alliance and its strategic challenges.



This category encompasses a variety of educational activities designed to provide **skills, knowledge, and experiences** aimed at **personal development, professional upskilling, or specific technical competencies**, catering to a broad audience.

- **Online Courses (asynchronous)**
Online Courses are structured learning activities, in asynchronous formats, encompassing theoretical and practical components. They can be disciplinary, inter-/transdisciplinary, or focussed on transversal skills and competences. These courses are newly designed by CIVIS universities and are accessible to all eligible CIVIS students who meet the prerequisite requirements. Courses can be part of the existing educational curricula, or standalone, extra-curricular offers. The evaluation is adapted to the specific context, e.g. project-based evaluation, e-assessment, questionnaire.
- **Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)**
MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) are online asynchronous learning activities encompassing videos and various learning resources open to a world-wide audience (on a large MOOC platform) in and a self-paced format.
- **Webinars**
Webinars are synchronous interactive online seminars conducted on shared virtual platforms, enabling participants and facilitators from diverse locations to engage in synchronous communication via voice and video. CIVIS webinars cover a wide range of topics and can be delivered as standalone events or as part of a series. Optionally, the recordings can be used for asynchronous learning resources for CIVIS (and non-CIVIS) audiences.
- **Workshops**
workshops are synchronous interactive online learning events focused on practical skill development. They provide opportunities for collaborative work, discussions, and problem-solving in diverse subject areas. Workshops can be delivered as standalone sessions or as part of a series, catering to different audiences and needs.

C. CIVIS Micro-credentials

A Micro-credential is a structured learning activity that encompasses either one or multiple SLA types under a single general learning objective and certification, aimed to provide the learners with specific knowledge, **skills and competences that respond to societal, personal, cultural, or labour market needs**. They can include both synchronous and asynchronous learning activities, as well a diversity of learning contexts and resources. They can be addressed to any type of learners (both CIVIS students, staff, researchers, as well as external audiences). The certificate can act as a standalone certification or can become part of a larger certification / degree.

Any of the SLAs formats above can be a CIVIS Micro-Credential if the activity would has a concrete outcome in terms of a competence or a skill that clearly relates to the European framework, i.e. it should be aimed at or at least suitable for a non-traditional student audience (even if we offer it to CIVIS students only at this point) and the activity should come with an appropriate pedagogic structure and design to support being offered to a non-traditional student audience, as well.

D. Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)

This **pedagogical approach leverages online technologies to facilitate collaborative learning experiences between students and educators from diverse cultural and**



geographic backgrounds. It involves the integration of virtual exchange activities into existing courses or the co-development of entirely new modules by partner institutions. These activities can range from collaborative projects and discussions to virtual field trips and include guest lectures, all aimed at fostering intercultural competence, global awareness, and disciplinary knowledge.

General requirements

- Proposals should:
 - Includes at least 3 CIVIS universities and should in addition ideally include participation from African partner institutions. Training activities require both the involvement of academics. Professional services in civic engagement or methodology training is also anticipated.
 - Link with CIVIS European Project objectives
 - Include letters of commitment from the involved universities, including the Department, Faculty, and/or CIVIS Vice Rector, according to local competence to sign for comparable local academic offers.
 - Present a detailed planning and implementation phase, supported by the CIVIS coordination teams.
 - Ensure transparency and coherence, by accurately estimating ECTS credit points. In instances where ECTS credits are not applicable, such as in a webinar, the number of hours involved should be explicitly stated.

Criteria

The proposal will be assessed on set of quality criteria built on CIVIS Alliance objectives:

- Involvement of external stakeholders
- African Dimension
- Teaching and learning
- Cross-disciplinary approach
- Inclusion/Accessibility

More detail in the [Annex – CIVIS Call criteria](#)

Funding Scheme and Eligible Costs

New educational activities can be supported by the CIVIS Alliance on lump sum logic with a maximum amount per project that will depend on the type of educational activity:

Type of activities	Max amount per project
Joint Bachelor degree	60k€
SLAs – Online courses	15k€
SLAs –MOOC	20k€
SLAs – Webinar\Workshop	2k€
Micro-credential	20k€
COIL	15k€

Eligible costs include (must be directly linked to the implementation of the activity):

- mobility costs (for meetings or other project-related travel)
- staff cost (academics or staff supporting academics to produce pedagogical content, video materials etc.)
- other expenses in line with CIVIS and/or local disbursement regulations



Ineligible costs / activities include:

- subcontracting of services
- purchase of equipment
- other restrictions may apply, please ask your local IC!

Members of strategic partner universities in Africa are invited to participate in all activities supported by this call. However, they cannot be direct recipients of funding in the framework of this call. They and/or their colleagues from European CIVIS universities are thus encouraged to explore complementary funding sources for their collaboration.

For instance, staff mobility for teaching between African and European universities in the context of this Call is, in principle, eligible for co-funding by Erasmus+ ICM (KA171). For more information, please refer to the related CIVIS Call 'Mobility between CIVIS member and strategic partner universities' [[LINK](#)].

Money will be received through the home university and the acquisitions are to be done within the local national legislation and through the processes of each university. The draft budget shall include a distribution of the applied-for funding among the universities involved.

Important: Talk to your local IC what is possible or not possible in your country/university!

Guidance & support

Initial stages will receive guidance by their Institutional coordinators, with potential financial backing discussed upon successful initial evaluation. Additionally, training and staff weeks could potentially be launched to support further development.

- Administrative support can include:
 - Network building and identification of relevant contacts within other CIVIS member universities.
 - Organisational or logistical support.
 - CIVIS branding and templates.
 - Publication on CIVIS website and support for communication and promotion through CIVIS channels.
 - Administrative support (accreditation, curriculum design, mobility funding,...)
 - CIVIS Moodle & support on innovative teaching approaches
 - Participation and advice from relevant experts within CIVIS governance and management, including units, officers, or streams.

How to apply?

STEP 1: CONSULTATION. Ensure to consult and notify the **CIVIS Institutional Coordinator at your university** about your initiative **before submitting it** ([see contact section above](#))

STEP 2: SUBMISSION. If you wish to propose an activity, we will soon open two application form, one for joint Bachelor program and the other for innovative online educational activities.

STEP 3: EVALUATION. Your proposal will be reviewed by the CIVIS teams

STEP 4: RESULTS. Each proposal will be examined by a Commission. The CIVIS Steering Committee (SC) will then give final approval to the proposals.



STEP 5: FOLLOW UP. If your proposal is validated, you will be required to report on your activity and it's implementation.

Note: Full and timely collaboration with the relevant CIVIS Units, as well as the relevant local authorities, will be expected during the process.

Timeline

- **July 17, 2024:** Call opens. Proposals should be submitted through the CIVIS platform (soon to be opened), with all required documentation and endorsements from participating institutions.
- **October 20, 2024:** Submission deadline
- **October 21 – November 10, 2024:** Evaluation period.
- Detailed planning and implementation phase: **If the proposal is approved, the plan will need to be detailed further following a review by evaluators in November.**
- **January 2025 to September 2026 (depending on the type of activity).**
Implementation of selected projects

Contacts

For general inquiries about this Call, please contact:

educational-call@lists.civis.eu

For inquiries regarding your local university, please contact your CIVIS Office/contact person:

University	Contact Person(s)	Email
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