



European Universities Alliances: an opportunity for Catholic Universities?

The **European Universities Initiative (EUI)**, launched by the European Commission in 2019, aims to foster unprecedented levels of cooperation among higher education institutions across Europe. By creating transnational **alliances**, the initiative - currently counting 65 alliances with **more than 570** higher education institutions - **seeks to enhance** the quality, inclusiveness and competitiveness of European higher education. For Catholic universities, this presents both unique challenges and significant opportunities to integrate their foundational values into a **broader European educational framework**.

These webinars will showcase the European Commission's initiative, share experiences, discuss challenges, and highlight opportunities for Catholic higher education institutions.

Organized by the **International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU)** in collaboration with the **Commission of EU Bishops' Conferences (CEMCE)**.

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Understanding the European Universities Alliances from Catholic Universities' Perspectives

6 May 2025, 11:30-12:30 CEST

Agenda

1. Opening Remarks and welcome by the moderators

Emilio Dogliani (COMECE) & Montserrat Alom (IFCU)



2. Keynote Speech - Fr. Manuel Barrios, *Secretary General of COMECE*

Higher Education in today's European Union: fostering institutions oriented to the Common Good

3. Overview of the European Universities Initiative - Head of Unit for Higher Education, DG EAC, European Commission

4. Testimonies & Panel Discussion with Catholic Universities

with the interventions of:

Maria Amália Silva de Oliva, Arturo Varona Bosque, Teresa Morales De La Fuente -
Universidad Pontificia Comillas (EUPeace)



Mariet Vriens - KULeuven (Una Europa)



Marian Aláez - Universidad de Deusto (UNIC)



Richard Van Wezel - Radboud University (NeuroTechEU)



5. Closing Remarks



Key Challenges and Opportunities for Catholic Universities in European Alliances

13 May 2025, 11:30-12:30 CEST

Agenda

1. Opening Remarks and welcome by the moderators

Emilio Dogliani (COMECE) & Montserrat Alom (IFCU)



2. Keynote Speech - François Mabile, *Secretary General of IFCU*, on IFCU and the Role of Catholic Universities in Shaping European Higher Education



3. Panel Discussion with Catholic Universities

with the interventions of:

Maria Amalia Silva de Oliva, Arturo Varona Bosque, Teresa Morales De La Fuente -
Universidad Pontificia Comillas (EUPeace)



Katrien Vanelven- KULEuven (Una Europa)



Ainhoa Jorquera Cascón - Universidad de Deusto (UNIC)



4. Closing Remarks & Takeaways