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European University of the Seas
SEA-EU

SEA-EU SURVEY 2.0: RESEARCH AND TEACHING STAFF

Executive Report



L-Università
ta' Malta



Research and Teaching Staff

Language level of the research and teaching staff

"English" is the most widely chosen language among research and teaching staff from the universities belonging to the SEA-EU Alliance. An English level B1 is certified by 10,5% of teachers, B2 level by 23,2% and almost a 50% of the faculty qualify with a C level for this language. Other languages are placed at a great distance behind, like "French", certified by around 50% of teachers, most of them with A1 and A2 levels, "German", which is or has been learnt by 25% of teachers, and Spanish, accredited by 21.2%, also at elemental language levels. "Polish", "Croatian" and "Maltese" are not renowned languages between research teaching staff, with the exception of those who have them as their native language.

Level of knowledge

The initiative of the European universities to create a committee and promote a macro-European campus is highly regarded by 7 out of 10 teachers (67,4%), who consider it a very good initiative.

Regarding those who do not know about this proposal, only 5,9% of teachers and researches have never heard of SEA-EU.

On the other hand, more than 70% of the teaching and research staff have seen or recognized the University of the Seas corporate image during last year.

Goals

Regarding the scale of agreement of the teachers with the SEA-EU Alliance goals, assessment is very positive, all of them placed above 4 points out of 5. They emphasize the possibility of "facilitate the transnational mobility of teaching and research staff" (4.52%), "create networks for the exchange of knowledge, culture and values" (4.48%) or "develop joint research opportunities" (4.47%). The categories "ease the participation of businesses, administrations and NGO" (3.91%) and "create and deliver joint programmes



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where students can design their own curriculum” (3.88%) are the worst valued and do not exceed 4 points.

Interest on the areas of work

“Research projects at European level” is the most interesting aspect between research and teaching staff, with 4.43 points out of 5. Other focal points, like “staff mobility between the universities that make up the SEA-EU Alliance” (4.24) or “Knowledge transfer to society” (4.22) can also be found among their preferences. On the contrary, teachers are not as interested in the “participation of government bodies and design of new politics through the Alliance student council” (3.54), “encouragement of staff participation in sport and cultural events” (3.46) and “observatories in specific areas like migration and sustainable blue development” (3.37).

Activities involvement

Many of the teachers’ respondents, 8 out of 10, would be determined to participate in some of the different activities offered by University of the Seas, specifically the 80.9%.

Among the activities offered, research and teaching staff opt for “collaborative work with lectures from other universities” (4.16), “intensive courses in specific areas” (4.02), and “innovation activities” with 3.82 points. The one that arouses the least interest among them are “international sports activities”, with 2.85 points.

Regarding preferences in lessons development, 31.6% of teachers choose on campus attendance, while 12.7% prefer online methods. 49.5% of them chose a hybrid solution.

SEA-EU Principles

50.2% of contestants consider that the SEA-EU Alliance owns a general vision that address every knowledge area, while 34.0% thinks its vision is focused on the marine-maritime sphere.

It’s important to note that more than half of research and teaching staff consider important that the principles they have been consulted about are built into projects performed by SEA-EU. Specifically, 62.0% of teachers consider of great importance that “sustainable development” is present in all goals and

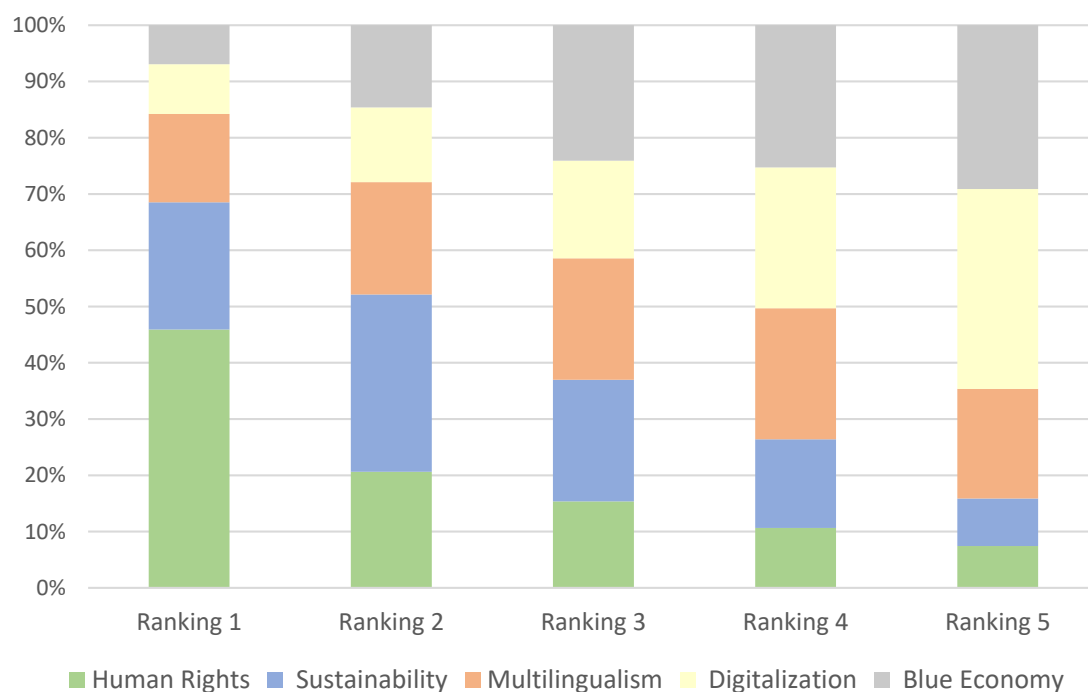


plans, just as "inclusion" (55.6%), "promotion of European culture" (45.3%), "gender equality" (53.6%), "multiethnic character" (45.9%) and "linguistic diversity" (43.6%). On the contrary, the percentage of teachers who consider that said principles are not important is placed between 1.4% of "sustainable development" and 4.4% of teachers who don't believe in the importance of "gender equality".

Challenges

When consulted about the main aspects to promote in the development of this universities Alliance, three key aspects stand out among research and teaching staff: "facilitate the mobility and accommodation of professors" (55.5%), "develop the possibility of studying joint or multiple degrees" (46.6%) and "facilitate access to training programmes for teaching staff" (44.8%). Administrative or bureaucratic aspects like "Europass: Digitally signed credential and European student card" (17.7%), "wider dissemination of the SEA-EU project, beyond the members of the Alliance" (16.9%) and "strengthen the Student Council at the Alliance level" (3.7%) reveal less interest among the teachers of these universities.

Research areas which should be invested with greater importance





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Research and teaching staff consider "sustainability" to be the research area which SEA-EU should be paying more attention, followed by "human rights" and "blue economy", and attaching less importance to "digitalization" and "multilingualism", just as we can see in the graphic above.

More than a third of the survey respondents (31.1%) think that their involvement in a European super-campus "would improve their language level". Equally, they believe that said super-campus would contribute to "expand my work career" (36.8%), "it would offer me more or better teaching horizons" (35.5%) and "it would enrich me culturally" (31.4%).

Lastly, regarding the main challenge that University of Seas should face in the near future, 11.1% of teachers think that joint degrees should be promoted. The 8.5% of teachers think that greater dissemination and awareness of the alliance should be promoted and the 8.1% of them think that the main challenge is promote sustainability and blue economy.

Specifications

Research and teaching staff from the universities that make up the SEA-EU Alliance participated in this survey. 56.3% of the teachers surveyed teach in bachelor's programs, while 27.4% are teaching in master's programs.

University allocation is as follows:

- University of Split, Croatia: 28.6%
- University of Western Brittany, France: 1.0%
- University of Kiel, Germany: 26.3%
- University of Malta, Malta: 8.2%
- University of Gdańsk, Polonia: 4.1%
- University of Cádiz, Spain: 32.9%

Participant's average age is 43.58 years. Regarding gender, distribution is as follows: 51.3% are women, 48.5% men and 0.1% identify as non-binary.

Type of research: online organized survey self-managed via LimeSurvey, with the possibility of conduct the survey in different mother tongues (6 languages)
Field work: conducted between November 29th and December 26th, 2021.





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Survey approval: pre-test across members of the work groups from the different Universities which compose SEA-EU.

Involvement promotion: through the different work groups from each University.

Involvement percentage: from the total 9766 professors and researchers in the different European Universities from SEA-EU, 711 surveys were conducted, representing 7.28% from total. Survey ratio per each one of the six universities is as follows: University of Split, Croatia (15.95%), University of Western Brittany, France (0.70%), University of Kiel, Germany (8.30%), University of Malta, Malta (3.36%), University of Gdańsk, Poland (1.61%) and University of Cádiz, Spain (13.23%).

Sampling error: +/- 3.54%

Field work, data tabulation and analysis: Technical team of the University of Cádiz.

