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European University of the Seas
SEA-EU

SEA-EU SURVEY 2.0: NON ACADEMIC STAFF

Executive Report



Non Academic Staff

Language level of administrative staff

"English" is the most widely chosen language among administrative staff from the universities belonging to the SEA-EU Alliance. An English level B1 is certified by 12.8% of students, B2 level by 20.0% and more of 35% of the administration staff qualify with a C level for this language. In second position is the french, certified by around 40% of administrative staff, most of them with A1 and A2 levels, "Spanish", accredited by 27.9% and "German", which is or has been learnt for less than 20% of them, also at elemental language levels. "Polish", "Croatian" and "Maltese" are not renowned languages between administration 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 members of the administrative staff (68.4%), who consider it a very good initiative.

Regarding those who do not know about this proposal, only 6.4% of them confirm they have not heard about this Alliance (10.1%).

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

Goals

Regarding the scale of agreement of this collective 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 "create networks for the exchange of knowledge, culture and values" (4.43), "promote language learning" (4.37) or "develop joint research opportunities" (4.36). The categories "ease the participation of businesses, administrations and NGO" with 4.04 point and "create and deliver joint programmes where students can design their own curriculum" with 4.03 points, are the last priorities among the administrative staff.



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Interest on the areas of work

Among the administration and services staff of the universities that make up SEA-EU, the area of work that arouses the most interest is “staff training through intensive courses, summer schools, joint doctoral courses, free online courses and languages”, with 4.38 points out of 5. Other focal points, like “staff mobility between the universities that make up the SEA-EU Alliance” (4.28) or “knowledge transfer to society” (4.24) can also be found among their preferences. On the contrary, this collective are not as interested in the “participation of government bodies and design of new politics through the Alliance student council” (3.81), or “observatories in specific areas like migration and sustainable blue development” (3.60).

Activities involvement

Many of the members of administrative staff, 8 out of 10, would be determined to participate in some of the different activities offered by University of the Seas, specifically the 81.2%.

Among the activities offered, this collective opt for “languages” (4.19), “intensive courses in specific areas” (4.08), and “international cultural activities”, with 3.94 points. The one that arouses the least interest among them is “international sports activities”, with 3.24 points.

Regarding preferences in lessons development, 31.6% of administration and services staff choose on campus attendance, while 16.5% prefer online methods. 45.2% of them chose a hybrid solution.

SEA-EU Principles

47.1% of contestants consider that the SEA-EU Alliance owns a general vision that address every knowledge area, while 35.3% thinks its vision is focused on the marine-maritime sphere.

It's important to note that more than half of this collective consider important that the principles they have been consulted about are built into projects performed by SEA-EU. Specifically, 65.7% of them consider of great importance that “sustainable development” is present in all goals and plans, just as “gender equality” (60.1%), “inclusion” (57.9%), “multiethnic character” (51.2%),

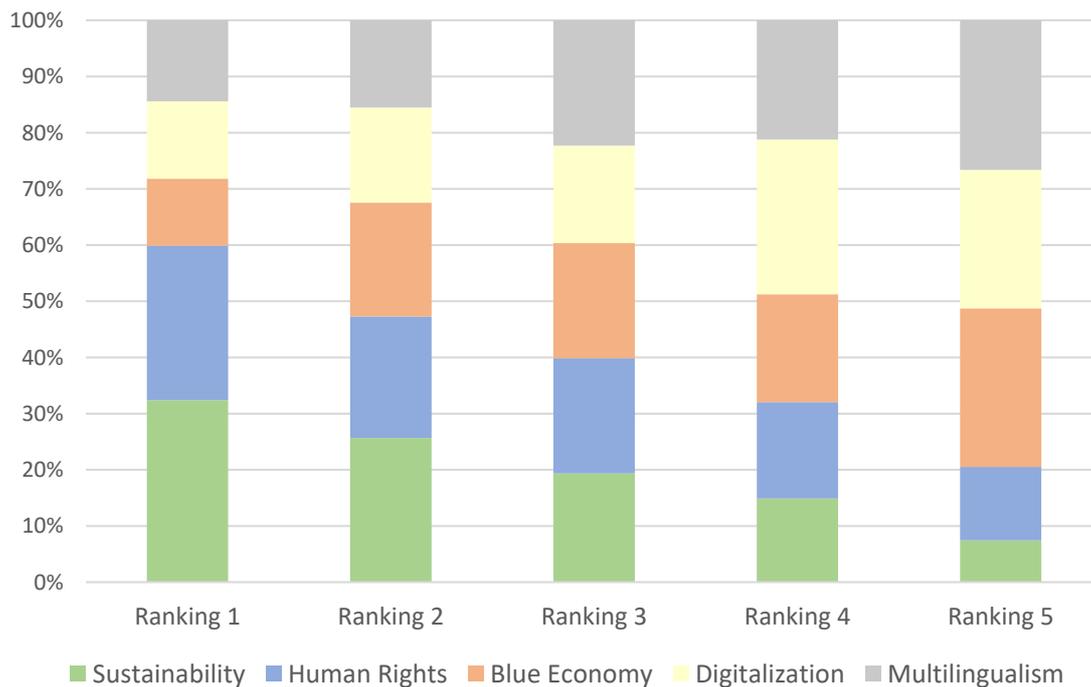


"promotion of European culture" (50.2%) and "linguistic diversity" (49.4%). On the contrary, the percentage of administrative staff who consider that said principles are not important is placed between 0.6% of "sustainable development" and 3.9% of them who don't believe in the importance of "gender equality".

Challenges

When consulted about the main aspects to promote in the development of this universities Alliance, three key aspects stand out among the administration and services staff: "promote knowledge of the language and culture that are part of the exchange" (55.1%), "develop the possibility of studying joint or multiple degrees" (45.5%) and "address innovation and transfer projects with participation in society" (36.3%). Administrative or bureaucratic aspects like the "facilitate the mobility and accommodation of professors" (23.6%), "expand the number of partners in the Alliance" (18.2%) or "strengthen the Student Council at the Alliance level" (6.1%), less interest among the administrative staff of these universities.

Research areas which should be invested with greater importance





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Administrative 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 half of the survey respondents (60.4%) think that their involvement in a European super-campus "would improve their language level". Equally, they believe that said super-campus would contribute to "cultural enrichment" (49.9%), and "expand my work career" (40.9%).

Lastly, regarding the main challenge that University of Seas should face in the near future, 12.6% of administrative staff bet on the "sustainability and blue economy". The 11.5% of them think that the main challenge is "overcome the pandemic". A 7.6% of the respondents think that future challenges is promote a "greater diffusion and knowledge of the alliance".

Specifications

Non academic staff from the universities that make up the SEA-EU Alliance participated in this survey. 38.6% of those surveyed have completed master's degrees, 19.8% have a bachelor's degree and 11.2% have completed doctoral studies. 30.4% of them have completed studies in other programs.

University allocation is as follows:

- University of Split, Croatia: 17.8%
- University of Western Brittany, France: 3.7%
- University of Kiel, Germany: 28.1%
- University of Malta, Malta: 17.1%
- University of Gdańsk, Polonia: 3.3%
- University of Cádiz, Spain: 30.0%

Participant's average age is 48.98 years. Regarding gender, distribution is as follows: 65.9% are women, 33.3% men and 0.8% 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.

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





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

Involvement percentage: from the total 6542 administrative staff in the different European Universities from SEA-EU, 484 surveys were conducted, representing 7.40% from total. Survey ratio per each one of the six universities is as follows: University of Split, Croatia (14.24%), University of Western Brittany, France (1.86%), University of Kiel, Germany (10.30%), University of Malta, Malta (6.54%), University of Gdańsk, Poland (1.05%) and University of Cádiz, Spain (16.92%).

Sampling error: +/- 4.29%

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

