Almost three years have passed since the launching of SEA-EU, an alliance of 6 European universities that share a close link to the seas as an essential feature. This pilot phase has provided valuable feedback that will guide the collective efforts of the member universities in the coming years. In order to continue to improve and evolve, the Alliance decided to submit a detailed and comprehensive proposal to the European Commission with the aim of obtaining its support for this renewal.

This evolution has been driven by the growth within SEA-EU, which has welcomed 3 new members, bringing the total number of member universities to 9:

- University of Cadiz (UCA), Spain.
- University of Western Brittany (UBO), France.
- University of Kiel (CAU), Germany.
- University of Gdansk (UG), Poland.
- University of Split (UNIST), Croatia.
- University of Malta (UM), Malta.
- University of Naples Parthenope (UPN), Italy.
- University of Algarve (UAig), Portugal.
- Nord University (NORD), Norway.

Chosen for their coastal context, quality of education and research, as well as the desire to maintain geographical balance, these three additions will join the founding universities in fulfilling the Alliance’s vision of becoming a role model in the European Higher Education and Research Area in line with European values. In this way, the present project is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and the European Commission’s priorities for 2024.

Ultimately, the aim of phase 2.0 is to build a truly European multi-campus university with its own legal personality.
Vision

To create a distinctly international, multi-ethnic, multilingual, multilingual, multicultural and interdisciplinary European university that addresses the green and digital transition sought by the European Commission and supported by the SEA–EU alliance partners.

Mission

Build a true university partnership with an organisational culture based on open governance and co-creation with stakeholders to ensure that our vision is achieved.

Values

Excellence–Sustainability–Resilience–Cooperation
Creativity–Differentiation–Specialisation

SEA-EU 2.0
Associated Partners

Associated Partners

SEA–EU promotes co-creation as an approach to establish links with partners and society and to involve them in the implementation of our main activities. This approach is based on the principle that all our external stakeholders will be considered as alliance partners.

We have 77 Associate Partners including municipalities (Cities Council), ports (Ports Council), businesses, research centres, NGOs and other organisations (Stakeholders Group).
Objectives

01 Plan the governance of the partnership towards a higher level of integration, and coordinate all necessary steps for the design and implementation of a fully recognised legal entity for the European University of the Seas.

02 Develop a diversity of learning pathways for all, removing academic barriers and developing joint and flexible curricula in all formats, promoting innovative activities to acquire digital, green, interdisciplinary and transversal competences.

03 Encourage mobility among our students and staff, supporting all physical, blended and virtual mobility initiatives, in order to achieve the ambitious goal of having at least 50% of the alliance’s students benefit from such mobility.

04 Promote inclusion, diversity, gender equality and create an environment of European identity on a healthy campus by applying core European values within the partnership.

05 Support the commitment to sustainability in the framework of the EU Green Deal as well as the SDGs to broaden and strengthen the global position and visibility of the SEA-EU Alliance.

06 Enhance the effective use of English as the main mode of communication of the partnership, while promoting multilingualism by fostering respect for and knowledge of the consortium’s local languages.

07 Take advantage of the strength of our universities in research and teaching in the marine and maritime field by becoming a European university of reference in these “blue” areas, building new multidisciplinary capacities and knowledge for understanding what it means to be coastal.

08 Accelerate the digital transformation of SEA-EU Universities, creating new digital forms of collaboration that help universities in the alliance to adapt and shape higher education in an increasingly digital world.

09 Strengthen the link with society, promoting open educational resources, open science and open data to communities and the general public, expanding the SEA-EU university model beyond our borders.

10 Strengthen the link with stakeholders through a co-creation mechanism that allows their participation in partnership activities, benefiting the future employment options of our students and contributing to the growth and development of society.

11 Establish SEA-EU as a role model for other universities in Europe and internationally, functioning as a “test bed” experimenting with new approaches, especially through the challenge-based learning approach.
The consolidation of the European University of the Seas as a legal entity requires the integration of its shared governance structure. The modification of the governance structure has been based on the experience gained during phase 1.0. Among the most prominent changes are the following:

- The dissolution of sub-committees, which have been replaced by expert groups.
- The organisation of the different interest groups into a group of associate members who will take on co-creation responsibilities together with the newly created student, port and city councils.
- The inclusion of a rector-coordinator figure among the rectors/presidents of the SEA-EU universities who rotates every 6 months.
- The inclusion of 2 Alliance students in the Executive Committee.

**Governance**

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**SEA-EU GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

**COLLEGIATE BODIES**

- Governing Board
- Executive Committee
- Ports Council
- Cities Council
- Students Council
- Stakeholders Group
- Technical Working Group

**UNIPERSONAL BODIES**

- Rector Coordinator
- General Coordinator
- WP Leader

**Stakeholders**

- WP1
- WP2
- WP3
- WP4
- WP5
- WP6

**Quality and Ethics**

Consultation Level
The Workplan has been divided into 6 Work Packages (WP), two of which (WP1 and WP6) are transversal while the others are specifically related to university activity.

Each WP will have SEA–EU universities as leaders (WPL) and co-leaders (WPC). The work packages are further subdivided into Tasks (T), which will have university staff as task leaders and co-leaders.

The WPL and the WPC, the Quality and Ethics Committee and the Executive Committee will ensure the correct presentation of deliverables. The latter are part of a set of progress indicators, such as milestones (linked to performance), and instruments, such as the SEA–EU 2.0 Manual and the updated Quality Manual, to ensure that WP tasks are completed on time and meet the appropriate quality and ethical standards.

**SEA-EU Workplan**
Tasks

1 Governance and Management:
1.1 Align the short and long term objectives of the European University of the Seas and lead the design of the strategy to achieve legal personality.
1.2 To carry out appropriate monitoring and reporting.
1.3 Ensure quality assurance, ethics and data protection.
1.4 Align and broaden the SEA-EU 2.0 agenda for educational, research and socio-economic engagement.

2 Education and Training:
2.1 Facilitate and increase the level of physical mobility.
2.2 Promote inclusive, digital and green, interdisciplinary and innovative learning pathways.
2.3 Enhance personalised curricula and credit pathways: development of micro-credentials with the SEA-EU quality label.
2.4 Increase the offer of SEA-EU joint programmes.
2.5 Consolidate SEA-EU as a diversified learning centre for lifelong learning.
2.6 Develop a coherent legal framework, including automatic academic recognition of degrees.

3 Research and Innovation:
3.1 Generate European added value through research collaborations at Master’s level.
3.2 Enhance the career prospects of early stage researchers within and outside academia.
3.3 Strengthen the common SEA-EU research framework by facilitating and increasing access to joint resources and infrastructures.

4 Life on the European Campus:
4.1 Promote Equity at the European Campus.
4.2 Increase student participation through the Alliance.
4.3 Digitalise SEA-EU.
4.4 Make SEA-EU greener.
4.5 Embrace European values as the hallmark of the SEA-EU.
4.6 Promote multilingualism, foster language competence in English and establish a common SEA-EU language policy.

5 Participation in Society:
5.1 SEA-EU Building Bridges Initiative: Stronger Partnerships for Common Global Goals.
5.2 Innovate in the regional understanding of what it means to be SEA-EU.
5.3 Transform the SEA-EU Service-Learning Centre into the SEA-EU Society Hub.

6 Dissemination and Impact:
6.1 Build a coherent, memorable and engaging identity, communication and impact strategy.
6.2 Manage and implement a robust, transparent and effective communication and impact strategy.
6.3 Implement common values and quality standards for science communication.
Disseminating the identity of the European University of the Seas requires an effective communication strategy based on inclusiveness and transparency. Mutual learning and co-creation with stakeholders will be defining features of this identity. An expert group has been appointed to analyse the phase 1.0 communication strategy and will work together with members of SEA-EU, reSEArchEU and SEA-EU DOC in a future SEA-EU communication office to improve the proposal.

The following communication actions are envisaged to implement this strategy:

- Improvements in branding.
- Transmedia dissemination in conventional and non-conventional channels.
- PR.
- Corporate communication.
- Content marketing.
- Audiovisual content.
- Sustainable promotional material.
- SEA-EU events and events in collaboration with third parties.
- Networking meetings.