



PRESS RELEASE

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European Union Universities of Small States (EU²S²) Association

In June 2011 the European Union Universities of Small States (EU²S²) Association was founded.

Objective

Within the framework of the joint EU target to develop a European knowledge society by the year 2020, the European Union Universities of Small States (EU²S²) initiative sets out to overcome disadvantages inherent to the small size of participating states. To this end, an environment has to be created that will enable the small states of the EU to participate competitively and more constructively in the future, for the benefit of the European Union as a whole. Through this process, the policy of the EU towards cohesion will also be enhanced.

Aims

Premise of the proposed action is the possibility of collaboration between universities from small EU member states, which in their majority are moreover relatively new to the EU, under the umbrella of an association namely the EU²S², through which they can exchange experiences, define common aims and objectives, exchange ideas and principles of good practice and coordinate efforts towards the development of joint projects and activities to be funded by the European Commission.

The EU²S² will promote the decentralization of research and the unimpeded interaction between the geographic, financial and infrastructural extremes of the EU. EU²S², as the structural ally of the EU in its efforts to achieve permanent harmonization through differentiation, aims to become a permanent forum of exchange between the centre and the margins of the EU.

The EU²S² perceives the need for European Union investment, financially and in terms of policy, to address the problems in research funding and development of small member states and hence of coherent development of the EU as a whole. The European Union investment will primarily address scientific disparities, but it will also have substantial social, political and cultural benefits.

Participating Institutions

Cyprus

The University of Cyprus
Cyprus University of Technology
Cyprus Open University

Luxembourg

University of Luxembourg

Malta

University of Malta

Estonia

University of Tartu
Tallinn University of Technology
Tallinn University
Estonian University of Life Sciences

Latvia

University of Latvia
Riga Technical University
Daugavpils University
Liepaja University
Latvia University of Agriculture

Lithuania

Vilnius University
Klaipeda University
Siauliai University

Slovenia

University of Ljubljana
University of Maribor
University of Primorska

Contact Details:

Address: Research and International Relations Service
University House "Anastasios G. Leventis", 1 Panepistimiou Avenue, 2109
Aglandjia, P.O. Box 20537, 1678 Nicosia, Cyprus

Tel: +357-22894288

E-mail: rir@ucy.ac.cy