

# Erasmus+: an expected budget of €3 billion to be invested in young Europeans and to help create European Universities in 2019

Today, the Commission published its 2019 [call for proposals](#) for the [Erasmus+](#) programme. From an expected budget of €3 billion for next year, €30 million has been set aside for dedicated [European Universities](#). This is a new initiative that was endorsed by European Union leaders at the [Gothenburg Social Summit](#) last November, and part of the push towards establishing a [European Education Area](#) by 2025.

Tibor **Navracsics**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, said: *“One year on, the European Commission is delivering on the commitment made to Member States to build a European Education Area by 2025. We are working towards a Europe where learning, studying and carrying out research are not blocked by borders. No walls hampering excellence, innovation and inclusiveness in education. European Universities have a real potential to transform the higher education landscape in Europe, and I am proud that we are giving them a strong push through the Erasmus+ programme.”*

## **The 2019 call for proposals under the Erasmus+ programme**

Any public or private body active in the fields of education, training, youth and sport may apply for funding under the 2019 call for proposals for the Erasmus+ Programme. In addition, groups of young people who are active in youth work, but who do not form a youth organisation, may apply for funding.

Together with the call for proposals, today the Commission also published the [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#) in all official EU languages, which provides applicants with details on all opportunities for students, staff, trainees, teachers and more available in Erasmus+ for 2019.

## **€30 million for European Universities**

As part of the creation of a [European Education Area](#) by 2025, the Commission proposed the set-up European Universities in the European Union.

As part of the 2019 call for proposals, the Commission will launch a pilot programme which will support six European University alliances, each consisting of a minimum of 3 higher education institutions from 3 countries to promote a strengthened European identity, while also boosting excellence and helping to make European higher education institutions more competitive. Applicants have to submit their grant applications to the [Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency](#) by 28 February 2019 for alliances starting between 1 September and 1 December in the same year.

A second pilot call should follow next year with a full roll out of the initiative envisaged under the next long-term EU budget as from 2021. The aim is to build some twenty European Universities by 2024.

## **Background**

At the [Gothenburg Social Summit](#) in November 2017, European Union leaders outlined a vision for Europe to harness the full potential of education and culture to create a resilient workforce, social fairness, active citizenship and an experience of European identity in all its diversity.

[Supporting the creation of of European Universities](#) will contribute to this objective, by bringing together a new generation of Europeans, who are able to cooperate and work within different European and global cultures, in different languages, and across borders, sectors and academic disciplines.

## **For More information**

[Erasmus+ Call for proposals](#)

[Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#)

[Erasmus+](#)