



European Network of
Socially Responsible Universities



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Universidad
de Cádiz

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITIES

Manuel Larrán Jorge
Cádiz, a 23 de febrero de 2018





The idea behind the project

The social dimension of Higher Education (HE) is one of the overarching themes of the Bologna Process, from Prague (2001), Bergen (2005), London (2007), Leuven (2009) up to Bucharest (2012), having been recognised as crucial to legitimise the process towards the European Higher Education Area. Recent studies confirm that there is an emerging interest in University Social Responsibility (USR) issues (Larrán 2012). However, most Higher Education institutions (HEIs) are still reluctant to fully implement USR strategies, embracing different social responsibility approaches and mechanisms instead. In this respect, there is an urgent necessity to collectively reflect and develop dialogue to understand and pursue a more decisive and integrated perspective.



The USR-NET project

USR-NET is based on the findings and results of the previous EU co-funded project EU-USR – University Social Responsibility in Europe (527209-LLP-1-2012-1-RO-ERASMUS -ESIN). EU-USR demonstrated an action imbalance in their social dimension of different European universities and regions, mainly due to lack of related policies to promote sustainability at universities (Bottery, 2011; Hancock and Nuttman, 2014) and, encourage members of University communities to support socially sustainable initiatives in higher education (Lee et al., 2013). At the same time, EU-USR project underlined the needs to better understand the term USR both inside and outside the HEIs, increase HEIs' commitment towards the community in which they operate, fostering inclusion and stakeholder participation and incorporate USR strategies as a transversal topic in students' curricula.



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PARTNERS: The USR-NET - European Network of Socially Responsible Universities is a 30-month (2015-2018) EU co-funded project under the Erasmus+ programme, implemented by 9 partners from 7 EU countries (Belgium, Finland, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain), experts in their fields.



CONEXX

Research and Development
International Cooperation

Country: Bélgica



Country: España



Country: Grecia



Country: Rumania



VAASAN AMMATTIKORKEAKOULU
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Country: Finlandia



Country: Italia



Country: Portugal



TRABAJO, EDUCACIÓN Y EQUIDAD SOCIAL

Country: Bélgica



Country: España



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

In this respect, the USR-NET project aims to promote synergy and links among HEIs communities (professors, students and staff) and related stakeholders (enterprises, schools, NGOs, policy-makers, institutions, etc.) having an influence in the labour market and society as a whole.

- . conduct a mapping of socially responsible organisations and create a stakeholder database to promote cooperation and synergy
- . design and test a transferrable blended learning package of transversal contents on HEIs social responsibility to be incorporated into students' curricula
- . define a proposed roadmap for possible action and urge for commitment to adopt this package and a USR transversal approach in University faculties.



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IO1- LEARNING GUIDE OF TRANSVERSAL CONTENTS FOR SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITIES.

Task Leader



Partner Collaborations



Learning guide of transversal contents for Socially Responsible Universities: Methodological development of learning package of transversal contents to enrich the students' curriculum from a socially responsible overarching approach, capitalising on a solid synergy among University students and staff and other societal stakeholders.



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IO2- GUIDE OF A SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY TO RAISE THE AWARENESS FOR UNIVERSITY INSIDERS AND OUTSIDERS

Task Leader



Partner Collaborations



Guide of a Socially Responsible University to raise the awareness for University insiders and outsiders: Set of awareness-raising actions to be implemented both inside (University staff and students), and outside (enterprises, public authorities, policy makers, schools, NGOs, associations, civil society as a whole) HE institutions.





A PERSONAL REFLECTION:

- **Research?**
- **Research Action**
- **An opportunity (Social Sciences)**
- **Private Partners**
- **International Network**
- **Financing**



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