EUROPEAN UNION

Intro to the EHESO Institutional Benchmarking Tool

Frans Kaiser and Donatas Jodauga

7 October 2026

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

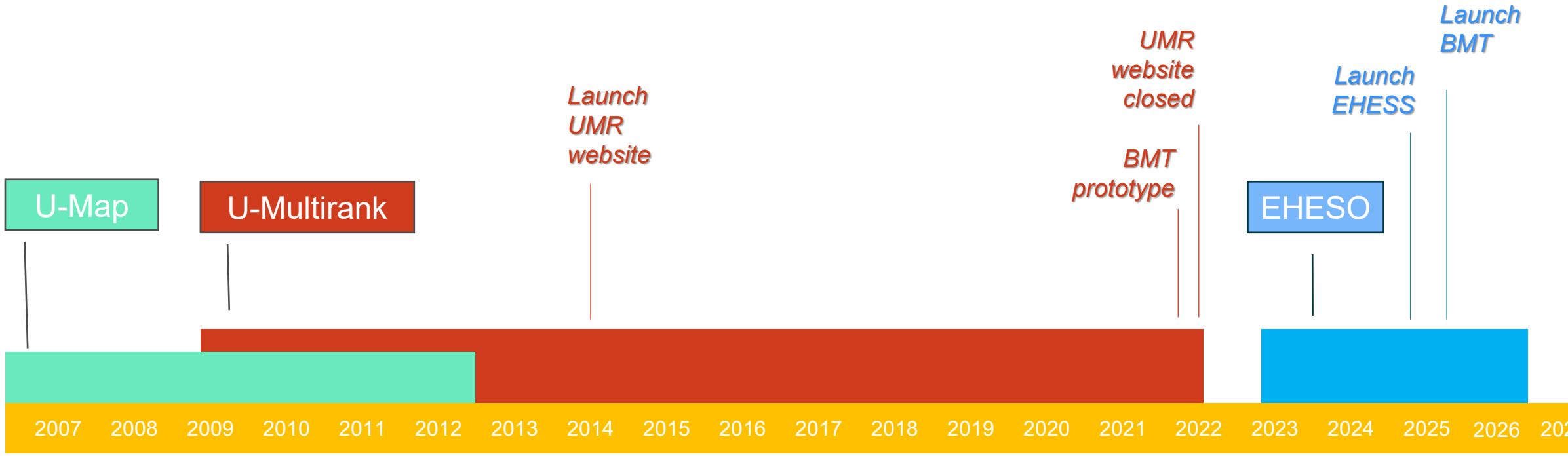
Higher education

Meeting agenda

Time	Item
13:00	Welcome
13:15	A short history of the Institutional Benchmarking Tool
	Use and users
	Basic structure
13:30	Use case: At-a-Glance view
	Use cases: Expert view
14:00	Questions
14:30	Closing

A short history

A short history



Use and users

Use

- First steps in the benchmarking process
  - Identify ‘similar’ institutions
  - Compare with ‘similar’ institutions
- Quick check on institutional profile
- Find potential partners for collaboration
- Showcase institution
- Compare groups of HEIs

Users

- **Policymakers**
  - Institutional level
  - National and European level
  - Other levels (regional, alliances)
- **Data analysts**
  - Institutional level
- **Other stakeholders**
  - Scholars
  - Prospective students
  - Companies, civic organisations

The basic structure

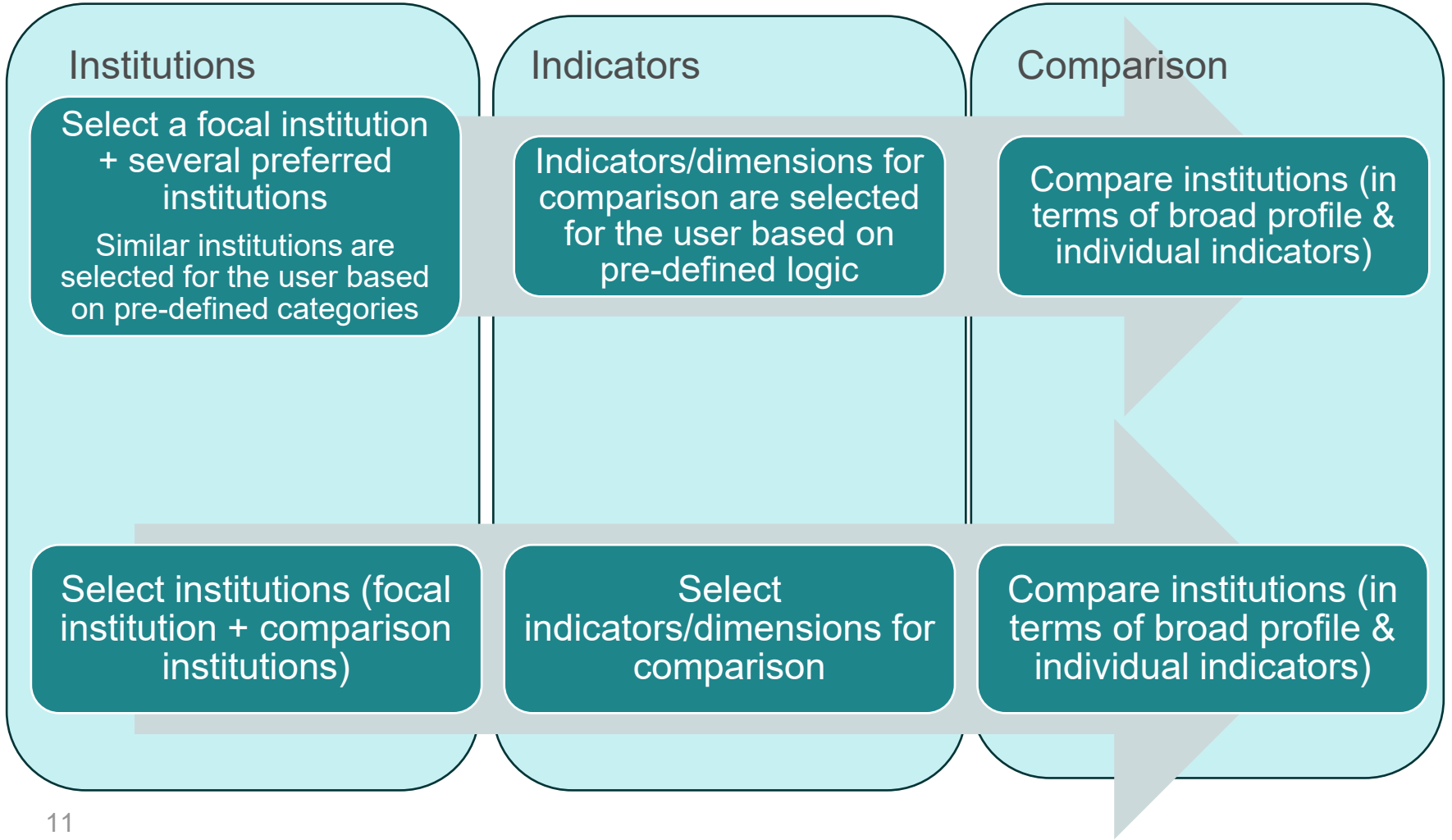
Overview

- Development of a tool that allows
  - Identifying ‘similar’ HEIs in Europe
  - Comparing them across a range of dimensions (benchmarking)
- Combining all EHESO data sources
  - ETER as a backbone (HEI list + basic data)
  - Enriched with data from the institutional survey, publications (*open*), patents, EU projects, Erasmus mobilities, etc.

Sample and population source

- HEIs included in the EHESO-ETER data collection
  - With at least data on academic personnel and subject composition
  - About 1 500 HEIs
- Data from
  - EHESO-ETER data collection
  - External sources (publications, patents)
  - EHESO survey (lower coverage)
- Most recent year (2022), plus time series in the expert view

Basic underlying logic

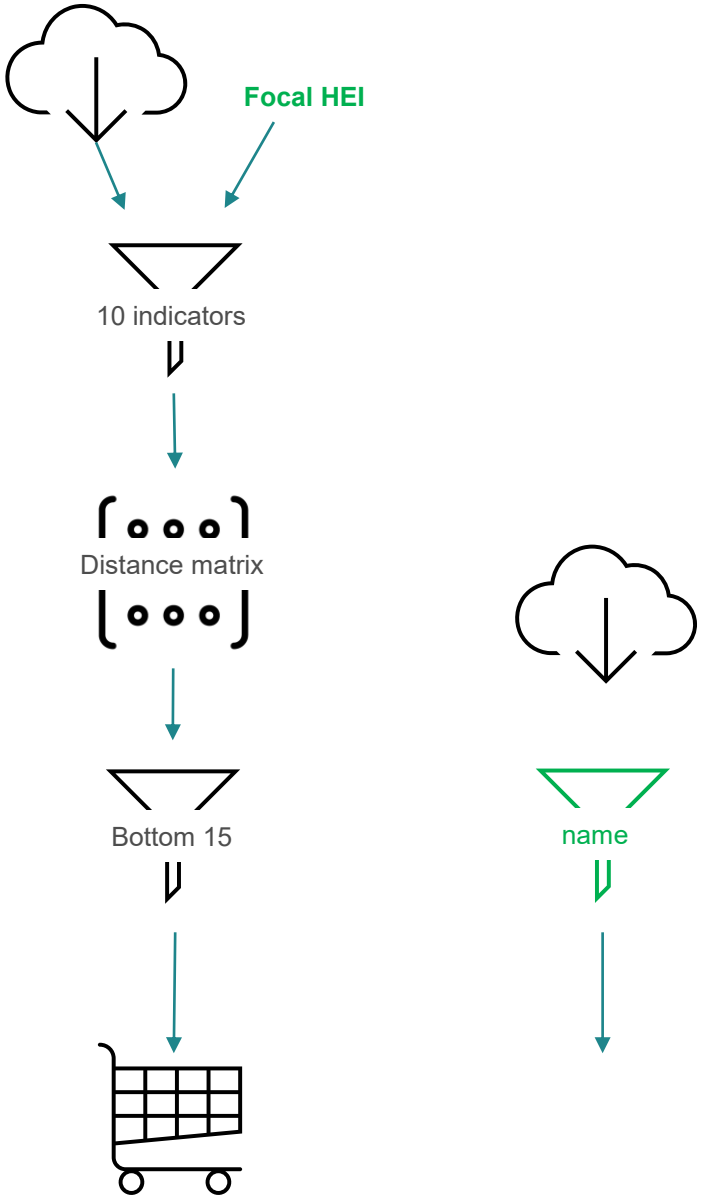


At a glance

Expert view

Selection of similar institutions

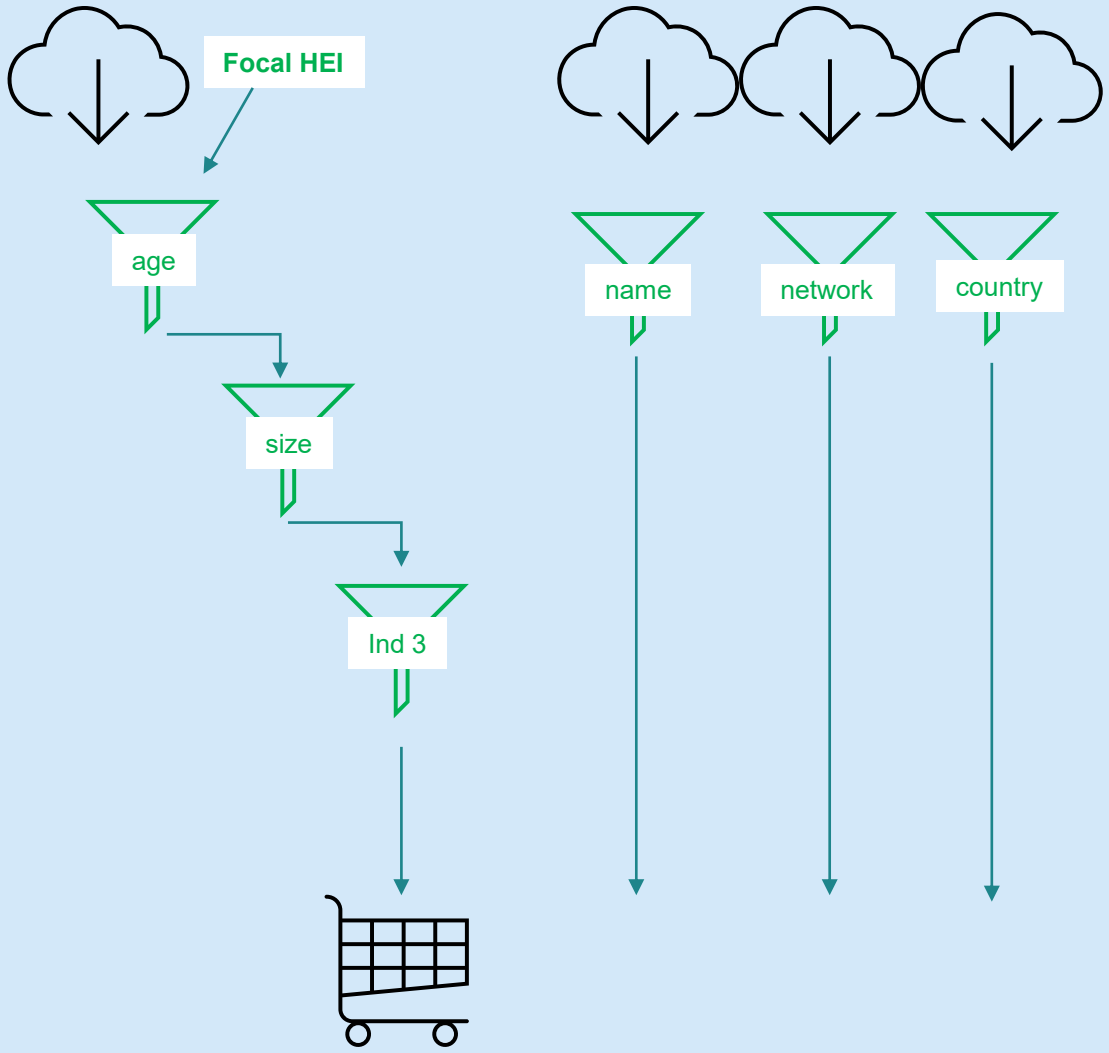
At a Glance view

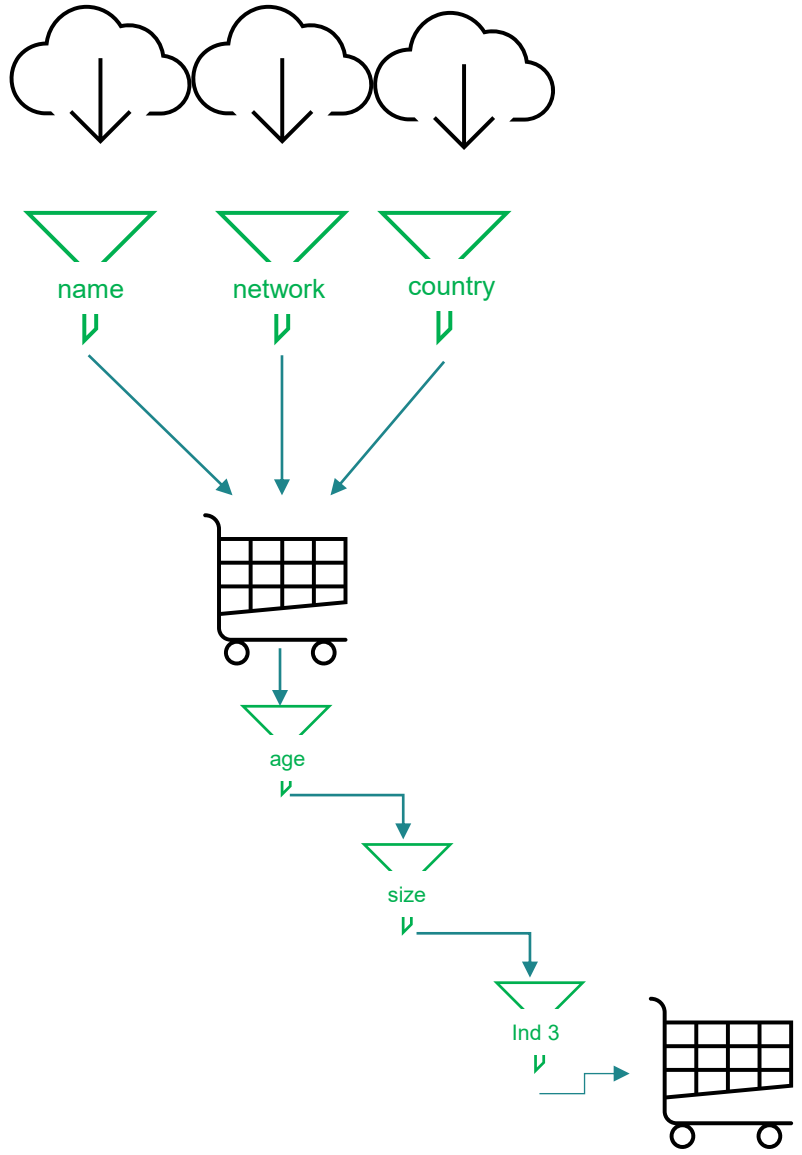


Selection of similar institutions

Expertview

Filter out





Categories of indicators included - 1

- *0. Descriptive – Basic facts that identify or describe the institution. Examples: Institution acronym, Country code, ETER ID, ETER ID year, Foundation year.*
- 0. Selection *(9)*– Key classification variables used to identify At a Glance. HEI age, Education intensity, Main educational field, HEI size, Master degree orientation, PhD intensity, Specialisation in STEM, Student subject concentration, University Hospital
- 1. Resources *(1)* – Senior academic staff
- 2. Teaching & learning *(6)*– Indicators on the institution's education activities and student outcomes. Total graduates (ISCED 5–7), Master's degree orientation, Percentage of graduates in STEM, Student subject concentration, Dropout rate at ISCED 6, Use of micro credentials.
- 3. Research *(4)*– Measures of research activity, output, and quality. PhD students per academic staff, Publications per academic staff, Share of publications in top 10% cited, Professional publications per academic staff

Categories of indicators included - 2

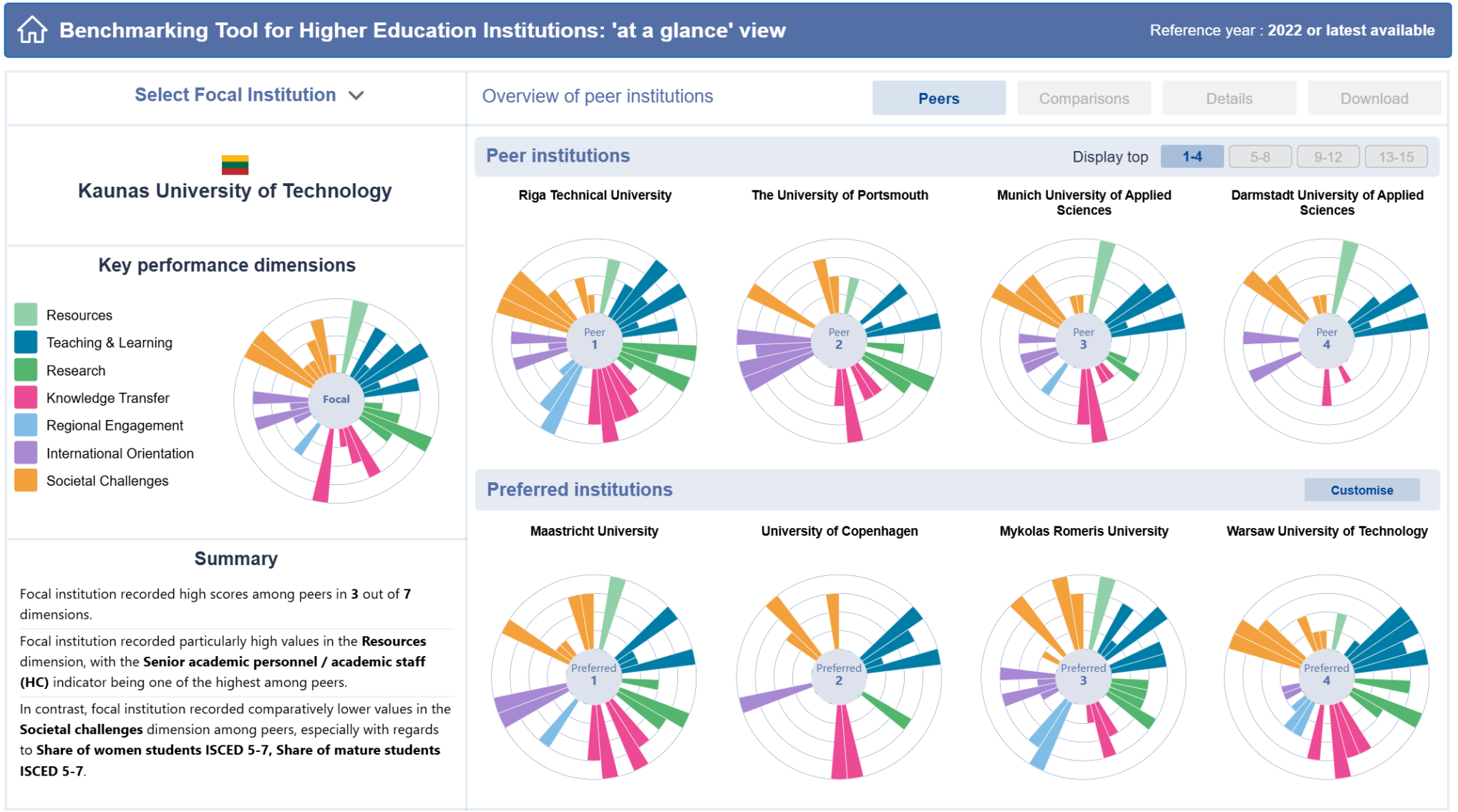
- 4. Knowledge transfer (*6*) – Engagement with industry and commercialisation of knowledge. Academic patent intensity, EU-FP project cooperation with industry, Share of co-publications with industry, Share of private third-party funding, Income from continuous professional development, spin-off
- 5. Regional engagement (*3*)– Collaboration and impact at the regional level. EU-FP regional cooperation intensity, External research revenues from regional sources, Share of bachelor graduates working in the region.
- 6. International orientation *(4)* – Extent of internationalisation in staff, students, and research. Share of foreign academic staff, Share of mobile PhD students, Share of international joint publications, Share of mobile students (ISCED 5–7)
- 7. Societal challenges *(8)*– Contribution to broader societal goals and addressing social issues. Green courses, Percentage of graduates in ICT, Intensity of publications in ICT, online courses Share of female academic staff, Share of female students (ISCED 5–7), Share of mature students (ISCED 5–7), Share of students with disability (ISCED 5-7).

Comparison

	At a Glance	Expert
Selection of indicators	Generated by tool *significantly below peergroup mean* *significantly above peergroup mean*	User's choice: full flexibility
Presentation		
List of peers	✓	✓
On map		✓
Sunburst	✓	
Barchart	+/-	✓
Scatterplot		✓
Trendline		✓
Details focal	✓	✓
Download	✓	✓

Use cases; At a Glance view

Kaunas University of Technology



Use cases; Expert view

Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya

- Mission:
  - *The UPC, a Catalan public university that is both rooted in the territory and an international point of reference, serves society, works for inclusion and instils the vocation to serve, ethical values, intellectual rigour and a commitment to building a sustainable and fair world; it promotes the most appropriate teaching and learning methods for each educational environment and discipline, and transfers and disseminates the knowledge generated through research to society.*
- Focus on technological innovation in the region
  - Deep tech innovation in Catalunya
- **Wants to learn from other institutions on**
  - inclusion
  - how to strengthen relations with region

Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences

- Vision
  - *As a university community, we develop technologies, ideas and solutions today that will shape our society tomorrow. We combine excellence in applied science with responsibility for a sustainable future worth living..*
- University of Applied Sciences
- Part of European University Alliance (INGENIUM)
  - *We are diverse: research and applied universities, old and new, comprehensive and specialist; nevertheless, we share the same values regarding education, research, innovation and social engagement*
- **Wants to learn**
  - how it is doing in the Alliance
  - What are the members closest to itself?

Q&A

Want your institution to be visible in EHESO?

You have seen what the Benchmarking Tool can do. Now make sure your institution is fully represented.

Use the tool to explore, compare and find partners.

1 REGISTER

for the 2026/27 EHESO data collection

Registration is **open now**

The data collection starts in November 2026.

- Institutional survey (required)
- Student survey (optional)
- One registration covers both surveys

Register

2 GET READY

Training session

29 October 2026

Learn about the data collection process and how to prepare your institution for the institutional and student surveys.

Register

3 STAY CONNECTED

Join the EHESO Community of Practice

- Get updates and supporting materials
- Exchange with other institutional coordinators
- Access FAQs, webinars and training materials
- Share experiences and good practices

Join

Be visible in EHESO

Showcase your institution, reach prospective students and strengthen your partnership opportunities across Europe.

Better institutional data → A more complete EHESO profile → Greater visibility across Europe

EHESO policy-oriented conference

Enhancing the learning experience

How can EHESO support student-centred higher education?

5 November 2026 | 09:15-16:45 CET

Brussels, Belgium
Hybrid event: selected sessions transmitted online

The day features

01 Key skills & pedagogical innovation
02 Joint programmes & degrees
03 Official launch of the Study in Europe Radar

Participation is free

Registration until 30 October at
ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EHESO_Conference_2026_Registration

Thank you!

Please provide short feedback
https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EHESO_Training261007

The European Higher Education Sector Observatory is possible thanks to funding from Erasmus+, the European programme for education, training, youth and sport. It is an initiative by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport, and Culture. It is operated by a consortium under a service contract with the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).