Programme

Monitoring the European Universities Initiative: EHESO's contribution to the evidence base

EHESO Online policy workshop

13 October 2026

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The third European Higher Education Sector Observatory (EHESO) online policy workshop, 'Monitoring the European Universities Initiative: EHESO's contribution to the evidence base', will take place on 13 October 2026, 14:00–17:00 CEST. It has been organised by the EHESO team, with the support and co-creation of the FOREU4ALL community. *The workshop will bring together European Universities alliances, FOREU4ALL, European-level stakeholders, national authorities, the European Commission and EACEA to discuss how EHESO can be useful in the context of the European Universities Initiative, both in supporting alliances' reporting and in their internal coordination and planning.*

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

The European Higher Education Sector Observatory (EHESO) is a user-centred data and information platform on the higher education sector in Europe, integrating several EU data and transparency tools, notably U-Multirank and ETER. It brings together data from national statistical offices (based on ETER), institutional and student surveys (based on U-Multirank), and other sources, including Eurostat, Erasmus mobility records, EU framework programme data, patent databases and quality assurance data. As a public resource, EHESO data is open to all users, including researchers, policymakers, national authorities, institutions and alliances. It is available as microdata in its Data Centre, and through various interactive tools.

This workshop is an open exchange to gather feedback on how EHESO can be useful in the context of the European Universities Initiative, both in supporting alliances' reporting and in their internal coordination and planning. It will present what EHESO offers today and collect ideas on how it could become more useful.

Importantly, EHESO is an observatory of the entire higher education sector, not a monitoring or impact assessment tool for a specific initiative. The European Commission's work on a future monitoring framework for alliances is a separate process, which EHESO data may inform and support. The workshop is a consultation on how existing EHESO data and tools can be used in the context of alliances, where they have limits, and what improvements could make them more useful.

After a plenary introduction, participants will join parallel breakout groups on three themes, each starting from one EHESO tool and co-moderated by EHESO and FOREU4ALL.

- **Breakout 1: Alliance data and analytical priorities.** Focuses on the initiative as a whole, at the sector level. Participants will discuss which aspects of the initiative are most important to capture, which existing EHESO data (for example, on mobility, educational offer or research collaboration) are already relevant, and where the main data gaps lie.
- **Breakout 2: The role of EHESO surveys.** Focuses on the alliance-related questions in the EHESO institutional survey. Participants will discuss whether these questions are relevant and can be answered by institutions, what information is suitable for a public sector observatory, and whether survey data could help simplify reporting.
- **Breakout 3: Using EHESO tools and data for alliance governance and planning.** Focuses on alliances' own coordination and strategic development. Participants will discuss what information alliances need for internal decision-making, how EHESO data can help map partner profiles across education, research and knowledge transfer, and what would make it more useful.

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).

PROGRAMME

Date 13 October 2026

Time 14:00-17:00 CET

Venue Online (Microsoft Teams)

Join the meeting

13:45-14:00 **Participants join the meeting**

PART 1 Welcome and introduction

14:00-14:15 **Welcome and workshop goals**
Mantas PUPINIS | *EHESO Deputy Project Manager*
Flávia COLUS | *EHESO Team*
Emily HELMEID | EUGLOH Secretary-General and Vice-Chair of the FOREU4ALL General Forum

14:15-14:25 **Welcome and presentation of the policy context**
Filip VAN DEPOELE| *Head of Unit – Transnational Cooperation in Higher Education | DG EAC*

14:25-14:35 **Q&A about workshop goals and policy context**
Moderated by Mantas PUPINIS | *EHESO Deputy Project Manager*

14:35-14:50 **Introduction to EHESO and how it currently supports alliances**
Mantas PUPINIS | *EHESO Deputy Project Manager*

14:50-15:05 **Q&A about EHESO tools**
Moderated by Mantas PUPINIS | *EHESO Deputy Project Manager*

PART 2 Breakout sessions

15:05-15:10 **Introduction to breakout sessions**

15:10-16:00 **Parallel breakout sessions**
Participants will join parallel breakout groups, co-moderated by EHESO and FOREU4ALL, on three themes. Breakout 1 looks at which data can capture the initiative at the sector level and where the gaps are. Breakout 2 discusses the alliance-related questions in the EHESO institutional survey. Breakout 3 explores how EHESO data can support alliances' own coordination and planning.

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	Moderated by the EHESO consortium members: Flávia COLUS | *Research Manager | PPMI, Part of the Verian Group* Roman PRUNC | *Researcher | Joanneum Research* Caroline FRIEDHOFF | *Senior Project Manager| CHE Centre for Higher Education* Gero FEDERKEIL| *Head of International Projects | CHE Centre for Higher Education* Frans KAISER | *Senior Researcher | Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies (CHEPS) | University of Twente* Donatas JODAUGA | *Senior Researcher | PPMI, Part of the Verian Group* **Co-moderated by FOREU4ALL representatives:** Emily HELMEID | *EUGLOH Secretary-General and Vice-Chair of the FOREU4ALL General Forum* Michal KARPISEK | *E³UDRES² General Secretary and member of the FOREU4ALL Forum Board* Gloria NUNES RODRIGUES | *ENLIGHT Impact Task Force Leader and Co-Chair of the FOREU4ALL Impact Topical Group* Olga WESSELS | *ECIU Brussels Office Head and Co-Coordinator of FOREU4ALL* Jonas SALZ | *YUFE Alliance Project Coordinator and Chair of the FOREU4ALL Project Management Topical Group* Ludovic THILLY | *EC2U Coordinator General and Co-Coordinator of FOREU4ALL*
16:00-16:15	*Break*
16:15-16:45	**Reporting from the breakout sessions, plenary discussion** Moderated by Mantas PUPINIS | *EHESO Deputy Project Manager*

PART 4 Wrapping up

16:45-17:00	**Concluding remarks and next steps** Mantas PUPINIS | *EHESO Deputy Project Manager*
17:00	End of the workshop

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