ARQUS II ERASMUS+

WORK PACKAGE 3

ARQUS COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

INTRODUCTION

As Arqus situates people at the centre of our approach to building a European University, our strategy reinforces and institutionalizes the diverse Arqus communities which have been built so far, including **Arqus Communities of Practice.**

One of the objectives of European University Alliances is that of **community- and identity-building within and across our member universities**. Despite the difficulties imposed by the pandemic, we have been able to establish concentric, intersecting and interlinked networks of members of each of our universities, building a sense of on-line community and Arqus identity. In order to move forward in our step-by-step approach to building a truly European University, Arqus believes that the many existing formal and informal Task Forces, Working Groups, committees and other groupings constitute the basis for our joint institutional learning and transformational approach. This Work Package aims to offer a upscaled and institutionalized framework for Arqus Communities not only in those areas already identified as key to the building of our shared future, but also in emerging areas for cooperation. The **concept of Communities of Practice**, borrowed from learning theory, is that of "systems of collective critical inquiry and reflection focussed on building a shared identity and collective intelligence garnered over time" (Nussbaum-Beach and Hall, 2012); it fits perfectly with Arqus' self-conception as a "laboratory for institutional learning", but grounds specific activities in their respective domains, thus weaving the social fabric required to enable collective learning. These Communities of Practice will also constitute a **key framework for the rapid and smooth incorporation of our new members**, facilitating institution-wide engagement on their part.

During the first three years of Arqus activity, many **multi-level communities** have arisen, such as the Language Centre directors, for example.

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Arqus is pleased to call for expressions of interest of groupings, whether pre-existing or entirely new, to constitute formal Communities of Practice within the Arqus Alliance.

REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS

Proposals should involve **professionals or academics** from at least 4 of the nine full members of Arqus, and may also involve members from associate partners.

Each CoP will develop its own Work Plan, with the three major objectives of **community building, bench- and peer-learning, and staff development** in mind. These Work Plans will propose joint activities, discussions, information sharing channels, and in particular address problems identified by each Community of Practice or by the Arqus governing and coordination bodies, and propose solutions to be implemented at local or Alliance level.

Domain-based joint staff development is an important tool for the long-term construction of the Alliance, and Communities of Practice are natural seedbeds for peer learning to take place and then be disseminated beyond those participating directly. For that reason, each Community of Practice Work Plan should include the design of a staff development programme for the corresponding domain, to be implemented on a continuous basis jointly during the funding period and beyond. Staff development will take the form of joint, flexible on-line, f2f or blended learning activities, which should be fully accessible, and use where possible the Arqus LMS once it has been developed; materials developed should be deposited in the Arqus repository. Learning acquired will be certified by the Arqus Academy and will be recognized by each partner university.

BENEFITS

Once constituted, Arqus will offer each Community logistic support where needed from the core Arqus team and, once the Arqus Digital Platform is available, a collaborative space on the Arqus Learning Management System (LMS), other IT solutions for virtual meetings and events.

Similarly, members of Communities will receive formal certification and recognition as established at each Arqus member university.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

This call for expressions of interest is intended to be open on a permanent basis. Results of proposals will be made every four months, approximately, according to the following tentative calendar (for 2023):

Proposals received until:	Results will be announced around:
15th June 2023	End of June 2023
31st October	Mid November 2023

Proposals are requested on the form available at the end of this document. They should be submitted to the Work Package co-leads, Guadalupe Soriano-Barabino and Kamila Kamińska-Sztark at arqus@ugr.es.

If you would like to suggest or to be part of a CoP but don't know anyone who shares the same interest at partner universities, please contact a member of this Work Package or the Project Officer at your university. Please also contact them for any other information.
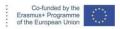
Here is the list of contacts by university:

- University of Granada:
    - Guadalupe Soriano Barabino (dirlangpolicy@ugr.es)
    - Inmaculada Yuste Martínez (arqus@ugr.es)
- University of Wroclaw:
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- University of Padua:
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- Vinius University:
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arQus

European University Alliance

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PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSTITUTION OF AN ARQUS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Name of CoP:

Person submitting proposal (contact person for the coordination of the CoP):

University:
Post held:
Email for contact:

Please list those wishing to join the CoP:

Name	University	Post

Brief description of CoP, professional field covered, potential activities and staff development (250 words):

In _____, on _____

Signature