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Imprint

Eucor – The European Campus EGTC
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Preface

Europe at a Glance: With the European Campus, we are embarking on a path to establish the first European university with five locations in three countries. I am very happy that we have created a new and strong vision for our cross-border cooperation in the trinational research area of the Upper Rhine. The European Campus unites the huge research and teaching potential here in the heart of Europe. We have an international reputation, excellence in science, a tradition that goes back to the 15th century, and a state-of-the-art research infrastructure. And we are utilizing our scientific, cultural, and language diversity to venture into new scholarly territory together.

The foundation of the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) under the name Eucor – The European Campus is a historic step, because it is the first EGTC that consists solely of universities. While the five member universities will remain autonomous, they can also act together as a European legal personality. This makes it a model project that is unique in the European research area.

The European Campus also has a strong political backing. At the conference in Metz in July 2015, the Ministers of State for Europe from Germany and France, Michael Roth and Harlem Désir, pledged their full support. In April 2016, the Franco-German Council of Ministers reconfirmed this, and the Swiss Cantons of Basel-Stadt and Basel-Landschaft have also firmly welcomed the founding of the EGTC.

In the coming years, our goal will be to implement our plans and visions. I look forward to shaping the European Campus together with all of our partners.

Best wishes,

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Hans-Jochen Schiewer
President of Eucor – The European Campus
and Rector of the University of Freiburg.

Eucor – The European Campus

5 universities, 3 countries, 1 campus

In the heart of Europe, tradition meets innovation. In the trinational Upper Rhine region shared by Germany, France, and Switzerland, five universities within a radius of only 200 kilometers have founded the European Campus.

With the European Campus, the Universities of Basel, Freiburg, Haute-Alsace, and Strasbourg, and the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology are forming a research and science hub of international importance. This economically strong and culturally important region is also home to another 50 research facilities and 63 institutions of higher education.

As a new legal entity in the form of a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC), the university alliance will have similar rights to a higher education institution. It can thus apply for joint research grants, establish joint professorships, and offer joint degree programs. The European Campus makes it possible to research and study on a trinational campus. The Upper Rhine science and research area therefore welcomes top researchers, young academics, and students from all over the world.

5.5 million euros from the European Union

An important element in the establishment of the European Campus consists of three Interreg projects that will shape the cooperation between the universities from 2016 to 2018. Interreg is a program of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for the support of cross-border cooperation in Europe. Through the ERDF, the European Union is funding the European Campus with a total of 5.5 million euros.

The focus of the key project called “Eucor – The European Campus: Cross-Border Structures” is to dismantle bureaucratic hurdles and to create a joint plan for the future. The goal is to unite the research, teaching, internationalization, and science support potential of all five universities. In the second project, a clus-

The European Campus in numbers

2,300,000,000 euro
Total budget of the 5 universities

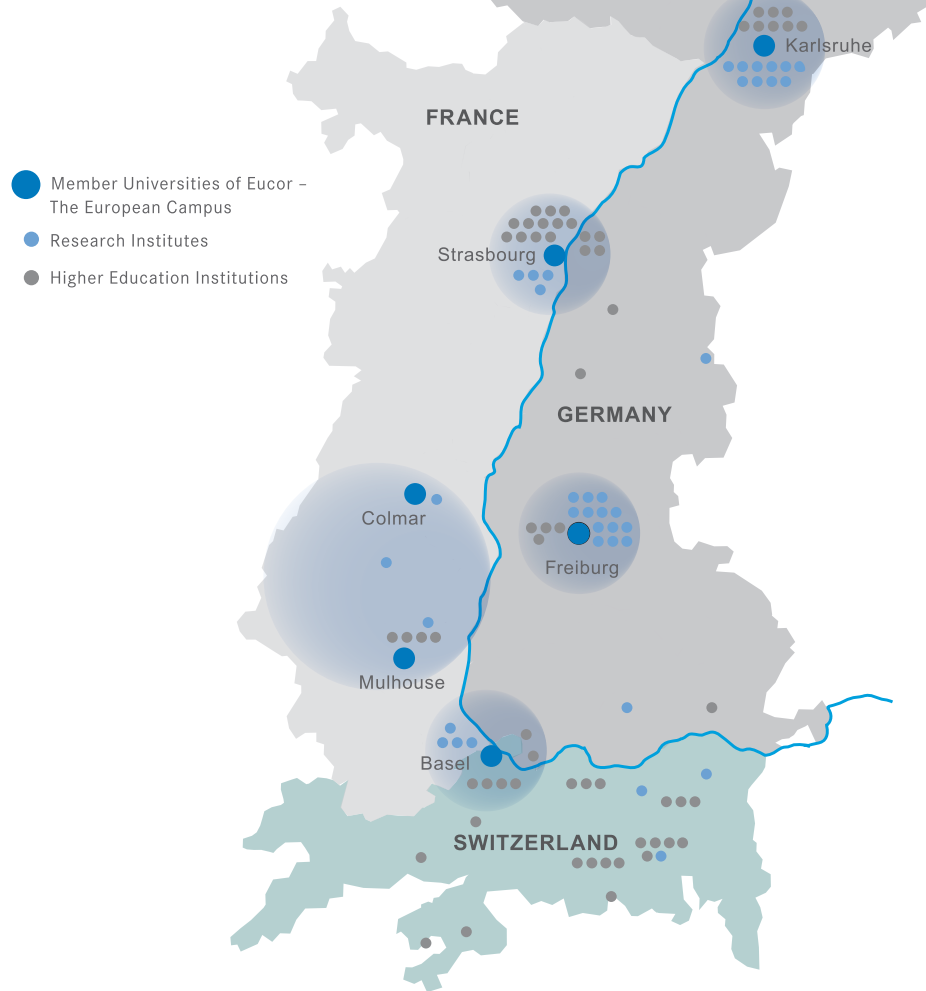
115,000
students

15,000
researchers

11,000
PhD candidates

ter will be established in the Upper Rhine for sustainability research, which is a key theme for the entire region. The core of the third project to be jointly implemented by the University of Koblenz-Landau and the European Campus universities is the establishment of a trinational graduate academy focusing on risk management. In the future, the universities also plan to develop a design study to establish a large research infrastructure in the Upper Rhine area.

The European Campus is based on many years of cooperation between the universities involved. In 1989, these universities formed a cross-border network called "Eucor." The EGTC will now provide a new platform for research and teaching across borders and will decisively strengthen the position of the five universities when competing for the brightest minds and best ideas.



We thank our sponsors and partners:



ERDF – European Regional Development Fund

“With each project, the Upper Rhine becomes more integrated.”



The Five Universities of Eucor – The European Campus

University of Basel

Founded in 1460

10,036 students



The University of Basel is the only Swiss partner university in the European Campus. With its seven faculties, the oldest university in Switzerland offers a broad spectrum of academic disciplines. It also competes on an international level with its five strategic focal areas: Life Sciences, Visual Studies, Nanoscience, Sustainability and Energy Research, as well as European and Global Studies.

www.unibas.ch

University of Freiburg

Founded in 1457

25,158 students



Freiburg is known as the “Green City” and is famous for its Black Forest mountains, high environmental standards, and (of course) its university, which is one of Germany’s oldest. From the humanities and engineering to the University Medical Center, which is one of the largest medical facilities in Europe: The comprehensive university offers ideal conditions for research and teaching and has produced ten Nobel Prize winners, who have also taught at University of Freiburg.

www.uni-freiburg.de

University of Haute-Alsace

Founded in 1975

8,112 students



The University of Haute-Alsace consists of several campuses located in Mulhouse and Colmar. This

young university was formed through a merger of several older higher education institutions in Mulhouse, including the École Nationale Supérieure de Chimie in Mulhouse (ENSCMu), which was established in 1822 and is the oldest school of chemistry in France. The main focus of the University of Haute-Alsace is on the natural sciences and engineering.

www.uha.fr

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Founded in 2009

25,196 students



The Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) was established in 2009, when the Karlsruhe Research Center

and the University of Karlsruhe were merged. As “The Research University in the Helmholtz Association”, KIT fully exploits its synergy potential resulting from combining tasks of national big research with those of a state university regarding research, teaching, and innovation. With about 9,300 employees and a yearly budget of about 850 million euros, KIT is one of the big institutions of research and higher education in natural sciences and engineering in Europe.

www.kit.edu

University of Strasbourg

Founded in 1612

46,627 students



The University of Strasbourg is the most international of all French universities after Paris. 20 percent

of its entire student body, including PhD candidates, are from abroad. Founded in 1612, the university boasts a colorful French-German past. The University of Strasbourg is characterized by its interdisciplinary research, its wide-range of degree programs, its many cultural events. Four Nobel Prize winners are doing their research at the University of Strasbourg. In 2016, it became one of three universities in France to be selected as a permanent Center of Excellence.

www.unistra.fr

Benefits for researchers

Profiting from the transfer of innovation and knowledge

The European Campus makes it easier to research across borders. Scientists will be able to access the research infrastructures of all member universities of Eucor – The European Campus.

Joint applications for grants

The shared legal form as a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) will now make it possible to jointly apply for grants at a European and national level in Germany, France and Switzerland.

Joint professorships

In the European Campus, the basic conditions for the joint hiring of academic staff will be simplified in the coming years. The European Campus will therefore make the trinational research area even more attractive for top international researchers and scientists.

Trans-national PhD program

At the European Campus, PhD candidates have the opportunity to attend classes at partner universities with equal access to all services (libraries, cafeterias, and so forth). In the trans-national PhD program, the academic systems of all three countries are open to them for a career in research.



Dr. Birgit Metzger, a postdoc in the FRIAS-USIAS project “Soldiers out of Control. An Entangled History of Military Accidents in France and Germany, 1920-1970” of the Universities of Freiburg and Strasbourg.

„For us, working in a joint fellowship program is rewarding and inspiring. Within our project, we have the opportunity to get to know the research landscape and university structures in France and to network with French researchers. For a project with a transnational theme that deals with German and French history and its mutual interaction, this practical work across borders is very beneficial. We also profit in our project from the fact that many fellow researchers who are important to our work are located in the Upper Rhine region.“



Prof. Dr. Paul Burger, University of Basel, head of the Upper Rhine Cluster for Sustainability Research.

„Research partnerships across borders can not only bring together the existing complementary research competencies and strengthen the research area’s competitiveness, it can also transform the Upper Rhine region into a research focus – with its special characteristics as a ‘European laboratory of real life’ (trilingual, different languages and cultures, and so forth) – which is our goal at the Upper Rhine Cluster for Sustainability Research. Eucor – The European Campus can provide the institutional foundations necessary to make research projects and proposals happen across borders and disciplines in the future.“



Prof. Dr. Mario Ruben, double position as a professor at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and a professeur conventionné at the University of Strasbourg.

„In my current field of research, molecular nanotechnology, which is located at the intersection of chemistry and physics, the universities in Karlsruhe and Strasbourg provide the highest level of scientific expertise and are distinctly complementary. I am personally and academically very pleased to be researching at both universities and to combine the specific intellectual characteristics of the German and French academic systems. I am looking forward to be able to take advantage of the synergies in the Upper Rhine region even more effectively in the future with the now existing European Campus.“

Benefits for students and teachers

Designing a trinational course schedule

If you are enrolled at one of the European Campus universities, you can attend classes at all five universities, thanks to the many different forms of student mobility. You can gain not only new knowledge and methods, but also new language and intercultural skills.

Trans-national degree programs

Within the framework of Eucor – The European Campus, the universities offer joint degree programs in the natural and social sciences as well as the humanities. This means that students can complete a degree program designed by two or more universities who then jointly issue the degree (double or triple degree).

Freedom of mobility

Students can attend classes or entire modules at one or several partner universities. In agreement with their academic advisors at their

home and partner university, the credits (ECTS points) they earn at other universities can be transferred to their home university. The home university also provides financial support for travel expenses.

Five universities, one campus

At the European Campus, students will be granted access to the same services at the partner universities as at their home university. This includes online services, libraries, cafeterias, student housing, special rates for public transportation, and access to interdisciplinary classes.

Joint courses

Teachers have the opportunity to offer joint classes within the Eucor – The European Campus framework. The different languages, cultural backgrounds, and educational approaches enrich cross-border learning.



Prof. Dr. Sabine Gless, Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Trial Law (University of Basel).

„Classes within the framework of Eucor – The European Campus give students an important trinational perspective. In law seminars, for example, they learn through direct discussion that legal systems offer different solutions for similar problems – for example, regarding the advantages or disadvantages of plea bargaining in a criminal trial.”



Pauline Bentz, graduate of the binational degree program Regio Chimica (University of Haute-Alsace and University of Freiburg).

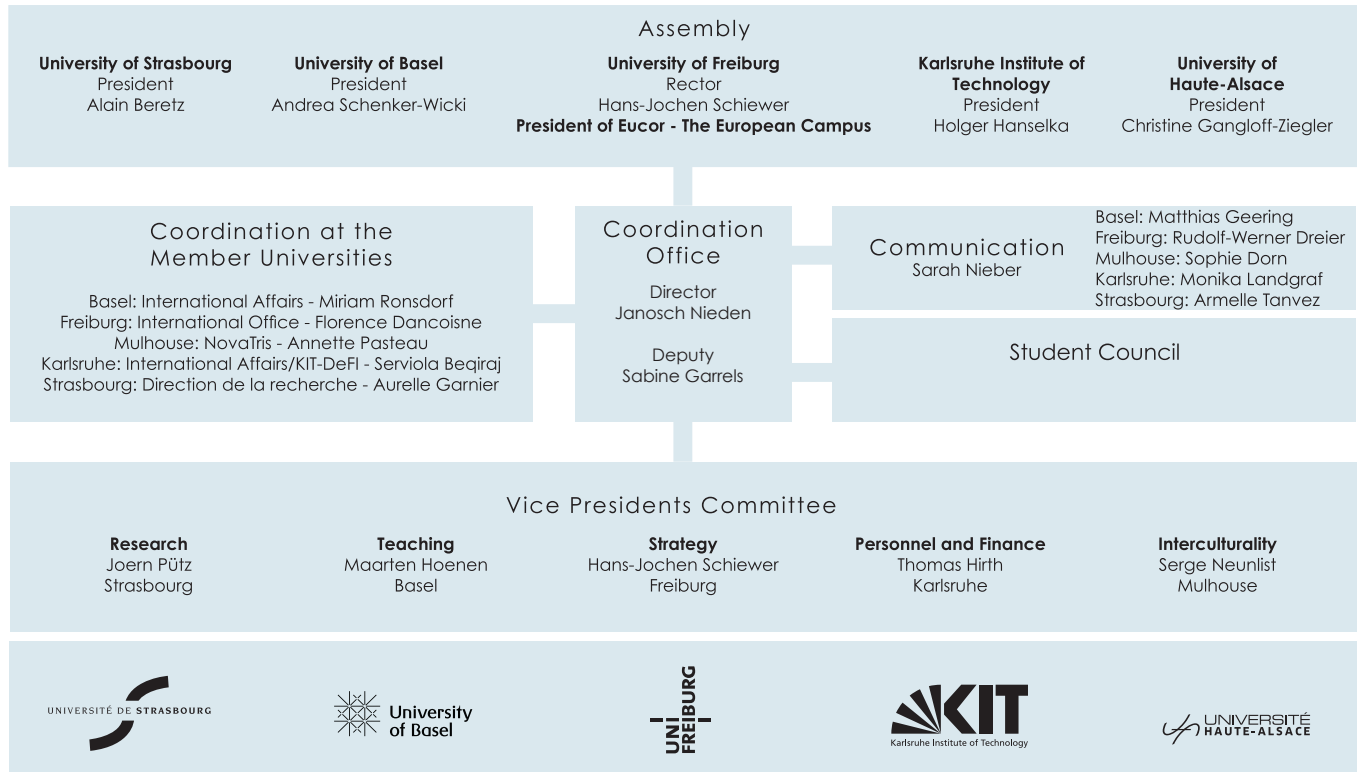
„For me, the experience of studying in a bilingual group of students in the Regio Chimica degree program was very exciting. I learned a lot about German culture, but I also learned just as much about myself and my own culture. After those three years of studying, I can say that I feel at home in France and in Germany, and that I have acquired the necessary intercultural skills to handle other foreign cultures as well.”



Kevin Lota, student at the European Center for Studies and Research in Ethics (CEERE, University of Strasbourg).

„As part of Eucor – The European Campus, I was able to participate in conferences and seminars, mostly in the field of health sciences and technologies at the Universities of Basel, Karlsruhe, Freiburg, and Haute-Alsace. This provided me with the enriching opportunity to dive into interdisciplinary learning. International mobility gives you the chance to open yourself to other people as well. I would recommend this exciting experience to every student!”

Organizational structure



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Europe at a Glance:

Research and Teaching in the Upper Rhine Region

