



JEAN MONNET ACTIVITIES

30 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN EU STUDIES

The European Commission launched the **Jean Monnet Activities** in 1989 to promote excellence in teaching and research in the field of European Union studies worldwide. Named after Jean Monnet (1888-1979), the first president of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community, which has evolved into the European Union, they are now part of the Erasmus+ Programme.

Jean Monnet Activities provide financial support to higher education institutions for the introduction of the so-called Jean Monnet chairs, which are full-time teaching posts devoted to teaching about various aspects of European integration. They also support teaching modules of shorter duration on various aspects of the European integration process including European law, healthcare, energy, transport, climate action, European business studies and the history of European integration, covering its institutional, legal, political, economic and social aspects. The activities also foster dialogue between the academic world and policy-makers, in particular with the aim of supporting policy-makers at national and EU level to develop better policies.

JEAN MONNET ACTIVITIES IN FIGURES



300 000
students per year



9000
university teachers per year



1000
universities supported so far



5000
projects funded so far

Total budget 2019:

€48.5 million

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED:

-  **Jean Monnet teaching Modules:** for European Union studies, with a minimum of 40 teaching hours per academic year.
-  **Jean Monnet Chairs:** full-time teaching posts in European Union studies for specialist university professors or senior lecturers who provide a minimum of 90 teaching hours per year.
-  **Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence:** hubs of knowledge, research and expertise on EU subjects based in higher education institutions, each with several high-level specialist scholars.
-  **Jean Monnet support to associations:** to promote outreach, knowledge and debate about the EU through other stakeholders who serve as multipliers in society.
-  **Jean Monnet Networks and Projects:** to support consortia of international actors working in the field of European Union studies, the spreading of knowledge about the European Union and the policy debate between academics, policy makers and citizens.

Key activities include courses, research, conferences, networking activities, and publications in the field of EU studies. Jean Monnet Activities also provide operating grants to a selected number of higher education institutions in Europe to pursue excellence in EU studies and research:

- **European University Institute** in Florence;
- **College of Europe** (in Bruges and in Natolin);
- **Academy of European Law** in Trier;
- **Centre International de Formation Européenne** in Nice;
- **European Institute for Public Administration** in Maastricht;
- **European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education** in Odense.

The European Commission has proposed to increase the budget of the future Erasmus programme in the period 2021-2027. In this context, a higher budget for the Jean Monnet Activities is likely.

In addition, the European Commission's proposal for the future Erasmus Programme envisages extending Jean Monnet Activities to other sectors of education, notably to schools, to enhance young people's awareness of the European Union.

SUCCESS STORIES



Jean Monnet project: Studying the European Council – Mastering and Disseminating Knowledge about a Key Institution (SUMMIT) (Cologne, Germany)

The European Council takes centre stage in EU politics and is involved in all major decisions such as enlargement, treaty reform and foreign policy. In September 2015, the SUMMIT Project was launched at the University of Cologne to fill the teaching, research and knowledge gaps on the European Council and its work. The project, which was completed in February 2017, involved academics and practitioners in the area of education, civil society and the public.



Jean Monnet Modules: Europeanisation of the Western Balkans (Zagreb, Croatia)

The module was the first of its kind given at the University of Zagreb from September 2014 to August 2017. It looked at the enlargement process in this region. Through an inter-disciplinary approach, students got an overall understanding of the EU's economic, political, legal, institutional and social impact on the Western Balkans.



Jean Monnet Action – Support to Institutions and Organisations: Digital Democracy (Bruges, Belgium)

Independent media are at the heart of a well-functioning democracy. Nevertheless, journalists often lack basic knowledge of the EU institutions and how they function. Likewise, many citizens are not aware of how national politics and decision-making are influenced by the EU. This project was launched in 2014 and completed in 2017. It aimed to provide journalists and other stakeholders with the knowledge, skills and insights to better understand EU decision-making.