



ERASMUS+ - European Universities Evaluation Report Call for proposals EAC/A03/2018

Proposal number:	612518-EPP-1-2019-1-HU-EPPKA2-EUR-UNIV
Acronym:	<i>EU4ART</i>
Proposal title:	<i>ALLIANCE FOR COMMON FINE ARTS CURRICULUM</i>
Applicant organisation:	MAGYAR KEPZOMUVESZETI EGYETEM

Award Criteria	Score	Max
Relevance of the proposal	21	25

The EU4ART pilot project presented by four higher education institutions devoted to Fine Arts aims to develop common flexible curricula in the field of painting, sculpture and graphic art. The new curricula are based on an interdisciplinary, international approach, integrating innovative pedagogical methods including digital technologies. These new curricula will serve as a model that could be used for other European universities with the goal of creating a European Virtual University of Arts by 2025. The tools for this purpose are mainly the success of the new common curricula that will be designed and the involvement through mobility (physical and virtual) of graduates who will work in different countries of the Alliance as artists or managers of art. The proposal establishes the basis for a further collaboration of all stakeholders, where students are at the core of the project. It represents a well thought out plan to raise long-term awareness of art in European and world culture. The mission statement, signed by all rectors, is comprehensive and sets out a clear strategy and actions for the development of the European University. While not seen as a standard subject, art is at the core of the values of the European Union. EU4ART has the potential to reach out to Arts faculties of Universities across Europe, operating in a more theoretical or academic setting. To achieve their goal the consortium will broaden student and staff mobility & language skills in the different disciplines, going beyond the Erasmus+ exchanges, which already exist, between the members of the Alliance. Partner institutions have previous experience of working together. As stated in the mission statement, the development of a joint curriculum by 2021 shall create synergies between culture (artistic practice) and education. The progressive creation of a 'European Virtual University of the Arts' is hoped to open up art education to society and offer opportunities for employment of its graduates beyond the narrow confines of individual art creation. The innovative approach lies in the harmonization of arts practice, covering 3 artistic areas across the three higher education cycles, in its product and the training of future arts professionals by transgenerational teams across Europe. The EU4Art alliance intends to upscale the current low mobility among its partners, through art workshops & trainings, custom-designed for students. The use of digital technologies specifically mentioned as a duo option next to face-to-face teaching allows each of the partners to make specific contributions. There are some caveats on how physical mobility is going to be implemented and funded, especially for low income students. The proposal is innovative within its scope and develops sensitivity to diverse art technique tradition. Students will benefit from the harmonization of studies, from the means offered to improve their language competences. In addition, they will acquire knowledge of the regional cultures and contribute to enriching the diversity of European culture. The regional and local impact, at a first stage will be limited to the participating institutions. The proposal lacks ambition in the design of art doctorates, an area where Europe clearly lags behind other regions. Research is one of the weakest links of the project, even taking into account the creation of the Multilingual Dictionary of Arts and Creative Processes. In short, the greatest strength of the proposal is its innovative approach such as turning artistic creations into something that also has a market value; its many links with the European Education Area and the European University objectives; the concern for employability the link with the external world and the potential for replicability in other sectors of art education.

Award Criteria	Score	Max
Geographical balance	13	15
<p>The proposal includes four higher education institutions from Italy, Germany, Latvia and Hungary, covering four geographical areas. The alliance consists of leading institutions with external partners that have extensive reputations and is open to the inclusion of new partners after the pilot period. The choice of partners and its relevance for the objectives of the European Education Area is sufficiently explained.</p>		
Award Criteria	Score	Max
Quality of the proposal and implementation	15,50	20
<p>The work packages, with their activities and deliverables, demonstrate consistency between the project's aim and its work plan. The proposal highlights the relevance of arts' teaching based on a shared use of habits and resources and the involvement and modernization of extra-academic partners. The whole content of the programs (courses but also artistic productions) will be available online and there will be a mix of face-to-face and online learning, taking the education in the area to a new level. The data provided on students and staff mobility is realistic given the implementation of a flexible and harmonized curriculum, explicitly including mobility, but lacks the funding necessary from the project and relies in many occasions on third parties. A structural change of the curricula will modify how and where art is taught. The proposal presents a pedagogically ambitious plan that overlooks diversity. There are efforts to overcome income differences. The joint project transforms how workshops, the basic thematic unit in art, are constructed, taught and delivered, helping the European Education Area take the pedagogical lead in the area. The proposed structure for workshops facilitates the exchange of techniques, the relation among students and the visibility of their outputs. Students may help develop new workshops where they can research new techniques that will become new work of art. To give them more visibility, the alliance is going to create a web page and organise several expositions to increase visibility of those outputs. The vision of an art student becoming a future entrepreneur is also reinforced through the additional mobility and the learning. The project does not clearly specify how the students are going to take advantage of the mobility to learn a third language. The involvement of academic staff is well detailed and key to the success of the European Workshop Network of Educational and Artistic Practices. The alliance has made an extra effort to develop and design indicators which will facilitate the management to overlook the progress. Special attention is paid to Quality Assurance. A process will be developed with the help of external experts to produce a Project Quality Manual. The management is appropriate. However, there are little plans for surveys or evaluation questionnaires. The quality assessment of the project is left to the different control bodies created, but there is little external evaluation of the project foreseen. The financial control of the project and its cost efficiency is detailed and looks sound in in most instances.</p>		
Award Criteria	Score	Max
Quality of the alliance cooperation arrangements	17	20
<p>The proposal has an efficient organizational structure with clear communication and documentation lines. A Steering Committee is the ultimate decision-making body, responsible for strategic matters. Management roles are divided along alliance management, content management and administrative-</p>		

financial management. Work package leaders are responsible for day-to-day management. As final referring group, there is an Advisory Board for consultation with associate members. The distribution of tasks and responsibilities between the partners is well described. WPs include clearly defined tasks and the work progress is well structured, following a strict timetable. The partners complement each other and will take the lead in a field of their expertise. The partners will use mobility and the common flexible curriculum to share infrastructure that would have been too costly to set up for an individual university. In addition, the professional tasks in the project were allocated to the partner institution that has the greatest experience and most suitable infrastructure in the given area. The alliance is aware of administrative, legal and technological barriers. Some solutions are proposed to reduce existing barriers and obstacles based on a very honest prior analysis but how this will be solved is not sufficiently explained. Still the organizational set-up is efficient and there are straightforward procedures for dealing with conflict resolution and risk management.

Award Criteria	Score	Max
Sustainability and dissemination	15	/20
<p>The project has a long-term vocation. The harmonization of the curriculum proposed means a long-term compromise for students and staff and an easily replicable model for similar institutions in Europe and worldwide. Art training is essentially undivided (a typical Arts graduate has a final occupational objective of becoming a sculptor, painter, graphic artist), which makes them compatible with similar trainings in other countries, despite curricular differences. This removes serious obstacles against other partners joining the scheme. Arts education universally having a tutorial nature, outputs like ‘best practices for art workshops’ are also of interest to other forms of arts education & instruction. The reputation of the involved partners is considered favourable for the dissemination of the project, creating the basis for making the education offer more attractive to international students. The alliance has potential to boost competitiveness in this area. Education being within the remit of national authorities, with any changes subject to national review (ad mid-term intervals) the offer of programmes is secured during a giving time. There is a strong commitment among institutional leaders and teachers for a long-term maintenance of the Alliance. Overall, the role model potential or replicability are real, but the challenge of harmonizing lengthy Fine Arts training courses remains. The vision in relation to sustainability and dissemination is described rather generically.</p>		
TOTAL		81,50/100