



# SGROUP NEWSLETTER

## Foreword

Dear SGroup colleagues,

As we embrace the vibrant energy of spring and the upcoming holiday season, we're excited to share the latest news, updates, and opportunities within the SGroup network. With new collaborations blooming and our shared goals growing stronger, we look forward to keeping you informed and engaged with everything happening across our community.

We are delighted to introduce this new SGroup newsletter, which will be released three times per year. It will provide you with regular insights into the developments and initiatives that matter to us all. Stay tuned for exciting updates and opportunities in the coming months!



## SGROUP CAFÉ

Join us to learn more about EU University Alliances!

**16 April 2025, 14:00 to 15:30 CEST**

Location: Online

The second edition of the SGroup Café will be hosted by Kaunas University of Technology (KTU), Lithuania. This session will provide a special spotlight on the ECIU University as a case study in innovation, flexibility, and cross-border collaboration.

Programme highlights include:

- The Latest News from Brussels around the European University Alliances – Olga Wessels, ECIU Brussels Office, Belgium.
- Imagining a European University: the ECIU University Case – Niall Power (ECIU University Director), University of Aveiro, Portugal.
- Adapting to Change: KTU Approach to Flexible Learning Pathways – Dr. Asta Daunorienė, KTU
- Research and Innovation: KTU's Perspective – Dr. Vilma Karoblienė, KTU.

Q&A session will be included.

Invite your colleagues and join the session [Zoom link](#)

On **4 June 2025** the third edition of the SGroup Online Café will take place. We will meet to share information and discuss how our network community could collaborate on the new project proposals, exchange traineeship offers and many other useful tips.

## STAFF WEEK

Ready for Catania?

The SGroup Staff Week 2025, hosted by the University of Catania, is just around the corner—and we can't wait to see you there!

Virtual Kick-Off

**24 April** | 11:00-13:00 CEST | [Online](#)

Get a head start with this interactive online session designed to connect participants, share insights, and set the scene for what's to come in Catania.

On-Site Programme in Catania

**19-23 May** | University of Catania, Italy

An exciting week packed with engaging workshops, expert talks, networking, and cultural experiences—all in the heart of Sicily.

This edition of the SGroup Staff Week promises to be full of energy, learning, and meaningful connections. Don't miss out!




## TTA IN LONDON

Get ready—the SGroup Think Tank Academy (TTA) Summer Conference 2025 is heading to London, UK!

Join us in the heart of Westminster for two days of forward-thinking discussions, networking, and collaborative energy. This year's edition will also feature a first-ever meeting of the SGroup Doctoral Schools, bringing fresh perspectives to the table and shaping new pathways for cooperation.

 Location: University of Westminster, London

 Dates: **26 & 27 June 2025**

 Register now— don't miss the opportunity to join [Register here](#)


This is your chance to connect, contribute, and be part of shaping what's next in the global future of Higher Education.

London's calling—will you answer?

## PHD CUP

48 candidates from 12 SGroup member Universities were selected for the 2025 PhD Cup Training!

The two dynamic and hands-on online training sessions for selected PhD applicants designed to sharpen the pitch skills and boost presentation confidence, will be led by communication expert Professor Guido Molina (Impulsplus, Germany)

 Training Dates: **5 & 7 May 2025**


 Location: Online

These sessions will help the participants craft a compelling narrative, master delivery techniques, and connect with audiences like a pro.

An interactive format, practical exercises, and plenty of expert feedback! The top three participants will join us in the final, which will be held during the SGroup Annual Meetings in Szeged, Hungary in October 2025.



## ICON 2025

 We're excited to announce the results of the first call of the ICON were sent!

A second call for applications is now open, exclusively for associate members, as there is one remaining spot to be filled. If you're eligible, use your chance to join the ICON experience!

## ENGAGEMENTS

AN SGROUP CONVERSATIONS SERIES ON THE  
SOCIAL MISSION OF UNIVERSITIES



# ENGAGEMENTS

 Upcoming Engagements Sessions - Join the Conversation!

We are delighted that the sessions on "Social Mission and Responsible Internationalisation" (April) and "The Green Agenda: Social Mission, Sustainability, and Environmentalism" (February) sparked a strong interest and engagement across the communities of our member universities!

Two more sessions are planned for this year, so don't miss your chance to take part and invite your colleagues to join as well!

 **June 27th, 2025**


Topic: Social Mission and HE Engagement with Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Issues: What Does Good/Innovative Practice Look Like?

Format: Hybrid (part of the Think Tank Academy Summer Conference)

 **October 16th, 2025**

Topic: Meeting Global Challenges

Format: Hybrid (part of the Think Tank Academy Autumn Conference)

 Please register using the following link:  
[Engagements Registration Form](#)  
We look forward to seeing you there!

# ANNUAL MEETINGS




Save the Date: SGroup Annual Meetings 2025 - Registration Now Open!

 October **14th-16th, 2025**

We're excited to remind you that the SGroup Annual Meetings 2025 will be held in the beautiful city of Szeged, Hungary.

This annual gathering is a cornerstone event for our network, bringing together members from across Europe and beyond to share ideas, shape strategy, and deepen partnerships.

 Why you should attend:

- Meet SGroup colleagues and friends!
- Exchange ideas and best practices with fellow members!
- Engage in strategic discussions shaping the future of our network!
- Discover Szeged - Hungary's vibrant "City of Sunshine"!
- Be part of inspiring sessions and collaborative initiatives

Your participation and contributions are essential to the success of our network!

 [Register](#) today and secure your place!

Contact us

Stay connected with us



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We invite you and your colleagues to follow SGroup on social media for the latest updates, news, and opportunities