



**SG Group**  
UNIVERSITIES  
IN EUROPE

**SG Group** presentation

## SGroup – Universities in Europe

### Vision

The SGroup – Universities in Europe is an International non-profit association under Spanish law established in 1988.

It aims to strengthen the institutional capacities of its member universities to reinforce their international visibility, to expand their collaboration opportunities in education and research, and to improve the quality of their governance, teaching, research and administrative practices.

It seeks to achieve this through the transfer of knowledge, the development of strategic alliances and the improvement of intercultural understanding.

## SGroup – Universities in Europe

### Mission

SGroup is a dynamic platform among European and non-EU institutions for modern, internationally oriented universities with the aim of **expanding collaboration opportunities in education and research** through the **transfer of knowledge and the development of strategic alliances**.

It also aims to develop the internationalisation of its members, to foster university excellence in education and research, and to promote the continuous adaptation to educational and societal needs in a creative and innovative way.

## Organisational Structure

Composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and four other members elected by the General Assembly.

Composed of the General Assembly representatives: vice-rectors / decision makers from Universities. Have the right to vote.



Composed of the Operations Manager, Project Manager and Executive Secretary. Direct contact with the Liaison Officers.

Representatives from Universities at an operational level, implementing and contributing to the SGroup activities. Liaise with the Secretariat.

## Organisational Structure

### Executive Committee



**Arnim Heinemann**  
President



**Hans Abelius**  
Vice-President



**Mar Fernandes**  
Secretary



**Adina Fodor**



**Patricia Petit**



**Cecilia Christersson**



**Agata Mannino**

### Secretariat



**Valère Meus**  
Operations Manager

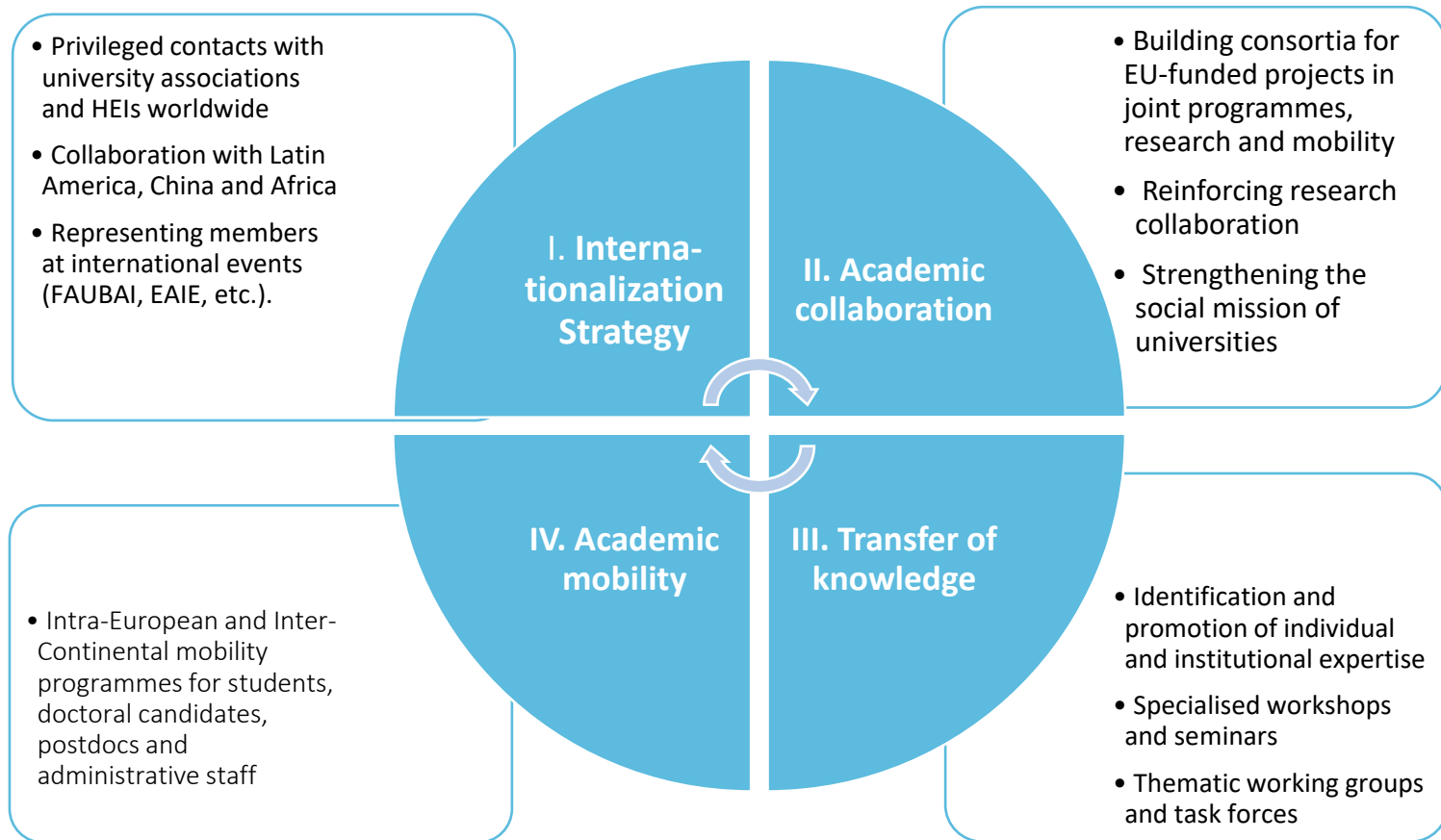


**Joana Sousa**  
Executive Secretary



**Joana Freitas**  
Projects Manager

## Organisational Structure



## Organisational Structure

<b>Regional Collaboration &amp; Mobility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ICon – Intercontinental Academic Mobility Programme</li> <li>- Summer School on Intercultural China Studies in Shanghai</li> <li>- Internal exchange programmes under member universities</li> </ul>
<b>Transfer of Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Think Tank Academy - specialized workshops and seminars</li> <li>- Annual meetings</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Alliances</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collaboration with university associations and HEIs in Latin America and Asia (AUGM, FAUBAI, EURAS)</li> </ul>
<b>Strengthening Research Capacities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Networking for EU funded projects</li> <li>- Assistance with the internationalisation of Science and Technology</li> <li>- Specialised courses and workshops</li> </ul>

## Membership Policy and Global Engagement

### Different Types of Membership

#### **SGGroup Full Membership**

- HEI from Europe;
- Full Access to SGroup Services;
- Voting rights at the General Assembly;
- Higher Membership fee.

VS

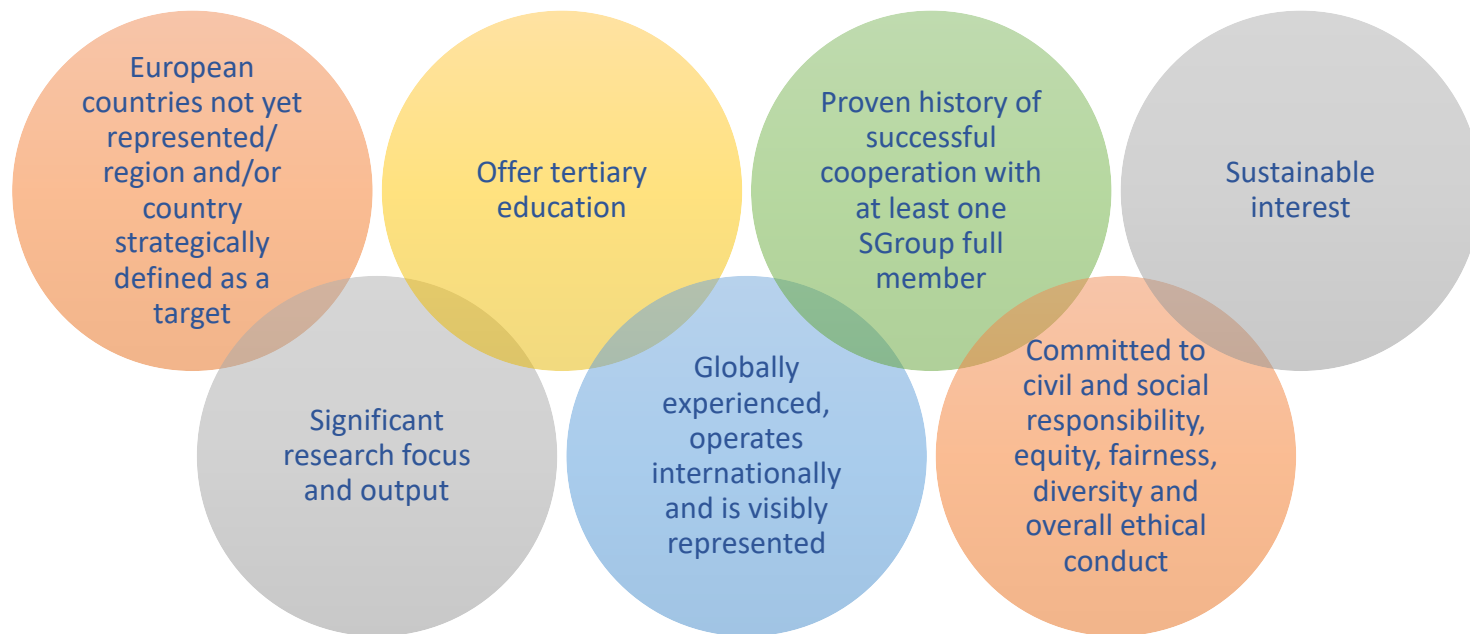
#### **SGGroup Associate Membership**

- HEI from beyond Europe;
- Restricted access to SGroup services;
- No voting rights at the General Assembly;
- Lower Membership fee.



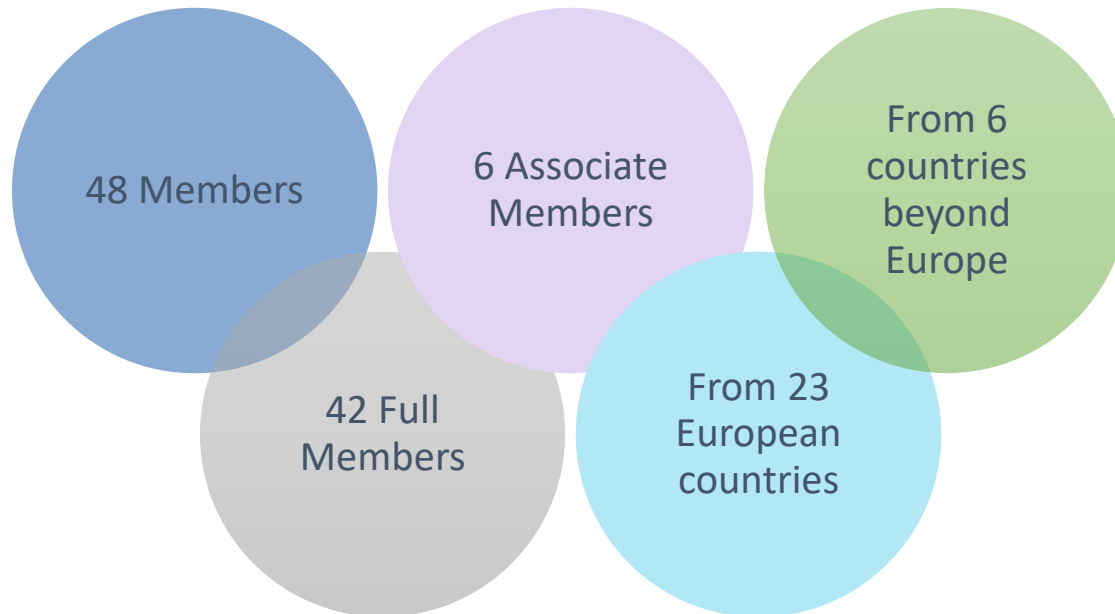
## Membership Policy and Global Engagement

### Main Criteria to be a SGroup Member



## Membership Policy and Global Engagement

### Current Members



## Membership Policy and Global Engagement

### Full Members - Europe



## Membership Policy and Global Engagement

### Full Members - Europe



## Membership Policy and Global Engagement

### Associate Members – Beyond Europe



## Past External Projects



### **EGRACONS – European Grade Conversion System**

**January 2012 – December 2015**

The EGRACONS tool is a free, user-friendly web-based tool for grade conversion available to all European HEIs (and beyond) who supply their degree grade distribution tables. It enables a transparent interpretation of student achievements abroad.



### **UNICAH – Strategic Partnership for the Implementation of the University**

**International Cooperation and Humanitarian Action Network**

**November 2015 – June 2018**

Preparing competitive professionals of the humanitarian sector able to implement change-making processes towards a more inclusive, respectful and fair global society, and fostering research and innovation in the field of international cooperation for the humanitarian professional sector.

## Past External Projects



### **EWP / EWP 2.0. – Erasmus Without Paper / Erasmus Without Paper 2.0.**

**November 2015 – October 2017 / January 2018-December 2019**

Bringing the Erasmus administration into the 21st century by going digital: replacing a paper-based workflow by a digital one, tackling the administrative workload for students and staff, creating free public infrastructure and streamlining technical solutions for student mobility.



### **EVOLVE - Evidence-Validated Online Learning through Virtual Exchange**

**November 2017 – May 2020 (Postponed to December 2020)**

EVOLVE mainstreams Virtual Exchange (VE) in HE by upscaling it to a collaborative international form of learning.

## Current External Projects



### Rec-Mat - Recognition Matters

**October 2017 – October 2020 (Postponed to October 2021)**

The RecMat project aims at facilitating and promoting student exchanges between Europe and Latin America by reducing the barriers to mobility in the processes of academic recognition.



### SUCTIA - Systemic University Change Towards Internationalisation for Academia

**September 2019 – August 2022**

SUCTIA was built on SUCTI, and its aim is also to raise awareness and shift the internal culture of our institutions towards internationalization. This new project focuses in academic staff.



## Current External Projects

### **CalohE2 - Measuring and Comparing Achievements of Learning Outcomes in Higher Education in Europe - Phase 2**

**January 2020 – December 2021**



CalohE2 is a follow-up [project of CALOHEE](#), which aim is to develop an ambitious and sophisticated instrument to measure performance. The actual testing/ assessment is not part of this project.

### **CalohEx - Measuring and Comparing Achievements of Learning Outcomes in Higher Education in Europe –Extension**

**January 2020 – December 2022**

CalohEx is an extension [of the CALOHEE project](#), considering another five subject areas. Its aim is to develop new instruments for educational reform.

### **IHES- Internationalisation in Higher Education for Society**

**November 2020 – August 2023**



Use the knowledge of the different partners on internationalisation and the needs for society to develop, test and assess different approaches of IHES in practical situations, thus also creating a substantial and hands-on manual for universities to implement IHES in every-day internationalisation.

## SGroup Think Tank Academy

- Combine the individual/collective strength of the SGroup member universities to empower senior leadership, academics and administrative staff
- Knowledge transfer opportunities for member universities
- Face-to-face meetings (twice a year) and online events
- Two main areas: **Doctoral Education and Research** and **Regional TTs**



Hans Abenius  
University of Gothenburg  
(Sweden)



Arnim Heinemann  
University of Bayreuth  
(Germany)



Patricia Petit  
University of Liège  
(Belgium)

## SGroup Think Tank Academy 2021



Barbara Claeys  
Ghent University  
(Belgium)



Camilo Villa Moreno  
University of Los Andes  
(Colombia)



Robert Kotze  
Stellenbosch University  
(South Africa)



Françoise Navez  
University of Liège  
(Belgium)



Philipp Dengel  
University of Bayreuth  
(Germany)



Joanna Mrowiec-Denkowska  
Silesian University of Technology  
(Poland)

## SGroup Think Tank Academy 2020

2 face-to-face **workshops on Doctoral Education:**

University of Porto, 5-February (PhD candidates) and 6-7 February (PhD supervisors)

Series of monthly online events:

### **Towards a holistic and ethical framework for responsible internationalization in HEIs**

- Webinar- International Higher Education – still a global vision?
- Web Conference - Sustainable Development - Health, Environment, Society and Education
- Webinar - University-wide Concepts of Responsible Internationalization
- Webinar - Directing responsible and sustainable global HE development through leading by example
- Webinar - Addressing social responsibility within higher education internationalisation
- Webinar - The multiple impact of sustainable and balanced *digital* transformation on responsible knowledge transfer of civic Higher Education Institutions in a *glocal* environment - 6 October (#moving target panel)
- Web meeting - Beyond Europe – Perspectives on Global Higher Education Developments
- Working seminar - Towards a holistic and ethical framework of responsible and sustainable Global Higher Education

## SGroup Think Tank Academy 2021

Series of monthly online events:

### **Responsible International Higher Education 2021 - transformative modes for sustainable and hybrid engagement**

- Webinar 'Internationalisation 2021+: Realities, Aspirations, Alternatives' with Michelle Stewart and Piet Van Hove
- Think Tank for China (TT4C) round-table meeting, focusing on university cooperation with the People's Republic of China.
- EURIE Summit, with a panel from SGroup on 'Responsible International Higher Education 2021 - transformative digital modes for sustainable global engagement'.
- New SGroup TT4C Webinar - Marketing and recruitment in China: trends and developments under COVID-19 and beyond with Robert van Kan, Director of Edvance Education International and expert in cooperation activities with China
- TT4LA Webinar on Cooperation with Brazil and Colombia with a representative of the LATAM Euraxess office, focusing on collaboration opportunities between the EU and Latin America (including Horizon Europe, MSCA, Erasmus+)
- SGroup at AIE webinar on Justice, Equity, Inclusion and Internationalization, with SGroup being represented by its Vice-President, Professor Alexandra Hughes, Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Global Engagement and Employability at the University of Westminster (this event was organised by Tampere University, an SGroup member)
- EUA webinar series 'Greening in European higher education institutions', SGroup was represented by Dr Arnim Heinemann, SGroup President and Senior Executive Director Bayreuth International
- SGroup Think Tank Academy Web Conference: 20-21 May 2021, with Adel El Zaim, Associate Vice-President International from the University of Ottawa and former AIEA president as keynote speaker
- Think Tank Academy Round Table - 24 June 2021



## SGroup Think Tank Academy Regional



- Summer school in Shanghai
- Cooperation with SISU
- External Chinese experts invited for TT Academy meetings
- Updates on Chinese regulations and HE
- UGent China Platform, BayChina, other collaborations



## SGroup Think Tank Academy Regional



- Cooperation with FAUBAI
- Cooperation with Grupo Montevideo
- Strong involvement of University of Los Andes in TT Academy
- Rec-Mat project
- CESAM platform, other collaborations



- Strengthening relations with Stellenbosch University
- Analysis of current Cooperation between member universities and African partners



Under the ICon Programme member universities can apply for a scholarship of €1000 to visit a partner institution in China, Latin America or Africa.

# Thank you!

**SGroup - Universities in Europe**

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