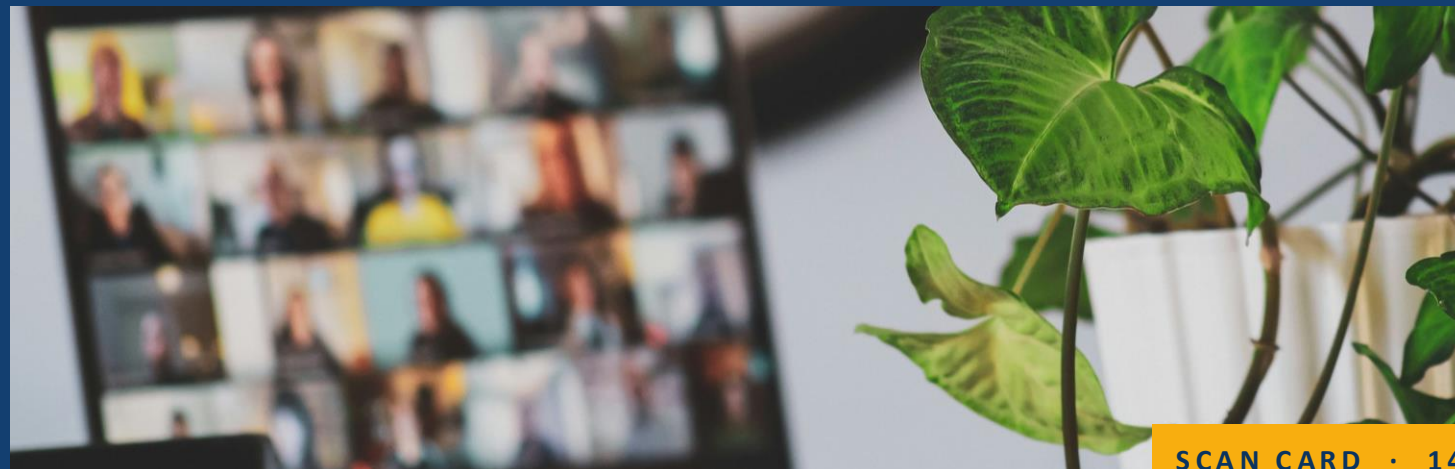


EUROPEAN ALLIANCES RECONFIGURE LOCAL ENGAGEMENT



SCAN CARD · 14

DESCRIPTION

European University Alliances are reshaping cooperation between higher education institutions. Through shared strategies, joint programmes, cross-border campuses and integrated educational and research activities, universities increasingly operate within transnational frameworks. These alliances aim to strengthen European cooperation, enhance international visibility and support collaborative responses to societal challenges.

While alliances strengthen international collaboration, they also influence how engagement is organised at local level. Decision-making may gradually shift from individual institutions toward alliance structures, creating challenges in maintaining responsiveness to local priorities.

RELEVANCE

Alliances redefine the balance between global ambition and local responsibility. They offer new opportunities for shared engagement but also risk weakening place-based relationships.

How alliances address local engagement will affect their legitimacy and long-term sustainability. Local relevance may become a critical factor in alliance success.

NEED

Universities need mechanisms ensuring that local engagement remains visible and valued within alliance structures. Clear roles, coordination and dialogue with regional stakeholders are required to prevent disengagement at local level.

This requires multi-level governance design clarifying roles, decision-making authority and accountability between alliance and institutional levels. Without such mechanisms, local engagement may weaken, affecting institutional legitimacy in regional contexts.

CATEGORY

Political · Social

SIGNAL STRENGTH

Medium



SCANNING METHOD

Programme analysis · Policy review

SOURCES

EUA (2023) European Universities Alliances · EC (2025) Alliances in Action · EC (2025) Outcomes & Potential · LERU (2024) Maximizing Alliance Impact · Run-EU Alliance