



European policy for the internationalisation of higher education

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Achieving the European Education Area by 2025



1



Quality in education and training

- Boost basic and transversal skills
- More mobility and cooperation opportunities
- Support lifelong acquisition of language competences
- Develop a European perspective in education



2



Inclusion and gender equality

- Pathways to School Success
- 50 centres of excellence for VET
- European Approach to micro-credentials
- Gender-sensitive teaching



3



Green and digital transitions

- Education for Climate Coalition
- Greening of education infrastructure
- Council Recommendation on education for environmental sustainability
- Digital Education Action Plan



4



Teachers and trainers

- 25 Erasmus Teacher Academies
- European guidance for national career frameworks
- European Innovative Teaching Award



5



Higher education

- European Universities full roll-out
- Development of a European Degree
- Legal statute for alliances of universities
- Erasmus+ Mobile App



6



Geopolitical dimension

- Team Europe approach
- Strengthen cooperation with strategic global partners
- Expand international dimension of Erasmus+

Empowering European Higher Education



A **European vision** for the **future of universities** and how the **Union can support**



A **call to Member States and higher education institutions** across Europe **to join forces**



Proposed recommendations for effective **European Higher Education cooperation**

Commissioner Mariya Gabriel



The European strategy for universities and the proposal for a Council recommendation on transnational cooperation “*will benefit the entire higher education sector, first and foremost our **students**. They need modern transnational campuses with easy access to mobility abroad to allow for a truly European study path and experience. We stand ready to join forces with the Member States and higher education institutions across Europe. Together we can **bring closer education, research and innovation in service to society.***”

EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR UNIVERSITIES

SUPPORTING AND ENABLING
HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
ACROSS EUROPE



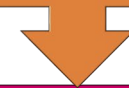
A European shared vision to support **all types** of higher education institutions to adapt to changing conditions across **all their missions**



Priority areas for transformation based and clear objectives



Concrete actions at EU level to enable and support the sector



Synergies with actions and national reforms

Endorsed by EU Member States
5 April 2022

Four key objectives

1 Strengthen the European dimension in higher education and research

Bringing transnational cooperation to a higher level contributes to a culture of excellence and inclusion, a true European identity, and global competitiveness and attractiveness

2 Consolidate universities as lighthouses of our European way of life

Strengthen quality and relevance for future-proof skills

In a fast changing environment, universities need to strengthen their capacities to equip young people, lifelong learners and researchers with the right competences and skills

Foster diversity, inclusiveness and gender equality

More institutional changes are needed for universities to become places of truly equal opportunities

Promote and protect European democratic values

Universities need to be places of freedom: for speech, thought, learning, research

3 Empower universities as key actors of change in the twin green and digital transitions

Develop skills, competences and technological innovation for the green and digital transition

Universities are key actors for the green transition and for a more sustainable world. We need to make 'connected universities' a reality

4 Reinforce universities as drivers of Europe's global role and leadership

Universities are instrumental in building Europe's connections with the world





Four flagship initiatives



Expand to **60 European Universities with more than 500 universities by mid-2024**, with an Erasmus+ indicative budget totalling EUR 1.1 billion for 2021-2027.



Examining the need for and feasibility of institutionalised cooperation instruments, such as a possible **legal status for alliances of higher education institutions**: pilot as of 2022 under Erasmus+ the implementation of existing European instruments



Explore common criteria leading to a potential **European label for joint programmes**, to be piloted as of 2022 under Erasmus+. Later on, the possible design and delivery, on a voluntary basis, at national, regional or institutional level, of joint degrees at all levels, based on these co-created European criteria, could be envisaged



Widening the implementation of the **European Student Card initiative**.



BUILDING BRIDGES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION COOPERATION

FACILITATING TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

FIRST STEP TOWARDS:

- Institutionalised cooperation instruments (e.g. legal status for alliances)
- Common criteria for a European label for joint programmes, followed possibly by voluntary joint degrees based on these European criteria

SUSTAINABLE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCES

WIDENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD INITIATIVE

Reinforce **European transnational cooperation**
by building bridges

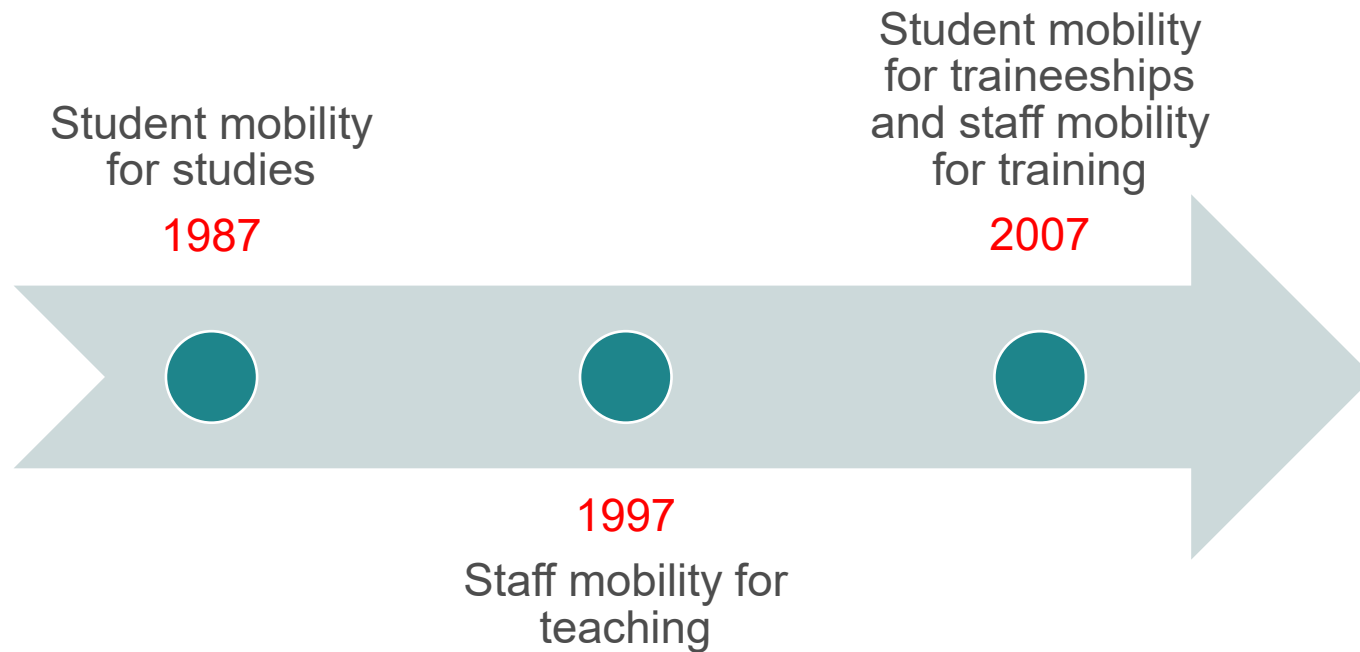
Support **all higher education institutions**
and enhance the **coherence** of European higher education
systems

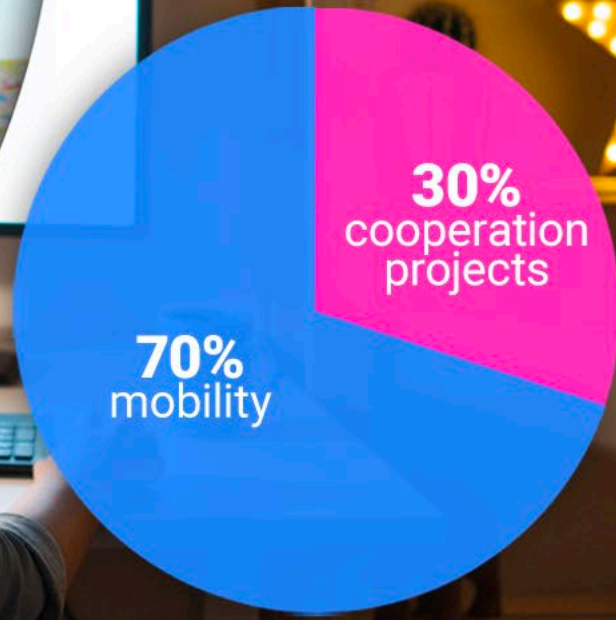
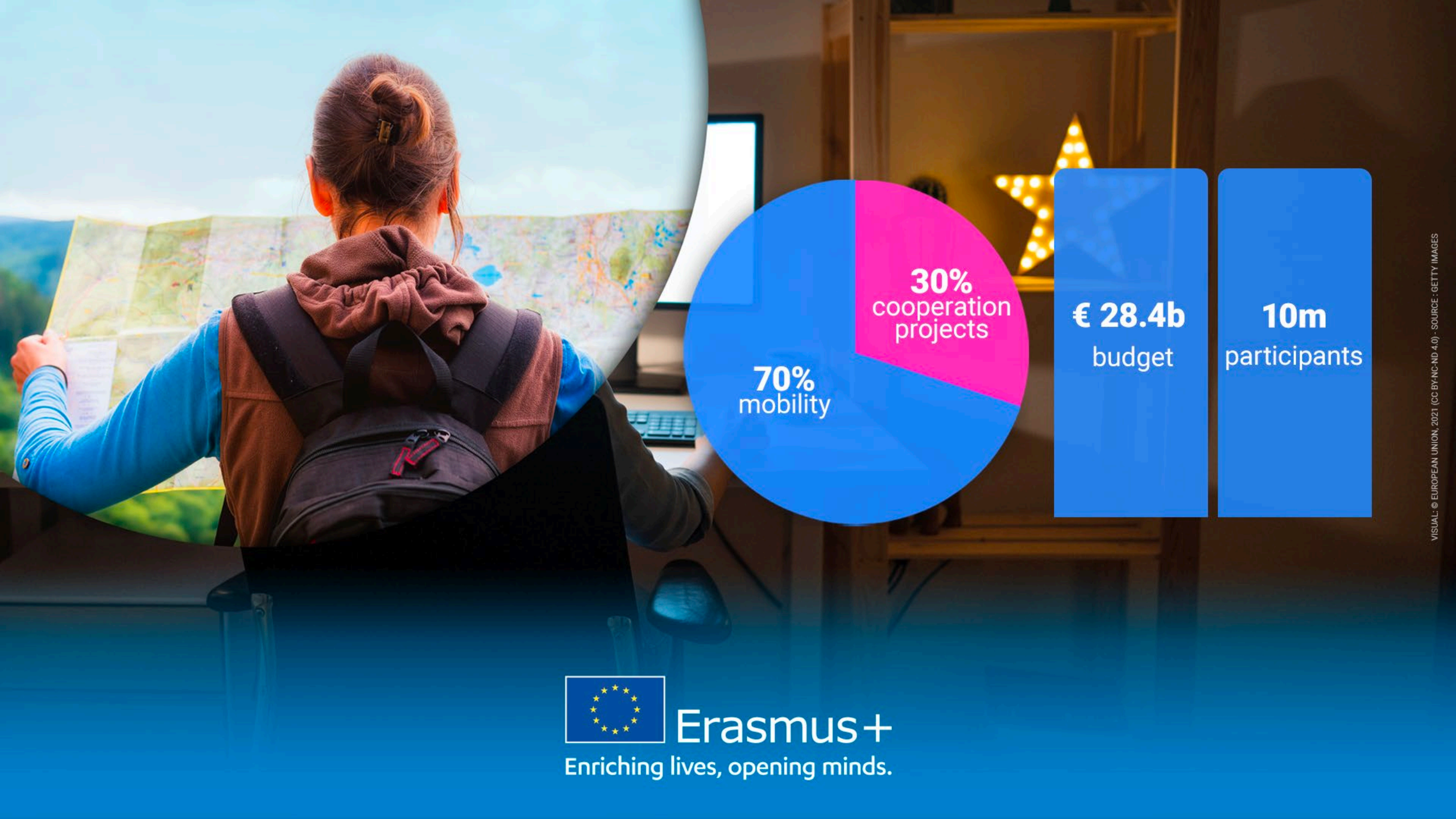
Full implementation of existing instruments
and exploring avenues for new ones

Recommendation for **national reforms**
and **European support**

Recommended by Member States
5 April 2022

Erasmus+ programme





€ 28.4b
budget

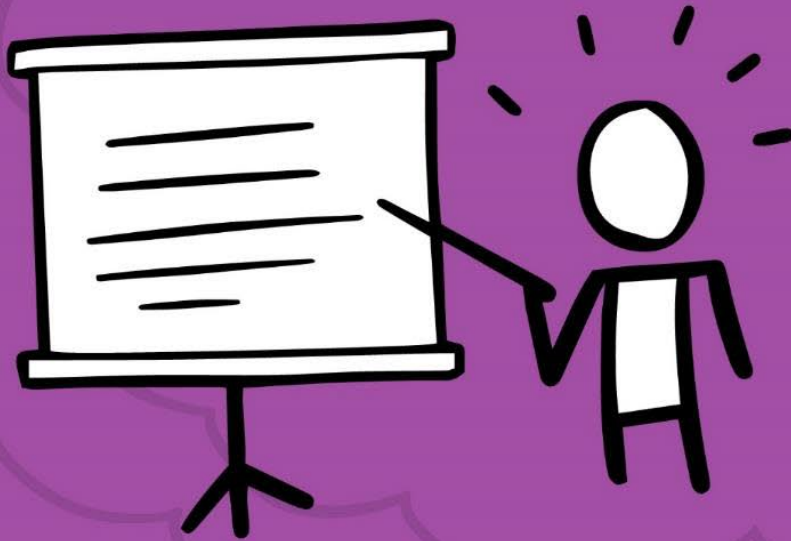
10m
participants



Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

Erasmus+ helps universities become more innovative and inclusive

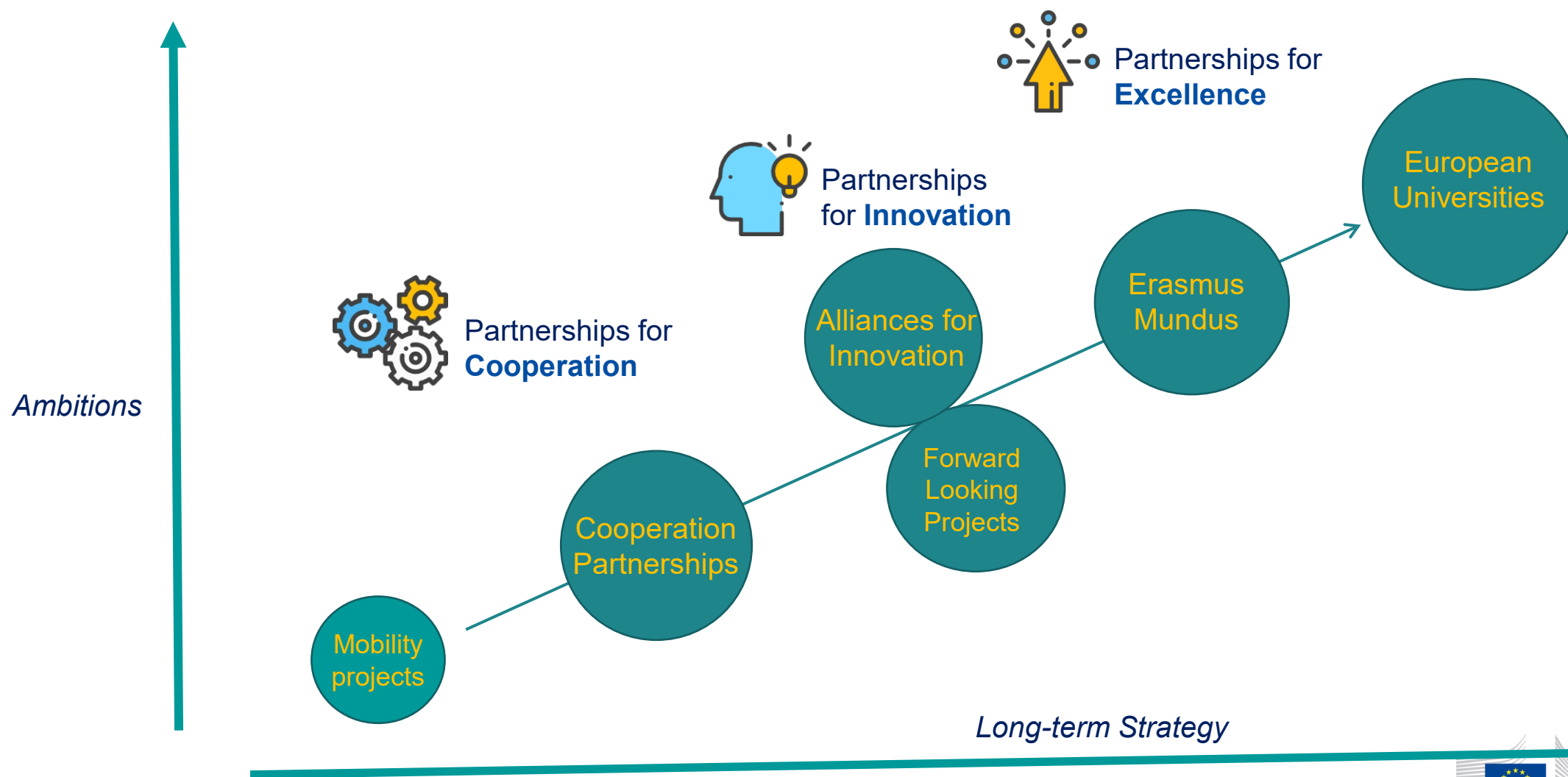


80 % of universities are more **digital, inclusive & connected** to the labour market thanks to Erasmus+ cooperation projects

2/3 of universities say their Erasmus+ cooperation projects contribute to increased **social inclusion & non-discrimination** in higher education

Source: Erasmus Impact Study 2019

Erasmus+ cooperation opportunities



Thank you

More information:

[Higher education initiatives | European Education Area \(europa.eu\)](#)

[Commission Communication on a European strategy for universities | European Education Area \(europa.eu\)](#)

[Council Recommendation on building bridges for effective European higher education cooperation](#)

[Council conclusions on a European strategy empowering higher education institutions for the future of Europe](#)