

Fifteen university associations representing more than 800 universities have united to call on policy makers to urgently invest in research, innovation and education to achieve long-term, sustainable recovery and strategic resilience.

[In a common statement](#), the sector reminds governments that Europe needs a strong, collective knowledge and skills base to address the current Covid-19 crisis and the new challenges that might arise in the future. It specifically urges the EU institutions to strengthen investments in the Horizon Europe and Erasmus+ programmes.

European leaders will meet this week on 17-18 July with the goal of reaching an agreement on the European Union's Multiannual Financial Framework and the Next Generation EU recovery plan. On this occasion, [the common statement](#) points out that the European Commission's current proposal for Horizon Europe falls short of the 120 billion euros that the European Parliament and the university community considered necessary even before the Covid-19 crisis. It also notes that cuts to vital instruments, such as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and the European Research Council, will hamper efforts towards strategic resilience. For Erasmus+, the sector highlights that the current numbers are clearly insufficient to meet the new and ambitious policy objectives for the next programme, including support to both physical and virtual mobility and the European Universities Initiative.

The statement builds on the campaign "[Seize our common future](#)" in which the same 15 university associations called for an ambitious long-term EU budget for research, innovation and education to boost efforts to solve the manifold future challenges. More than 300 universities, research centres and other organisations signed the initial call.

For more information, please contact the [#EUInvestInKnowledge](#) campaign at funding@eua.eu.

[Read the Statement](#)

A CALL TO STEP UP INVESTMENT IN
RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND EDUCATION

[#EUInvestInKnowledge](#)

