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# European Universities Networking Day

**Kuopio, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Joint Degrees & European Degree  
Marjaana Mäkelä and Virpi Laukkanen



# Agenda



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1. Welcome and a brief round of introductions: name, home institution and alliance  
Expectations?

2. Takeaways from recent conferences

**European Degree Forum:** Virpi Laukkanen

**FOREU4ALL workshop on European Degree & Joint Programmes:**  
Marjaana Mäkelä

3. Discussion (in two groups?)

Insights from Esko Koponen to get started

Focus on solutions and best practices rather than on challenges

*A pause in between*

4. Comments from Heta Koski

5. Wrapping up and compilation of key findings on Padlet

6. **“Prepare one sentence summarizing your main result to share it with other groups”**

# Joint degree/European degree

Afternoon  
workshop 7



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- What does it take to design and implement a successful joint European degree/programme?
- What will be the role of the European degree in the future?"



- **Practically all alliances are co-creating joint programmes (Bachelor, Master, PhD)**
  - Diverging objectives and maturity levels of programmes; relatively few accredited with EA
  - Definition of partner roles and contribution!
  - Prepare for changes
  - The EA process provides a helpful structure to the programme co-creation and EMDM funding can be used to cover the costs of the agency
- **European Degree (Label)**
  - Criteria defined, interpretations and indicators to be developed
  - Accreditation with the European Approach is a prerequisite, and another level of scrutiny is likely to be conducted by an EQAR agency
  - Importance of two key documents: Cooperation Agreement and Accreditation report
  - Emphasis e.g. on student engagement, European values, employability, and graduate tracking alongside trustworthy QA
- **Funding opportunities; info coming up in December for HEI to prepare for the EDL and EMJM**



## Experiences from Ulysseus: Best Practices in Development of European Joint Programmes

### Commitment:

**Co-creation of eight new European Joint Programmes connected to the eight Innovation Hubs of alliance partners**

1. Building on contribution of pioneering partners: agreement templates, European Approach process, curriculum development, securing finances.

2. Ulysseus Committee for Joint Programmes: Sharing experiences about Curriculum Development and QA. Alignment with the European Degree Label criteria.

3. Finding the right people for co-creation: commitment, time management, expertise, interest.

4. Endorsement from all partner institutions.

5. Support from the alliance structure: Committee for Joint Programmes and expert groups for Student Administration, Pedagogical Development, Language Policy and the Innovation Hubs.

6. Continuous communication and online co-creation of documents (e.g. Self-Evaluation Report).

7. Resilience and trust amidst inevitable changes!