

# The University and the Social Responsibility

## Indicators and good practices funded by the European Union in Europe and Latin America

- Programme of the event -



## Introduction

This event is part of the activities of the **European Network of Socially Responsible Universities (USR-Net)**, a project funded by Erasmus + and coordinated by CONEXX-Europe. With the collaboration of the Social Responsibility Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean (ORSALC) belonging to **UNESCO**, on November 9th and 10th 2017 three events will be organized within the frame of the **European Social Responsibility Days (#EUSRdays)**:



- 🌐 **European Parliament:** The University and the Social Responsibility. Indicators and good practices funded by the European Union in Europe and Latin America



- 🌐 **Embassy of the Argentine Republic to the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg:** The added value of the corporate social responsibility within companies and its potential in international relations

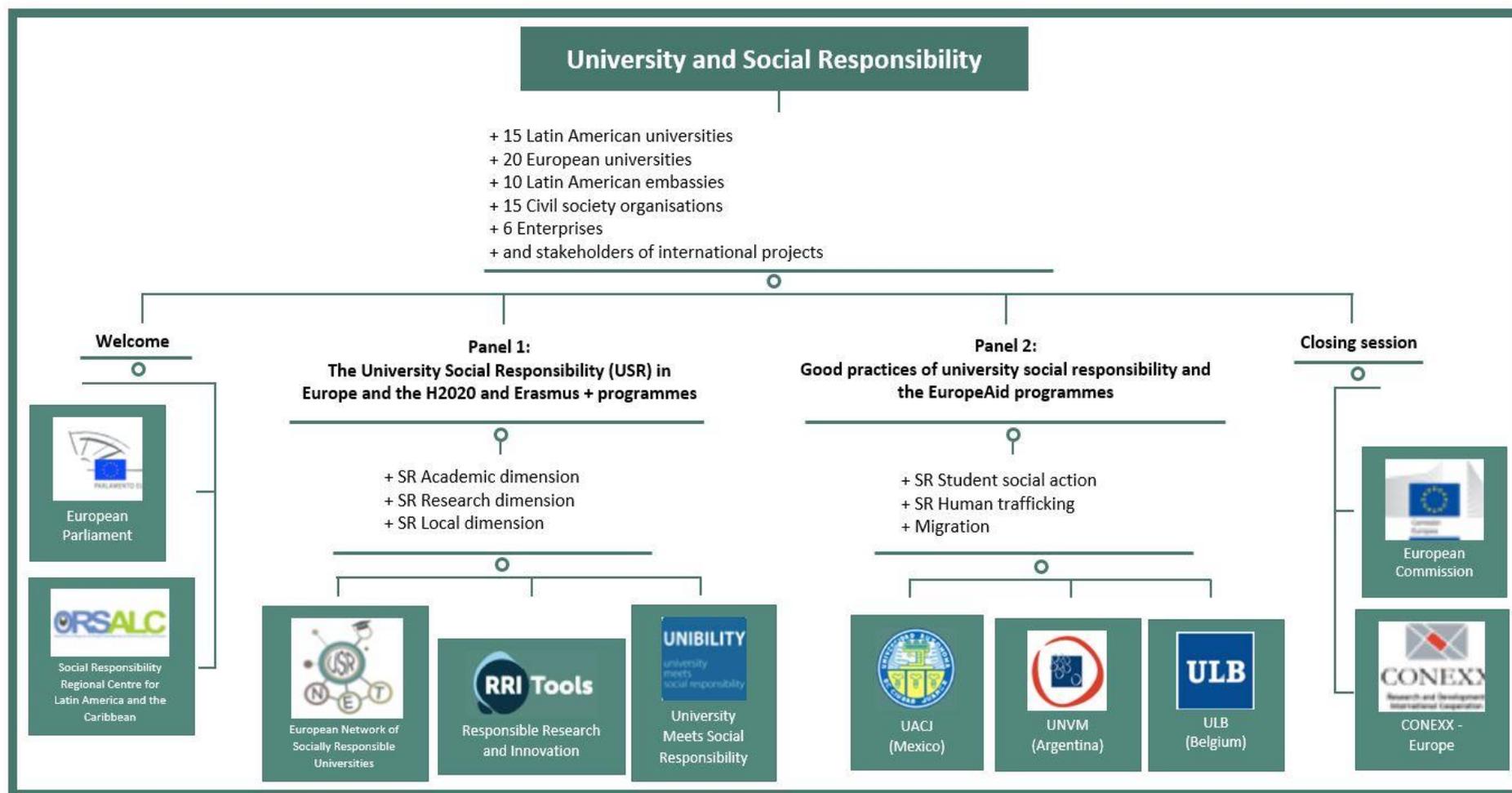


- 🌐 **Université Libre de Bruxelles:** The University Social Responsibility: European good practices and future challenges

## Objectives of the event at the European Parliament

- 🌐 Promoting the three dimension of University Social Responsibility (USR):
  - Academic
  - Research
  - Local
- 🌐 Sharing good practices of Social Responsibility funded by the European Union within universities in Europe and Latin America.
- 🌐 Debating the use of indicators of University Social Responsibility.

## Graph of the event



## Programme: November 9th 2017

### 15:00 - Welcome

-  **Ramón Jauregui**, Deputy of the European Parliament and President of the Delegation at the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly
-  **Humberto Grimaldo Durán**, General Coordinator of the ORSALC – UNESCO

### 15:15 - Panel 1: The university social responsibility evolves in Europe through H2020 and Erasmus +

The objective of this panel is to illustrate how the European Union promotes social responsibility within universities through H2020 and Erasmus + programmes. Three good practices will be presented related to the following USR dimensions:

-  D. Academic: **USR-Net Project** (Erasmus+) Begoña M. Arenas Innovation Training Center
-  D. Research: **RRI Tools Project** (H2020) EBN - European Business and Innovation Centre Network
-  D. Local: **UNIBILITY Project** (Erasmus+) Isabel Vidal Universitat de Barcelona

### 16:00 - Panel 2: Good practices of university social responsibility within the frame of the EuropeAid programmes

The objective of this panel is to present good practices implemented by universities regarding three social issues related to the USR.

-  Student social action **Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez** (México), Rosana Rodríguez Martínez, DG Extension and Student Services
-  Human trafficking **Universidad Nacional de Villa María** (Argentina), María Cecilia Coci, Stria. Internationalisation
-  Migration and refugees **Université Libre de Bruxelles** (Belgique), ULB Engagée

### 16:45 – Closing session

-  **Martha Mendez**, European Commission, DG DEVCO - Programme Manager, Human Rights, Gender, Democratic Governance Unit
-  **Pedro Ortún Silván**, European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry
-  **Maximiliano Alonso**, Director General CONEXX-Europe

## Partners information

### USR-Net Project

**Partners:** Sapienza Università di Roma, **Italy**; Vaasa University of Applied Sciences, **Finland**; University of Cadiz, **Spain**; Innovate4Future - Centre for Advanced Educational Solutions, **Romania**; Innovation Training Centre, **Spain**; ISQ, **Portugal**; Forum TrEES, **Belgium**; Militos Consulting, **Greece**; CONEXX-Europe, **Belgium**.

**Objective:** The USR-NET project promotes the incorporation of University Social Responsibility (RSU) in University curricula and fosters synergies among the university community and its stakeholders. In this respect, the project is developing a **learning guide for transversal contents** for Socially Responsible Universities, together with a **set of awareness-raising actions** targeting stakeholders both inside and outside Higher Education Institutions.



### RRI Tools Project

**Partners:** Fundacio Caixa D'estalvis I Pensions De Barcelona, **Spain**; Fundacio Privada Institut De Recerca De La Sida-Caixa, **Spain**; Stichting Vu, **Netherlands**; Association Europeenne Des Expositions Scientifiques Techniques Et Industrielles, **Belgium**; University College London, **United Kingdom**; Zentrum Fuer Soziale Innovation, **Austria**, Euroscience Association, **France**; European Business And Innovation Centre Network Aisbl, **Belgium**; European Foundation Centre Aisbl, **Belgium**; Eun Partnership Aisbl, **Belgium**; Wissenschaftsladen Bonn Ev, **Germany**; Fondazione Cassa Di Risparmio Delle Province Lombarde, **Italy**; Fondation Roi Baudouin, **Belgium**; Fundacja Na Rzecz Nauki Polskiej, **Poland**; Everis Spain Sl, **Spain**; Center For Formidling Af Naturvidenskab Og Moderne Teknologi Fond, **Denmark**; Sihtasutus Teaduskeskus Ahhaa, **Estonia**; Ellinogermaniki Agogi Scholi Panagea Savva Ae, **Greece**; Mobilis Kozhasznu Nonprofit Korlatolt Felelossegu Tarsasag, **Hungary**; Science Animation Midi-Pyrenees, **France**; Techmania Science Centre Ops, **Czech Republic**; Centar Za Promociju Nauke, **Serbia**; Ciencia Viva-Agencia Nacional Para A Cultura Cientifica E Tecnologica, **Portugal**; The Provost, Fellows, Foundation Scholars & The Other Members Of Board Of The College Of The Holy & Undivided Trinity Of Queen Elizabeth Near Dublin, **Ireland**; Rusenska Targovsko Industrialna Kamara, **Bulgaria**; Vetenskap & Allmanhet, Va, **Sweden**.

**Objectives:** This project will develop a training and dissemination toolkit for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). It will be addressed to all the stakeholders in Research and Innovation (RI), including researchers, civil society, business and education sectors, but in particular to policy makers, in order to impact on the future Research and Innovation governance.



### UNIBILITY Project

**Partners:** University of Vienna, Postgraduate Center, **Austria**; EUCEN, **Belgium**; University Politechnica of Bucharest, **Romania**; University of Ptuj, **Slovenia**; University of Porto, **Portugal**; University of Barcelona, **Spain**; Dublin City University, **Ireland**.

**Objectives:** The UNIBILITY project aims to strengthen the social responsibility of the partner universities through the following specific objectives:

- Enhancing the engagement among the HEIs and the local communities.
- Developing active strategies to strengthen the social responsibility with respect to students and research.
- Developing learning and training projects impacting on the environment.
- Producing learning material and training on social responsibility for both university managers and students.
- Creating learning networks among HEIs, local enterprises, the environment and social sectors.



### Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez (UACJ)

**Mission:** La Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez is an independent public institution with the aim of creating, preserving and transmitting knowledge. It promotes values, such as: identity, cultural diversity, the egalitarian dialogue between men and women, the free circulation of ideas, the adoption of healthy behaviors and habits, a civic, ethical and informed participation with the aim of training skilled professionals through high quality educational programmes, a scientific research connected to the local development, solid academic institutions, infrastructures facilitating the access to knowledge and a self-directed learning, permanent cultural programmes and a certified, socially responsible, inclusive, sustainable and non-violent organization.



**Good practices:** The Directorate of University Extension and Student Services was created to give students support, information and advice in order to make them fully integrate into the student community. The final goal of the Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez is to train Professional Leaders with relevant human qualities, by providing an innovative and comprehensive educational experience.

### Universidad Nacional de Villa María (UNVM)

La Universidad Nacional de Villa María (UNVM) is an **Argentinian public university** located in the city of Villa María. It has other four branches in the cities of Villa del Rosario, Córdoba, San Francisco and Villa Dolores, all within the province of Córdoba.



The University Social Extension for students is one of the pillars of the University, along with teaching and research. In order to prioritize the social mission of the university, the university extension is an efficient tool to strengthen the relations between University and the local community, analyse the debate about the epistemological fundamentals of the knowledge creation process and bring the civil society's needs into the academic sphere. Social extension at the Universidad Nacional consists of a systemic and rational activity aimed to prepare strategically the society, in order to reach the civic maturity and face the future challenges.

### Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

The ULB is a **multicultural university** with more than one third of foreign students and researchers. Many agreements, collaborations and special partnerships with some of the best universities in the world prove its openness towards Europe and the other countries. Four Nobel Prize scientists, one Fields medal, three Wolf Prizes and two Marie Curie Awards among their researchers and students evidence a long tradition of excellence. Furthermore, the ULB is very involved in the **European Research Area (ERA)** with almost 130 projects funded by the European 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme. In recent years, the ULB got seven Starting Grants from the European Research Council (ERC) to finance medical research, economics, mathematics and political science projects and two Advanced Grant in Artificial Intelligence. Its Institute for European Studies is also a European research center Jean Monnet famous for its work on European integration. With its twelve faculties, the ULB covers all the disciplines both in teaching and research. It has 40 Bachelor degree programmes (BA), 151 Masters, 3 Erasmus Mundus (second cycle) and 20 doctorate degree courses with around 1,700 PhD students. In order to provide its students with a solid education and encourage the critical thinking and the enthusiasm for the research, the University aims also to meet new audience's needs.



**A committed university.** Deeply engaged in providing everyone with the opportunity to receive a higher education, the ULB supports its students with financial aid, psychological support, job counseling, French language training courses, and so on. Since its founding in 1834, the ULB has been committed to the promotion of critical thinking, freedom and equal opportunities; it has been engaged in social issues and struggled against dictatorship and any kind of extremism.

By rejecting dogmatic thoughts and believing in an independent scientific research, the ULB has remained faithful to its original principles: an independent institution dedicated to the defense of democratic and humanistic values.

## Political and social context

The new economic and social context in a global and globalized world requires a serious reflection on the role of local, national and international institutions in the development of social responsibility policies. The lack of a supranational coordination of a social responsibility global model for the development of the different regions of the planet implies that **the local institutions have to play a role in the creation of socially responsible spaces and dynamics** and promote a fair development.

Europe needs and has to be socially responsible. In the last decades the planet has faced many challenges, but the total engagement of the European countries together with the participation of multiple actors is crucial to find solutions.

### A look at Latin America

The European continent has to look at the progress made in the social responsibility issues by the other regions of the world. Speaking about this, it is impossible not to look at Latin America, a region that **has made a clear commitment to promote social responsibility as the engine for local development**, by involving civil society associations and counting on the support of the institutions at local, regional and national level. Of particular interest is therefore the participation in this forum of Latin American entities, in order to share their experience in the field along with the good practices. An important example of the progress made in this region is the creation of the **Social Responsibility Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean (ORSALC)**, belonging to **UNESCO**, promoted by many Latin American universities and experts from different fields, who will have the opportunity to share their experiences during the event at the European Parliament and the European Social Responsibility Days.



### University as the engine for the Social Responsibility

One of the most important issues in promoting social responsibility is to find cohesion among the civil society organizations. To reach this goal, **the University can and has to act as a catalyst for change in the field of social responsibility.** The University has a huge potential and plays an important role both as an academic and research institution. As an academic actor, it's in charge of providing the future professionals with an education based on the pillars of social responsibility and it's responsible for the creation of knowledge; as a research institution, it has to be able to develop theoretical and practical models to make progress in this field.

In addition to the teaching and research activities, we do not have to forget about the local role of the university. Like any other big organization, its commitment to social responsibility materializes in the management of the relations with its own employees, students, suppliers, and all the organizations they interact with. Thanks to the universal nature of the university, it must be an actor that **build bridges and social spaces** where improving local mechanisms to promote the social responsibility.

Through the **“European Social Responsibility Days”** we aim to create a social space where gathering experiences, debating and working together to address Social Responsibility and consider it as a transversal vector of the academic and economic activities in the European regions.