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# EC2U Engagement Stage

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DELIVERABLE 7.12  
MONTH 12



European Campus  
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## D7.12 - EC2U Engagement Stage

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## I. Rationale of the activity

Society benefits from knowledge transfer, exchange of ideas between citizens, scientists and policy makers as well as civic engagement. Thus, one essential goal of EC2U is to encourage knowledge circulation and networking beyond the sphere of academia. This network idea is in the very DNA of EC2U. The Alliance strives to develop and strengthen the partnership between academia, cities and socio-economic stakeholders in an atmosphere of trust and openness.

The aim of the Engagement Stage is to establish EC2U as a community of action. By fostering dialogue at all levels and with all partners, EC2U aims to establish a permanent flow of ideas and collaborations connecting the first three pillars (Research, Education, Innovation) of the knowledge square to the fourth (Service to Society). In doing so, it enables a broad dialogue and civic engagement in and between the seven EC2U cities.

The Engagement Stage is a notice board for joint EC2U events and initiatives that connect stakeholders from academia with citizens, partners from industries and city municipalities. It is a virtual kiosk both to place and find opportunities to participate in initiatives, projects and events across the EC2U Alliance - from citizen science projects to Think Tanks or educational and entrepreneurial projects. The Engagement Stage shows concrete ways of getting involved, of participating and engaging in the local and European community.

## II. Timeline

The EC2U Engagement Stage went live on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2021 and will continue to operate and develop over the entire duration of EC2U activities.

## III. Target Groups

The Engagement Stage is targeted at the following groups:

- **Engagement Seekers**
  - **Citizens:** could use the Engagement Stage to find projects to engage in or to volunteer in events
  - **Students** could use the Engagement Stage to find projects to engage in or to volunteer in events. They could also post own projects like language tandems.
- **Projects**
  - **EC2U WP 4-6:** The education and research-oriented work packages 4-6 will use the Engagement Stage to advertise citizen science projects.
  - **EC2U WP 2, 7:** EC2U formats like Hackathons, Think Tanks, school research projects and Entrepreneurial Academy thrive on wide and diverse participation. The Engagement Stage could be used to address citizens, entrepreneurs, students and teachers and invite them to join the EC2U activities.
  - **Partners from the wider EC2U community:** Partners within the EC2U network, including associated partners, could use the Engagement Stage to find partners in corresponding professional fields for networking or knowledge exchange.

## IV. Call for participation - Stakeholders

To get all stakeholders involved, the Engagement Stage will be widely advertised. The call for participation includes, but is not limited to:

- live presentations to all EC2U WP boards (WP 4, 11/10/21)
- live presentations to the wider EC2U community at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EC2U Forum
- personal invitations to relevant projects, initiatives and groups as identified in the WP 7 Board Meeting (since 7/2021)
- a social media campaign starting in November 2021

The EC2U Engagement Stage is currently online. All new projects can be published immediately and volunteers can be found.

## V. Platform: [ec2uengagement.eu](https://ec2uengagement.eu)

As a technical solution a website ([ec2uengagement.eu](https://ec2uengagement.eu)) and a questionnaire feeding into a database have been implemented. The website allows interested stakeholders to find a project to engage in quickly. By means of the questionnaire, EC2U partners in the seven universities and cities submit their project for publication on the Engagement Stage.

Subpages



## VI. Process

The use of the Engagement Stage requires the following steps:

### A. Posting Request:

Projects, initiatives and events within the EC2U community which build on civic engagement and input from and collaboration with stakeholders from city municipalities and businesses fill out an MS Forms questionnaire with the following questions. (See Form in Annex II)

1. What is the name of your project?
2. Please select a category for your project.
  - Civic Engagement
  - EC2U Education

- Citizen Science
- Entrepreneurship
- Language Training
- Other

3. Other - What is the category of your project?

4. Please specify the tasks and activities that potential partners/volunteers would engage in.

- helping with simple research tasks
- volunteering as an interview partner, incl. surveys
- help with the organization of an event
- supporting school projects
- language tandem partner
- sharing professional experiences among colleagues
- mentoring
- give professional input
- brainstorming start-up ideas
- other

5. Other - In which tasks and activities would potential partners engage?

6. Please specify the time scope of the activity (e.g. one time only, several weeks or days, 3h/week etc.)

7. Do certain requirements have to be fulfilled for the activity?

- yes
- no

8. If yes, please specify.

9. Your name

10. Your E-mail address

11. Name of your organization

12. Website of your organization

13. Your City/Country

14. Is there anything else we can help you with or that you would like to add?

15. We will be in contact with you shortly to inform you about further proceedings.

- Great. Cannot wait.
- Hurry up. This one's urgent.

## B. Transmission

The questionnaire is sent via mail to WP 7 ([ec2u@uni-jena.de](mailto:ec2u@uni-jena.de)).

## C. Review

WP 7 Board checks information and validates Posting.

#### **D. Publish**

After verification an entry for the website is created, a category (civic engagement, education, citizen science, entrepreneurship) is assigned and the offer will be published.

#### **E. Seek & Find**

Volunteers and engagement seekers can visit website, find suitable opportunities via the categories and contact projects directly.

#### **F. Contact**

Engagement seeker communicates directly between with the project contact person.

### **VII. Monitoring**

The performance of the Engagement Stage will be monitored in multiple ways:

- page impression (page view)
- number of published projects
- number of contacts/placements/volunteers
- individual feedback from all users of the Engagement Stage. The WP 7 Board will review this feedback every three months and intervene or adapt if necessary.

All data will be imported into an MS Access Database and stored on a secure server within the secure network of the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena.

Room for Growth: If the Engagement Stage grows very rapidly a custom database and an API interface for the website will be developed. Initially, however, readily available and cost-efficient standard programmes provide full functionality. All software used (MS Forms, MS Access) ensures data security, quality and integrity.

Please note that the content of this activity / deliverable is available in the different languages of the EC2U Alliance upon request.

## VIII. Annex 1: Screen Shots ec2uengagement.eu

The screenshot displays the homepage of the EC2U Engagement Stage website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Find a project, Find partners, and Contact us. The main header features the text "EC2U Engagement Stage" and the tagline "Working together across the EC2U Alliance for more purpose and impact" above an illustration of diverse people interacting.

The "Why do we need an Engagement Stage?" section contains two bullet points:
 

- The Engagement Stage is a series of events and activities that connect or activate both students with citizens, partners from industries & city municipalities.
- The Engagement Stage helps you to plan and find opportunities to participate in Erasmus+ events across the EC2U Alliance.

The "Building a community of action together" section is accompanied by a photo of hands clasped together.

The "Find a project to engage" section lists four categories:
 

- EC2U Think Tank:** Discuss pressing societal issues with your local community and connect with other European Think Tanks. Category: Input. [Read more](#)
- EC2U School Research Projects:** Get your class involved in international learning projects and connect with other European schools. Category: Education. [Read more](#)
- EC2U Entrepreneurial Academy:** Learn how to develop your innovation capacities and entrepreneurial competences. Category: Mentoring & input. [Read more](#)
- EC2U Makeaction:** Find innovative solutions for societal challenges and win the prize for the Most Inspiring Action. Category: Organising an event & input. [Read more](#)

The "Find partners for your project" section asks: "You have a citizen science, entrepreneurial or social project and you need more partners from our EC2U Alliance?" with a [Find partners](#) button.

The "About EC2U" section states: "The European Campus of City-Universities (EC2U) is a multi-national and multi-regional Alliance consisting of research, teaching, innovation and research-led, socially and educationally engaged universities from four diverse regions of the European Union: the University of Coimbra (Portugal), Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf (Germany), Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences (Germany), the University of Pavia (Italy), the University of Salerno (France-Coordination), the University of Salamanca (Spain) and the University of Turku (Finland)." with a [Get in touch](#) button.

The "EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES" section features a photo of a smiling man and woman and states: "EC2U is part of the European University Initiative. The aim of this initiative is to bring together a new generation of creative Europeans able to cooperate across languages, borders and disciplines to address societal challenges and skills shortages faced in Europe." with a [Learn more](#) button.



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## Annex II – Posting Request Form





## EC2U Engagement Stage



Reaching out to the EC2U Alliance to find partners for your project

1. What is the name of your project?

\*

Ihre Antwort eingeben

2. Please select a category for your project.

\*

- Civic Engagement
- EC2U Education
- Citizen Science
- Entrepreneurship
- Language training
- Other

4. Please specify the tasks and activities that potential partners/volunteers would engage in.

\*

- helping with simple research tasks
- volunteering as an interview partner, incl. surveys
- help with the organization of an event
- supporting school projects
- language tandem partner
- sharing professional experiences among colleagues
- mentoring
- give professional input
- brainstorming start-up ideas
- other

5. Other - In which tasks and activities would potential partners engage?

\*

Ihre Antwort eingeben

6. Please specify the time scope of the activity (e.g. one time only, several weeks or days, 3h/week etc.) \*

Ihre Antwort eingeben

7. Do certain requirements have to be fulfilled for the activity?

\*

- Yes
- No

8. If yes, please specify.

Ihre Antwort eingeben

9. Your name

\*

Ihre Antwort eingeben

10. Your E-mail address

\*

Ihre Antwort eingeben

11. Name of your organization

\*

Ihre Antwort eingeben

12. Website of your organization

Ihre Antwort eingeben

13. Your City/Country

\*

Ihre Antwort eingeben

14. Is there anything else we can help you with or that you would like to add?

Ihre Antwort eingeben

15. We will be in contact with you shortly to inform you about further proceedings.

\*

- Great. Cannot wait.
- Hurry up. This one's urgent.