

EUI ACTIVITY REPORT 2021



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

After two major shocks in 2020, COVID-19 and Brexit, and despite the continuing crises, 2021 was another year for connecting – and reconnecting – at the EUI: with academics throughout Europe, between disciplines at the EUI, and with policymakers and society.

Over the years, the EUI has placed itself at the heart of social scientific networks. Through the many visitors' programmes at the Institute, academics gather to work in a uniquely international environment that allows them to collaborate with colleagues from other countries; they can develop their research plans and open new career and research perspectives.

Early stage researchers trained at the EUI benefit throughout their careers from connections built at the EUI, and bring back some of that international approach to the national academic systems they work in. Beyond enrolled early stage researchers and students, the EUI also acts as a hub for the social sciences in Europe. In 2021, more than 1,400 of them benefitted from academic activities at the EUI. With the launch of activities in the CIVICA Alliance, within the European Universities Initiative, the EUI moved forward on its responsibilities for creating a European space for early stage researchers.

The creation of interdisciplinary research clusters across the EUI academic units to tackle societal and policy challenges proved to be a success in 2021. The clusters' main function is to create a space to connect and exchange views. Thanks to this effort, more joint research initiatives are starting to emerge organically. In 2021, nearly 70% of faculty and 90% of early stage researchers were involved in interdisciplinary research activities.

Policymakers converge towards the EUI's diverse offer that is tailored for them. In 2021 alone, more than 4,600 policymakers and policy actors from the EU took part in events that bridge the gap between academia and policymaking. Demand for executive training is very strong in many sectors, and the EUI is steadily reinforcing its offer, as you will read in the following pages.

EUI academics regularly engage with law-making, and the EUI is in a privileged position to hold public

debates on the grand issues of the day, as witnessed by the growing success of the State of the Union conference. The EUI has also been one of the few institutions to host a European Citizens' Panel in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe, thus reinforcing its role as bridge, this time between citizens and policymaking, and with the support of scientific approaches and evidence.

The challenges that lie ahead mostly pertain to the budgetary uncertainty that derives from the negotiations with the UK about its future relation to the EU. On a positive note, the Institute sowed the seeds for future developments: the launch of more programmes aimed at improving gender equality and diversity and building capacity in the Western Balkans.

Renaud Dehousse



THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

The [European University Institute \(EUI\)](#) is a transnational hub of interdisciplinary research and higher learning dedicated to social sciences and the humanities. The three pillars of its activities are the training of early stage researchers through excellent research, policy-relevant research, and the training of current and future policymakers.

Founded in 1972 by the original Member States of the then European Communities, the EUI unites scholars, practitioners and policymakers to study and address the most pressing challenges facing the world today.

THE EUI ACTIVITY REPORT 2021

This report presents a brief overview of the EUI's work in the year 2021, with special attention to the many efforts made in accomplishing the institute's [strategic priorities for 2019-2024](#).



A STRATEGIC VISION

A HUB FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES IN EUROPE

BRIDGING THE CAPABILITY GAP IN EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION

DEVELOPING AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

ENGAGING GLOBALLY

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY



GIACOMO CALZOLARI

Dean of Research

"The EUI hosts a world-class and international research community and we strive to develop and nurture its full potential to bridge theoretical and applied research with the world of practice and policy."



NEHA JAIN

Dean for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusiveness

"As a university and an international organisation that strives to provide moral and civic leadership, the EUI must be at the forefront of breaking down barriers that prevent individuals from reaching their full academic potential and contributing to the greater social good."



JUHO HÄRKÖNEN

Dean of Postdoctoral Studies

"The years immediately after the doctorate are critical in the academic career. The EUI is a leader in the social sciences and humanities in developing postdoctoral training that meets the needs of this phase and will continue to build on this legacy in the future."



BERNARD HOEKMAN

Dean of External Relations

"I look forward to the EUI leveraging its many partnerships in and outside Europe and its international convening power to be a beacon for critical engagement by researchers and practitioners on global policy challenges."



CLAIRE KILPATRICK

Dean of Graduate Studies

"The EUI guides a multinational group of aspiring researchers from admission to defence of excellent doctoral theses. No thesis comes without manifold choices and challenges. The Institute ensures quality recruitment, supervision, research, teaching and development of academic skills."

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021

JANUARY

- [Marco Del Panta takes up the role](#) of Secretary General of the EUI.
- [Thorsten Beck appointed](#) as Director of the Florence School of Banking and Finance.
- [Benno Gammerl takes up the Chair](#) in the History of Gender and Sexuality, in HEC.
- [InDivEU project](#) (RSC) launches database on the differentiated integration preferences of citizens, political parties, governments and stakeholders.

FEBRUARY

- [Angela Liberatore \(SPS alumna\) appointed](#) Head of the Scientific Management Department of the European Research Council Executive Agency.
- [Marta Cartabia \(LAW alumna\) confirmed](#) as Minister of Justice in Mario Draghi's new government; she is the third woman in Italy's history to hold the post.
- [European Governance & Politics Programme](#) (RSC) annual conference; topic: 'What Lessons from the 2019 European Elections?'.
- [Historical Archives of the European Union and International Visegrad Fund](#) open fellowship competition for archival research; 10 grants available in 2021-2022.

MARCH

- [EUI and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation](#) set up the European Media and Information Fund, supporting research and action for resilience against online disinformation, with a first contribution from the Google Foundation.
- [STG hosts the European COVID Summit](#) in its role as Europe hub of the Reform for Resilience (R4R) Commission.

APRIL

- [Economics Nobel laureate Bengt Robert Holmström](#) joins the STG faculty.
- [Sule Alan \(ECO\) wins an ERC Advanced Grant](#) to identify the best educational strategies for fostering tolerance and inclusion in communities affected by mass migratory flows.
- [Commissioner Mairead McGuinness](#) delivers the Florence School of Banking and Finance's Annual Lecture.
- [Nicolas Petit \(LAW and RSC\) contributes](#) to European Parliament information session on the Digital Markets Act.
- EUI researchers and their counterparts at the University of Florence lead student deliberations on the future of Europe, '[EU Talks: Dialoghi sul futuro dell'Europa](#)'.
- The EUI launches a [new website](#), together with [new Institute visual identity](#).

MAY

- [Annual conference of Middle East Directions Programme](#), on a new regional security system in the Persian Gulf.
- [Annual State of the Union Conference](#), hosted in hybrid format, features youth-oriented cultural programme and [#SOU4YOU](#) – Bringing the State of the Union Closer to Citizens.
- [Two EUI-led projects awarded funding in CIVICA Research's first grant competition](#); EUI scholars are involved in six of the 11 winning projects.
- [European Commission selects eight national hubs](#) for the EUI-based European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO), which analyses and combats disinformation via media literacy and fact-checking.

JUNE

- Researcher-led groups 'Engaged Academics' and 'Thoughts for Europe' promote youth and local engagement through the [CIVICA 'Tours d'Europe' Not Only Erasmus – Making Ourselves Heard in Europe](#).

JULY

- [Simone Borghesi, Director of FSR – Climate, appointed](#) President-Elect of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists.
- [2021 Media Pluralism Monitor](#), CMPF's research report, merits multiple mentions by European Commission Vice President Věra Jourová.
- European Commission President [Ursula von der Leyen participates in STG livestreamed conversation](#) about the new Green Deal.
- EUI President Renaud Dehousse and European External Action Service Secretary-General Stefano Sannino [sign a new institutional partnership agreement](#).
- EUI hosts inaugural HUME European [Conference on peace-building and reconciliation](#), in collaboration with the [John and Pat Hume Foundation](#).

AUGUST

- [The first CIVICA doctoral summer school](#) is held on the EUI campus; over 30 researchers and faculty from across the alliance participate in the interdisciplinary event.
- The EUI's Department of Economics [ranks #15 in the world](#) in an evaluation by RePEc of the research output of its graduates.

SEPTEMBER

- [Juho Härkönen assumes leadership of the Max Weber Programme](#) for Postdoctoral Studies.
- [Three new Chairs join the STG faculty](#): Kenneth Amaeshi (sustainable finance and governance), Adam Kamradt-Scott (global public health) and Emma Lees (environmental law).
- [Simon Hix takes up the Stein Rokkan Chair](#) in Comparative Politics (SPS).
- [Lauren Kassell takes up the Chair](#) in History of Science (HEC).
- [The first cohort of 17 Young African Leader fellows](#) (STG) arrives in Florence.
- Bernard Hoekman (RSC) and collaborators in Horizon 2020 [RESPECT project](#) present findings on the [strategic potential of EU external trade policy](#) to the Brussels community.

OCTOBER

- [Neha Jain \(LAW\) appointed](#) Dean for Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness.
- [Anton Hemerijck \(SPS\) appointed](#) to EC High-Level Group on Social Protection and Welfare.
- The annual World Trade Forum, co-organised with the World Trade Institute, holds two days of discussions ([14 Oct.](#) and [15 Oct.](#)) on 'Digital, green and open?' in a hybrid format.
- [Virtual summit on 'Fighting Misinformation Online'](#) hosted by the EUI together with the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Google and YouTube.

NOVEMBER

- [FSR – Energy & Climate attends COP26](#).
- [Ivan Korčok, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia](#), delivers a lecture on 'The Future of Europe: A Central European point of view'.
- [EUI to join the ESRC-funded Centre for Inclusive Trade Policy](#), as the only continental European university member.
- [Joint EUI-OECD seminar with policy leaders and academics](#), 'Improving Public Sector Effectiveness in Italy and Elsewhere', hosted at STG.

DECEMBER

- [EUI is one of four host institutions of the European Citizens' Panels](#) in the framework of the Conference on the Future of Europe.

EUI IN NUMBERS

23

MEMBER STATES

900+

SCHOLARS FROM

300+

FACULTY, ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH STAFF

80+

COUNTRIES

100+

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS IN RESEARCH, EXCHANGE AND EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

EUI PEOPLE

168

FULL AND PART-TIME PROFESSORS

28

POLICY LEADER FELLOWS

219

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH STAFF

17

YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

655

DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS

3,204

ALUMNI

64

MAX WEBER FELLOWS

285

SUPPORT STAFF

42

ROBERT SCHUMAN, FERNAND BRAUDEL AND JEAN MONNET FELLOWS

81

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

RESEARCH AND TRAINING

5 INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CLUSTERS

99 DEFENDED PHD AND LL.M. THESES

11 ERC PROJECTS

15.4M+ EXTERNAL FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

6 SUMMER SCHOOLS

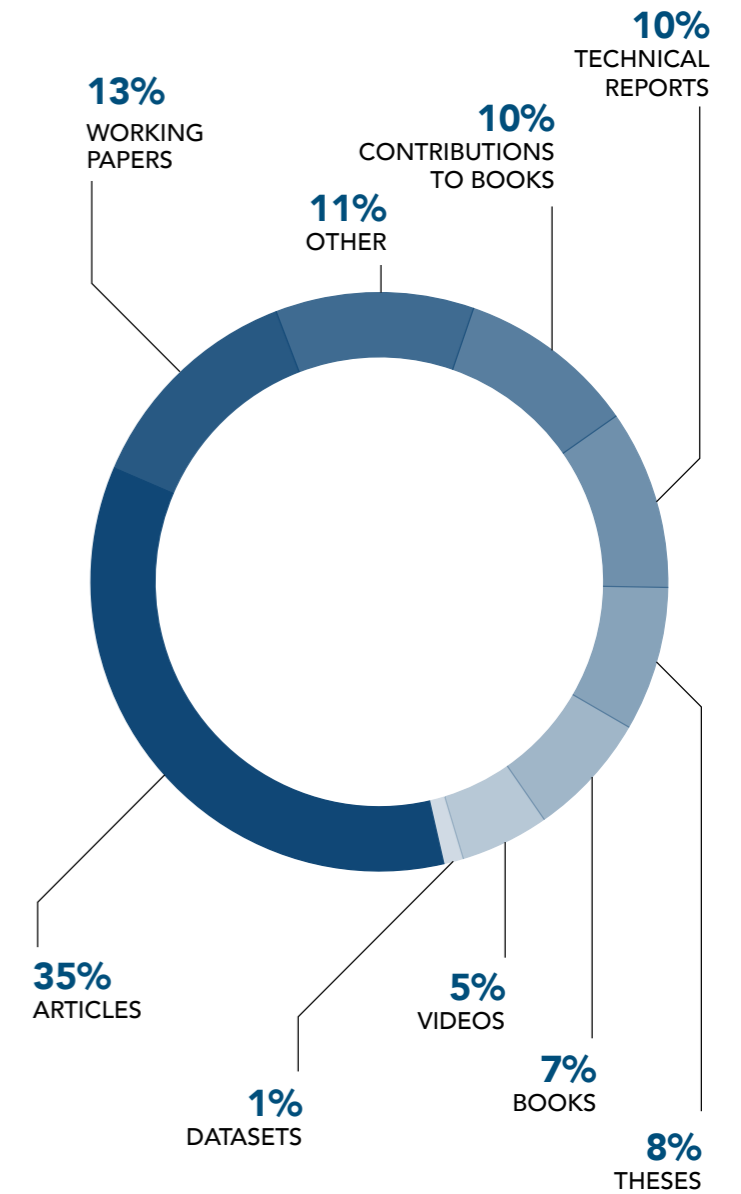
1,200 EUI RESEARCH OUTPUTS

16 RESEARCH DATASETS

103 COVID-19 PANDEMIC COLLECTION ITEMS

2021 RESEARCH OUTPUT

66% in Open Access
(source: Cadmus, EUI research repository)



ENGAGING EXTERNALLY



109

EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS



7K+

POLICYMAKERS AND POLICY ACTORS AT EUI EVENTS



1.3K+

MEDIA MENTIONS



150K+

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS (MAIN CHANNELS)



15.2K+

HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS



6M+

WEBSITE PAGEVIEWS

TRAINING EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS

Rooted in rigorous research and driven by intellectual curiosity, the EUI provides an inspiring environment for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers. Its state-of-the-art facilities include an extensive social sciences and humanities research library and the official Historical Archives of the European Union. Interdisciplinary work is strongly encouraged and throughout the academic year the EUI offers access to an impressive number of workshops, conferences, and skills training sessions.

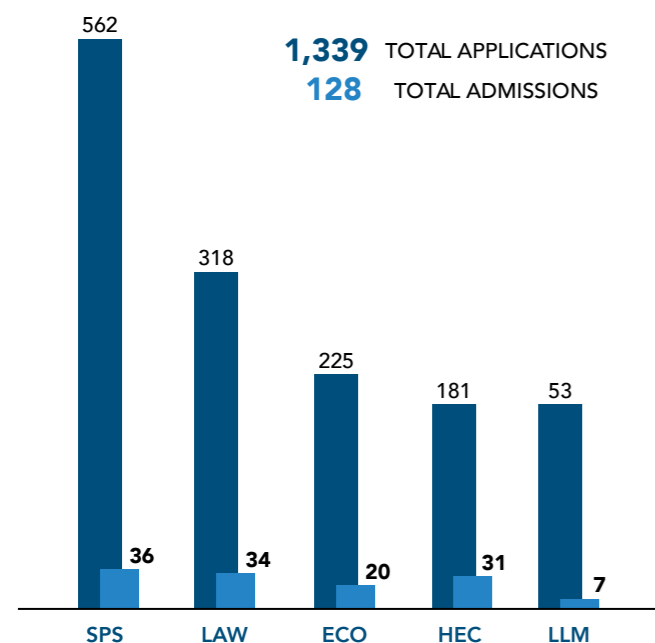
Training early stage researchers is one of the main pillars of the EUI. The Institute's four fully funded doctoral programmes prepare candidates for careers in research and teaching, as well as high-level positions in government, international organisations, and the private sector.

The research-intensive programmes are carried out in the EUI Departments of Economics, History and Civilisation, Law, and Political and Social Sciences. Notably, the EUI is also home to the multidisciplinary Max Weber Programme for Postdoctoral Studies.

THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

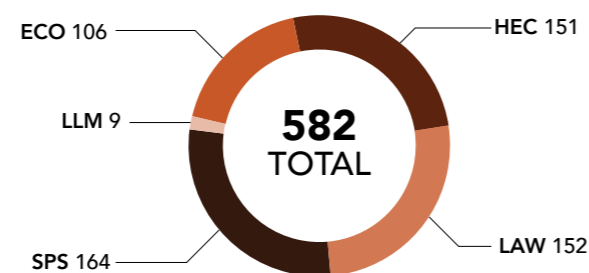
In 2021, more than 1,300 doctoral and LLM candidates applied for the EUI's programmes, with nearly 130 admitted. The admission rate of almost 10% is in line with averages from the past decade.

Figure 1:
Application and admission by department, 2021-2022 recruitment procedure



More than 580 doctoral and LLM researchers were enrolled at the EUI in 2021. 81% were from the EU, 19% were from non-EU Member States, 7% were from the UK, Norway, and Switzerland.

Figure 2:
Total number of enrolled doctoral and LLM researchers on 31 Dec. 2021, by department



With top scholars from around the world, the EUI offers exceptionally high-quality supervision with innovative methods, diverse perspectives, and a distinct aim towards excellence in research. In 2021, the EUI hosted 70 full-time faculty members, with circa 50 in the departments, from 24 different countries. The doctoral programme concentrates on support for researchers producing a good thesis as well as on other aspects that will be to their advantage upon leaving the EUI, such as developing teaching skills, writing academic publications, presenting papers at conferences and support for their careers. Candidates participate in academic skills courses through the EUI Library and the Academic Service, as well as in seminars and working groups that are organised on a voluntary basis by the researchers themselves.

In 2021, the completion rate remained high in the doctoral programmes, with more than 88.5% of candidates admitted in cohorts 2010 to 2014 completing the doctorate. EUI graduates find employment in the most prestigious universities in Europe and around the world. More than 91% of EUI PhD holders who graduated between 2016 and 2020 were employed within 18 months, an impressive figure in the social sciences and humanities.

Interdisciplinarity in early stage research

Interdisciplinarity is of growing importance to the doctoral researcher-driven working groups, and they are actively involved in the works of the EUI's interdisciplinary research clusters. In 2021, 90% of early stage researchers took part in interdisciplinary activities. In 2021, approximately one third of the 50 active working groups were jointly run by researchers from two or more departments, deeply enriching the peer discussions. One significant example was the [Qualifie working group](#) on interdisciplinary qualitative and field research methods. Researchers from three departments and colleagues from the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies shared their fieldwork experiences and analysed research ethics issues from the perspectives of political science, history, ethnography, sociology, development studies and religious studies. Another notable example of interdisciplinarity came when the working group on [international law](#) held a [joint seminar](#) with the [International Relations Theory working group](#) in the Department of Political and Social Sciences to share insights into the study of violent conflict and peace processes, humanitarianism, diplomacy and law, including the challenges of inclusion and position.

The pandemic and wellbeing

The EUI strives to promote an academic environment in which doctoral and postdoctoral studies complement one another, and where the researchers' overall experience and wellbeing are enhanced. The COVID-19 crisis continued to impact research progress and wellbeing in 2021. In response, the EUI developed and monitored guidelines for PhD submission deadlines and defences. In addition, the Institute made adjustments to ensure additional funding by some grant authorities. The EUI also assessed the mental health needs and concerns of doctoral and LLM researchers with a view to sustaining a high level of support and further developing the EUI strategy to improve the wellbeing and mental health facilities at the Institute.

Ethics and integrity

Ethics and integrity have become a significant area of focus in academic research in the social sciences and humanities given the increasing use of experimental work, as well as disciplinary shifts to fieldwork and data protection requirements. In 2021, the EUI offered ethics trainings, organised an ethics research-benchmarking project and revised the ethics procedures and the Code of Ethics.

Economics

The EUI's Department of Economics focuses on a wide range of topics in the fields of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics. In addition to coursework and electives, PhD researchers receive training in public presentation and career building, preparing them for prominent roles at distinguished universities and major institutions worldwide.

History and Civilisation

The EUI's Department of History and Civilisation focuses on global, comparative, and transnational approaches to the history of Europe in the world since 1400. The Department encourages critical reflection on the research, writing, teaching, and dissemination of history across national borders, and empowers researchers to relate and apply historical research to contemporary challenges.

Law

The EUI's Department of Law is committed to the study of law in a comparative and contextual manner, with a special focus on European and international law. Courses and seminars are interactive and research-oriented, and designed to enhance both academic knowledge and professional skills.

Political and Social Sciences

At the EUI's Department of Political and Social Sciences, research spans the fields of comparative politics, international relations, sociology, and social and political theory in Europe and beyond. The Department supports an innovative approach to research projects and doctoral theses, and offers practical workshops focused on data collection and analysis.

THE MAX WEBER PROGRAMME

The [Max Weber Programme](#) (MWP) is the largest international postdoctoral programme in the social sciences and humanities in Europe. Notably, it pioneered the idea of a taught postdoctoral programme in the social and historical sciences – standing alone in developing a distinct model that combines support for research with teaching, academic communication, and other career development skills. In 2021, the MWP offered 24 skills training activities, ranging from master classes to courses on publishing, writing and being competitive on the job market.

The MWP is a positive force within the EUI as a whole. Max Weber Fellows have been a motor for fostering research collaboration across departments and between established and early career researchers within the EUI. Although all fellows are affiliated to an academic unit, the programme is multidisciplinary. Events, such as the distinguished [Max Weber Lecture Series](#) and the multidisciplinary thematic groups and workshops, raise the profile and research output of the EUI as a whole, while bringing the EUI academic community together. The programme's [Academic Careers Observatory](#) is also at the service of early stage researchers from across the Institute. The Observatory offers online resources on national academic careers and research opportunities in the social sciences and humanities, throughout Europe and beyond.

The fellows

During the 2021-2022 academic year, the MWP hosted a total of 64 fellows, 34 of whom are female and 30 male. The fellows represent 32 nationalities from around the world. Fellowships are affiliated across the departments and the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies.

Figure 3:

Departmental affiliation of 2021-2022 Max Weber Fellows

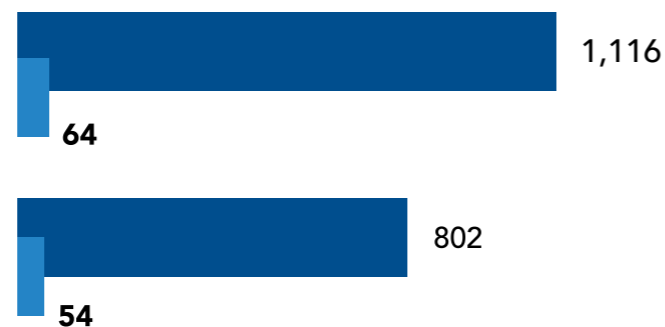


Despite a small decline, the programme continued to attract a large number of applicants in the 2021 call (2022-2023 cohort) with more than 800 applications.

The MWP remains highly selective, with just 6.7% of the applicants admitted (compared to 4.24% in the previous year).

Figure 4:

Applications and admission to the Max Weber Programme, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023



*Admission figures include second and third year fellows; admission figures for 2022-2023 are expected figures.

Of the 39 first year fellows admitted in the 2021 call, 21 were women and 18 were men, and they represent 20 countries.

Focusing on the job market

The unique features of the Max Weber Programme make its fellows highly attractive to future employers, contributing to the programme's success of 97% of fellows finding a position by the end of their time at the EUI, 97% of those within academia.

The Max Weber Programme does this by actively supporting fellows through a wide offer including practical workshops on develop their CVs and application materials, professional feedback on presentation and interviewing skills, a taught module to enhance presentation skills, individual consultations on job search priorities and strategies and the organisation of mock job talks and other support when fellows are long- or short-listed.

In addition to the Max Weber Programme, [several well-established fellowships](#) welcome top scholars and practitioners to the EUI's vibrant academic community.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

The EUI has a long tradition of organising a variety of summer schools, broadening its offer to participants outside the Institute's community. The COVID-19 crisis sharply impacted these efforts in 2020, with only two summer schools taking place online. In 2021, the EUI increased its offer to six summer schools.

The 17th edition of the annual [Migration Summer School](#) focused on the impact of the pandemic on global migration, addressing lessons learnt and ways ahead. The Academy of European Law held summer courses on 'The Law of the European Union' and 'Human Rights Law'.

The Department of History and Civilisation organised its 17th summer school on 'Global and Trans-national History: What is European History in the 21st Century?' Meanwhile, the Department of Law offered the [Law and Logic Summer School](#) and the Department of Political and Social Sciences organised the second edition of its summer academy on '[\(In\)equality, Democracy and Solidarity in Europe](#)'. The '[AI and Law](#)' summer school resumed in 2021 after cancellation in 2020 due to the pandemic.



The EUI and the European Universities Initiative

As a hub for social sciences and humanities in Europe, the EUI offers early stage researchers an opportunity to connect with other European centres of excellence through [CIVICA, the alliance that unites eight leading European higher education institutions](#). With 50,000 students and PhD candidates and 10,000 academic staff, CIVICA was selected by the European Commission in 2019 as one of the pioneering alliances under the Erasmus+ funded European Universities Initiative.

A European space for early-stage researchers Seminars, workshops, summer schools and online courses are at the core of CIVICA's work. Overall, 29% of EUI PhD researchers participated in a CIVICA activity – a number expected to increase after the pandemic. An [online course catalogue](#), created by the EUI for the CIVICA website, allows alliance members to publish digital course offers and to keep track of registrations. In 2021, there were 164 online courses listed.

CIVICA activities also greatly expand the number of doctoral and postdoctoral researchers reached by the EUI. In 2021, 1,432 early stage researchers from outside the EUI benefited from the Institute. This includes the many visitors welcomed through CIVICA for seminars, workshops, summer schools, and short-to-medium length academic stays.

CIVICA Research launched

CIVICA also fosters networked research projects. Notably, in 2021 the alliance launched an ambitious research and innovation dimension, [CIVICA Research](#), and announced the winners of its first series of funded projects. [EUI scholars participate in six projects](#), two of which are led at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies.

First CIVICA doctoral summer school

In 2021, the EUI hosted the [first CIVICA doctoral summer school](#). More than 30 researchers and faculty from across the alliance gathered at the Historical Archives of the European Union to take part. Participants presented papers to the mixed, multi-disciplinary audience of historians, political scientists, sociologists, and legal scholars.

KEY CIVICA TOPICS

- Societies in transition, crises of earth
- Democracy in the 21st century
- Europe revisited
- Data-driven technologies for the social sciences

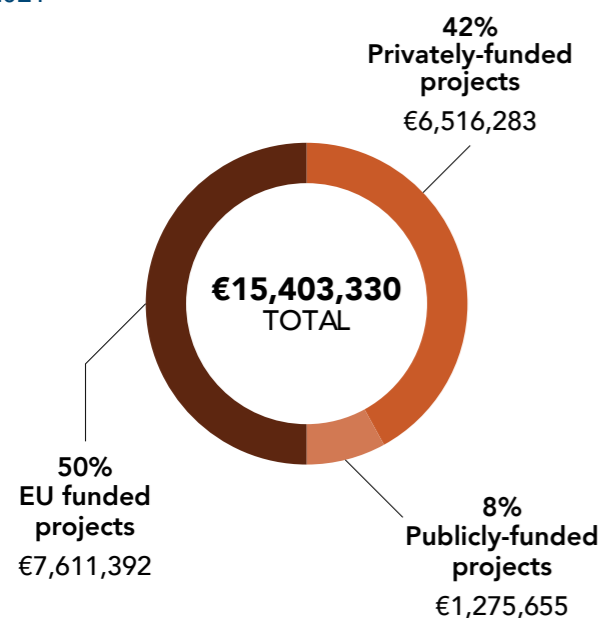
EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Research at the EUI is international, interdisciplinary, and innovative. EUI scholars ask fundamental questions about human society and investigate complex, real-world problems. Their work embraces a diversity of methods and approaches, and many initiatives have a specifically European perspective. The Institute's research strategy promotes interaction between scholars at all career levels and policymakers the world over to make lasting contributions to research and policy agendas.

SUCCESS IN RESEARCH FUNDING COMPETITIONS

2021 was another good year for the EUI in terms of external funding for research, with overall award monies exceeding the intake for four of the past five years. Approximately half of the EUI's externally funded projects are funded by the European Union; another 42% are privately funded and 8% are publicly funded.

Figure 5:
Breakdown of externally funded research projects in 2021



Three new European Research Council (ERC) projects were launched in 2021, in addition to eight ongoing ERCs. The Advanced Grant '[Social Inclusion and the Political Economy of Education: Building Social Capital in Ethnic Diversity](#)', examines pro-inclusion and pro-tolerance interventions that have been introduced in some Turkish schools to address the devastating social effects on children of forced migration, in communities that are not accepting of other ethnics. Professor Sule Alan from the Department of Economics leads the project.

An ERC Advanced Grant, [TRANSNATIONAL](#), focuses on the role of transnational networks and identities in the polarisation of Western societies on issues of immigration, international governance and climate change. The project leader is Professor Liesbet Hooghe from the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies.

An ERC Consolidator Grant supports scholars at the EUI and the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) in an investigation of trust, distributed governance and the '[invisible powers](#)' in blockchain systems, asking if the technology will in fact give control of data back to the people. Primavera De Filippi, Visiting Fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, leads the project.

Beyond its success with the ERC, the Institute runs more than 100 externally funded research projects. These range from individual fellowships, such as the prestigious Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships, to research awards from the CIVICA alliance to multi-institution collaborations and networks. The EUI has hosted 35 networked research projects supported by the EU since 2004. It is one of the most successful institutions in this regard.

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Interdisciplinary and programmatic research is a long-established practice at the EUI as societal challenges ignore disciplinary boundaries. This is exemplified by the activities of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, where research is problem-oriented. The introduction in 2020 of the Interdisciplinary Research Clusters has further broadened this intellectual exchange across the departments and engages researchers at all career stages. Selected in a competition for funding from the Research Council, each cluster is coordinated by faculty from at least two departments. The clusters' themes address challenging issues that are vital to academic research and societies at large: [Technological Change and Society](#); [Inequality, Welfare and Social Justice](#); [Environmental Challenges and Climate Change Governance](#); [Democracy in the 21st Century](#); and [Crisis of Expert Knowledge and Authority](#).

The clusters operate in synergy with ERC projects, the Max Weber Postdoctoral Studies programme and the School of Transnational Governance's Transnational Democracy Initiative and its Climate Chair, as well as the Schuman Centre. Among the clusters' outputs are research bibliographies, blog posts, policy reviews, video interviews, teaching materials, and an interdisciplinary book review. By the end of 2021, the clusters had held some 80 online and hybrid events, including reading groups, seminars with invited experts, workshops, and conferences. Among the notable topics in 2021 were 'technopopulism'; how humans [judge and interact with machines](#); the [nexus of climate, security, and governance](#) in drylands of sub-Saharan Africa; the changing role of [meritocracy in the workplace](#); and ways in which OECD governments overcame coordination gaps in COVID-19 policy and [promoted use of evidence to build public trust](#).

Cluster members produced successful applications to the first CIVICA Research funding call, and four of [CIVICA's popular data sciences seminars](#) were led by the EUI under the umbrella of the Technological Change and Society Cluster. At the request of partner institutions, the clusters serve as a model for similar initiatives at the level of the CIVICA alliance.

Multi-disciplinarity is a hallmark of the Max Weber Programme. In 2021, five of the programme's thematic research groups merged with the EUI's Interdisciplinary Clusters. Max Weber fellows organise a series of research conferences for discussion of their work from multi-disciplinary perspectives.

RESEARCH INFORMING POLICY

The EUI is the lead institution in two projects that received funding in [CIVICA Research](#)'s first call. Both projects are based at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies. '[Digital Trade Integration](#)' engages academics, NGOs and policymakers on issues related to digital trade such as privacy, intermediary liability, IP, censorship, and online payments. EUI researchers developed a [dataset of policies affecting digital trade integration](#) (80 countries covered) and began constructing a digital-trade-integration index based on the dataset. These tools will inform deliberation on state interventions and cooperation and on cross-border effects.

The CIVICA Research-funded project '[Contesting the Court](#)' brings together leading lawyers and political scientists to examine the constitutional resilience of the EU political order and the role of the judicial branch in safeguarding its basic principles.





In 2021, the [Florence Competition Programme](#), the [Technological Change and Society](#) Interdisciplinary Cluster and the [Claudette](#) research project based in the Law Department jointly contributed expertise to European policymaking on digital markets, competition and legal-regulatory aspects of artificial intelligence. The venues included the European Parliament's Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age (AIDA) and its Committee on Internal Markets and Consumer Protection (IMCO); and a Closed-Door Panel of the Florence Competition Summer Conference on the auditing of algorithms, attended by industry representatives and competition authorities.

EUI political scientists Ellen M. Immergut and Tamara Popic edited a [comprehensive handbook](#) on [health systems in Europe since 1989](#), from a legal and social perspective. The accompanying [Open Access dataset](#) of policies, institutions, public opinion, and health indicators permits cross-country and temporal comparisons that were previously not possible. Among the country cases are in-depth studies of all post-2004 EU enlargement countries and the Western Balkans. The handbook will next be extended with a focus on public-health responses and effectiveness in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Florence School of Banking and Finance collaborated in 2021 with the EUI's [Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa Chair](#) and [Pierre Werner Chair](#) to shape the conversation about macroeconomic governance in Europe. Together with the Centre for Economic Policy

Research (CEPR), they organised a [conference for lawyers and economists](#) on the potential for reform of the EU's treaties. The two chairs produced 12 policy papers in 2021 alone, as well as a new edition of '[Global Governance: Demise or transformation?](#)'

In connection with hosting one of the Citizens' Panels of the Conference on the Future of Europe, in 2021 the EUI published a public [resource page](#) with policy briefs, reports, academic articles, videos and expert commentary by EUI researchers. The corresponding [collection in Cadmus](#) continues to be updated.

RESEARCH RELEVANT TO COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic retained a potent influence on research activities in 2021. Many scholars adjusted their project methodology and some expanded their research scope to incorporate the pandemic's societal impacts. Examples include the inclusion of COVID-19 survey questions in the prestigious [household longitudinal study in the UK](#), 'Understanding Society'. Another is the application of insights from the [WellSire ERC project](#), led by Anton Hemerijck, to evaluate which welfare-state features performed best in recovery from lockdowns and mitigating unequal employment impacts on migrants in particular ([Migration Policy Institute Europe](#) report).

The EUI's [COVID-19 Knowledge Hub](#) continued to expand in 2021. A new project challenges social scientists around the globe to devise the [best statistical model to predict future mortality](#) patterns. The COVID-19 [Social Sciences and Humanities Data Portal](#), set up in 2020 to accelerate discovery and data sharing and re-use, added 100 new datasets in 2021, bringing the total available resources to 308 datasets.

Post-COVID recovery is the focus of the '[Resilience Papers](#)', produced at the School of Transnational Governance and incorporating research by seven scholars from across the EUI. The multi-disciplinary collection was prepared as input from the [Post-Pandemic Policy Commission](#) to the June G7 summit. Paper topics range from medical supply chains to the role of social-science data, to human rights assessment of public health measures, to East-West European disparities in resilience.

Likewise, '[Healing and Renewal](#)' – a multi-disciplinary exploration of the social reverberations of COVID-19 – was the focus of the annual three-day research conference organised by Max Weber postdoctoral fellows.

RESEARCH GRANTS through the Historical Archives of the European Union and the Alcide de Gasperi Centre

Post-graduate research grant programmes have proven successful in increasing consultation of the [Historical Archives of the European Union](#) (HAEU), which are housed at the EUI. In 2021, the HAEU administered the Vibeke Sørensen grant, the European Court of Auditors grant, the grant scheme of the European People's Party Group in the European Parliament, and the International Visegrad Fund grant. There were 21 successful applicants. The EUI's interdisciplinary research cluster on environmental challenges and climate change governance also financed a research fellowship at the HAEU. Finally, the Alcide De Gasperi Centre received its third grant from the European Investment Bank Group [STAREBEI](#) to fund projects by early stage researchers.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH

Since its formation in spring 2021, the Research Support team has strengthened the Institute's project information sharing and grant management. It managed around €16 million destined to research in 2021. For the benefit of the whole EUI research community, it also bolstered research communication efforts and assisted with special initiatives. Among these in 2021 were the expansion of the EUI's internal funding resources for early stage researchers; a more transparent procedure for funding Open Access publications (in cooperation with the EUI Library); and an increased focus on ethics in social science research and data management, with the aim of establishing the EUI as a hub in Europe for these critical aspects of research.

The EUI and Open Science



The EUI, through its [Open Access policy](#), supports an approach to scholarly communication that values the principles of Open Science, aiming at the broadest openness, reach and impact of its research.

Supporting Open Science through Open Access
In 2021, the EUI continued its active promotion of Open Science by organising various initiatives, especially during [International Open Access Week](#). The Institute hosted a [roundtable](#) on data sharing, transformative agreements, Open Access models in publishing and, more broadly, Open Science in the post-COVID era. The EUI also hosted an event on transformative agreements, illustrating the Library's support to EUI members in their efforts to publish in Open Access through specific transformative agreements with publishers. Moreover, a [CIVICA roundtable discussion](#) focused on Open Science, the social sciences and the CIVICA alliance.

Cadmus and Open Access

Through the [Library](#), the EUI provides continued support to the academic community in reporting and self-archiving publications with [Cadmus](#), the [EUI Research Repository](#). The Institute also supports academics in understanding copyright and licensing implications as well as effective data management.

Notably, the EUI published 66% of its research output in Open Access in 2021. In addition, the [COVID-19 research collection](#) and the [COVID-19 Social Sciences Data Portal](#) continued to provide a valuable service to the scientific community worldwide.

RESEARCH OUTPUT IN 2021

- EUI research output: 1,200
- Open Access output: 793
66% of total, compared to 55% in 2020

TOTAL RESEARCH OUTPUTS IN CADMUS

- Total records as of December 2021: 27,555
- Total in Open Access: 11,708
42.5% of total records

CADMUS ENGAGEMENT IN 2021

- Yearly visits: 364,000
- Yearly page views: 1 million

TRAINING OF CURRENT AND FUTURE POLICYMAKERS

Solving today's global challenges will not happen singlehandedly. Impactful and lasting change requires new knowledge, as well as transnational collaboration and innovative leadership. Given its strong links with the world of policymaking in Europe and beyond, the EUI is well equipped to deliver high impact policy relevant research, as well as reinforce this effort by training current and future policymakers and practitioners through executive education, policy workshops and fellowships. In 2021, more than 7,000 policymakers and policy actors participated in EUI events with more than 4,600 coming from the EU.

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

The EUI's executive education courses equip professionals from policy, diplomacy, NGOs, media and the private sector with the tools essential to tackling cross-border issues. Executives gain fresh insight into their respective fields, hone key skills and broaden their professional networks, enhancing their leadership performance and impact.

Prominent international experts, with extensive academic and political experience, teach the seminars, focusing on topics such as digital transformation, banking and finance, energy, gender, migration, peace and security, and trade. The Institute offers executive education through the various schools of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies and School of Transnational Governance.

In 2021, the EUI offered over 58 executive courses and trained almost 2,700 professionals. The Institute strengthened its online training offer and made efforts to deliver hybrid as well as in presence courses.

The EUI features flagship programmes with annual offerings, all of which took place in 2021:

- The [Bank Resolution Academy](#), organised by the Florence School of Banking and Finance, fosters a deep and comprehensive understanding of the EU bank resolution rules and procedures.
- The [Annual Training on Competition and Regulation in the Digital Era](#), co-organised by the Florence Competition Programme and the Florence School of Regulation (Comms & Media), focused on 5G policy challenges, merger control in digital markets and sectoral challenges in the digital economy.
- The [Climate Risks Academy](#), co-organised by the Florence School of Banking and Finance and Oliver Wyman, in scientific cooperation with the School of Transnational Governance, combines financial industry expertise and tools to assess the risks posed by climate change to the financial sector.

- The [Annual Training on the Regulation of Energy Utilities](#), organised by the Florence School of Regulation (Energy), covers all the fundamental aspects of the regulation of power and gas sectors through theory and practice.

The EUI offers a unique environment where policymakers and practitioners from various nations converge towards the EUI's diverse offer. The School of Transnational Governance, in particular, provides a platform where actors across policy, business, civil society, media and academia meet. Highlights from 2021 include training courses on '[Gender and Women's Rights Dimensions in Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism](#)', co-organised with the UN Team of Experts and UNODC; on 'Migration Communication Strategies', conducted with the EUI's Migration Policy Centre; and '[Integrity in Sports – The Existential Crisis of Sports Governance, Corruption and Match-Fixing](#)'.

In 2021, the [ENTraNCE](#) course for national judges of the EU Member States marked its eleventh year, providing participants an overview of EU competition law and an introduction to the economic theories underpinning its enforcement. Thus far, more than 350 national judges from all over the European Union have participated in the programme.

The '[EU Green Deal Executive Training Course](#)' focused on the fundamentals of energy and climate policy as reformulated in the context of the European Green Deal. The course hosted professionals and academics from across Europe.

While the EUI offers a broad range of executive training, the courses compete in an increasingly crowded executive education environment in Europe and beyond. Thus, an important development in 2021 was a broad effort to further integrate executive education across the EUI. Reaping synergies and economies of scale and scope through harmonisation and, where appropriate, consolidation of content and delivery would allow for more outreach. In this vein, an effort in ensuring consistency across the EUI is undertaken – with the aim of reinforcing a common EUI brand for executive education. The process was launched early in 2021 with a number of working groups formed to advance the work.

TRAINING FUTURE POLICY LEADERS

The School of Transnational Governance also offers the [Master in Transnational Governance](#), a two-year programme designed to enable students to break through traditional perspectives so to design and implement innovative, effective, and sustainable public policy solutions for a globalised world. In 2021, the programme, in its second year, admitted 43 new students, with two simultaneous cohorts for the first time for a total of 73 enrolled at the end of the year. Half of the master students are extra-European. The programme's first year lays the foundation for understanding and analysing governance in a transnational context. During the second year, students specialise in an area of transnational governance of their choosing. They also participate in a broad range of events, talks, workshops, and lectures held by globally recognised leaders. Between the first and the second year of study, students participate in an internship programme with one of the EUI's international partner organisations.

School of Transnational Governance

The EUI's [School of Transnational Governance](#) trains current and future leaders in the methods, skills and theory of global governance, supporting them in developing policymaking strategies that transcend national borders. The school offers executive training seminars and policy leader fellowships as well as a two-year Master in Transnational Governance.

Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies

The [Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies](#) creates connections across social science disciplines and acts as a bridge between academia and the world of practice. Established in 1993 to complement the EUI's four original academic departments, it carries out both basic and policy-oriented research and collaborates with other centres of excellence around the world.

POLICY FELLOWSHIPS

The School of Transnational Governance hosts Policy Leader Fellows, who are early- to mid-career practitioners coming from around the world to enhance their work and professional skills. The [Policy Leader Fellows](#) have the unique opportunity to interact with policymakers and the academic community through EUI workshops, trainings, conferences, and other events. The fellows are selected through a global call for applications with attention given to creating a group with diverse geographic and professional backgrounds. In 2021, the EUI admitted the fifth cohort, with 28 fellows. During their stay at the EUI, ranging from three to nine months, they complete studies on policy issues as proposed in their applications. The [Project Talk series](#) provides an opportunity for Policy Leader Fellows to discuss the work conducted during their time at the School of Transnational Governance.

In 2021, the School of Transnational Governance also created the [Young African Leaders Programme](#) to support mid-career African professionals in fine-tuning their global leadership skills during a three-month fully funded training programme. The first cohort of Young African Leaders, made up of 17 experts (1,800 applications were received) from across the African continent, participated in dialogues with African, European, and international policy leaders in a seminar series. The fellows also received skills training and took part in workshops and public events during their stay. The programme is financed by the European Commission's DG for International Partnerships.

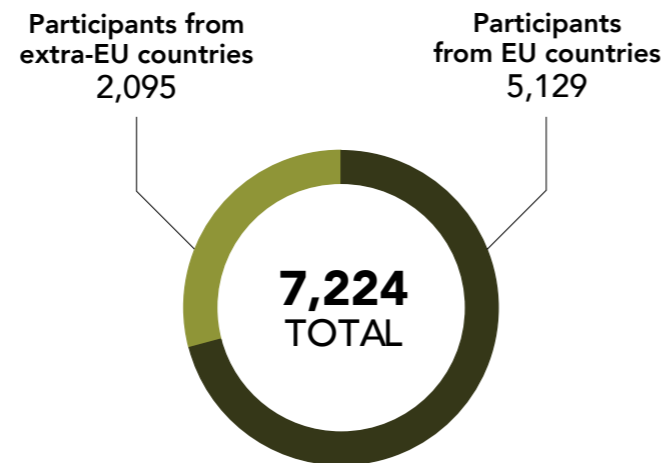
POLICY DIALOGUES

The EUI is in a privileged position to hold public debates on today's grand challenges. This is evidenced by the growing success of the Institute's policy dialogues. They provide a platform for representatives from academia, civil society, the private sector and the world of policy to engage with one another on the key policy issues on international agendas. The dialogues aim to encourage open and unconstrained exchange and provide a testing ground for ideas and possible new policy approaches. Topics focus on issues as diverse as trade policy, differentiated integration, European responses to COVID-19, the implications of Brexit, global energy markets and regulation, macroeconomic governance reform in Europe, migration policy and public attitudes and regional security in the MENA.

In 2021, more than 5,000 participants from the EU took part in EUI events aimed at policymakers. More than 2,000 came from countries outside the European Union.

Figure 6:

Activities aimed at policymakers, number of participants by country



In the frame of the Schuman Conversation series, Ignacio Garcia Bercero, Director of DG Trade at the European Commission, participated in ['Open, Sustainable and Assertive: EU Trade Policy Looking Forward'](#). The EUI organised the [Regional Forum for Europe](#) panel for the UNESCO World Press Freedom Day Global Conference on how to combat disinformation and support media freedom. Also in 2021, Jean-Claude Piris, former Director General of the EU Council's Legal Service, offered insights on internal differentiation and its impact on the future of the EU in a [keynote speech at the DiCE networking conference on Brexit](#). The event brought together experts and relevant stakeholders from policymaking, civil society, and academia.

EUI policy dialogues in 2021 also included the ['Executive Dialogues on International Carbon Markets'](#), organised by the School of Transnational Governance, which shared the European experience of carbon pricing and trading systems with non-European G20 countries. Participants were representatives of government, industry, academia, and civil society. The countries in focus for 2021 were Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Brazil, and Indonesia.

The School of Transnational Governance also organised the ['European Cyber Diplomacy Dialogue'](#), in collaboration with EU Cyber Direct. Furthermore in 2021, European Commission Vice President [Věra Jourová](#) joined a group of distinguished experts from different sectors at the EUI School of Transnational Governance to discuss the Commission's initiatives for strengthening and upholding the Rule of Law in the EU.

THE STATE OF THE UNION CONFERENCE

['The State of the Union'](#) conference, the EUI's annual summit for high-level reflection on the European Union, took place on 6-7 May. The 2021 edition marked the tenth anniversary of the conference. Approximately 10,000 virtual participants from 146 countries were present at the event, which was held in a hybrid format for the first time. More than 40 sessions took place in person in the EUI's custom built production studio and virtually through a dedicated online platform.

The theme 'Europe in a Changing World' gave rise to a high-level debate with discussions focusing on eight key topics: artificial intelligence, climate, geopolitics, global economy, multilateralism, peace and human rights, public health and strategic autonomy. More than 160 speakers of 44 nationalities shared their expertise and the event featured high-level

speakers including Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission; Christine Lagarde, President of the European Central Bank; Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund; and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organisation.

Moreover in 2021, the EUI organised the open event ['#SOU4YOU – Bringing the State of the Union Closer to Citizens'](#). Framed in the context of the State of the Union 2021, the event took place at the Roman Theatre of Fiesole to mark Europe Day and was funded by the European Parliament. It aimed to inspire young people and European citizens to take an active part in the EU democratic processes. Nearly 500 people participated in person while the live stream received more than 2,900 views.

The EUI and the Conference on the Future of Europe

In 2021, the EU Institutions selected the EUI as one of four hosts for the 'European Citizens' Panels' in the context of the [Conference on the Future of Europe](#). This reflects the EUI's strong engagement with institutional actors. It was also a clear recognition of the Institute's role in providing a space for dialogue, concrete policy ideas and research informing conversations on the future of Europe.

European Citizens' Panel

In December, [200 citizens gathered on the EUI campus and online](#) in the panel focusing on democracy, values, human rights, rule of law, and security. The first panel in the overall EU initiative, participants met in 15 sub-groups to discuss a variety of issues facing Europe. A number of EUI faculty members served as experts in the sub-groups, assisting the citizens in their deliberations by providing factual evidence and objective information. EUI early stage researchers served as co-moderators for the working groups. They also took notes and checked facts. The citizens drafted 39 recommendations that were presented to the plenary of the Conference. The themes are also at the heart of a growing number of [EUI-led events and policy-relevant research publications](#).

The EUI Democracy Forum

Also in 2021, the EUI [Democracy Forum](#) explored the range, promise and potential of citizen participation in Europe, by taking the Conference on the Future of Europe as a case in point. Organised by the EUI School of Transnational Governance, the Forum

provides a bridge between academia, European institutions, practitioners, and civil society in order to support the aim of the Conference, beyond the event itself.

ENGAGING GLOBALLY

A primary goal at the EUI is to engage globally and further internationalise within the Institute's three pillars: training of early stage researchers, generating high quality policy-relevant research, and training current and future policymakers. This is done through activities to bolster the Institute's connections to the world, while strengthening its international profile as a leading European higher education and research institution in the social sciences and humanities.

DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

In 2021, the EUI worked to further cooperation with partner institutions – academic, international, and regional organisations, national and local authorities, civil society and private sector entities – in different parts of the world through joint activities, projects, and exchange. The aim is to deepen connections between the Institute's academic community and the worlds of practice and policymaking, creating new opportunities for students, researchers, fellows, faculty, and staff, as well as enriching their experience.

The EUI currently has 109 active partnership agreements: 52% are with higher education institutions; 22% with international/regional

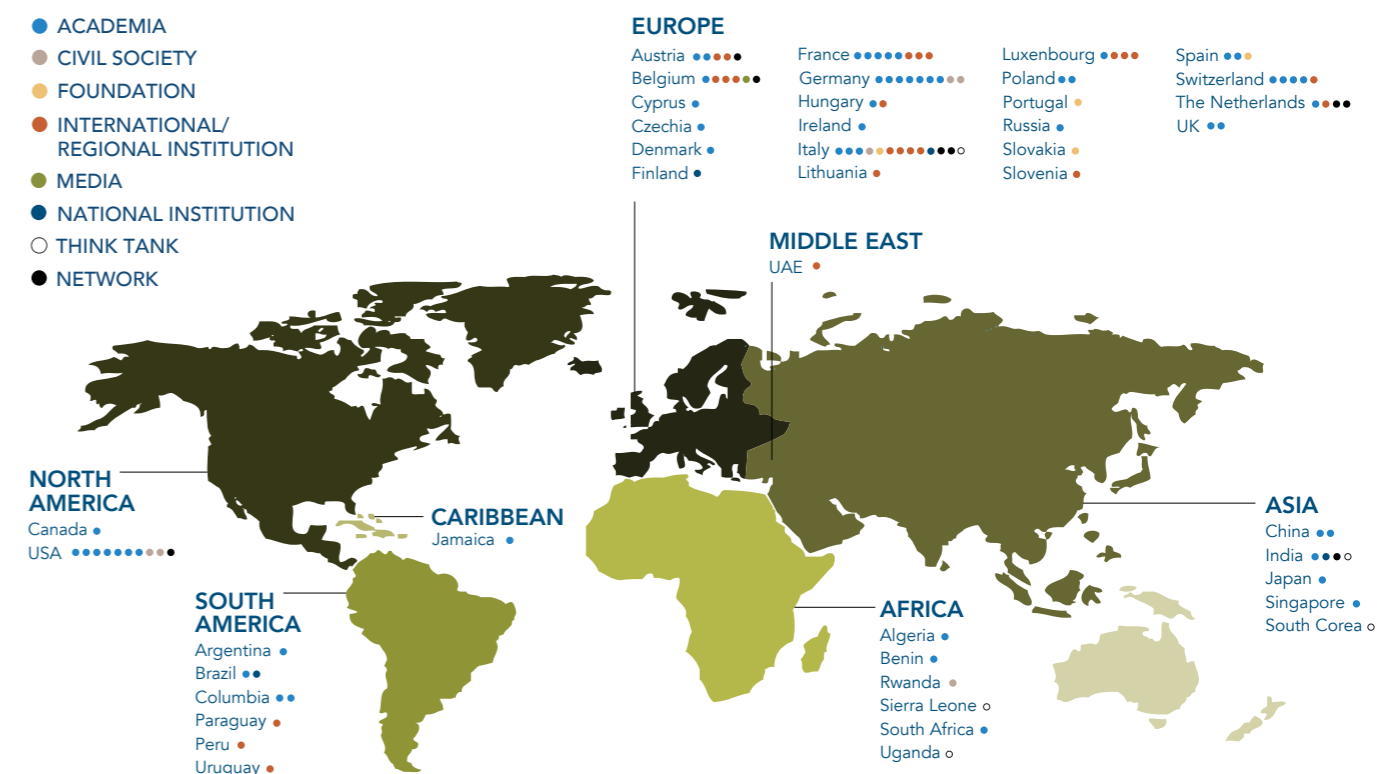
organisations; and the remainder span civil society groups, foundations, think tanks, the media, research networks, and national authorities. Two-thirds of the EUI's partners are in Europe. In 2021, the EUI put significant effort into enhancing relations with the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Investment Bank and the European External Action Service and stakeholders in Africa.



AN UNPARALLELED TRANSNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

With increasing competitiveness in higher education, mobility provides added value, leading to a wider research experience and broadening academic cooperation and networking, in Europe and globally. An international organisation by nature, the EUI has no dominant national culture, but an open, multilingual, and welcoming international environment. Around 80 nationalities are represented on campus, and no nationality represents more than 12% of the population. This is unparalleled, even in the most internationalised national universities. Therefore, no national academic model prevails, and a truly European soul emerges from academic life at the EUI.

Figure 7: EUI partner map as of December 2021



A focus in 2021 was to pursue engagement with a range of potential partners in priority geographical regions (the Western Balkans, Africa, the Caribbean) as well as China and India. An example was the School of Transnational Governance liaising with the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission to deliver [a training course on evidence-informed policymaking](#) for Western Balkan civil servants. Another was the Florence School of Regulation partnership with African, European and US stakeholders for the start-up phase of an African School of Regulation.

The School of Transnational Governance was indeed created with strategic vision to broaden the EUI's reach to extra-European audiences. The aim is to promote Europe as one of the most advanced models of transnational organisation. The school hosts faculty, fellows and students from around the world and engages in diverse global partnerships, notably in Latin America. In 2021, it also launched a fellowship programme dedicated to young African leaders.

INTERNATIONALISATION THROUGH POLICY-DRIVEN RESEARCH

The EUI's Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies plays a key role in increasing the Institute's international footprint. While it produces policy-driven research, it also focuses on engagement – on a global scale. In 2021, the Schuman Centre produced approximately 550 publications and organised more than 360 seminars, workshops, and conferences to make EUI research available to policymakers, practitioners and the wider public.

On global governance, the RESPECT project ([Realising Europe's soft power in external cooperation and trade](#)) concluded in 2021, with its main findings presented at a [final conference in Brussels](#). The [Global Citizenship Observatory](#) (GLOBALCIT) launched a major update of its comparative database on citizenship, covering 190 countries. Finally, the [EU-Asia project](#) holds an annual conference supported by the Japan Foundation, focusing on security and trade relationships and bringing together practitioners and scholars from around the globe.

In 2021, on energy regulation, the Schuman Centre concluded agreements with India and the African Union to support the regulation of energy markets outside Europe. Climate experts from the Institute were present at the COP26 climate talks in Glasgow. Also in 2021, a technical study, '[Green Hydrogen: Bridging the Energy Transition in Africa and Europe](#)', was published with financing from the German Agency for International Development.

Regarding migration policy, Schuman Centre experts provided advice to governments inside and outside Europe both on strategies for managing migration and on the impact of migration on public opinion. In 2021, the highly attended webinar on '[The European Union's response to the refugee situation in Afghanistan](#)', addressed the situation in Afghanistan and the UN Global Compact for Refugees with a focus on the role of the EU. The webinar on '[Migration policymaking in Africa: determinants and implications for cooperation with Europe](#)' focused on migration issues in view of the 2022 European Union - African Union Summit.

The Schuman Centre also addresses issues regarding the [Middle East](#) with a primary focus on Libya, Syria, and the Gulf region. In 2021, a conference examined [possible solutions for Libya's economic future](#). It gathered academics and policymakers from various countries, including Libya, to discuss how to run the country's post-conflict economy. The '[Wartime and Post-Conflict in Syria](#)' project provides operational and strategic analysis of prospects, challenges, trends, and policy options in wartime and in preparation for post-conflict in Syria.

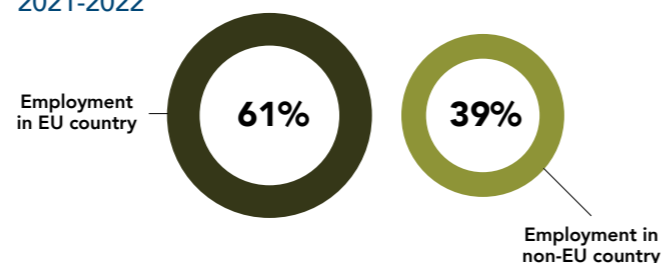
INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE DOCTORAL AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES

With time, the EUI has become a vibrant hub where academics and learners at all career stages can collaborate – both formally and informally – with colleagues from other countries. Doctoral researchers trained at the EUI benefit throughout their professional careers from the global connections they have built at the EUI. Beyond enrolled doctoral researchers, the EUI also acts as a hub for early stage researchers in the social sciences across Europe. The EUI's international reputation of academic excellence and outstanding research environment attract young scholars not only from Europe but also from further afield. In 2021, the Institute received more than 540 applications from extra-European candidates for the doctoral programmes, which represents

44% of the total number of applications. The EUI is actively working to secure more resources to provide opportunities to the growing number of outstanding applicants who come from outside the EU.

The Max Weber Programme is a central part of the EUI's efforts to internationalise through global reach. The 39 fellows admitted in the 2021 call (2022-2023 cohort) represented 20 countries, while the applicant pool represented 90 – demonstrating that the programme is of global interest. Over the years, the programme has hosted around 600 fellows with more than 40 nationalities. Furthermore, it successfully places fellows on the path of international mobility, one of its priorities. In 2021, 61% found a position in an EU country, whereas 39% took up an employment outside the EU.

Figure 8:
Max Weber Programme employment cohort 2021-2022



All of this contributes to improving the EUI's visibility in global academia, internationalises the EUI's body of scholars, as well as supports the EUI in creating global networks through the programme's alumni.

OUTREACH TO NEW CONTRACTING STATES

In 2021, the EUI revived contacts in all EU Member States that are not yet contracting states of the EUI (Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Lithuania).

Reaching out to Widening countries and the Western Balkans

Wide performance gaps exist in Europe between different national higher education and research systems. With its European identity, missions and funding structure, the EUI is working to close these gaps in the Widening countries and the Western Balkans as a strategic priority. To reach out more to the Widening countries, in particular, the EUI worked in 2021 to develop a new [Master of Research in Economics](#). The programme will begin admitting students in 2022.

Also in 2021, the EUI developed relations with authorities and universities in the Western Balkans, the European Commission and EU Delegations in the region to identify relevant academic partners and funding opportunities, and to raise awareness about the EUI in the region. As a result, a significant number of students, early stage researchers and policymakers from these countries participated in EUI activities.

STUDENTS AND EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS FROM WIDENING COUNTRIES AND THE WESTERN BALKANS WHO TOOK PART IN EUI ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- 142** Total number of master students, doctoral researchers and Max Weber fellows from Widening countries and the Western Balkans enrolled with the EUI.
- 1,724** Total number of students and early stage researchers from Widening countries and the Western Balkans not enrolled with the EUI who attended academic activities organised or co-organised by the EUI.
- 925** Total number of participants from the Widening countries and the Western Balkans who took part in outreach activities aimed at policymakers.



In 2021, the International Visegrad Fund and the EUI signed a [pilot grant scheme](#) for post-graduate scholars from the Western Balkans and the Eastern Partnership region, to investigate European integration using the collections of the Historical Archives of the European Union (seven grants).

Ongoing research also reflects the EUI community's commitment to the Widening countries and the Western Balkans. A [comprehensive, interdisciplinary handbook](#) on the development of [health systems in Europe since 1989, published in 2021](#), presents in-depth studies of all post-2004 EU enlargement countries and the Western Balkans. The Horizon 2020 project GREASE 'Religion, Diversity and Radicalisation', about governing religious diversity, works in Bosnia-Herzegovina as one of its 12 in-depth case studies. The PREVEX 'Preventing Violent Extremism' project partners with think tanks in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo and Serbia with the aim to strengthen resilience by investigating the non-occurrence of violent extremism in 'enabling environments'.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSIVENESS

The EUI is a unique institution built on the very idea of promoting diversity, inclusiveness, and interconnections between languages, cultures, and scientific approaches. This is at the heart of the EUI's strategic vision and an area of sustained progress in 2021.

The EUI appointed Neha Jain as its first Dean of Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness. Jain is Professor of Public International Law and Co-Director of the Academy of European Law. Her leadership of the newly created Office of the Dean for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusiveness (EDI) marks a key step forward in uniting a series of institutional policies and informal initiatives.

Through the establishment of the Office, the EUI has affirmed its commitment to promoting and mainstreaming diversity and inclusion efforts in all its decisions, activities, and events. The Dean acts as the nodal point for initiating, improving, and overseeing the implementation of all EDI policies at the Institute. In addition, the Dean facilitates bottom-up initiatives by members of the EUI community to further these goals and to strengthen networks of solidarity and support.

In 2021, several institutional measures were established around the three main axes of equality, diversity and inclusion – with a focus on gender, ethnicity, race, and social background. The EUI also took steps to forge closer links with and learn from EDI initiatives spearheaded by its institutional partners in the CIVICA alliance, for example through participation in the [CIVICA Inclusion Workshops](#), the most recent of which was held in late 2021. Further, broad-based consultations and expert reviews were undertaken with a view to addressing issues of particular concern to the EUI community of researchers. One, the formulation of a comprehensive policy on harassment, will be finalised in 2022.

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY

The EUI adopted its [Gender Equality Plan](#) (2022–2025) in 2021. This plan represents the culmination of the efforts of a Working Group on Gender Equality representing different constituencies of the EUI community, and of wider consultations with members of the community. The plan sets out clear objectives pertaining to equality of opportunity, the promotion of an environment based on fair treatment and

mutual respect, irrespective of one's gender identity, and affirming the EUI's commitment to a zero-tolerance policy with respect to sexual harassment. The plan proposes specific and ambitious actions that must be taken by the EUI in areas ranging from faculty recruitment and women's presence in curricula and academic events, to the fostering of work-life balance. It also led to the establishment of a permanent Gender Equality Committee to act as an advisory, monitoring and consultative body for all issues concerning gender equality.

FOSTERING DIVERSITY

In a parallel move, the [Diversity Committee](#) was established in July 2021 with the mandate to take active steps to cultivate and sustain a community that properly reflects ethnic and racial diversity. The committee's first task was to draft a Diversity Action Plan, which is expected to be finalised in 2022 with a view to its eventual adoption by the EUI management following a broad-based consultative process.

The EUI has a policy on disability and specific educational needs that was adopted in 2012. In 2021, it supported 37 young scholars and early stage researchers. This is a key element of inclusion in academic and social life at the EUI. The EUI's new website, launched in spring 2021, includes comprehensive, standard-compatible provisions for accessibility.

These institutional measures are complemented by a vibrant set of community-led networks and initiatives, several of which were inaugurated in 2021. For example, the [Decolonising Initiative](#) founded by EUI researchers, faculty, and teachers at the language centre provides a forum for introspection and constructive debate on concerns related to white euro-centrism, legacies of colonial history, and the absence of diversity in the fabric and structures of institutions of learning, including the EUI.

In 2021, the EUI launched a formal institutional structure to support first-generation doctoral

researchers and master students. Around 20% of newly admitted doctoral researchers are first-generation university degree holders, while about 80% are the first in their family to pursue a PhD. The [First-Generation Initiative](#) aims to set up both formal and informal peer groups and mentoring to provide first-generation EUI researchers and students with the skills, resources, and networks that they need to navigate the challenges of an academic career path.

SUPPORTING REFUGEES AND SCHOLARS AT RISK

The [EUI Refugee Initiative](#) is a volunteer and community-led project through which the EUI hosts a group of asylum seekers. The goal is to give meaningful support throughout the integration process, using the unique resources and surroundings of the EUI Community. In 2021, the EUI together with its local partners, the Diocese of Fiesole and the charity organisation CARITAS Firenze, signed a [newly drafted agreement](#), reinforcing the EUI's ongoing commitment to provide exceptional assistance to

refugees and migrants in emergency situations. Notably, the Institute welcomed five asylum seekers from the crisis in Afghanistan.

In addition, the EUI established a partnership with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and UNHCR in Italy to take part in the ['University Corridors for Refugees' \(UNICORE\) initiative](#). This led the School of Transnational Governance to offer access to the master programmes through scholarships to two students who were refugees in Ethiopia.

Moreover in 2021, the EUI hosted its first scholar at risk, in collaboration with the Scholars Refugee Fund. The EUI is an active member of the [Scholars at Risk](#) network, which seeks to protect threatened scholars, prevent attacks on higher education, and promote academic freedom.



Women at the EUI

The EUI is committed to breaking barriers to access to education and research with gender equality and inclusivity as an underlying principle. The Institute is active on many fronts in supporting gender diversity among academics, students, staff and learners, and in supporting women in particular in the broader academic community and beyond. In 2021, the numbers reflected this focus with more women enrolled in the master programme, the Max Weber Programme and the executive trainings.

Special initiatives

In 2021, the EUI offered an array of initiatives on the occasion of International Women's Day. In addition, the Florence School of Regulation doubled its commitment to the [Lights on Women Scholarship](#) reaching a total of eight recipients. The Florence School of Regulation also launched the [Women in Finance lecture](#) series, highlighting successful women across different areas of finance. The [Inclusive Leadership for Sustainable Governance](#) project at the School of Transnational Governance offered political leaders the opportunity to develop skills and competences to achieve and defend a more diverse, equal and inclusive leadership at party and government level.

Figure 9:

2021 gender diversity among learners and fellows

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME*

M 54% **F 46%**

MASTER PROGRAMME*

M 49% **F 51%**

MAX WEBER PROGRAMME*

M 44% **F 56%**

EXECUTIVE TRAININGS**

M 45% **F 55%**

* September 2021

**January-September 2021

SUPPORT SERVICES

The EUI support services strive to provide effective and efficient services that are tailored to the needs of the academic community and that contribute constructively to the implementation of the EUI Strategy 2019-2024. The Institute commits to benchmarking according to international best practices in higher education administration, subsequently reviewing, modernising and streamlining its operations processes to ensure that the Institute maintains its competitive edge, institutional resilience in changing times, and excellence in teaching and research.

Despite the persisting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, the EUI support services continued to contribute to the EUI Strategy via seven objectives: to provide effective and innovative administrative support to the academic community; to promote the EUI's uniqueness as an international organisation and its added value; to foster accession to the

EUI Convention and links with third countries; to improve the EUI's visibility and its assets with a view to also attracting additional financial resources; to create campus that is safe, attractive and accessible; to promote accountability; and to promote the integration of the EUI community in Florence.

DIGITALISATION AND MORE EFFICIENT SERVICES

In a continued response to the pandemic shifting working methods, the EUI pushed towards digitalising and automating more processes across the administration, also in line with the development of a wider EUI Digital Strategy. For example, the Institute reviewed the student management software and the

EUI SECRETARY GENERAL MARCO DEL PANTA

Marco Del Panta joined the EUI as Secretary General in 2021. He assists and advises the President in all institutional external affairs and diplomatic matters, including relations with EUI Member States, EU Institutions, and third countries. He also coordinates relations with the national and local authorities. The Secretary General coordinates the EUI administration and deals with all tasks delegated to him in this regard.

Before joining the EUI as Secretary General, Marco Del Panta was elected to the City Council of Florence and appointed as special advisor to the mayor. A career diplomat, he served most recently as Italy's Ambassador to Switzerland. Previously, he was Director for Migration Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served at the General Directorate for the European Union of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in Brussels at the Italian Permanent Representation to the EU. Previously, he held diplomatic positions in Austria and Egypt.

"The EUI can be considered a pillar in the construction of Europe. Recent events reiterate the importance of training future academics, as well as policymakers, public administration officials and civil society, in a multinational environment. The EUI services support these endeavours with excellent administration."

- Marco Del Panta, EUI Secretary General

online management of certifications, and several HR processes were simplified and/or digitalised. An automated workflow for reimbursement and mission processes was also implemented. Academic units were supported by expanding the learning management system and distributing online collaborative tools. The Historical Archives of the European Union continued to work towards digitalising its EU-institutional and private archives. The EUI also began a review of records and archive management across the administration, towards the implementation in 2022 of a comprehensive and efficient framework for managing and preserving documentation. The projects to digitalise and automate administrative processes have led to greater efficiency, lower paper consumption and safeguarded business continuity across the services to the academic community.

A SAFE, SECURE AND GREEN CAMPUS

Much of 2021 was dedicated to ensuring the safety of the EUI community during the pandemic. By establishing strong relations with the Region of Tuscany, the Institute succeeded in ensuring that the EUI community received equal access to vaccinations compared to local citizens and that members were issued the COVID-19 passports (Green Passes) required for many activities and services in Italy. On-campus COVID-19 measures were continuously reviewed and implemented, including regular free on-site testing. Contagion rates on campus remained consistently lower than national, regional and local rates, as well as compared to those in public universities, which demonstrated the effectiveness of the EUI's measures.

In actions towards a green campus, the EUI explored ways to reduce the campus's carbon footprint by reducing utilities, improving by 4.34% compared to the previous year. The Institute also began coordinating a 24-month pilot project, conducted by the Florence School of Regulation at the Robert Schuman Centre, that collects energy consumption data to calculate the carbon footprint of one building. Similarly, the EUI pursued contacts with the state property office in view of exploring an energy efficiency management project for the buildings in 2022.

RATIONALISATION

Like many universities, EUI activities have been quickly developing, creating a need for additional space while budgets are tighter. Therefore, the

Institute successfully negotiated a 21% decrease in the rental cost agreements for privately rented buildings and opened negotiations with Italian authorities to seek to anticipate the planned works on Palazzo Buontalenti. This will make space available for the School of Transnational Governance and Historical Archives of the European Union earlier than the planned schedule, accommodating the rapid growth. The EUI Library also carried out a rationalisation of its spaces to offer safe study spaces.

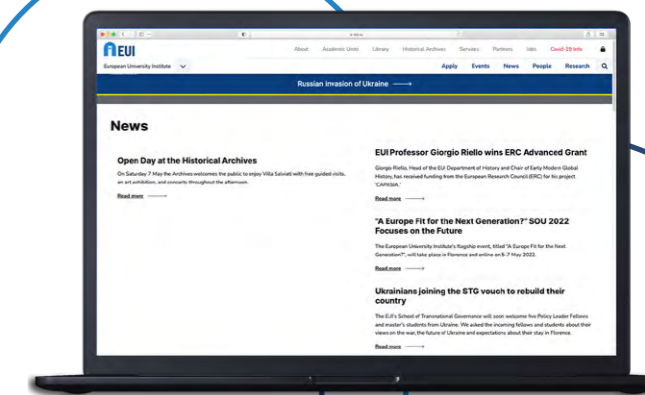
ACCOUNTABILITY

In 2021, the Institute identified general objectives for the administration that concretely aligned with the EUI Strategy, providing a framework for the support services to identify specific objectives. A comprehensive Risk Management Framework was also established, for identifying, monitoring, and managing their risks, which are now directly linked to the strategy. In addition, to improve the quality of financial reporting, the EUI initiated the implementation of three annual accounts: EUI core activities; the pension reserve fund; and the consolidated accounts.

GREATER VISIBILITY

In light of the pandemic, the EUI exploited hybrid solutions to reach extensive audiences, resulting in greater worldwide visibility. It also organised in-person events whenever safe to do so. The Institute opened the campus to the public for a two-day open-door event in 2021 in collaboration with the Fondo Ambiente Italiano (FAI), which was the first of many to come in the framework of new cooperation with the FAI, stimulating the EUI's visibility in the local community.

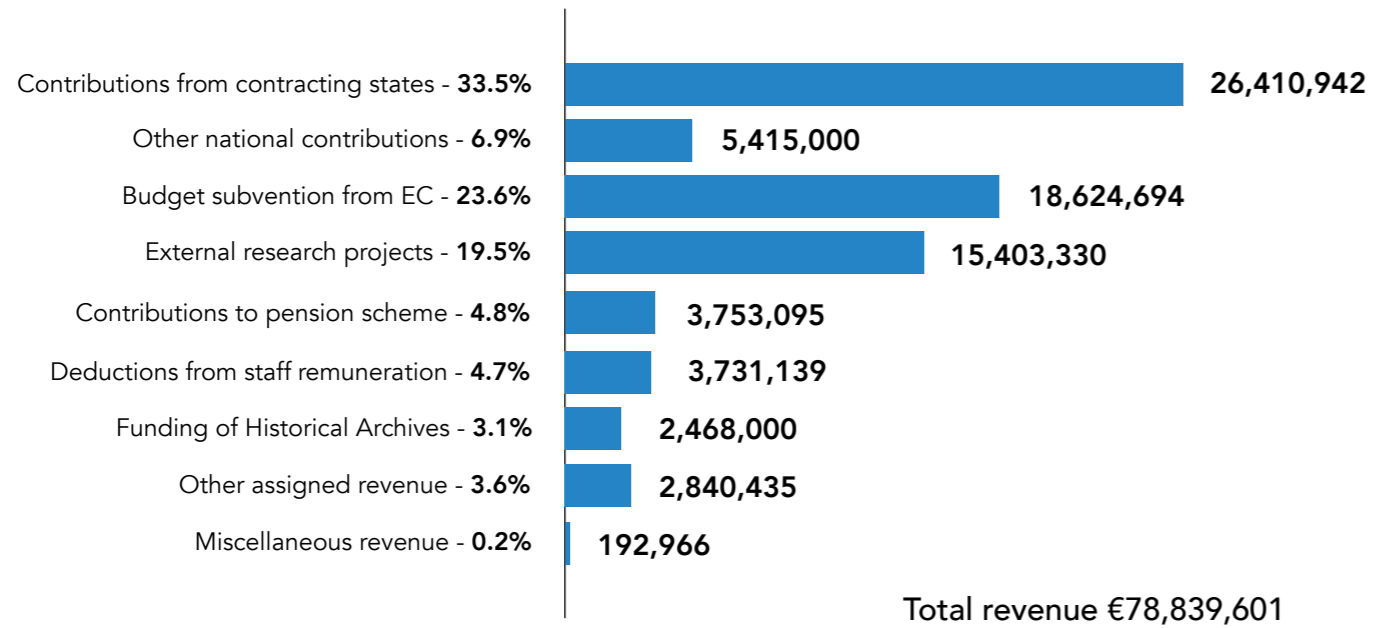
A revamped [EUI website](#) welcomed new online visitors and a new corporate identity reformulated and refreshed the EUI's image to the outside world. The website dramatically raised the profile and discoverability of all of the Institute's research projects and outputs, working groups, Interdisciplinary Research Clusters, and scholarly contributions to policy – while reducing the EUI's carbon footprint.



BUDGET FIGURES

Figure 10:
The funding of the Institute: Revenue and expenditure for the 2021 financial year in euros

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM...



...AND HOW IT IS USED

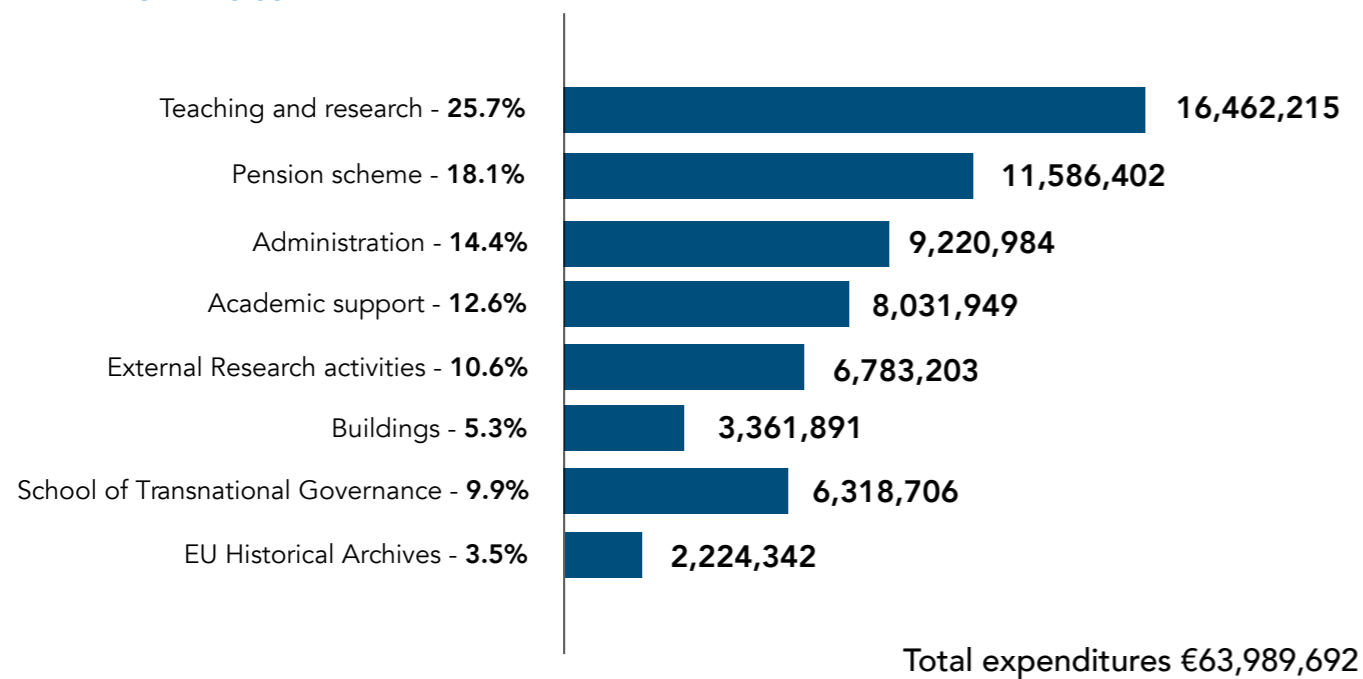


Figure 11:
External resources 2017-2021

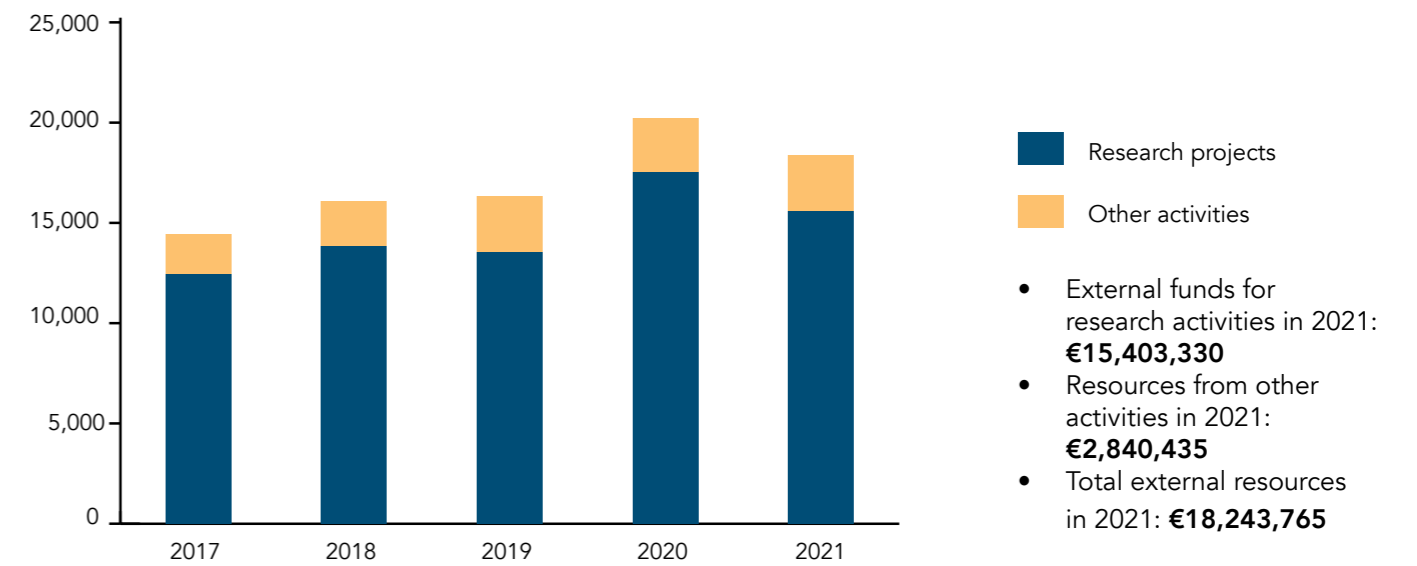


Figure 12:
Evolution of contributions to the EUI budget, 1975-2021

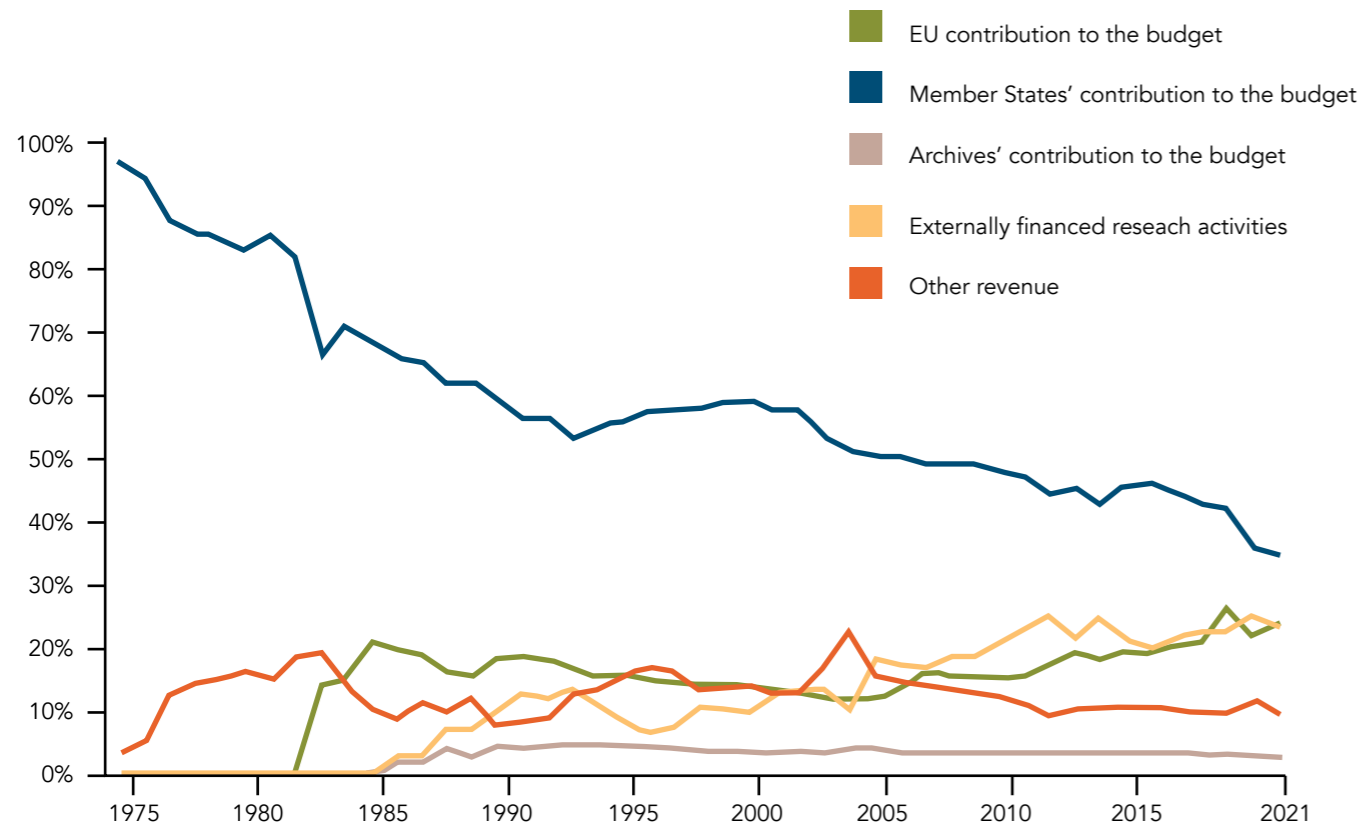


Figure 14:
EUI sources of funding in 2021

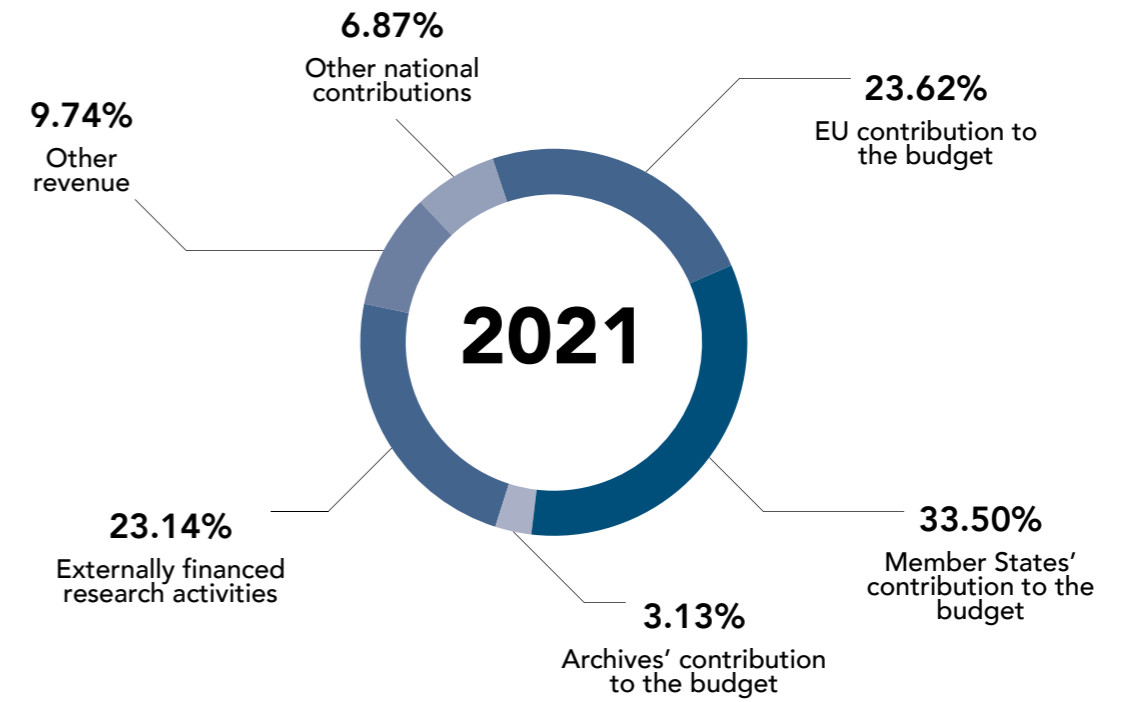
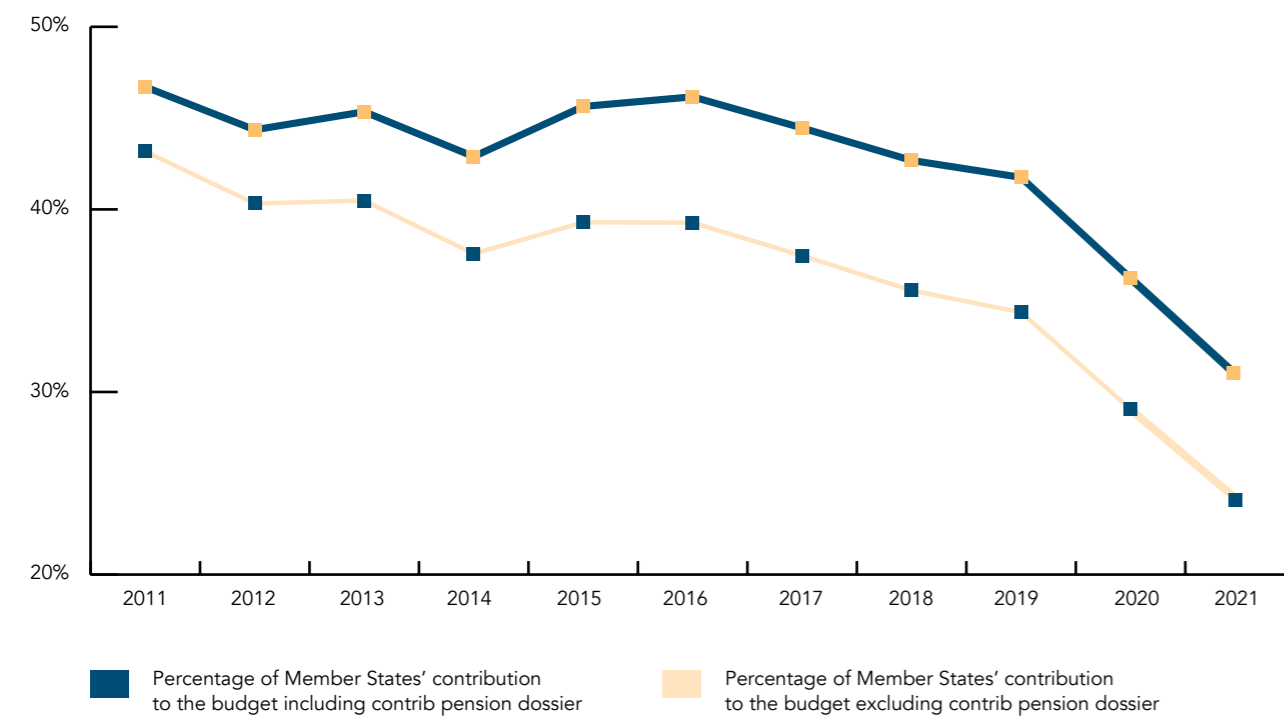


Figure 13:
Evolution of Member States' contribution to the budget



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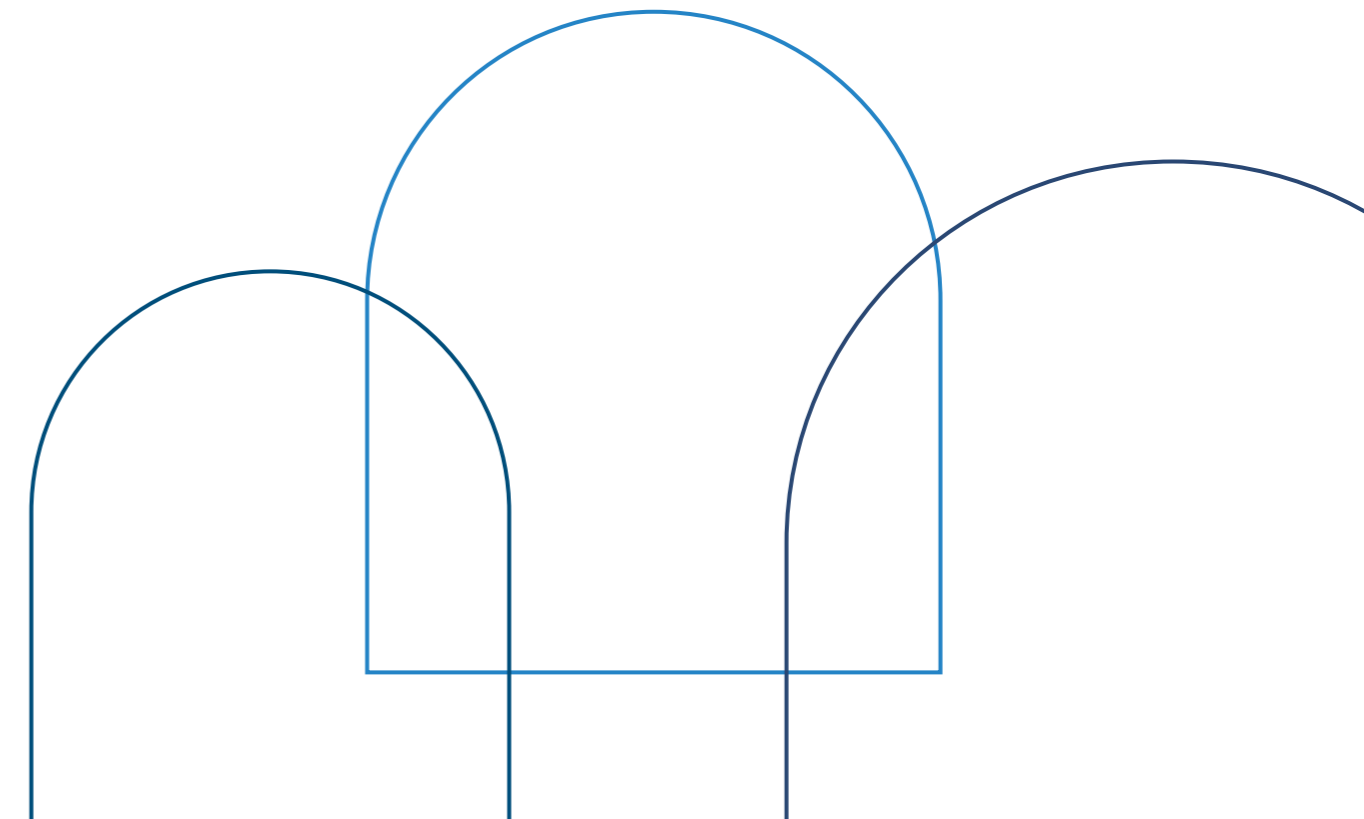
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