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# NOVA

## NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the second edition, featuring updates on STARS EU events, collaborations, and opportunities from the past three months. Just as galaxies continually evolve, so does our vibrant community. Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday.

*Transforming regions. Empowering people.*



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## STARS EU Student Board

Our student board plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of the STARS European University. Comprising three students per partner institution, this board advises on education, research, and innovation initiatives. They are integral in developing joint activities and serve as ambassadors within the student community. Several universities have vacancies for the 2024-2025 academic year. If you know students that are interested in joining the STARS EU Student Board, they can email their motivation & C.V to [starseu@org.hanze.nl](mailto:starseu@org.hanze.nl) to be sent onwards to the respective partners.



*The current Student Board.*

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## New Thematic Interest Groups (TIGs)

Explore our two new Thematic Interest Groups: (1) **Sustainable Industry** and (2) **Inclusion & Social Justice**. These groups focus on cutting-edge topics like resource-efficient processes, circular business models, and social justice issues affecting vulnerable populations.

These are new additions to the existing TIGs: Arts and Creative Industries, Energy Transition, Healthy Ageing, Digital Transformation, Living Spaces, Entrepreneurship and Innovation and Circular Economy.

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## STARS EU Annual Conference Recap

STARS EU aims to enhance regional development through education, research, and innovation, a focus highlighted at its annual conference in Besançon, France. Hosted by the University of Franche-Comté, the event gathered partners and relevant stakeholders including local leaders to explore universities' roles in regional growth. Discussions covered enhancing research, joint educational programmes, entrepreneurship, and societal awareness among professionals. The alliance, now a recognized European University, continues its mission to integrate research with societal needs and foster future leaders equipped to address global challenges.

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## Collaboration Highlight: Virtual Campus Development

Recently, developers from Högskolan Väst (University West) visited Hanze to discuss building a virtual campus. This collaboration aims to enhance student experiences through innovative technology solutions. The atmosphere throughout was friendly and collaborative. After two days, participants departed feeling inspired and with a deeper understanding of each other's perspectives. They eagerly look forward to tackling the challenge of contributing to a virtual campus together.

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## Steering Committee Meeting

The Steering Committee of the STARS EU alliance met at Hochschule Bremen (HSB) for a working meeting in May 2024.

The committee dealt with various aspects of the Alliance.

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## Pedagogical Innovation BIP

Held online and in-person by the Silesian University in Opava at the Faculty of Business and Administration in Karviná, the BIP promoted cooperation and the exchange of effective teaching strategies. The BIP covered five themes: Student-Centered Learning, Inclusive and Collaborative Education, Real-World Integration and Lifelong Learning, Enhancing Student Engagement with Design Thinking and Gamification, and Digital Innovation and Technology in Learning.

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## Healthy Ageing Staff Week Recap

From June 10 to June 14, 2024, the STARS EU alliance hosted a dynamic staff week focused on Healthy Ageing at Hanze in Groningen.

Participants, professors, researchers gathered to exchange knowledge and best practices, aiming to inspire and identify opportunities for collaboration among STARS EU partners. The event fostered insightful discussions, networking, and the creation of impactful partnerships, driving forward innovation and excellence in the field of Healthy Ageing.





# Open Calls

## Call for Innovative Academic Offers

Send us your ideas for innovative course units (virtual and face-to-face; COILs; BIPs) to suggest to our students in European STARS EU academic offer. These courses can be part of bachelor or master programmes on different levels, preferably in English. The goal is to develop a shared curriculum for all partners. The deadline for submission is August 31, in order to start with an initial test selection of courses in 2025.

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## Seed Funding Opportunity for Researchers

Researchers from STARS EU universities can apply for seed funding to develop collaborative research and innovation projects. Each grant provides up to €3000 per partner, covering costs for international consortium meetings, writing sessions, and external consultancy services for preparing funding applications. To be eligible, proposals must include at least three STARS EU partners and be submitted at least three months before the targeted Horizon Europe or FP10 call deadline. Please read the guidelines carefully before applying.

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## Introducing Our New STARS EU Branding!

We are thrilled to unveil the fresh new look of STARS EU, designed to reflect our alliance's dynamic spirit and commitment to excellence in European higher education. These updated designs come with ready-to-use templates for PowerPoint, Word, and more, ensuring consistency and professionalism in all our communications. Our new branding adheres strictly to EU regulations, embodying the values of transparency, inclusivity, and innovation that define our alliance. In the spirit of collaboration, every partner location is integrated into the design. The visual constellation represents our precise locations in Europe and our collective strength and shared vision for the future of education and innovation across Europe.

[TEMPLATES](#)



### Upcoming Events



Tuesday, November 5 - Wednesday November 6  
Working session in Bremen, Germany

Autumn 2024: Next round of STARS EU Talks

March 2025 - Annual Conference in Albania

Join the stellar community of STARS EU on social media:

