



**I'umanesimo che innova**

Date 02/11/2022

## **Letter of Intent**

Ref: Erasmus+ call 2019: European University Initiative – ERUA European Reform University Alliance

Prof. Annick Allaigre  
Rector  
Paris 8 University,

Dear Prof Allaigre,

I would like to begin this letter of intent by providing you with some brief background information about the *University of Macerata*. Our university was established in 1290, making it the ninth oldest university in the world. It all started with the law school, which was founded and run by Giulio from Montegranaro, while in 1540 Pope Paul III gave the impetus to design the university in the classic four-school format - Law, Divinities, Philosophy and Medicine. Between 1808 and 1816, the University of Macerata was suppressed by order of Napoleon. The Twentieth century saw major transformations taking place: after the suppression of the Divinity school after the Unification of Italy, Macerata established a fully-fledged school of Humanities which, along with the schools of Education Science, Business and Economics, Communications and Political Sciences school, function alongside the centuries-old Law school. The University of Macerata is the only Italian university devoted entirely to social studies: indeed, its motto is “Umanesimo che innova” *Humanism that Innovates*.

The *University of Macerata* is extremely pleased to avail of this opportunity to become an associated partner of the ERUA, an alliance whose aims are closely aligned with our own academic and internationalization strategies. Our vision to serve society and build connections between academia and our local communities, as well as to support innovation and personal development is fully in line with the aims of the ERUA initiative to train a new generation of engaged and passionately creative professionals and shape a more just, open and inclusive society.

The main activities of the University of Macerata are focused on the humanities and social sciences. Students are offered a broad range of courses, including undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes, Masters (some of which are taught in English) and Ph.D. programmes, specialisation schools and summer schools, double degree programs. Internationalization is a top priority of the University of Macerata: it is of fundamental importance to both research and teaching and works as a driver of innovation and improvement for both. The University of Macerata recognizes internationalization as a force for the modernization of all the university's core activities (teaching, research and third mission), as well as of its administrative processes.

These are all concrete examples that testify to our desire - which has much in common with that of ERUA - to train global citizens capable of working across borders, with an inclusive vision of innovation, in order to create sound, sustainable and fair solutions for the future generations in Europe and around the world. In the framework of our collaboration, the *University of Macerata* will contribute to the promotion, implementation, monitoring, evaluation activities and long-term sustainable development of the ERUA initiative and its objectives. More specifically, the *University of Macerata* will:

- Contribute to the creation of an ERUA inter-university campus, with innovative, flexible curricula based on inter-disciplinary and cross-sectoral approaches, developing digital skills and drawing on our institutional strengths and capacities;
- Participate in the development of common strategies and policies in all ERUA fields of action, to create a strong and shared ERUA identity;

- Participate in joint teaching and training activities;
- Enrich ERUA's offer of intensive and semester-based courses and stimulate new collaborations between researchers which will include new travelling seminars, co-teaching and joint programmes and degrees;
- Contribute to strengthen mobility opportunities;
- Help to enrich the research spectrum of the alliance and foster research excellence through our research centers;
- Promote ERUA and disseminate its results;

To conclude, the *University of Macerata* commits to supporting the sustainable long-term development of ERUA together with the partners.

IL RETTORE

Prof. John Mccourt