

# EU-GIFT NEWSLETTER

January - April 2026



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# This is what's happened to us so far

## EU-GIFT Alliance Holds Quality Management and Leadership Meeting in Bordeaux

Representatives of the EU-GIFT Alliance partner universities met in Bordeaux in January 2026 to review first-year progress and define strategic directions for quality management and leadership in the next phase.



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## EU-GIFT Advisory Board Reviews Progress and Strategic Priorities in La Rioja

The EU-GIFT Advisory Board met at the University of La Rioja to review key progress achieved to date and to define the alliance's strategic directions and priorities for the next implementation phase.



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## EU-GIFT International Meeting Held in Cluj-Napoca

The EU-GIFT Alliance partners held an international project meeting in Cluj-Napoca to review ongoing progress and coordinate the next implementation steps across the consortium.



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## Food & Drinks Transylvania Hub Connects Education and Industry in Cluj-Napoca

Held in Cluj-Napoca, the Food & Drinks Transylvania Business & Education Hub brought together academia and industry stakeholders to strengthen collaboration on innovation, skills development, and practice-oriented food sector education within the EU-GIFT framework.



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## University of La Rioja Hosts Institutional Visit from Eszterházy Károly Catholic University

The rector of Eszterházy Károly Catholic University visited the University of La Rioja as part of an institutional exchange within the EU-GIFT Alliance, strengthening academic cooperation and joint development across partner universities.



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## EUt+ at the heart of debate on the future of European University Alliances

A high-level discussion in Brussels highlighted the evolving role of European University Alliances, with EUt+ presented as a key example of how transnational cooperation is shaping the future of integrated European higher education systems.

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## European Master's Programme Connects Students with Leading Wine Regions Through Mobility Pathways

A European joint master's programme presented in Cluj-Napoca would enable students to study across multiple prestigious wine-producing regions through structured academic mobility, combining higher education with practical experience in viticulture and sustainable food systems.

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## ISEKI Newsletter Highlights Sustainability and Agricultural Innovation Trends in Europe

The February–March 2026 ISEKI newsletter outlines ongoing developments in sustainable agricultural machinery, European market trends, and innovation efforts in eco-friendly farming technologies across partner networks.

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## Hochschule Geisenheim Joins EU-GIFT Alliance for Sustainable Food Systems

Hochschule Geisenheim University has joined the EU-GIFT European University Alliance as its German partner, contributing to collaborative education and research focused on sustainable food systems, viticulture, and innovation across Europe.

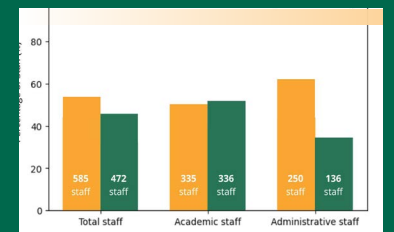
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## Women's Contribution to Research, Education, and Innovation

Women contribute to research, education, and innovation - swipe to see the numbers from our Alliance.

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## EU-GIFT Alliance – Work Packages Overview (Year 1)

Across all Work Packages, Year 1 of the EU-GIFT focused on establishing governance structures, strategic frameworks, and operational foundations, enabling the Alliance to move in Year 2 towards implementation, scaling, and measurable impact.

### WP1 – Project Management and Coordination

Work Package 1 (WP1) provides the overall strategic and organisational framework for the EU-GIFT Alliance. It defines the vision, governance principles and coordination mechanisms that ensure the effective management of the project.

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### WP2 – Campus and Joint Structures

WP2 is responsible for building the physical, digital and organisational foundations of the Alliance, enabling effective cooperation and long-term sustainability.

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### WP3 – Knowledge and Lifelong Learning

WP3 focuses on developing innovative educational programmes addressing sustainable agri-food systems and geographical indication products.

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### WP4 – Research and Innovation

WP4 strengthens research excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration within the Alliance, focusing on sustainable food systems and geographical identity.

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### WP5 – Mobility, Employability and Entrepreneurship

WP5 promotes mobility, employability and entrepreneurship by connecting partner institutions and external stakeholders.

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### WP6 – Inclusion, Sustainability and Third Mission

WP6 integrates inclusion, sustainability and societal engagement across all project activities, ensuring that EU-GIFT contributes directly to society.

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### WP7 – Communication, Monitoring and Quality Assurance

WP7 ensures the visibility, transparency, monitoring and quality assurance of the entire EU-GIFT project through an integrated system.

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# Upcoming activities

## 2026

To support the organization at HEI level, the WP1 together with local organizers have established the dates of all in-person meetings and international activities included in the work plan as shown below.

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## Sport Week at the University of Verona

26th - 30th April, 2026

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## EU-GIFT Summer School 2026

15th - 26th June, 2026

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## Microcredentials at EU-GIFT universities

June 26th to July 3rd, 2026

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## Agri-food Week

September, 2026

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## EU-GIFT Employability Fair

2026

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## Science and tech week:

- Eger 2027: February 2027
- Vila-Real 2027: 22–26 November 2027
- Logroño 2029: 12-16 February 2029.

## EU-GIFT Sport Week:

- Verona 2026: 26th - 30th April 2026
- Bordeaux 2027: 12th - 16th April 2027
- Geisenheim 2028: 8th - 12th May 2028

## EU-GIFT Annual Summit

- Verona: 25th-27th January 2027
- Vila-Real: 22th–24th September 2027
- Cluj Napoca: 14th-16th February 2028
- Geisenheim: 25th-27th September 2028
- Logroño: 12th-14th February 2029

## WP meetings

- Geisenheim: 12th-14th October 2026
- Verona: 5th-7th October 2027
- Bordeaux: 17th-19th October 2028
- Logroño: 12th-14th February 2029

## Videos

### Verona Leads in EU-GIFT Agri-Food Innovation

The University of Verona is the only Italian university involved in the EU-GIFT Alliance, funded by the European union, which aims to promote innovation in education and research within the wine and agri-food sectors.



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