

Eötvös Loránd University, or ELTE, to use the abbreviated form, is the most prestigious higher education institution in Hungary, established in 1635. Currently we have twenty-nine thousand students studying at eight faculties; among them are more than three thousand international students from over one hundred countries. ELTE is very proud of its international relations, which involve hundreds of partner universities and several networks. In many regions and strategic alliances, ELTE is the only higher education institution representing Hungary.

With a history stretching back almost four hundred years, it is a crucial strategic principle of ELTE to find ways of innovating, while at the same time maintaining its traditions. One of the most important means of preserving our heritage is teaching and researching languages: currently seventy of them are studied at our institution. On the other hand, several cutting-edge projects funded by the European Union and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences are under way at ELTE.

We can identify several similarities between the aims of this alliance for a new European University and our own core values. Strengthening European identity, while creatively using and transforming our cultural heritage to reach our common goals and striving for the benefit of future generations – this is one of the central shared aims of both the alliance and Eötvös Loránd University.

Meanwhile, the proposal of the alliance covers specific areas which are also in the focus of educational and research activity at our university; among other things we are engaged in exploring global environmental challenges, topics of climate awareness, digitalisation and the creation of local ecosystems, as well as international, intercultural and social challenges.

The new European University called Charm-EU will, furthermore, provide an example in terms of harmonizing joint study programmes and facilitating mobility, contributing to a more flexible, accessible and sustainable higher education system across Europe. Thus, our cooperation will respond to a wide range of societal needs, fulfilling the third mission of universities as well.

By joining the alliance, ELTE will provide a multilingual and multicultural environment, based on academic excellence and research-based innovation in its educational activities. It is also important to us to reach out to neighbouring countries, and to attract talented students from socially challenged environments, opening up the opportunities offered by the alliance in the region.