

Agreement on the creation of a consortium: The ANIME Consortium

SECTION 1. PREAMBLE

The Academic Network on Inclusiveness, Multilingualism and Excellence, hereafter named ANIME or the ANIME Consortium, is a network of Higher Education Institutions (HEI), seeking to:

- Reflect upon the concepts of inclusiveness, multilingualism and excellence in Higher Education,
- Foster the dialogue among its members by exchanging best practices and developing joint projects.

Launched in 2020 by the Vice Presidency for Europe and International Relations at the University of Strasbourg, ANIME illustrates the commitment to go beyond bilateral cooperation and promote network-based collaboration rooted in a dynamic and unifying policy aimed at enhancing the internationalisation of institutions.

Common values and objectives of the Network have been formalised in the ANIME Charter in December 2020.

Since the creation of ANIME, an informal collaboration has taken place between the members of the Network, focusing on the implementation of projects related to internationalisation processes in Higher Education and research institutions, in line with the values promoted by the Network.

The purpose of this Agreement is to structure, strengthen, and further develop the joint activities through the formal commitment of ANIME members into a consortium: the ANIME Consortium.

SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES & ORGANISATION

The ANIME Consortium aims to promote and develop initiatives related to the internationalisation of Higher Education Institutions. This is to be achieved through collaborative projects focusing on mobility, training, research, valorisation, and management, in connection with the topics of inclusiveness, multilingualism, and excellence.

The ANIME Consortium specifically aims to:

a) Develop international mobility projects on themes relevant and common to the consortium members;

- b) Publish scientific studies in the thematic areas, emphasizing the promotion of open access;
- c) Organise seminars and conferences on the relevant topics;
- d) Create educational and scientific content for projects related to the development, management, and valorisation of international relations;
- e) Apply for national and/or international funding for training and research projects within the limits of the funding and resources that these members may potentially allocate to support the implementation of ANIME projects.

The implementation of this Agreement will not incur any financial obligations for the consortium members.

The ANIME Consortium may operate with the following funding resources:

- own resources: human, administrative, scientific and financial resources of each consortium member, within the limits of its possibilities;
- Submission of applications to calls for proposals funds from public or private organisations whose objectives align with the Consortium activities. These funds are allocated to the consortium member that submits the project to the funding organisation and oversees its coordination. Transfers to other consortium members will be possible based on their contribution to the project.

Each consortium member will participate in the ANIME Consortium on its own behalf, designating an administrative representative and/or a scientific liaison within the institution to cooperate on the Network global activities. Subsequently, each consortium member may mobilise other relevant personnel capable of contributing to specific activities within the ANIME Consortium.

SECTION 3. GOVERNANCE

Three different bodies govern the ANIME Consortium: the Plenary Assembly, the Steering Committee, and Secretariat. *Ad hoc* bodies may be setup to carry out specific projects or activities. Teaching, research, and administrative staff are eligible to participate in the consortium activities, provided they submit a request to institutional hierarchy and receive their approval.

I. Plenary Assembly

The Plenary Assembly includes all consortium members. It is in charge of implementing ANIME annual activities, as recommended by the Steering Committee. The Plenary Assembly meets at least once a year to approve the programme of activities.

II. Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is in charge of proposing an annual activity plan, along with the timetable for completion.

Members of the Steering Committee are designated once a year, according to their experience and in line with the topics of the annual activity plan, at the ANIME annual event. The Steering Committee's composition may be based on a partial rotating system incorporating both former and new members. A maximum of eight and a minimum of four consortium members may be members of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee meets at least twice a year, upon invitation by the Secretariat.

III. Secretariat

The University of Strasbourg, as a founding-member of ANIME, is in charge of the general secretariat of the ANIME Consortium. It is referred to as the Secretariat.

The Secretariat is in particular responsible for the following tasks:

- Collecting new activity proposals from consortium members;
- Preparing meetings and producing the minutes of the meetings;
- ♦ Managing and updating the webpage, mailing lists, contact information;
- Administering some projects when it is required by the Steering Committee or the Plenary Assembly;
- ♦ Providing administrative support for the implementation of ANIME activities;
- ♦ Promoting and disseminating all consortium activities.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP

Eligibility

Membership is open to any Higher Education institution sharing ANIME values – as stated in the ANIME Charter, and interested in working on projects related to inclusiveness, multilingualism and/or excellence. Any HEI wishing to become a consortium member must submit their applications to the Steering Committee. A preliminary assessment will be held within the Steering Committee, which will communicate its opinion to the Plenary Assembly for a collective decision based on a majority vote.

The following criteria shall be taken into account:

- ♦ Multilingualism
- ♦ Strong internationalisation
- ♦ Social engagement
- ♦ Inclusive excellence in education and research

Nominations

Each consortium member nominates a minimum of one representative to the ANIME Consortium, but can associate as many colleagues, both academic and non-academic, as they wish. Nominations with the names, the functions and the contact details of the representatives should be sent to the Secretariat.

Withdrawal

Each consortium member has the right to withdraw from the ANIME Consortium and terminate this Agreement, with regard to its own participation, through certified e-mail or a registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt sent to the Plenary Assembly, providing a notice period of at least three months.

Modifications of the Agreement

This Agreement may be subject to modification at any given time. Proposed modifications must be brought forward to the attention of all ANIME Consortium members, either by e-mail or during the Plenary Assembly. Any modification will require the unanimous approval of all consortium members.

Duration

This Agreement is valid for a period of five years, with the possibility of early termination proposed by the Plenary Assembly. It will come into effect following its approval and from the date of its signing by the last of the consortium members. Renewal or extension is possible by mutual agreement of the consortium members through an amendment to this Agreement.

Termination

In addition to the termination case outlined above, the Plenary Assembly may also unanimously decide on the termination of this Agreement, provided the request of termination be on the agenda of the meeting.

Languages

The present Agreement is established in three (3) original copies, including one original in the French language, one original in the English language, and one original in the Spanish language. All copies will be stored at the registered office of the ANIME Consortium. Upon proposal by any consortium member and approval by the Plenary Assembly, this Agreement may be translated into other national languages.



Hoja Adicional de Firmas Informe Gráfico

Referencia: Convenio - Creación del Consorcio ANIMÉ - Universidad de Estrasburgo - INGLÉS

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