

# EU-METALIC II

EU | Morocco | Egypt | Tunisia | Algeria | Libya  
International Cooperation

## EU - Morocco - Egypt - Tunisia - Algeria - Libya International Cooperation II (EU METALIC II)

Erasmus Mundus Action 2, Strand 1

*Ref: 2013-2442/001-001-EMA2*



Cardiff  
Metropolitan  
University



Erasmus  
Mundus

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cardiff Metropolitan University would like to thank our Joint Coordinator, SIST, for their continuous support throughout the project as well as all partners and associate partners for their cooperation and hard work throughout the duration of the project. Your collaboration have made EU METALIC II a great success and we hope that our cooperation will continue beyond the project lifetime.

We would like to extend our special thanks to the EU METALIC II Scholars for believing in the project and being part of the great success. You shared with us challenges you have faced and successes you achieved and we are proud of all of you! Our team is very glad to see the positive impact this experience had on the academic, personal and professional level and we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

Finally, we would like to extend our gratitude to the Education, Audio-Visual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) branch of the European Commission for financing this initiative. We are very grateful for your consistent support and guidance throughout this 4-year adventure of the EU-METALIC II project.

# WHAT IS ERASMUS MUNDUS ACTION 2 (EMA2)?

Erasmus Mundus is a cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education that aims to enhance the quality of European higher education and to promote dialogue and understanding between people and cultures through cooperation with Third-Countries. In addition, it contributes to the development of human resources and the international cooperation capacity of higher education institutions in Third Countries by increasing mobility between the European Union and these countries.

Partnerships in the Action 2 framework of Erasmus Mundus 2009-2013 are the basis for enhancing academic cooperation and exchanges of students and academics, contributing to the socio-economic development of non-EU countries targeted by EU external cooperation policy. Action 2 provides:

1. Support for the establishment of cooperation partnerships between European higher education institutions and higher education institutions from targeted Third Countries with the objective of organising and implementing structured individual mobility arrangements between the European and Third Country partners.
2. Scholarships of various lengths - depending on the priorities defined for the Third Country concerned, the level of studies or the particular arrangements agreed within the partnership - for European and Third-Country individuals (students, scholars, researchers, professionals).

# THE EU-METALIC II PROJECT

In accordance with the overall Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Strand 1 objectives, the EU-Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia, Algerian, Libya in International Cooperation (EU-METALIC II) aims to promote European higher education, to help improve and enhance the career prospects of students and to promote intercultural understanding through cooperation with third countries, in accordance with EU external policy objectives in order to contribute to the sustainable development of third countries in the field of higher education.

Cardiff Metropolitan University was granted the EU-METALIC II project on 15th July 2013 through the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Strand 1 programme. This action aims at fostering structured cooperation between European and third-country higher education institutions through the promotion of mobility at all level of studies for students. The EU-METALIC II project offers scholarships for undergraduate, master, doctoral candidates, researchers, academic and administrative staff through funding from the European Commission.

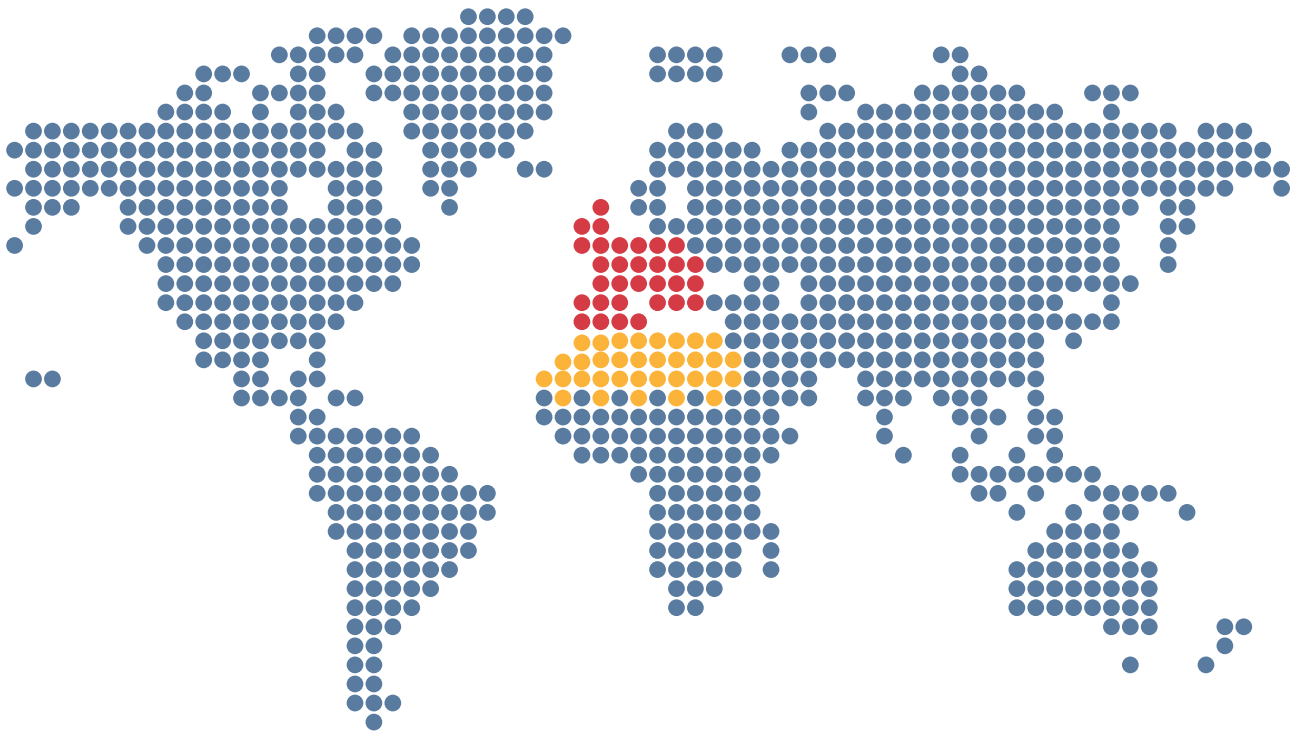
The project aims at enhancing the academic cooperation between European, Moroccan, Egyptian, Tunisian, Algerian and Libyan universities by bringing together students, staff as well as young and senior researchers involved in the same disciplines or forming multidisciplinary teams to cover research domains identified by the third country universities as "priorities". The organisation of the mobility activities supported by the project will be a step toward the creation of more co-diplomas and co-thesis with stronger exchanges between PhD students from both EU and third-country sides.

Another very important objective of this project concerns the sharing of best practices between the participants' staff, in the field of "university governance" and in the implementation of the Bologna process. This project has planned some mobility activities for training the academic and administrative staff towards better "University governance". The project will be therefore organized and managed to have structuring effects within Higher Education institutions and to build sustainable synergies. This action will have long term impact upon the harmonization of Higher Education systems across the regions involved thus decreasing the gap existing between these institutions and contributing to the recognition of the degrees delivered in the third-country HE institutions at international level. The project overall aims to facilitate lasting cooperation between Europe and the Middle East and North African region on an individual and institutional level.

# EU-METALIC II PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The EU-METALIC II project has set objectives which are in line with EMA2-Strand 1 objectives which contribute to the mutual enrichment of third-countries and the EU, not only in academic matters, but also in political, educational, cultural and economic matters. These objectives are:

- To better adapt the Moroccan, Egyptian, Tunisian, Algerian and Libyan institutions to contribute to national development needs and to respond to globalisation challenges.
- To better integrate the Third-Country universities within the Euro-Mediterranean area.
- To contribute to the mutual enrichment of societies by developing the qualifications of the three target groups at all levels.
- To promote mobility for both students, researchers, academics and administrative staff from third countries, especially from vulnerable groups, selected on the basis of academic excellence, to obtain qualifications and/or experience in the European Union.
- To raise the academic level and international visibility of the third-countries partners' Higher Education through joint degrees, co-tutorship of thesis, new programmes and exchange of academic staff. This will develop and strengthen the HE learning and teaching capacity of the Third-Country institutions.



# PARTNERSHIP

**Coordinating Institution:** Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK

**Joint Coordinator:** Superior Institutions of Science and Technology (SIST), Morocco

## Third Country Partner Institutions

Ain Sham University (Egypt)	University AbouBekr Belkaid of Tlemcem (Algeria)
Alexandria University (Egypt)	University of Algiers 1 (Algeria)
Arab Academy for Science & Technology (Egypt)	University Hassan II, Casablanca (Morocco)
Libyan Open University (Libya)	University of Sirte (Libya)
Superior Institutions of Science and Technology (Morocco) (Joint Coordinator)	University of Tunis (Tunisia)

## European Partners

Cardiff Metropolitan University (UK)	University of Bordeaux (France)
Ecole Centrale de Nantes (France)	University of Graz (Austria)
Freie Universitat Berlin (Germany)	University of Montpellier (France)
La Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)	University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain)
University of Bologna (Italy)	University of Zagreb (Croatia)

## Associate Partners

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chlef (Algeria)	Ministry of Higher Education (Tunisia)
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Dahra, Mostaganem (Algeria)	Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research (Libya)
European Students Union (ESU)	NOUR (Morocco)
Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce (Egypt)	Santander Group European Universities Network
Ministry of Higher Education (Algeria)	Scholars At Risk (SAR)
Ministry of Higher Education (Egypt)	South Wales Chamber of Commerce
Ministry of Higher Education (Morocco)	Science and Technology Development Fund (Egypt)

# 2013



**EU-METALIC II**  
EU | Morocco | Egypt | Tunisia | Algeria | Libya  
International Cooperation

EU FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY/RESEARCH IN EUROPE FOR UNDERGRADUATE | MASTER | DOCTORATE | POST-DOCTORATE | STAFF

UK | FRANCE | ITALY | CROATIA | GERMANY | AUSTRIA | SPAIN

**HOST UNIVERSITIES**

- Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK
- University of Graz, Austria
- University of Applied Sciences, France
- École Centrale de Nantes, France
- University of Bath, UK
- University of Applied Sciences, Germany
- University of Bologna, Italy
- University of Cologne, Germany
- University of Granada, Spain

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION**  
15th January 2014 23:59 GMT

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Monthly Level	Monthly Living Subsidance
Undergraduate	€1000
Master	€1000
Doctorate	€1000
Post-Doctorate	€1000
Staff	€1000

Find out and apply: [www.eu-metalic2.eu](http://www.eu-metalic2.eu)  
Email: [eu-metalic@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:eu-metalic@cardiff.ac.uk) or contact your university's international department

Find us on Facebook



**DURATION**  
The duration of mobility depends on the level of study and the type of mobility. For Undergraduate, Master and Doctorate, the duration is 12 months. For Post-Doctorate, the duration is 6 months. For Staff, the duration is 12 months.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Monthly Level	Monthly Living Subsidance
Undergraduate	€1000
Master	€1000
Doctorate	€1000
Post-Doctorate	€1000
Staff	€1000

**Travel Subsidy**  
Travel expenses are covered by the project. The maximum amount is €1000 per person per year. The maximum amount is €1000 per person per year.

**Insurance**  
All mobility participants must have valid health insurance for the duration of their mobility.

**EU-METALIC II**  
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**Project Start Date**  
July 2013

**Kick Off Meeting in Casablanca**  
September 2013

**Promotion Campaign for Cohort 1**  
October 2013 - January 2014

**Cohort 1 open**  
14/10/2013 - 17/01/2014

**First Progress Report submitted to EACEA**  
01/02/2014

**Cohort 1 Selection Committee meeting in Cardiff**  
27/03/2014

**Cohort 2 open**  
29/09/2014 - 30/01/2015

**Second Progress report submitted to EACEA**  
01/02/2015

**Road Show Morocco**  
16/03/2015 - 19/03/2015

**Cohort 2 Selection Committee meeting**  
30/03/2015

**Morocco Edition call open**  
20/02/2015 - 13/04/2015 (Master, Doctorate)  
20/02/2015 - 20/04/2015 (Post-Doc)  
20/02/2015 - 10/05/2015 (staff)

**Morocco Edition Selection Committee Meeting**  
13/05/2015

**Cohort 3 Round 1 open**  
25/09/2015 - 01/12/2015

**Third Progress Report submitted to EACEA**  
01/02/2016

**Cohort 3 Round 1 Selection Committee Meeting**  
11/02/2016

**Final Consortium Meeting in Casablanca**  
01/05/2016 - 03/05/2016

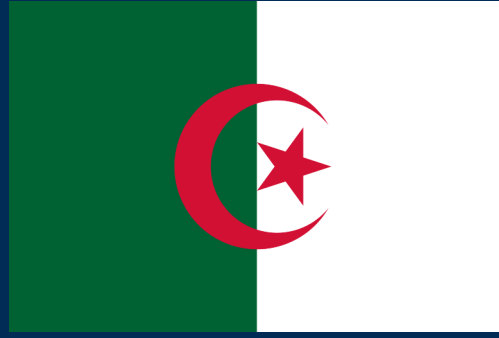
**Cohort 3 Round 2 open**  
16/05/2016 - 06/10/2016

**Cohort 3 Round 2 Selection Committee Meeting**  
08/11/2016

**Project End Date**  
14/07/2017

**Final Report submitted to EACEA**  
14/09/2017

# 2017



# ALGERIAN PARTNERS



# UNIVERSITY ABOUBEKR BELKAID OF TLEMCCEN



## About

Aboubekr Belkaid University, Tlemcen (UABT) is located in Tlemcen, Algeria. The university was established in 1974. It is accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Algeria. The University of Tlemcen currently consists of 8 faculties covering all fields from Social science to Engineering science. 53 research laboratories have been established during last decades. Almost 400 students coming from Africa and other countries are enrolled at UABT.

### **What University AbouBekr Belkaid of Tlemcen thinks of the EU METALIC II Project...**

*This type of projects helped us to open to the world and we gained the internationalization of our university. We succeeded to open to other people's cultures and to share learning and of course to widen the scope of interculturality. Exchange Mobility is an excellent experience that our institution had the chance to apply for. Thanks to these projects, our students and staff gained a new experience in their lives and they shared their own expertise with the host universities. Moreover, our university managed to obtain a good visibility in the Erasmus World and this reinforces our utmost aim and concern and we met new partners and got involved with them in these mobilities. In fact the main consequences on Tlemcen university, are: internationalisation, visibility of academic offers and building new cooperation - we developed cooperation and projects with many European universities, such as La Sapienza University, Bordeaux University, Ecole Centrale de Nantes...*

*Being part of the EU-METALIC II project family, gave us the opportunity to learn new skills in the management of staff mobility and students and intercultural exchanges. Even, being part of the EU-METALIC II project has good feedback on the Tlemcen coordination team, and the whole university on overall, academic staff, students... In fact, the exchanges students, and staff in both sides (host and guests exchanges) in living, and sharing their experiences participated for a whole part to build this nice feedback, without forgetting the EU-METALIC II team which with his work is the first responsible for the success of those mobilities and the project...*

*We feel that we learnt a lot of skills and we have gained actually more knowledge about European higher education systems than before... Tlemcen University succeeded to gain new experiences, new challenge and good reputation in EU-METALIC II project, the university succeeded to build new cooperation with other European universities, which has impact on its visibility, internationalization and exchange of knowledge, science with the others.*



# UNIVERSITY OF ALGIERS 1



## About

The University of Algiers, the first Algerian University was established in 1909. The University has three faculties - Faculty of Medicine (medicine, pharmacy and dental surgery) with 20,000 students, Faculty of Law (public and private law) with 16,000 students and Faculty of Islamic Sciences (Sharia law, beliefs and religions, languages and Islamic civilisation) with 3,000 students.

### What University of Algiers 1 thinks of the EU METALIC II Project...

*First of all, I have to say that Erasmus Mundus program met an enormous success since its launch and I am happy to be able to inform you that my university is capable of supporting even more numerous exchanges thanks to this program.*

*The higher education is, as you know, a central element of the prosperity and the stability of our societies. Indeed, it cannot have of growth nor development without successful systems of higher education. The strengthening of the university cooperation with our European and non-European neighbours is an excellent way of link with regions and populations. So, The Erasmus Mundus program which today became Erasmus+, always aimed at increasing the quality of the higher education thanks to the mobility and thanks to the interuniversity cooperation between Europeans and Mediterranean as well as Algeria. This project puts objectives corresponding to the mutual enrichment of the countries of the EU and others, not only in the academic field, but also in educational, cultural and economic ones.*

*Erasmus Mundus Partnerships combines the institutions of higher education of Europe on one hand, and on the other hand, those of a particular region in the world. Together, partnerships manage the flows of mobility between both regions for a range of university levels: Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, Doctorate, Post-doctorate and for the Academic Staff.*

*I would say that within the framework of EU-METALIC II and during the meetings at Cardiff, or in Morocco or somewhere else, I would say that this project aims to strengthening professional and academic links between the members of the consortium. Finally, I wish success to everyone, partners, outgoing and incoming scholars, our two candidates and all the group EU-METALIC II. Many and special thanks to EU-METALIC II Team!*





# EGYPTIAN PARTNERS

# AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY



## About

Ain Shams University was established in 1950 and is one of the largest public University affiliated to the Ministry of Higher Education in Egypt. It has more than 200,000 undergraduates and 25,000 master and PhD students. It also has 10,000 faculty members, 17 faculties and 15,000 administrators and workers. Ain Shams University is very active in International cooperation and participates at many EU funded Projects. It has joint and dual MSc and PhD Degrees with several European Universities from UK, Italy, Germany and Sweden.



### What Ain Shams thinks of the EU METALIC II Project...

*I believe that Erasmus Mundus is a very important Program that helped many Ain Shams students and staff to mobilize to reputable partner European Universities.*

*EU-Metalic II Project is one of the most important projects of Erasmus Mundus that gathered universities from the southern Mediterranean region with several European Universities. This Project was well managed by Cardiff Metropolitan University and gave the opportunity to many Ain Shams University students to mobilize to several European Universities achieving what they have dreamed of and giving them full financial support to make their dream comes true.*

*Ain Shams outgoing students benefited a lot from their studies at the European Universities. We noticed that their personal conduct and academic performance improved a lot after their return.*

*Ain Shams University was pleased to welcome incoming students from European Universities. I felt as a coordinator of the project that this is one good way to introduce Ain Shams University to the European Students. We believe at Ain Shams University that EU-Metalic II Project was a good tool to help achieve one of the major objectives of the Strategic Plan of Ain Shams University which is Internationalization*

# ALEXANDRIA UNIVERSITY



## About

Alexandria University (AU) is a multidisciplinary public university which consists of 19 faculties and 3 research institutes. It was established in 1938 and it is now the second largest University in Egypt. According to University's vision, AU takes the responsibility of leading the fields of education and innovative research at both national and regional levels. As AU aims to internationalization; they have many partnership agreements and programmes in the field of student and staff exchange. Erasmus Mundus is one of the most important tools of this exchange.



### **What Alexandria University thinks of the EU METALIC II Project...**

*Erasmus Mundus projects are one of the best tools towards internationalization. It helped also to support exposure of our graduates to international society.*

*EU METALIC II project is an excellent tool, we benefit from opportunities of our students/staff to study and train in partner universities but also from incoming applicants who mix with our students. It has been a great experience with the family as we extend our previous partnerships through EU METALIC II and start new collaboration. I have worked in a number of Erasmus Mundus projects with different ways of coordination. I personally liked the way of management of the project as for each call the selection and nomination were very fair and easily organized to be transparent. The project meant for us more collaboration and a step towards opening up new channels with esteemed group either in Erasmus+ Key Action 1 and 2. We have developed new partnerships with Cardiff Metropolitan University, Freie Universitat Berlin, University of Bologna and others.*

# THE ARAB ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MARITIME TRANSPORT



## About

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport is a specialized educational institution of the Arab League engaged in teaching, training, research and community services. The Academy is a multifaceted institution with a diversity of functions serving a multinational body of students coming mainly from Arab and African countries. Since the Academy's inception in 1972 as the Arab Academy for Maritime Transport, it has been educating, training, and qualifying students in all disciplines, from science and technology related to the various aspects of the maritime industry at Bachelor and Master level. Furthermore, the institute offers comprehensive professional training programs in the fields of Management, Economics, Marine Transport, Ports Operation, and Engineering & Technology. These specialized short-term and long-term programs are either held independently or under the supervision of national, regional and international agencies.

### What the Arab Academy thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...

*Erasmus Mundus and EU-METALIC II had a great impact on the promotion of intercultural understanding through cooperation with EU Countries as well as for the development of Third Countries in the field of higher education. Global learning experience had a good impact on our undergraduate and graduate scholars that have started their mobility in Europe. They gained lots of intercultural experience, introduced to different education system. This has affected their academic performance when they returned back to their home institution and increased their self-esteem.*

*Being a part of the EU-METALIC II Project family gave me the opportunity to interact with other academics and administrative staff from partner universities. I had the opportunity to exchange knowledge and discuss transnational cooperation. This helped to open more discussion of how our institutions could go forward towards internationalisation. This represents the preparation of HE graduates to live in, and contribute responsibly to, a globally connected society.*





# LIBYAN PARTNERS

# LIBYAN OPEN UNIVERSITY



## About

The Libyan Open University affiliated to the Ministry of Higher Education was established in 1987 and commenced scientific activity in 1990. Curricula and teaching programmes have been delivered via printed and audiovisual materials. It awards undergraduate and graduate degrees in Arabic, Islamic studies, law, business, social sciences, and education. The university also prides itself on its Arabic-language academic press. It aims to promote the principles of freedom of teaching and learning by installing the concept of career education and continuing education in order to develop the capacity of every individual. It promotes the retraining of individuals working in professional fields, the role of women and seeks to form international relations with other universities so it can develop its internationalisation strategy. The Open Libyan University cooperates with many universities in MENA region as well as European institutions on cultural and scientific level.





# SIRTE UNIVERSITY



## About

The university was founded as a branch of the University of Garyounis (now known as the University of Benghazi) in the year 1989. In 1992, it became an autonomous institution and was then known as Al-Tahaddi University but was later re-named as Sirte University in 2010. The university is trying to enhance self-learning and research culture among its students by building a new and comprehensive library. The university has also established a Languages Centre in a hope of improving the standards of English language among its students and to provide pre-sessional English courses for students who have awarded scholarships to do their masters and PhD degrees abroad. In addition, another aim of the languages Centre is to teach languages other than English, namely, Italian, Spanish and German in the near future.



### **What Sirte University thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...**

*For international cooperation projects, the EU-METALIC II program was our second experience of this area. Our role in this project was perfect as compared to our experience for such type of cooperation, nonetheless, our contribution for the promotion of the EU-METALIC II project was very successful via the activities have arranged by the university for this project. And as the result, the number of applicants for the project at its first stage was over expected. But unfortunately, the number was decreased in the later stages due to the critical situation in Libya generally and more specifically in Sirte.*

*Having participated in Erasmus Mundus EU-METALIC I & II programme considers a huge step towards globalization. Sirte University seeks for globalization. This requires that we need to cooperate in all the areas which are of common concern: education, globalization etc. as being a partner of the project leads to enhance our international strategy. Participating in such a programme considers a foot step towards globalization. It's a programme where the partners share the mutual objectives and ambitions.*

*Finally, being a part of EU-METALIC I & II programme gave Sirte university a good opportunity to be a partner in the Erasmus Mundus+, Capacity Building in the field of higher education project, Empowering and Networking the International Relationships Offices of the Libyan University System (ENROL).*



# MOROCCAN PARTNERS

# UNIVERSITY HASSAN II CASABLANCA



## About

Hassan II University of Casablanca is a public university of higher education located in the economic capital of the Moroccan Kingdom. It was established in 1975. There are over 34,000 local and foreign students in 5 schools and 3 colleges. Full-time faculty teachers and professors are over eleven hundred, making it the third largest university in Morocco. The study is conducted in Arabic and French in addition to English and Spanish. Consisting of 18 institutions based in 6 campuses in Casablanca and Mohammedia, the University offers a variety of programs almost in all study fields (351 courses and programs).



### What University Hassan II Casablanca thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...

*The University is endeavouring to materialise its visibility nationally and internationally in terms of scientific research through its various scientific structures. As of the partnership, the University has concluded more than 479 cooperation agreements with different universities and organizations all over the world. Erasmus Mundus program remains a highly relevant tool for the promotion of excellence, support for international cooperation, mobility and academic capacity building. It has contributed effectively to strengthening the international orientation of the participating institutions while fostering the sustainability of strategic networking activities. I think that Cardiff Met achieved its objectives by setting up a number of mobilities and awarding several scholarships to students and academic and administrative staff. Our experience with EU METALIC II is unique since we have already worked with Cardiff Met University in other Tempus projects and EU METALIC, I can say that it is a model of co-operation in terms of the sustainability of actions undertaken with a university of the North of Africa. The experience is rich in exchange and learning with several partners with whom we have had partnership relations within the framework of Erasmus+.*

*The Hassan II University in Casablanca is a partner in other Erasmus Mundus mobility projects, so the establishment and coordination of this type of program has proved easier to manage at the university. So, this opportunity to be a part of EU METALIC II is characterized by a growing interest in mobility, a great awareness of the importance of mobility in the university curriculum and the importance of diversifying training opportunities. This program improve the quality of research and studies that will adapt well to national and regional realities and also international, offer students recruitment opportunities in a rapidly changing work space and identify needs training in line with the request of the companies.*

# SUPERIOR INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



British  
Education

## About

SIST is a University based in Morocco, situated in Casablanca since 2001, in Rabat since 2011 and in Tangier since 2013. Delivering a high standard of education and awarding British degrees which are accepted worldwide for employment and further study, all programmes are double quality controlled by Moroccan Ministry of Education and QAA (Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education UK). The aim is to be positioned as the top business school in Morocco. We have a truly International experience with students from more than 27 different countries and we are providing them with full support.

### What SIST thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...

*Since SIST British University signed its partnership with the EU-METALIC II project many of SIST students from different programmes have benefitted from the scholarship that covers participation fees, return travel, insurance and living subsistence. It was like a dream comes true for SIST students, who have always dreamed of pursuing their studies abroad and especially for those who cannot afford to study overseas on their own expenses.*

*The implementation of the mobility flows since September 2014 across BA, MBA and STAFF has resulted in the mobilization of 15 scholars across all levels.*

*SIST has been involved in a project called Leadership in Higher Education Management (LHEM) along with Cadi Ayad (Fes), Hassan II (Casablanca) and The Ministry of Education Morocco. EU METALIC II has been a tremendous learning opportunity for us as a joint coordinator and we enjoyed providing support to the project coordinator throughout the lifetime of the project.*





# TUNISIAN PARTNERS

# UNIVERSITY OF TUNIS



## About

University of Tunis is the oldest university in Tunisia, it delivers degrees in many fields such as: languages, arts, social sciences, and technical sciences. With the aim of a better rationalization of competencies and integration of graduates in the professional life, the University diversified the studies of masters' degree and doctorates.

All university programs are tailored to meet the needs of various sectors of economy and scientific and technological developments. The University of Tunis provides 136 degrees within 16 higher education and scientific research institutions educating 28,000 students supervised by over 1,500 lecturers.

### What University of Tunis thinks of the EU METALIC II Project...

*We know the importance for the European Commission, dissemination and communication, to communicate massively and precisely to all the target groups of the project, both locally and nationally, but also European and even internationally. University of Tunis is linked to foreign universities by means of 114 agreements of scientific and academic cooperation and 252 PhD co-advising agreements. This cooperation has allowed the exchange of experiences and competences and permitted a better opening of the University. It has also allowed an improvement in methods and educational means, and a better support for the research.*

*The meaning of our presence in the EU METALIC II project for our university is important and the portal to expand our circle of cooperation and exchanges with partner universities.*

### Communications and dissemination of results:

- *The dissemination of the project to the institutions through the brochures and site of the university.*
- *Transfer of project data to beneficiaries (students and staff).*

### Achievements:

- *Capitalize on project actions for transferability of results to other contexts, domains,*
- *The relaunch of an Erasmus + project with the Italian University La Sapienza after the visit of Professor Andrea Carteny, and the sending of students in the framework.*
- *The visibility of the University of Tunis through EUMETALIC II project.*
- *Promote relations and contacts with partner universities for the continuity of cooperation.*





# EUROPEAN PARTNERS

# CARDIFF METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY, UK



Cardiff  
Metropolitan  
University

## About

Cardiff Metropolitan University is a global university since 1865. The university currently has over 12,000 students enrolled, with over 1,200 international students from more than 140 countries. At 36% Cardiff Met's postgraduate numbers make up the highest proportion of all Welsh Universities. The University prides itself on being a strong, sustainable and student-centred university, focused on promoting student employability, applied research and knowledge transfer. The focus on employability has ensured that 96% of the graduates enter employment or further study within six months of graduation (DLHE 2015). The University has been ranked as the top UK University for international student support 6 years in a row in the International Student Barometer (2010 - 2015) based on the overall average measure for overall international student satisfaction.

### What Cardiff Metropolitan University thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...

*EU METALIC II project as a continuation of EU METALIC project allowed us to increase our visibility within MENA region and further develop our cooperation with the partners. Erasmus Mundus projects, such as EU METALIC II, have deeply contributed to the Internationalisation strategy of Cardiff Met. The University has a vast experience with coordinating such projects but every single of them has been a great learning process which we, as the coordinating team, very much enjoyed. We have had hosted brilliant staff and students who further contributed to the Cardiff Met multicultural environment. The success of the EU-METALIC II project resulted in further cooperation through the Erasmus+ International.*

*It has been a wonderful experience and we are truly sorry it is coming to the end. But we are looking forward to new means of cooperation with the partners.*





# ECOLE CENTRALE NANTES, FRANCE



## About

Founded in 1919, Ecole Centrale Nantes (ECN) is among the top higher education and research institutions in France in Science & Engineering. Purpose is to develop top level scientists & engineers in multidisciplinary & specific fields from 2,000 students/year in engineering track (5 years), MSc Degrees and PhDs. International development is at the heart of ECN strategic policy: 100% of its engineering students are going abroad and 25% of the campus population is international. ECN has developed a strong international policy covering also research and projects with companies: its 5 research laboratories provide strong links with the French industrial fabric and enjoy a reputation for excellence in the world particularly in naval hydrodynamic, civil engineering, composite & advanced materials and robotics.



### **What Ecole Centrale Nantes thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...**

*Centrale Nantes has been very active within the Erasmus Mundus Programme, with 3 projects coordinated and 12 as partners. These Erasmus Mundus projects reinforced the internationalisation of our institution, by strengthening our cooperation with different geographical areas, by enhancing the quality of our degrees and by improving our administrative and welcoming procedure.*

*The EU-METALIC II project objectives fits totally into our strategy, both through the geographical area and through the cooperation objectives within the partnership. Being part of the EU-METALIC II family had positive and concrete impacts: reinforcement of previously existing cooperation with some partners, development of new ones, learning of new project management methods and very successful success stories for fellows.*

*After EU-METALIC, EU-METALIC II has been the continuation of successful cooperation with North Africa through Erasmus Mundus projects. Centrale Nantes surely benefited from these projects which will have an impact on the upcoming actions of cooperation in the region.*

# FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN, GERMANY



## About

Freie Universität Berlin is a leading research institution. It is one of the eleven German universities successful in all three funding lines in the federal and state Excellence Initiative, thereby receiving additional funding for its institutional future development strategy. The university's seven offices abroad provide a platform for international cooperation. The university's performance in the Excellence Initiative has provided funding for several new graduate schools and transdisciplinary research clusters. Freie Universität has over 130 partnerships with scholarly institutions worldwide. The university is a drawing card for international re-searchers. About 600 foreign schol-ars contribute to the diversity in research and teaching. Of its approximately 32,500 students in over 100 subject areas, 18 percent come from abroad.



### **What Freie Universität Berlin thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...**

*It was a great pleasure to be part of the Erasmus Mundus EU Metallic II project as one of the best organized projects within this whole program.*

*For Freie Universität Berlin it was a great opportunity to increase the visibility of our liaison office in Cairo and to help applicants right from the beginning. It also was one of the few projects that raised good interest within the students and professors at FUB, although for such a program and for outgoings there has been a tough time due to the Arabic spring and the tense situation in Northern Africa. Regardless to this situation the whole project went very smoothly once the candidates were nominated. During the application period it was sometimes hard to find the right and willing supervisor, but once the candidates arrived they all turned out to be great academics. It is a real pity that the project will no longer exist. The consortium-organized structure made this very unique. It was of great help to get to know partners and universities within Europe and the Northern African region, which would definitely not happen this easy through bilateral programs. We are very happy to continue some partnerships within the Erasmus+ worldwide project.*

*Once again it was a great pleasure to be part of this project and it is very sad that Erasmus Mundus will be finished soon. A very special thanks goes to the coordinators in Cardiff Met for being responsible of making this special and sometimes complicated program very easy!*

# SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY OF ROME, ITALY



SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

## About

Sapienza-Università di Roma is Rome's first university and among the oldest in Europe, founded in 1303. Thanks to the work of its 11 faculties and 63 departments, it has established a reputation as an internationally recognized centre for teaching and research, now counting more than 130,000 students, 4,000 professors and approx. 4,000 members of the administrative and technical staff. The University is involved in an extensive range of international cooperation projects and actions and has developed sound operational and management experience. It has widely participated in the TEMPUS and ERASMUS MUNDUS programmes as well as in other EU funded projects in all fields of activity (research, culture, cooperation, etc.).



### What Sapienza thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...

*The EU METALIC II project has been a very interesting experience for our University, reflecting the times we are living. It had a very important role in creating a network with our partner Universities in the Countries involved, like it was happening within all Erasmus-Mundus consortia; in this way, the Erasmus-Mundus experience has been very fruitful and hopefully the relations we have built, are not getting lost into the Erasmus+ framework.*

*On the other hand, some difficulties were arising during the lifetime of the project, concerning mobility periods of some students and financial issues; we could give a solution to these problems, together with the management team at Cardiff Met.*

*Working within the EU METALIC II project has been fruitful and has improved our capacity to deal with international students; the partnership was a good one and the management team has provided support and quick responses to all issues. Our University has promoted cooperation with all partners involved in the project and one of the results is the invitation to our Erasmus+ ICM proposal from its first edition. We have included some of our partners from EU METALIC II project in our Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility project and the proposal has been funded as follows:*

- *University Hassan II Casablanca (Morocco): 1 masters level in, 1 master level out;*
- *Ain Shams University (Egypt): 1 undergraduate level in, 2 master level out;*
- *Alexandria University (Egypt): 1 undergraduate level in;*
- *Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime transport (Egypt): 1 masters level in;*
- *University AbouBekr Belkaid of Tlemcem (Algeria): 1 staff level in, 1 master level in*

# UNIVERSITY OF MONTPELLIER, FRANCE



## About

University of Montpellier (UM) was created in 2015 through the merger of University Montpellier 1 and University Montpellier 2. It is the sixth largest multidisciplinary and research intensive university in France. While the university has a long tradition of hosting a large number of international students. It is also fostering the mobility of its students, professors and administrative staff. It offers a diverse range of education and research and enjoys an international reputation as a world leader in biological research. 45,000 are enrolled at the University, among them 16% of international students and 50% of PhD students are coming from abroad. University of Montpellier employs over 4,500 staff members and produces 3,000 scientific publications.



### What University of Montpellier thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...

The UM has participated as a full partner to the EU-METALIC adventure since the beginning in the EU-METALIC Project and after in the EU METALIC II Project. For us being part of this consortium was a great opportunity as it was the occasion to continue to work with the Maghreb, defined as a strategic region by the university. The Erasmus Mundus programme has allowed our European universities to heighten their international influence. The second point to be

*highlighted is the recognition of credits. Work on this theme was important and necessary in order to ensure the validation and the recognition of studies for incoming AND outgoing students. Although we have had good results on this topic, progress is still needed in terms of the validation and the simplification of the learning agreement.*

*Concerning the EU-METALIC II project, UM has really appreciated the management of the project and of the consortium. All selection committees have respected the rules and equality between institutions.*

*Concerning the aims of the projects, we can consider that objectives fixed at the beginning of the project are now almost achieved. Participating EU-METALIC II Project was a great experience for our institution, we succeeded in creating new, lasting, international collaboration. For example, we continue to work with some institutions such as University of Tlemcen (through a Capacity Building : COFFEE, coordinated by UM) and Hassan II University (through ERASMUS+ KA107).*

*The real impact of EU-METALIC II is difficult to evaluate. However many changes have been made at the University of Montpellier as a result of this project. For example, the International Relations Office had to employ a project manager in the office to manage all Erasmus Mundus partnerships and in particular for EU METALIC projects. Another impact in our institution was that scholars participated in the promotion of the University of Montpellier. Indeed many of them published articles in scientific journals during their mobility at Montpellier.*

*To conclude, being a part of this consortium was like being a part of a family. Links and contacts have now been created and we can hope that this consortium will continue to work together in future European projects.*

# UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, ITALY



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

## About

The University of Bologna, founded in 1088, was the first university and is the oldest in the world. It was the first place of study to use the term *universitas* for the corporations of students and masters which came to define the institution, located in Bologna, Italy. As of 2013, the University's crest carries the motto *Alma mater studiorum* and the date A.D. 1088. The University has about 85,500 students in its 11 schools. It has campuses in Ravenna, Forlì, Cesena and Rimini and a branch centre abroad in Buenos Aires. It also has a school of excellence named *Collegio Superiore di Bologna*.



### **What the University of Bologna thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...**

*The University of Bologna has participated in the EM program since the very beginning of it. This program has been a unique opportunity to create communities of universities in the different world's regions. It has helped us to strengthen the knowledge and cooperation with traditional partners, acquire knowledge about higher education systems in the world, meet new partners, create networks, experiences and good practices. EMA2 networks have been the place to discuss relevant topics on internationalization processes, to exchange views, to share problems and try to address them in cooperation with the third countries partners, keeping at the same time a strong European dimension, not only bilateral.*

*The EU-METALIC II project has been a sort of follow up of the EU-METALIC project we were also partner of. To be still part of the Consortium has been for us a great chance to further develop the relations with the region. EU-METALIC and EU-METALIC II have broadened our presence in the North Africa region where our University already had connections through professors on a peer to peer basis or old agreements at departmental level. We have started getting into the region's HE system with the EU-METALIC project and in a way, it was easier to implement the EU-METALIC II project because we already had the chance to meet and know our administrative peers, to understand the interests of the academic population of our partners so that we have been and are now more aware of what may be our mutual interests. On this basis, we have signed an Erasmus+ agreement with 2 partners in Egypt, the agreements allowed to host students in the field of Medicine during the AY 2016/2017, to mutually exchange professors in the field of Astrobiology and to host 2 administrative staff from the International Relations Offices of the 2 institutions for a Staff Training week on internationalization processes, challenges and services connected.*

*The implementation of the project has been smooth, also considering the tricky situation in some of the countries of the region. We did not experience unsolvable problems and we have always had the collaboration needed from the Coordinator and the Partners.*

# UNIVERSITY OF BORDEAUX, FRANCE



## About

The original Université de Bordeaux was established on 7th June 1441 when Bordeaux was an English town. The modern University of Bordeaux was newly established on the 1st January 2014, following the merger of three universities: Université Bordeaux 1 Sciences et Technologies, Université Bordeaux Segalen and Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV. It is ranked among the top universities in France for the quality of its multidisciplinary, research-focused and international approach. The University has strong experience in: coordinating research networks and developing joint curricula at master and doctorate levels.



### **What Université de Bordeaux thinks of the EU METALIC II Project...**

*The University of Bordeaux has been involved in the EMA2 programs from the really beginning and is thankful to the learned experience within the consortium, and in this case more particularly within EM EU-METALIC II consortium coordinated by professional team of Cardiff Metropolitan University. Participating in EU-METALIC II project means to share a benefit between the grantees, partner universities and also involved administrative and academic staff and researchers.*

*The EU-METALIC II project has been a wonderful opportunity for students, researchers and staff to come in France for an exchange or a degree seeking mobility. We have also been successful to send students from France to partner universities. This experience will be significant in the CV of every grantee and we hope it will help them to contribute to the employment in their home country and to "open the doors" for their future career. Additional to the academic experience, we hope that the project has contributed to open the mind of every grantee, learn about new culture that he or she can respect now.*

*Finally, we would like to highlight the importance of the involvement of every partner university of the consortium and the much appreciated leader coordination by the team of the Cardiff Metropolitan University that has allowed the success of the projects thanks to their coordination.*

# UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ, AUSTRIA



## About

With about 30,000 students and 3,800 staff, the University of Graz is one of the largest HEI in Austria. It has a strong international profile and is involved in numerous global networks. In the framework of these networks and various projects and activities the university is connected with a total of about 500 international partner institutions with the IRO coordinating and supporting international cooperation and projects. The University of Graz has been actively involved in numerous Erasmus Mundus projects, both as a partner and as coordinator. For example, the university has been coordinating the JoinEU-SEE project with the Western Balkan Lot since 2009 (EMECW & EMA2). Additionally, the university has been a partner in a number of other EMECW and EMA2 projects covering a variety of different regions, and it is the coordinator of the EMA1 "Master's programme in Industrial Ecology". It has also been involved as a partner in EMA3 projects.



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### What the University of Graz thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...

*University of Graz has been a partner in several Erasmus Mundus projects coordinated by Cardiff Metropolitan University starting with the projects FFEEBB 1, FFEEBB 2, ELEMENT and EU Metalic. For University of Graz this journey has included the opening up of a new region as far as collaboration and exchanges. While a number of scholars have collaborated with colleagues in the region prior to the university's involvement in EU Metalic 2, the program has certainly put the region on the map in a more prominent way for students and scholars alike. Working in the framework of the Erasmus Mundus program has allowed University of Graz to become more familiar with the educational framework of the partner countries as well as with academic and administrative procedures relevant for the exchange of students and scholars.*

*The scholars and students have enriched the university also on an intercultural level that goes beyond the purely academic experience. The coordination and implementation of the project has certainly included a number of challenges which were mostly to do with understanding the structure and workings of the partner universities against the educational backdrop of the educational framework of countries involved.*

*Thanks to this journey, cooperation has been established beyond the project's end. The University of Graz promotes sustainability by continuing its cooperation with Alexandria University within the framework of the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility.*

# UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN



## About

With more than five centuries of tradition, University of Santiago de Compostela (USC) is a historic institution that implements a strategic approach to the International field in which students and teachers' exchanges, together with international joint research are the key element. With 28 faculties and schools, 10 research centres, 74 master's degrees and 49 official bachelor degrees, USC is ranked within top 10 among Spanish universities.

USC signed almost 400 bilateral agreements with education institutions worldwide and has a liaison office in Beijing that provides a platform for growing international cooperation. Thanks to the facilities and services provided, USC counts with high rates of international students not only at undergraduate level but also at master and doctoral level.



### **What University of Santiago de Compostela thinks of the EU-METALIC II Project...**

*EU-METALIC II has meant for the USC a way to tighten ties with a region, the Maghreb, specially linked to Spain not only as neighbours, but also historical and culturally. It has contributed to enhance the quality and excellence of our higher education and, at the same time, promote intercultural understanding and improvement of learning in these Third Countries. The experience has been very positive. We provide the scholars with a series of welcoming and monitoring programmes to help them tackle their stay (from language courses to dealing with the red tape) and, on the other hand, the management of the project has not implied special problems in terms of coordination and bureaucracy.*

*This project has also triggered an increasing interest and contact between USC and the region: we are carrying out institutional visits and we have signed general agreements, including mobility, and Erasmus + (KA107) with institutions in and out EU METALIC II.*



# ZAGREB UNIVERSITY, CROATIA



University of  
Zagreb

## About

Zagreb University (UNIZG, 1669) is the oldest and biggest university in South-Eastern Europe. It is a multidisciplinary university, consisting of 33 faculties and art academies. With its comprehensive programmes and over 60,000 students UNIZG is the strongest teaching institution in Croatia. It offers a wide range of study programmes leading to BA, MA and PhD degrees in the fields: Arts, Biomedicine, Biotechnology, Engineering, Humanities, Natural and Social Sciences.



### What University of Zagreb thinks of the EU METALIC II Project...

The participation of University of Zagreb in the EU Metalic II as well as other Erasmus Mundus Action 2 projects was enabled in 2013, when Croatia joined the European Union. For the UNIZG as well as other Croatian universities this was a major breakthrough. This meant major reconsidering of institutional potentials regarding collaboration with partners outside EU: which regions, possible partners, existing collaboration, administrative support at UNIZG to carry out the projects, possible obstacles at institutional level as well as beyond...

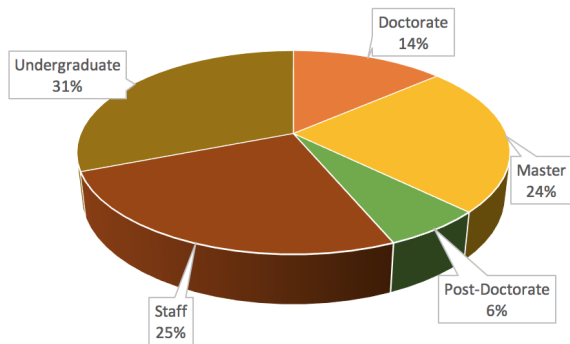
*Those were only some of the issues taken into consideration when deciding whether to participate in Erasmus Mundus projects or not. The decision to participate in the EU Metalic II project relied, among others, also on the history of relations with Maghreb countries during the time when Croatia was a part of Yugoslavia and the so-called Non-Aligned Movement, when in the 60s and 70s the UNIZG accepted many students. Having in mind these past times and the fact that some of them stayed in Croatia and are well known experts in their professions, the UNIZG accepted the challenge to establish new cooperation channels that would now function on individual and institutional level. The fact that we could participate in 7 EMA2 projects meant a big step towards greater visibility of the UNIZG in countries and institutions where many heard for the first time about Croatia and Zagreb. On the other hand, at the UNIZG we also accepted students and teaching staff members from countries and institution where, in the most of cases, there was no prior contact. The presence of international scholars gave us an opportunity to learn about their cultures, educational systems and background as well as research capacities.*

*The biggest asset of the participation are new possibilities and initiatives for future collaboration. In 2015 the UNIZG and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Egypt signed a bilateral university agreement for exchange of students and staff members; in 2017 the UNIZG and the University of Marrakech Cadi Ayyad, Morocco will apply for Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility funding to support exchange of students and staff in the field of chemistry and chemical engineering; the collaboration in the field of technical engineering with emphasis in mechanical engineering.*

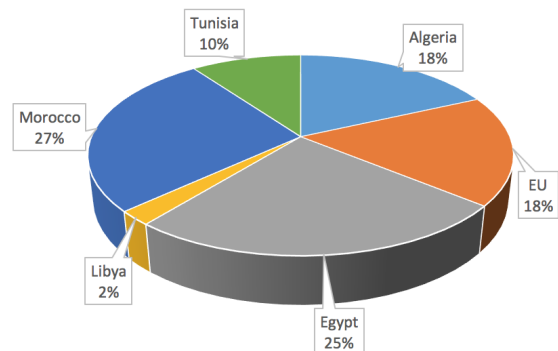
# EU-METALIC II MOBILITIES

The project awarded 220 scholarships in total across all five mobility levels (undergraduate, master, doctorate, post-doctorate and staff) through the 3 main calls for applications and the special Moroccan Edition. Below graphs outline the structure of nominated scholars per nationality and mobility level. The EU METALIC II project was successful in receiving additional funding for Moroccan applicants in 2015 and 25 scholars were awarded with the scholarship under the Moroccan Call (included in below charts).

**Nominated scholars per Mobility Level**

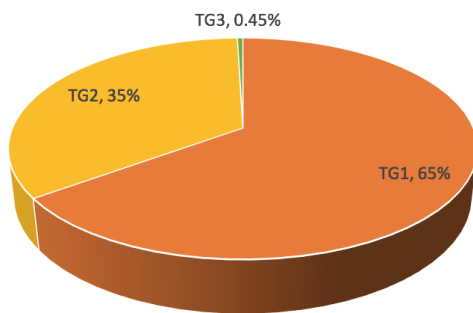


**Nominated scholars per Nationality**

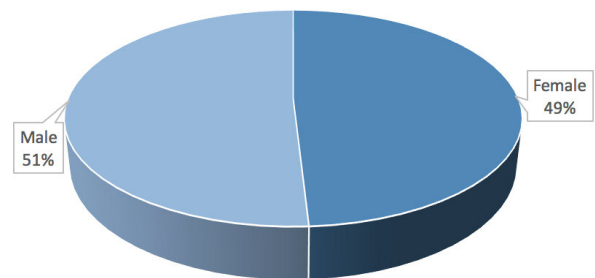


65% of grantees came from the institutions that were part of EU METALIC II consortium (Target Group 1), while 35% of the grantees were from other European or MENA higher education institutions (Target Group 2); one grantee belonged to Target Group 3, these scholars are considered to be in a vulnerable situation.

**Distribution by Target Group**

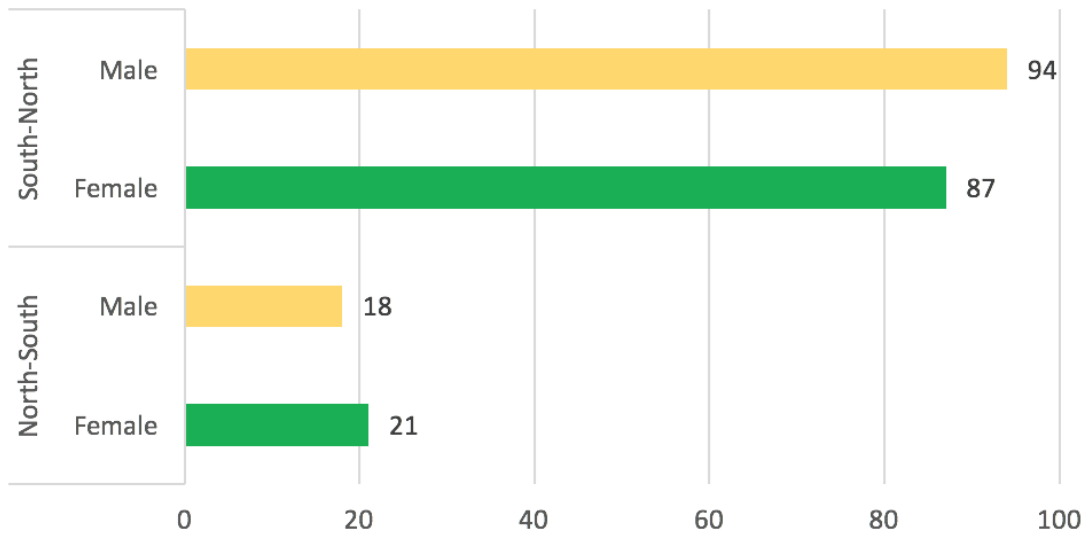


**Distribution by gender**



The project achieved a balanced distribution in the gender category. Associate partners supported our efforts to promote gender balance and through these efforts and the efforts of the consortium, we are proud to present the below distribution as the final gender balance within the EU-METALIC II project.

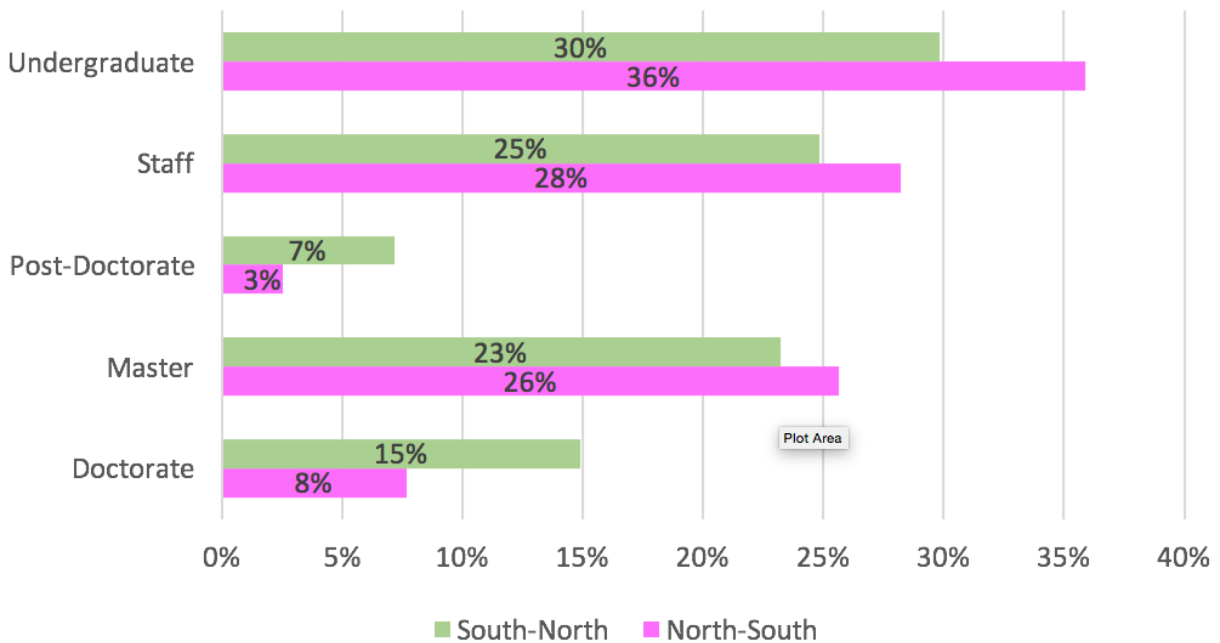
### Distribution by Gender



The gender balance is balanced in both mobility flows North-South (from EU to Lot Country) and South-North (from Lot Country to European institutions) as demonstrated in the above chart.

The EU-METALIC II project attained a perfect geographical distribution with majority of universities being involved in either sending or receiving students and has been balanced in relation to each partner's capacity to absorb mobilities as well as the total number of applicants received per university and taking into consideration the situation in Libya. As such, Libyan partners were not able to host any scholars.

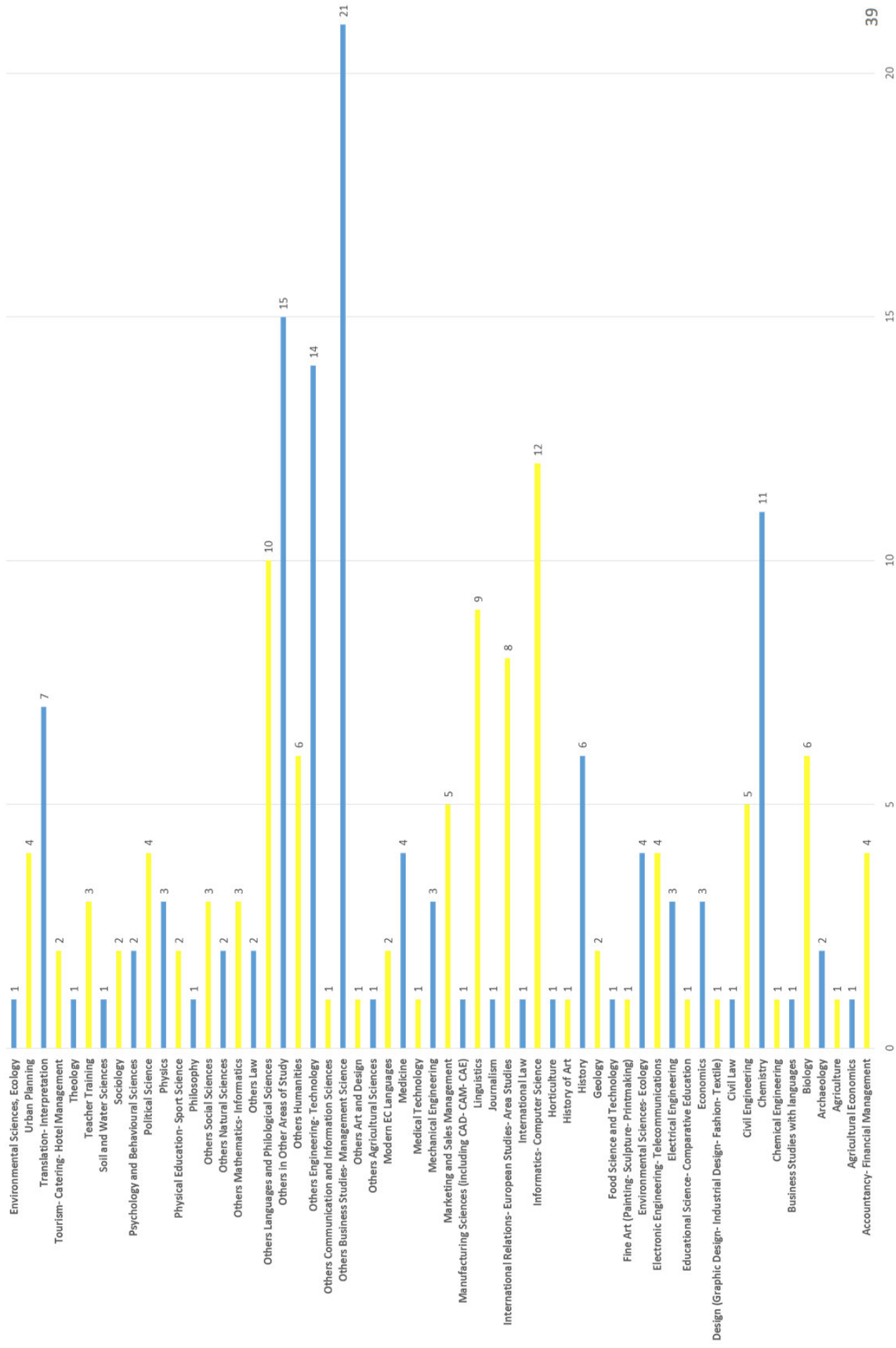
### Distribution by Gender



The maximum number of mobilities in both directions was achieved at Undergraduate level however there were also high numbers at Staff and Masters level scholars.

Finally, we present the wide range of thematic fields covered by our scholars throughout the project.

## Thematic Fields



# EU-METALIC II SCHOLAR TESTIMONIALS



**Name:** Noura Touabi  
**Host University:** Zagreb University  
**Mobility Level:** Doctorate

*Being in Zagreb and at the Department of Electrochemistry has made me a lot more open and accepting of other people's ideas. I learned to be responsible, considerate, patient and to not give up. I'm really satisfied with my relationship with my colleagues and especially with my advisor Pr. Sanja Martinez. She is very supportive! I really appreciate the warm relation and the respect between us.*

*The first two months at the University were very tough. Today, when I look back, I cherish the confidence I gained in communicating with my professors and co-workers, in standing up for my choices and by staying strong even in the oddest situations. No institution can teach you the experience of growing up, the importance of being motivated and the value of hard work. You won't learn unless you deal with a few struggles.*

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**Name:** Ghofrane Barka  
**Host University:** University of Santiago de Compostela  
**Mobility Level:** Doctorate

*My experience is so wonderful, I would advise any student to make sure to take advantage of this chance. My experience contributed to my career and life goals by increasing my scientific skills, reinforcing my people skills, and enhancing my technical skills. It is also very fun. I hope to finish my thesis and get my degree.*

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**Name:** Ahmed Nejjar  
**Host University:** Cardiff Metropolitan University  
**Mobility Level:** Master

*Although with the completely unfamiliar surroundings I did not struggle to adapt as I have made friends from many other nationalities and backgrounds. This allowed me to understand and appreciate our similarities and differences much better. I have now settled into a comfortable rhythm; I am equipped with all the soft and hard skills that I benefitted from academics; this represent invaluable insight that I have gained into university life in another culture. While studying, I had the opportunity to travel to several destinations around Wales and the UK as well as a number of beautiful and interesting places. This has given me the chance to learn so much about myself.*



**Name:** Karen Mee-Sook Leal Fischer  
**Host University:** University Hassan II - Casablanca  
**Mobility Level:** Undergraduate

*For me, an EU Metalic II experience is really worthwhile, it is an opportunity that I wish other students could experiment. It is much more than a travel, It is a real chance for us. This exchange enables not only to discover a new culture and to learn a new language and to share amazing experiences with others that you never could live staying at home, indeed it also enables to get to know ourselves better and to be confronted to new situations and to learn how to manage them. Having such experience transforms you..*



**Name:** Omar Kebiri  
**Host University:** Freie Universitat Berlin  
**Mobility Level:** Doctorate

*After 17 months of my scholarship I have now an excellent knowledge in the application of stochastic optimal control and I made a good progress in my research life, also I have contact with a huge number of Professors and researchers in Europe and especially in Germany. The active scientific life in Berlin allowed me to attend a very important number of conferences, Workshops and seminars in the Free University of Berlin and around it like the Berlin mathematical school. I did a good progress in German language. I got know on the German culture and different type of cultures from world, and I shared with them my culture as well. I did some sports that I never did before, like Ski and Yoga.*



**Name:** Amira Bemri  
**Host University:** Cardiff Metropolitan University  
**Mobility Level:** Undergraduate

*As 2017 approaches, you look back at all the memories 2016 offered. I was lucky enough to get accepted in the Erasmus Mundus EU METALIC II programme; by coming to study in Cardiff for a year. It's been 4 months since I arrived and everything has been amazing; Cardiff, the university and especially the people I met. I never thought it was possible to make true friends in such a short period, yet now I can say it is. So many international students come to study in Cardiff Met, which marks one of its unique aspects. I've met people from all over the world; Hong Kong, Spain, Thailand, Kenya, America, Tanzania, Sudan, Pakistan, Oman, India, Morocco, Rio de Janeiro, Egypt, Wales, England, Turkey and the list goes on and on. What's amazing about all of this, is that you learn stuff about other cultures you never knew existed and that some stereotypes are completely wrong. It has been an incredibly rewarding experience and this is just the beginning. Therefore what I'm grateful for this year, are the caring friends I've made in Cardiff that I get to be surrounded by during 2017*



**Name:** Chengane Rania

**Host University:** Zagreb University

**Mobility Level:** Undergraduate

*Life is so short so we have to take all the opportunities that it offers to us and this is what I did. I took the opportunity that life gave me which is taking part of EU METALIC II program. I have to admit that this is one of the best choices that I've ever made.*

*Taking part of this program is making me live an amazing experience. Joining EU METALIC II gave me the opportunity to live and discover one of the most beautiful cities ZAGREB. Throughout this journey, I met a lot of amazing people from all over the world. I have learnt a lot not only about the Croatian culture, but also about many other cultures from around the world. I had the opportunity to visit different cities in this beautiful country such as: Samobor, Pula, Rovinj, etc. and I can say that I fell in love with the nature here. The people here are so kind and helpful. They made me feel welcome. Now, I feel I'm at home. I made many friends since my arrival. With the students participating in the same program, I am having an amazing time. We haven't just become friends but we became one big family, sharing the best and the worst together in our new home.*

*Let's not forget the main goal of this program which is education. Up until now, I have learnt so much from the professors and the biology students at the university. I have also gained many skills as: public speaking, how to make research, how to write reports... I have been participating in various activities organized by ESN (Erasmus Student Network) where I got the chance to introduce my culture and my country's traditional food to the other students during the international dinner. In addition to helping kids with Christmas decoration during the Christmas workshop at kids-house. I had also the chance to do some physical activities like: free climbing, bubbles football...*

*This is being one of the best adventures of my life and it is still at its beginning. I am confident that I will enjoy every single moment here in Zagreb. Being here, being part of EU METALIC II is just one step to achieve more in my life, and I am so grateful for this.*

*In addition to helping kids with Christmas decoration during the Christmas workshop at kids-house. I had also the chance to do some physical activities like: free climbing, bubbles football... This is being one of the best adventures of my life and it is still at its beginning. I am confident that I will enjoy every single moment here in Zagreb. Being here, being part of EU METALIC II is just one step to achieve more in my life, and I am so grateful for this.*





**Name:** Taoufiq FECHTALI

**Host University:** Universite Montpellier

**Mobility Level:** Staff

*The EU METALIC II scholar's Awards gave me the opportunity to discuss and develop many research ideas on medicinal plant effect. Indeed, in Morocco and over the world medicinal plants represent an interesting reservoir of natural substances for the discovery of new therapeutic molecules. The interest of my research plan was to explore the therapeutic potential of medicinal plants, which are known for their neuro-modulation effects. My mobility to Functional Genomic Institute at the university of Montpellier France was a strong opportunity for me to observe fundamental research and medical educational practice which encouraged me to reflect on my current research at Hassan II University of Casablanca and to formulate plans to incorporate some of new techniques into my own research at my laboratory. The professional relationships established with French colleagues continue at present and I anticipate will become strong with time.*

*In addition to a rewarding professional experience, I also had a fantastic cultural experience in Montpellier. It is really an enriching and wonderful city. I settled into life very quickly and found navigating Montpellier and the transport system very easy (35 Km Tram way). I visited many Castles, old Montpellier and Mediterranean Sea European side.*

*My EU-Metalic II Award was a good experience and has had a huge impact on the rest of my career. I am truly grateful to the staff at the EU METALIC II Commission for giving me the opportunity and providing me with all the information for a successful stay. I strongly encourage everyone to apply. You can be successful.*



**Name:** Mohammed Amine RAJI

**Host University:** University of Bordeaux

**Mobility Level:** Master

*I'm in currently at IAE Bordeaux School, studying second year Master in International Management. I appreciate the program very much and I'm very satisfied. My classmates are very kind and we have a lot of fun together as well as the professors in the school and I managed to succeed my exams. I participate as an active member at IAE BIG, which is a student association within the school in which we try to organize some events to integrate the international student of the school. Also I've participated in Bordeaux Alumni which is a mentoring program of the international student of Bordeaux by the decision makers of the city. I've met a lot of international student and we had a lot of exchanges that are very rich.*

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Cardiff  
Metropolitan  
University



Erasmus  
Mundus

**EU-METALIC II**

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International Cooperation