









ILIANA IVANOVA MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Dear colleagues from the CIVIS European University alliance,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am delighted to welcome you at the 2024 CIVIS International Reception.

Higher education institutions are central in equipping our societies with the skills needed to navigate the green and digital transitions while safeguarding Europe's sovereignty, competitive edge and democratic values.

Facing today's increasingly global challenges, effective transnational education, research and innovation are no longer an option – they are a necessity. The European strategy for universities and the Blueprint for a European degree outline our bold vision for the universities of the future.

At the forefront of this vision, the European Universities alliances lead the way for the higher education sector. I commend CIVIS for coordinating the pilot project SMARTT, which is shaping our vision for a European Degree, and for championing over 140 Blended Intensive Programmes that make mobility more accessible and inclusive to a wider range of learners.

CIVIS and other alliances serve as true catalysts for educational innovation and progress. More students and lifelong learners should benefit from forward-looking educational and training experiences, in flexible learning pathways or joint study programmes with embedded mobility across several EU countries.

I am pleased to see CIVIS joining forces under a common legal entity to continue delivering on your potential to transform. This will give you the power to act together, make common strategic decisions and investments, design joint curricula and pool resources and capacities.

I wish you a very successful and fruitful event!

Iliana Ivanova

PROGRAMME

Music University Choir of Salzburg, Langenwanger Jodler

Conductor: Alexander Steinbacher

Welcome Words

Martin Weichbold

Interim Rector and Vice Rector for Academic Affairs

Stefan Lang

Vice Rector for International Affairs and Digitalisation

Karoline **Edtstadler**

Federal Minister for the EU and Constitution

at the Federal Chancellery (tbc)

Melinda Macho

Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

Brigitta Pallauf

President of the State Parliament

Kay-Michael Dankl

Vice Mayor of the City of Salzburg

Elisabeth Gutjahr

Rector of Mozarteum University and

President of Salzburg Higher Education Conference

Katerina Schoina

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Co-Chair of CIVIS Student Council

Ana-Maria **Belciu**

University of Bucharest

Co-Chair of CIVIS Student Council

Music

Robert Schumann / Franz Liszt: Widmung

played by Hanna Tomina, Mozarteum University

Keynote

The Paradox of EU Integration

Prof. Berthold Rittberger, LMU Munich

Followed by a reflective discussion

with Prof. Ariadna Ripoll-Servent

Head of Salzburg Centre for European Union Studies, PLUS

moderated by Prof. Reinhard Heinisch

Professor of Austrian Politics in Comparative Perspective, PLUS

Music

University Choir of Salzburg, Only Time

(Enya arr. Jakob Schorr / Piano: Yooree Kim)

CIVIS becoming **ONE** Entity

Input Statement by the European Commission

on the Importance of Legal Entities

for European University Alliances

by Tine **Delva**

Deputy Head of Unit of the European Commission's

Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

Ceremonial Signing of the Alliance Agreement by the Rectorates of all partner universities accompanied

musically by Hanna **Tomina**, Mozarteum University, Claude **Debussy**: *Clair de Lune*

Inauguration of the First Secretary General of CIVIS

by Carlo Della Rocca, Acting President of CIVIS,

Sapienza University Roma

Inaugural speech:

Envisioning Europe, Envisioning CIVIS

by Stefan Lang, PLUS

Music

University Choir of Salzburg, Love Shine a Light

(Kimberley Rew / Solo: Elisabeth Mair)

Closing remarks

Music

European Anthem (all together)

(L. v. Beethoven, Text: F. Schiller/W. Wertz/P. Roland)

Master of Ceremony: Kerstin Fuchsberger

European Anthem (all together)

(L. v. Beethoven, Text: F. Schiller/W. Wertz/P. Roland)

Freude, schöner Götterfunken, Tochter aus Elysium,
Wir betreten feuertrunken,
Himmlische, dein Heiligtum.
Deine Zauber binden wieder,
Was die Mode streng geteilt,
Alle Menschen werden Brüder,
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.
Deine Zauber binden wieder,
Was die Mode streng geteilt,
Alle Menschen werden Brüder,
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.

Joy, thou beauteous godly lightning,
Daughter of Elysium,
Fire drunken we are ent'ring
Heavenly, thy holy home!
Thy enchantments bind together,
What did custom stern divide,
Every man becomes a brother,
Where thy gentle wings abide.
Thy enchantments bind together,
What did custom stern divide,
Every man becomes a brother,
Where thy gentle wings abide.

Est Europa nunc unita et unita maneat; una in diversitate pacem mundi augeat. Semper regant in Europa fides et iustitia et libertas populorum in maiore patria. Cives, floreat Europa, opus magnum vocat vos. Stellae signa sunt in caelo Aureae, quae iungant nos.









Be PLUS. Be CIVIS. Be YOU.