

Staff Week 2027

COME TOGETHER

Building Communities in Intercultural Academic Environments

University of Beira Interior, Covilhã

April 19th-23rd, 2027

Number of participants – 30 places.

Format: Erasmus+ Staff Week BIP: each participant travels using their institution's staff mobility grant (KA131). Registration fee is 50 €, which covers the local programme (including all the cultural visits, the week lunches and coffee breaks, plus the farewell dinner). Candidates are equally eligible under the Erasmus-ICM programme from partner institutions.

Central topic: Integration practices in the context of international mobility

This Staff Week concerns with the issues of dealing with integration in intercultural spaces, especially focused on international mobility students on academic settings, and framed by the four horizontal priorities of the Erasmus+ program.

During the week, the participants will be able to listen, talk, share with each other their best practices, their challenges, and show their problem-solving skills.

University of Beira Interior

By increasingly focusing on quality, the University of Beira Interior has invested in the creation of well-equipped laboratories, the expansion of its facilities – both those dedicated to teaching and research activities, and those necessary to offer its students the best working conditions and social support – in its progressive involvement in national and international research projects, and also in a highly qualified teaching staff. The number of courses and the number of students has grown steadily over the years, having already exceeded 8,600 students, including national and international students. With a constant commitment to solid training in a wide range of fields, UBI currently offers more than 30 undergraduate programs (Bachelor's degrees), approximately 45 master's programs, and 30 doctoral programs (Doctorates) distributed across its five faculties: Faculty of Sciences, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Faculty of Arts and Letters, and Faculty of Health Sciences. In terms of

human resources, UBI currently has more than 600 professors and 270 staff members across its five faculties and services.

Covilhã and Region

Traditionally associated with wool production, Covilhã grew in constant dialogue with the mountains, shaped by buildings linked to industry, many of which were recovered by the University of Beira Interior and converted into teaching and research spaces.

The city has a distinctive feature in its steep streets, which gives it a unique character. The challenging staircases that connect the various levels of the city are now accompanied by a modern system of bridges, elevators and funiculars for free use, the result of the adoption of an innovative development model to facilitate pedestrian circulation. The city's historic center is now populated with urban art paintings and sculptures by some renowned names, who have already created their own route, parallel to that of the city's history.

Programme

Monday

09h00 Registration and welcome coffee at the Wool Museum

10h00 The Argonauts and the Golden Fleece- Opening session.

10h30 The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy – Challenges about mobility and migrations (keynote speaker: Catarina Sales)

11h30 Around the World in Eighty Minutes – Introducing the participants

12h45 Lunch

14h30 Bridge Over Troubled Water Erasmus+ 2021-2027 inclusion framework: what happens next? (National Agency)

16h00 Lost in Translation – Team work on integration challenges

18h00 "Beira de Honra"

Tuesday

9h30 Through the Looking Glass Practices of interculturality

10h30 Coffee break

10h45 Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? Tackling the Erasmus' digital tools

12h30 Lunch

14h30 Dune Green transition and environmental protection

16h00 The Canterbury Tales Raising awareness on democratic participation

Wednesday

09h30 Road to Nowhere Challenges and opportunities of mobility in peripheral regions (housing, isolation, language, mental health, buddy systems)

10h45 Coffee break

11h00 Before Ithaka Case studies on managing mobility/integration processes (call for participants)

12h30 Lunch

14h00 Bus departure

14h30 Visit to Belmonte: castle and museums

17h00 Regional Products Tasting

Thursday

09h00 The Breakfast Club – Solving real life problems.

10h30 The Knights of the Round Table - Equality, Trust, and Team Power (workshop)

13h00 Lunch

14h30 Visit to the Wool Museum

16h00 Visit to the historic centre of Covilhã + urban art tour.

20h00 Farewell dinner, with music performance

Friday

09h00 The Odyssey – Mapping the journey of international students

11h00 Closing ceremony

12h00 Lunch