

CHARM-EU

Report

Forum on European University Governance

Montpellier, March 24th-25th 2022

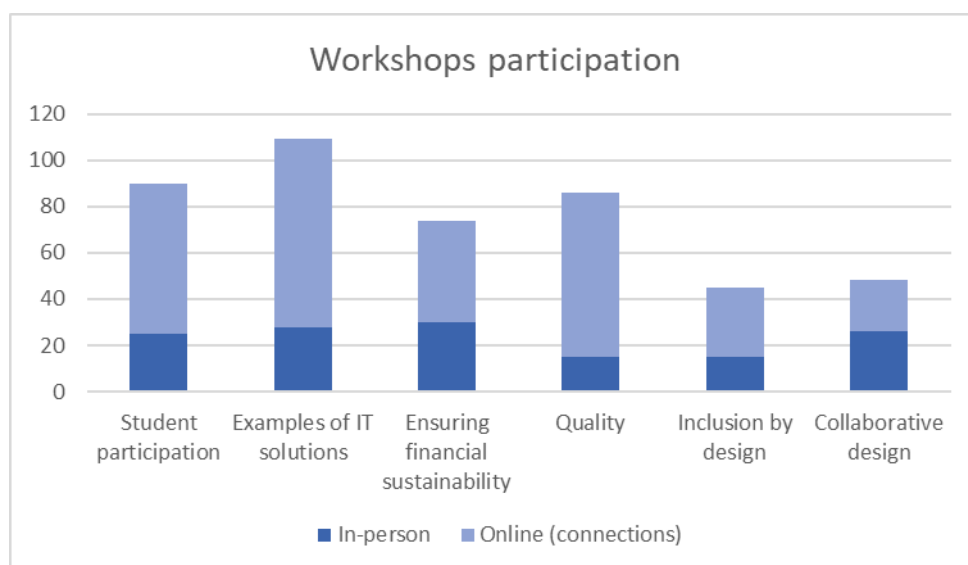
Introduction

The Forum on European University Governance, organized in the framework of the CHARM-EU Alliance Governance Work Package, was held in Montpellier on March 24 and 25, 2022. It took place in a hybrid format and was broadcasted live on a dedicated [digital platform](#). It brought together stakeholders of the European higher education to discuss major issues in the governance of European universities. The key elements of this Forum will be used for the development of the governance model, as well as for the drafting of the deliverables of the working group on governance.

Participants

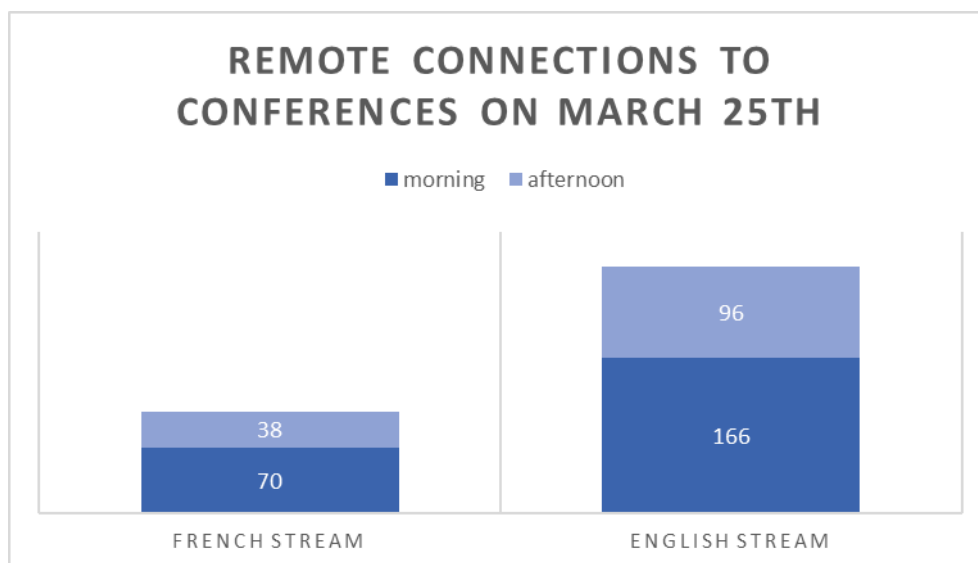
The Forum brought together 300 participants, 101 of whom were present in Montpellier throughout the Forum to attend the workshops and conferences; nearly 200 connected remotely on the event's digital platform.

The first day was dedicated to workshops on the various key topics of university governance. The hybrid format allowed a strong participation of the Alliance members, remotely for those who could not make the trip (both speakers and participants).



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The second day, more institutional, aimed at restituting the workshops and bringing a global vision of the governance of European Universities. It was accessible in French and English, on site and remotely.

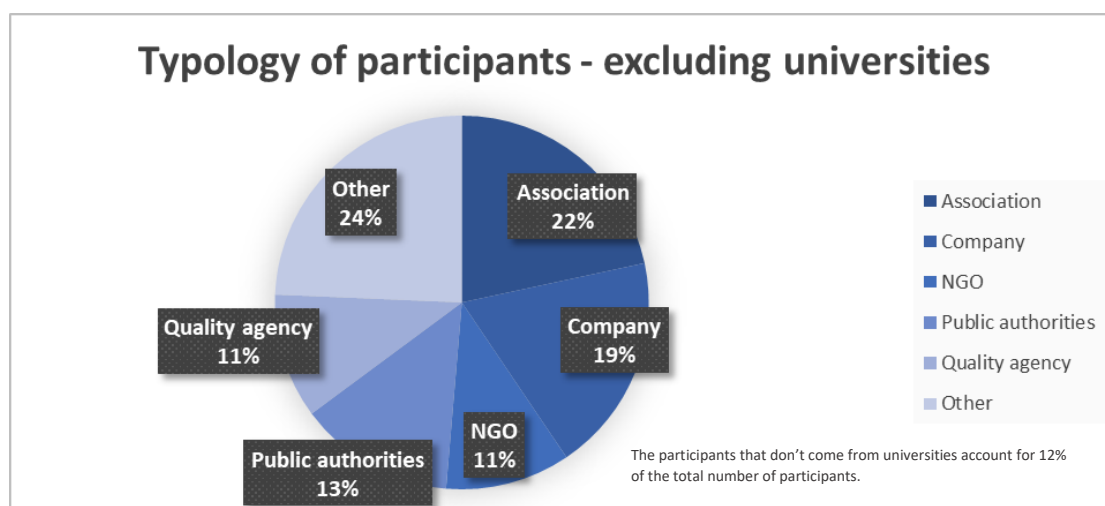


Alliances represented

One of the successes of this event was to be able to simultaneously bring together 29 European university alliances, and to have them participate and contribute their expertise in the field of governance. The list is presented in appendix.

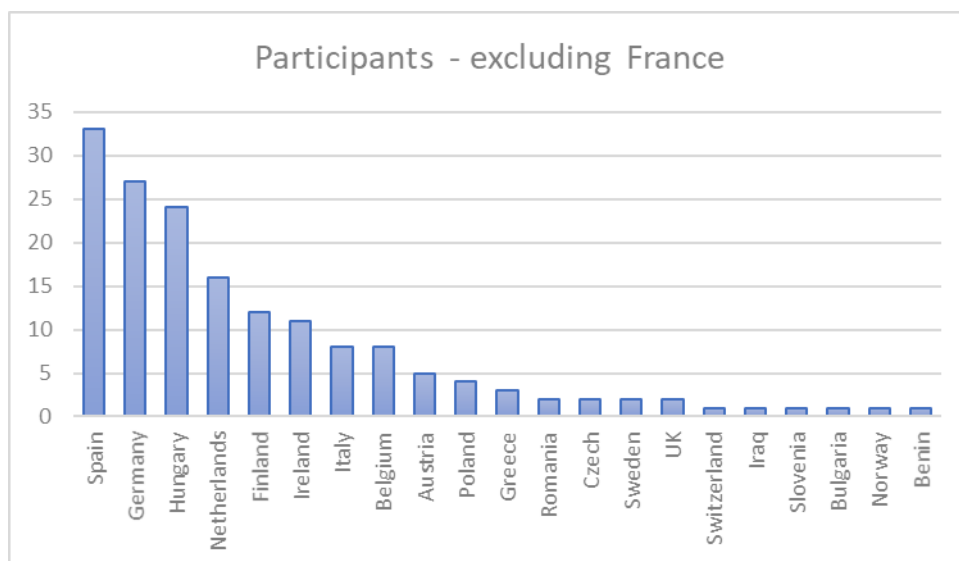
Typologie des participants

88% of the participants were from universities, both from institutional governance, but also from faculty and administrative staff.



Origin of the participants

If we look at the geographical distribution of the participants, the majority of them are from institutions in France (140). For the other participants, the distribution is as shown below.



Content

During the Forum on the European Universities Governance, different key topics of the governance of European Universities were addressed.

The first day took place in the form of hybrid workshops in which the following topics were discussed

- sharing of IT infrastructures ;
- participation of students in the governance of European Universities
- quality approach and accreditation of a European degree
- financial sustainability of a European university;
- collaborative design at the heart of governance;
- inclusion by design.

The second day presented in the form of conferences/debates interventions from different stakeholders of higher education in Europe: the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, the European Commission, the Occitanie region, the metropolis of Montpellier, the quality agency HCERES, students, rectors or vice-rectors of the member universities of CHARM-EU as well as other European alliances.

Results

The Forum concluded with new perspectives for dialogue involving national authorities, the European Commission and European universities. This event was an incubator for new proposals to shape the governance of these new European models. The event was also largely based on feedback from the first alliances after nearly three years of existence on a pilot project.

The discussions and exchanges are intended to contribute to the elaboration of the next deliverables of the CHARM-EU governance work package, in particular the CHARM-EU governance manual and the white paper on the governance of a European university. The result of the work done during the European University Governance Forum will allow the development of the CHARM-EU alliance governance, but also the drafting of deliverables allowing to replicate this model (especially towards third countries).

Communication of the event

Beforehand, the communication about this event was done through different media: internet articles, mailings via the CHARM-EU newsletter and the one of the University of Montpellier, social networks ([LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)).

During the Forum, we interviewed actors of the governance of European universities; a global video of the Forum was made afterwards, including these elements.

The Forum also relied on an Ad Hoc digital platform to disseminate information about the event and to broadcast live and replay the different sessions. This platform will remain accessible for 6 months after the event. Replays will also be available on the CHARM-EU [Youtube](#) channel.

Certification French Presidency of the European Union

As part of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, placed under the authority of the Prime Minister, the Forum was awarded a certification. It represents a guarantee of quality for the content of the event and the University of Montpellier (organiser) is committed to respect the charter of commitment of the label.

Sustainability

The Forum on European University Governance was part of an eco-responsible approach in its preparation and execution.

The event was held in a hybrid format to allow participants and speakers to join the Forum remotely in order to limit their carbon footprint. Two-thirds of the participants opted for this option, and eight workshop speakers and four conference speakers also opted for a remote participation format.

The choice of providers and services offered on site also aimed at limiting the ecological footprint of the event. We minimized packaging and the use of plastic for catering services. Paper was also limited thanks to the event's application that allowed access to the program from a cell phone.

Finally, sustainability is a key aspect of the CHARM-EU project and these values are conveyed in the project, the programs and the project communications (see appendices).

Inclusion

The Forum, in the wake of the CHARM-EU alliance, is part of an approach of inclusion and non-discrimination. It was accessible to all, in person or remotely. Two questions in the registration form were dedicated to accessibility in order to allow participants to indicate their specific needs and to answer them. A workshop of the first day was dedicated to this topic.

Multilinguism

All the plenary parts of the Forum had simultaneous French-English translation. The main language of the Forum was English, French was used as an active language. An [information page in French](#) was available on the digital platform of the event. The second day was available in both English and French, with interventions in both languages, headsets for simultaneous translation and the possibility to connect to the live event in the language of one's choice.