EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP FOR AN INNOVATIVE CAMPUS UNIFYING REGIONS

EPICUR Hubs Kick-Off Event

8th April 2025, 14:00 – 16:00 CET

Moderator: Kirsten Rosa (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology)

- EPICUR Hubs Co-Coordinator

- EPICUR SHAPE-IT Work Package 6 Leader

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Welcome to the EPICUR Hubs Kick-Off Event!

Connect, Research, Grow:

Explore Europe with the EPICUR Hubs!

Kick-Off Programme

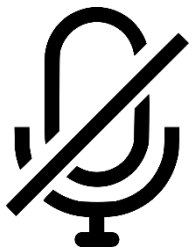|	
14:00-14:10	**Welcome & Introduction** Welcome & Overview of EPICUR Introductory Speech – Prof. Dr. Thomas Hirth, KIT
14:10-14:25	**The EPICUR Hubs** What are the EPICUR Hubs? Introduction to the Early Career Researchers Board (ECRB)
14:25-14:55	**Exploring the EPICUR Hubs Offerings** Tour of the Hubs Virtual Space & Hubs Courses Upcoming Events EPICUR Hubs networking padlet – Specify your interests to kick-start collaboration and strengthen your network!
14:55-15:15	**Keynote Presentation** Prof. Dr. Nicolaos P. Theodossiou, AUTh: "Navigating Transdisciplinary International Research for Sustainability"
15:15-15:25	**Funding Opportunities**
15:25-15:55	**Networking Session** (Breakout Rooms on Zoom)
15:55–16:00	**Closing & Next Steps**

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Before we get started…

Thank you to all the EPICUR staff who have been working behind the scenes to make this kick-off event possible!

Please post your questions into the Zoom chat at any time during the kick-off event.

If you are not speaking, please mute your microphone. Thank you ☺

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EPICUR European University Alliance

EPICUR unites **9 universities**, leveraging their strengths and regional creativity to **foster collaboration among students, academics, researchers, and support staff**. It aims to become a full-fledged federation of universities, offering **seamless European learning, training, and research mobility**.

EPICUR's core missions

- Deepen and widen the EPICUR European learning experience
- Boost research and innovation beyond borders
- Advance societal engagement
- Empower digital transformation
- Achieve boundless mobility
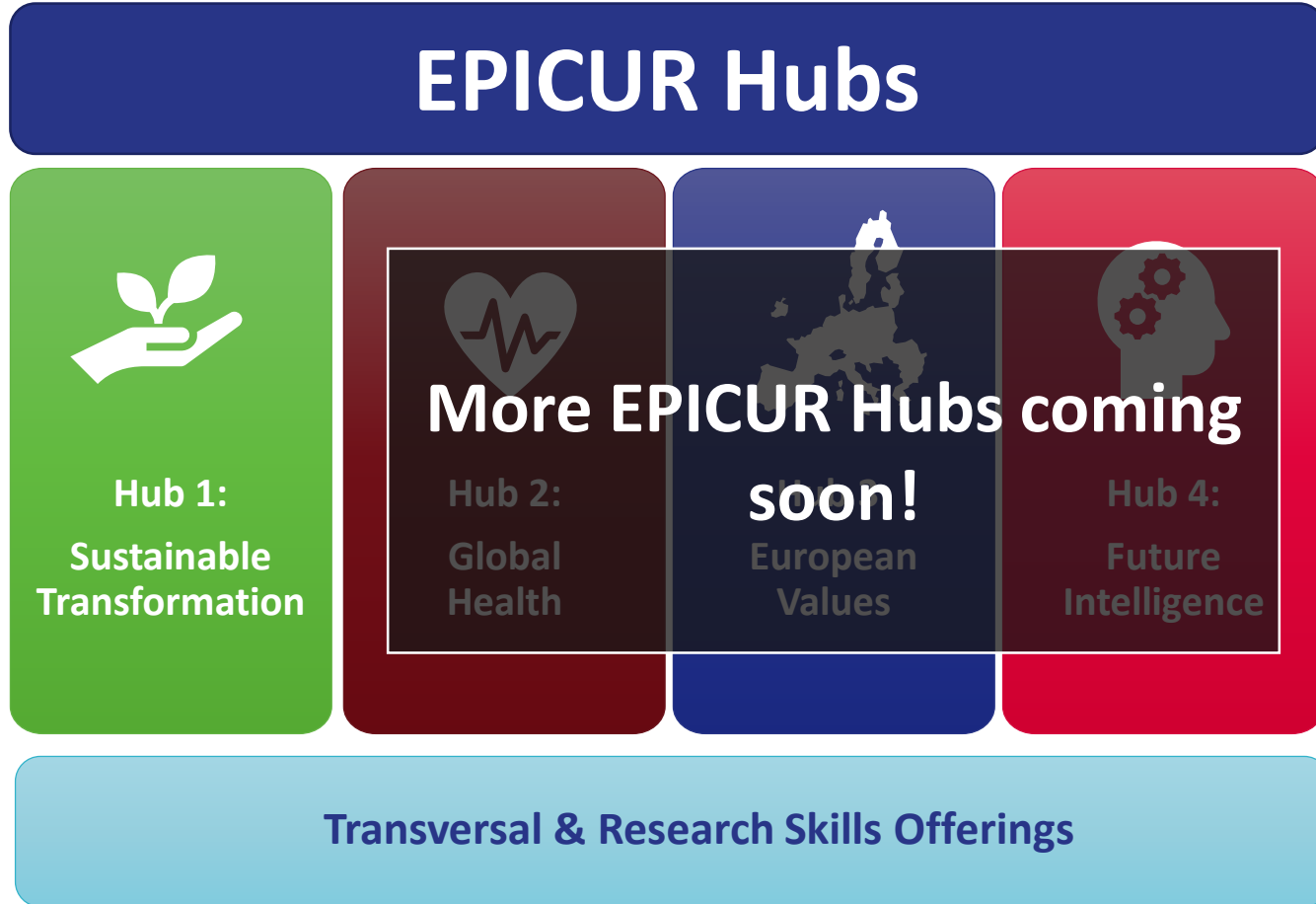- Develop inclusive and agile governance structures

University of Southern Denmark
Odense

Adam Mickiewicz University
Poznan

University of Amsterdam
Amsterdam

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
Karlsruhe

University of Strasbourg
Strasbourg

University of Freiburg
Freiburg

University of Upper Alsace
Colmar/Mulhouse

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences
Vienna

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Thessaloniki

Learn more at
https://epicur.edu.eu/

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Why EPICUR?

Welcome by Prof. Dr. Thomas Hirth

KIT Vice President Transfer and International Affairs

What are the EPICUR Hubs?

EPICUR Hubs

Hub 1: Sustainable Transformation

Hub 2: Global Health

Hub 3: European Values

Hub 4: Future Intelligence

More EPICUR Hubs coming soon!

Transversal & Research Skills Offerings

➢ A **platform for learning, networking, and knowledge-sharing** across the EPICUR European University Alliance.

➢ Designed to **support career development** for master's students and early career researchers.

➢ The first hub, the **Sustainable Transformation Hub**, launches in 2025/26 with research-based and transversal courses, a virtual platform and networking and research stay opportunities.

➢ **Additional hubs will follow**, focusing on interdisciplinary themes to foster European-wide collaboration.

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Who are the EPICUR Hubs for?

Main Target Groups

- **Master's students** considering a career in research
- **Early career researchers (ECRs):** PhDs, postdocs, junior profs

Other Relevant Stakeholders

- The nine **EPICUR partner universities,** their **graduate and doctoral schools/programmes** and **senior professors/researchers (R4), doctoral advisors and teaching staff**
- **Regional stakeholders** from science, industry, government and civil society

Impact

- Fostering innovation and addressing societal challenges
- Strengthening European collaboration
- Preparing students and researchers for global careers and societal impact

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Early Career Reasearchers Board

Mulhouse, France 2024

Interested in ECRB activities? Join us!

Visit our webpage for more info:

https://epicur.edu.eu/research/ecr-board/

More questions?
Feel free to email us!

ecrboard@epicur.edu.eu

Poznan, Poland 2023

What do the EPICUR Hubs offer?

➢ Courses, workshops and training programmes in the Hubs' thematic areas and transversal and research skills

➢ Events, conferences, research stays and networking opportunities with students, researchers and regional stakeholders

➢ Useful resources, including funding and mobility opportunities

EPICUR Hubs Course Offer

Transformative Cities - EPICUR Hubs joint lecture series

Master
Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: May 13, 2025 - Jul 15, 2025

Schedule:
Tuesday, 11:30 – 13:00
Last two sessions will take place
12:15 – 13:45

Format: Online

KIT
Karlsruhe, Germany
100 students
Sustainable Transformation
0 ECTS

Ethics in the Lab. A Workshop for Doctoral Candidates and Other Early Career Researchers on Scientific Misconduct and How to Avoid it

Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: May 16, 2025 - May 16, 2025

Schedule:
The course will take place from 9:00 to 13:00 (half-day)

Format: Online

KIT
Karlsruhe, Germany
10 students
Transversal Skills
0 ECTS

An initiation to LaTeX typesetting

Master
Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: May 20, 2025 - May 27, 2025

Schedule:
20th May 2025, 13h30-16h30

27th May 2025, 13h30-16h30

Format: Hybrid

UHA
Mulhouse, France
20 students
Transversal Skills
0 ECTS

Issues of environment and sustainability

Master
Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: May 12, 2025 - Jun 23, 2025

Schedule:
Time of the sessions: 13:00-15:00 (CET)

Possibly with minor deviations

Format: Online

AUTH
Thessaloniki, Greece
30 students
Sustainable Transformation
0 ECTS

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EPICUR Hubs Course Offer

Your Skills in Focus: Civic Engagement for Personal Growth

KIT
Karlsruhe, Germany

15 students | Transversal Skills | 3 ECTS

Master
Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: May 17, 2025 - Oct 31, 2025

Schedule:
Saturdays: 17 May 2025 + 21 June 2025 + final reflection session in September / October (tbd.), each from 10:00 to 16:00 CET

Format: Online

Citizen Science: Science for and with Society - Summer School

SDU
, Denmark

30 students | Transversal Skills | 0 ECTS

Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: Jun 23, 2025 - Jun 25, 2025

Format: In person

HiFunMat Summer School

UNISTRA
Strasbourg, France

15 students | Sustainable Transformation | 3 ECTS

Master
Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: Jul 7, 2025 - Jul 10, 2025

Format: In person

What does the ecological transition mean in practical terms? The example of food production

UHA
Mulhouse, France

Sustainable Transformation | 1 ECTS

Master
Doctoral & Early Career Researchers

Dates: May 26, 2025 - May 27, 2025

Schedule:
Monday, May 26th: 13h30 - 17h30 and
Tuesday, May 27th: 13h30 - 17h30

Format: Hybrid

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How to contribute to the Hubs Course Offer

Why should you open your course to EPICUR?

- **International visibility**: Showcase your teaching methods within a network of nine European universities

- **Diverse classrooms**: Engage with students, doctoral candidates and other early career researchers from various academic and cultural backgrounds, bringing fresh perspectives into your teaching

If you teach a course that you view as relevant for EPICUR students or Early Career Researchers, we are very much looking forward to your contribution!

Propose your course by April 28

14

Save the Date: Upcoming Events

❖ **TECH*impulse* Virtual Roundtable Discussion:** *How Can (International) Industry-Research Cooperation Drive Sustainable Transformation?* (7th May 2025, 16:30 - 18:00 CET)

❖ **Online Workshop:** *Connecting the dots: Pathways for initiating interdisciplinary problem solving* (25th June 2025, 9:00 - 13:00 CET)

❖ **EPICUR Forum 2025:** *Sustainable Transformation* (2nd - 3rd June 2025)

❖ **KIT Science Week:** *Eucor Urban Transformation Conference* (14th - 17th October 2025)

Call for Upcoming Events

Do you know of **online or on-site conferences, workshops, networking sessions or other related events** linked to Sustainable Transformation or Transversal/Research Skills that could be interesting for the EPICUR Hubs?

➢ Please send us your suggestions for events so that we can feature them on the EPICUR Hubs Virtual Space!

➢ Email us at hubs@epicur.edu.eu

EPICUR Seed Funding 2025

- The EPICUR Seed Funding Scheme aims to **foster deeper research collaboration and joint teaching** between EPICUR partners.

- The 2024 call attracted **17 applications from over 120 researchers**, with a total funding request of over **€1.5 million**.

  More info here: https://epicur.edu.eu/research/epicur-seed-funding-scheme/

SAVE THE DATE: The 2025 call is due to be published in early May!

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Join us for a tour of the EPICUR Hubs Virtual Space!

https://learn.epicur.education/

→ click on EPICUR Hubs tile

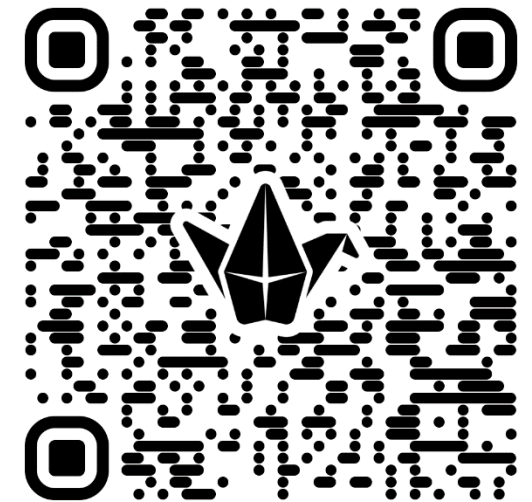# Please specify your interests for targeted networking

Please comment on the existing topics to specify your interest or create a new topic. Please also give ♥ ♥ ♥ for sessions that you would like to join to help us create the right breakout rooms.

Which topic would you like to talk about during today's networking session?

epicur
less than a minute ago

Specific sustainability-related topics

♥ 0   💬 0

＋ Add comment

epicur
2 minutes ago

Interdisciplinary & Cross-Sectoral Approaches

♥ 0   💬 0

＋ Add comment

epicur
2 hours ago

Data-Driven Technologies and Smart Systems

♥ 0   💬 0

＋ Add comment

epicur
3 minutes ago

Global Health

♥ 0   💬 0

＋ Add comment

epicur
3 minutes ago

Transversal skills

♥ 0   💬 0

＋ Add comment

epicur
4 minutes ago

Teaching and Learning related topics

♥ 0   💬 0

＋ Add comment

Please join the EPICUR Hubs Networking Padlet here

https://padlet.com/epicur/EPICURHubsNetworkingPadlet

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Group Photo

Please **turn on your camera** (*optional*) for a group photo to document the turn-out at today's Hubs Kick-Off event. *Thank you!*

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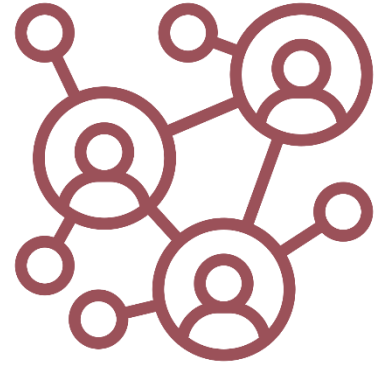
Keynote speech

Prof. Dr. Nicolaos P. Theodossiou
*Department of Civil Engineering
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

Topic:

"Navigating Transdisciplinary International Research for Sustainability"

EPICUR Hubs Networking Session

Explore, discuss and connect!

- **Choose the breakout room** for the topic you want to discuss.

- If a room has **more than 8 people**, we'll open an extra room for that topic.

- If a room has very few people, feel free to **switch to another room with at least 3 participants** on a topic that interests you.

See you back at 15:55!

Join us again in the main room at any time if you have any questions.

What's next?

- Explore the EPICUR Hubs Virtual Space (click on EPiCUR.Hubs tile)
- Engage in the Hubs' Networking Groups
- Sign up for Hubs course offerings
- Submit your course in the EPICUR Autumn/Winter 2025/26 Call for Course Proposals
- Email us at hubs@epicur.edu.eu with suggestions for:
  - **Upcoming events** to feature on the Hubs Virtual Space
  - **Networking groups** to add to the Hubs Virtual Space
  - **Intersectoral networking sessions** (regional/external stakeholders)
  - **Research stay opportunities** for the Research Opportunities Portal
  - **Funding opportunities** to feature on the Hubs Virtual Space
  - **Improvements** to the Virtual Space or Hubs offerings

We value your feedback! 📝

Following the Hubs Kick-Off event, we will soon send a **brief 5-minute survey** to all registered participants.

Your input will help us:

- Reflect on what worked well

- Identify areas for improvement

- Tailor future Hub offerings to better meet your needs

📫 **Keep an eye on your inbox!**
We truly appreciate your time and insights — thank you in advance!

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Thank you for joining us!

Questions or suggestions?
Contact us: hubs@epicur.edu.eu