

## ENGAGE.EU ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026 INCLUSIVE COMPETITVENESS FOR A STRONGER EUROPE

Barcelona, 21-23 October 2026

Wednesday, 21 October 2026

Blanquerna School of Psychology, Education and Sports Sciences – URL (c. Císter, 24-34. 08022 Barcelona)

11.00	Guided visit: Sagrada Família	Guided visit: Casa Batlló	Guided walk: Gothic quarter	Guided walk: Modernist Barcelona					
<b>ENGAGE.EU 2.0: WHERE WE ARE</b>									
13.30	<b>Registration &amp; welcome coffee</b> Participants arrive, register, and reconnect in an informal setting								
14.00	<b>Annual conference opening</b> [URL rector, URL Deputy rector, ENGAGE.EU Secretary General] Official opening of the conference with welcome remarks from URL (as host institution and GB chair) and ENGAGE.EU Secretary General. This session sets the tone of the conference, presenting its objectives and highlighting key milestones of the Alliance.								
14.30	<b>ENGAGE.EU 2.0: State of the art. Where are we?</b> [All WP representatives] Overview of current progress, achievements and challenges of ENGAGE.EU 2.0.								
15.00	<b>ENGAGE.EU 2.0: Impact Report Presentation</b> [WP7 coordinators] Presentation of results achieved and discussion on future priorities and impact pathways.								
15.30	Coffee break								
16.00	<b>AB Learning</b> AB meeting. Contents tbd by AB chairs	<b>AB Research</b> AB meeting. Contents tbd by AB chairs	<b>WP2-3</b> WP meeting. Contents tbd by WP coordinators	<b>WP4-5</b> Work package meeting. Contents tbd by WP coordinators	<b>WP6</b> Work package meeting. Contents tbd by WP coordinators	<b>WP7</b> Work package meeting. Contents tbd by WP coordinators	<b>Board of Learners</b> Board of Learners meeting. Contents tbd by BoL chair	<b>Management Team</b> Management Team meeting. Contents tbd.	<b>Governing Board (rectors only)</b>
17.30	Free time								

19.00	<b>Reception at Barcelona City Hall</b> Institutional reception to welcome participants to Barcelona and strengthen international and local connections.
20.00	<b><i>Welcome dinner (finger food)</i></b> Informal networking dinner to build community at Barcelona City Hall

Thursday, 22 October 2026

La Salle Campus Barcelona – URL (c. Sant Joan de la Salle, 42. 08022 Barcelona)

ENGAGE.EU 2.0: WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO	
8.30	Registration & welcome coffee
9.00	<b>European University Alliances. A transformative initiative for the European University Landscape</b> [Josep M. Garrell, president of the European Universities Association] Presentation of the strategic evolution of European university alliances and their role in shaping the future of higher education in Europe.
9.45	<b>Round table: Getting inspired by other European Universities Alliances</b> [Representatives of other European Universities Alliances] (tbc) Discussion with representatives from other alliances, focusing on shared challenges, good practices and innovative approaches in areas such as joint programmes, microcredentials, alliance governance, etc.
	<b>Governing Board + Executive Committee</b>
11.00	Coffee break
11.30	<b>Round table: Labour market: What talent do employers expect from universities?</b> [Representatives of university, Associated Partners and Alumni] (tbc) Dialogue between academia and external stakeholders on societal challenges and collaboration opportunities
	<b>Governing Board + Area Board chairs</b>
13.00	<b>Photo time!</b>
13.15	Lunch

ENGAGE.EU 2.0: WHAT WE LOOK FOR					
14.00	<b>Area Learning</b> [including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts] Discussion on next call	<b>Area Research</b> [including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts] Discussion on next call	<b>Area Societal Engagement</b> [including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts] Discussion on next call	<b>Governing Board + Governance Task Force</b> (tbc)	<b>Associated Partners</b> Associated Partners parallel meeting. Contents tbd by T6.2
15.30	Coffee break				
16.00	<b>Area Learning</b> [including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts] Discussion on next call	<b>Area Research</b> [including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts] Discussion on next call	<b>Area Societal Engagement</b> [including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts] Discussion on next call	<b>Governing Board + International Advisory Board</b> (tbc)	<b>Associated Partners</b> Associated Partners parallel meeting. Contents tbd by T6.2
17.30	<b>Free time *</b>				
20.00	<b>Dinner</b>				

22.00	<b><i>Rauxa</i></b> Informal after-dinner gathering inspired by the Catalan expression “ <i>seny i rauxa</i> ”, which reflects the balance between thoughtful reflection ( <i>seny</i> ) and spontaneous enjoyment ( <i>rauxa</i> )
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\* In parallel, from 18:00 to 22:00, the ENGAGE.EU Practitioner Programme Demo Day will be held in the city centre (Antiga Fàbrica Estrella Damm, c. Rosselló, 515). All participants are invited to join (prior registration required).

Friday, 23 October 2026

Esade Campus Barcelona – URL (Av. Pedralbes, 60-62. 08034 Barcelona)

ENGAGE.EU 2.0: WHAT WE AGREE ON				
8.30	<i>Welcome coffee</i>			
9.00	<b>ENGAGE.EU 2.0: Strategy Implementation Plan</b> <i>[including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts]</i>	<b>Governing Board</b> <i>[including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts]</i>	<b>International Advisory Board</b> <i>(tbc)</i>	<b>Associated Partners</b> Associated Partners parallel meeting. Contents tbd by T6.2
10.00	<b>Parallel session 1</b> <i>[including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts]</i>	<b>Parallel session 2</b> <i>[including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts]</i>	<b>GB + IAB</b> <i>(tbc)</i> Debrief of previous discussions	
11.00	<b>ENGAGE 3.0: call +2 proposal preparation</b> <i>[including BoL, MT, WP7 and experts]</i> Next steps for the +2 proposal preparation.			
11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>			
12.00	<b>ENGAGE.EU call to action</b> <i>[GB representatives]</i> Conclusions / output of the annual conference.			
12.00	<b>Annual conference closing and hand over</b> <i>[URL deputy rector, Secretary General, next annual conference host representative]</i> Official closing of the conference and symbolic handover to the next host institution.			
13.15	<i>Lunch to go</i>			