

Nova newsletter



June 2025



Happy Summer!

The first half of 2025 has passed, and we can look back on another productive and busy period in and around the STARS EU galaxy.

The STARS EU Commission and Steering Committee would like to thank all STARS EU teams, the Student Board and every person involved with STARS EU for their hard work and dedication. You are game-changers who continue to innovate and develop our European University every single day.

We wish all of you a restful summer holiday!



STARS Talk today!

The final STARS Talk before the summer break will focus on energy transition. During his talk, Benjamin Gonzalez Diaz from University of La Laguna will highlight the challenges and opportunities inherent in integrating renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydro in isolated locations.

When: June 11, 13.00 (CET)

Where: Via Zoom

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Looking back on a successful Annual

Conference in Albania

Over three days, the STARS EU Annual Conference brought together alliance members: students, staff, researchers, policymakers and even ambassadors to explore key themes in educational innovation, scientific research, and regional development.

Under the slogan “Research the WORLD. Reach the STARS”, participants engaged in keynote lectures, work package meetings, student-led discussions, and thematic parallel sessions.

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"Impressed by the diversity": STARS students reflect on experiences at conference in Durrës

Exchanging ideas. Networking. Work sessions to finalize the structure of the work over the coming months. The STARS EU Student Board had a busy schedule during the Annual Conference in Durrës, Albania.

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EDUCATION



Three BIP:s at University West

Toward the end of May, around 70 students from STARS EU partners and other universities in Sweden gathered at University West in Trollhättan, Sweden to participate in three Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs).

The BIP:s focused on norm-critical awareness in healthcare, circular bioeconomy, and career planning through Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) for doctoral students.



BIP on "Sustainability and Management" at IPB

During the beginning of May 2025, roughly 40 students from six STARS EU partners met at the Polytechnic Institute of Bragança for a one-week intensive course on project work in the context of "Sustainability & Management".

For the first time, the BIP took place as part of the Thematic Interest Group "Entrepreneurship & Innovation", as a combination of online and face-to-face events.

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Students take BIP course on smart grids at University of La Laguna

The University of La Laguna (ULL) has held the classroom part of a BIP course on smart grids and blockchain in energy from 26 to 30 May.

The programme brought 15 students from STARS-partners in Germany, Poland and Portugal to Tenerife.

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International challenge-based learning

at Hochschule Bremen

Master's students from Hochschule Bremen and the Polytechnic Institute of Bragança worked successfully in international teams on campus in Bremen to develop solution-oriented concepts for current socio-technical challenges in the construction industry.

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BIP on "Local Markets" concludes in Bragança

The fourth edition of the Blended Intensive Programme "Local Markets", organised by Bragança Polytechnic University (IPB) concluded during early May. The BIP brought together 33 students and nine teachers; several of them from STARS EU universities.

Over the course of two months, participants undertook a multidisciplinary creative journey in Multimedia, developing projects in photography, design, audiovisual media, and illustration.

Read more about the BIP [here](#) and [here](#).

Upcoming BIP:s

The nine STARS EU partner universities are constantly developing new Blended Intensive Programmes, both for students and for researchers, teachers and administrative staff. To see the latest upcoming BIP:s, check out the links below.

To view upcoming BIP:s for students, [click here](#).

To view upcoming BIP:s for researchers, teachers and administrative staff, [click here](#).

RESEARCH

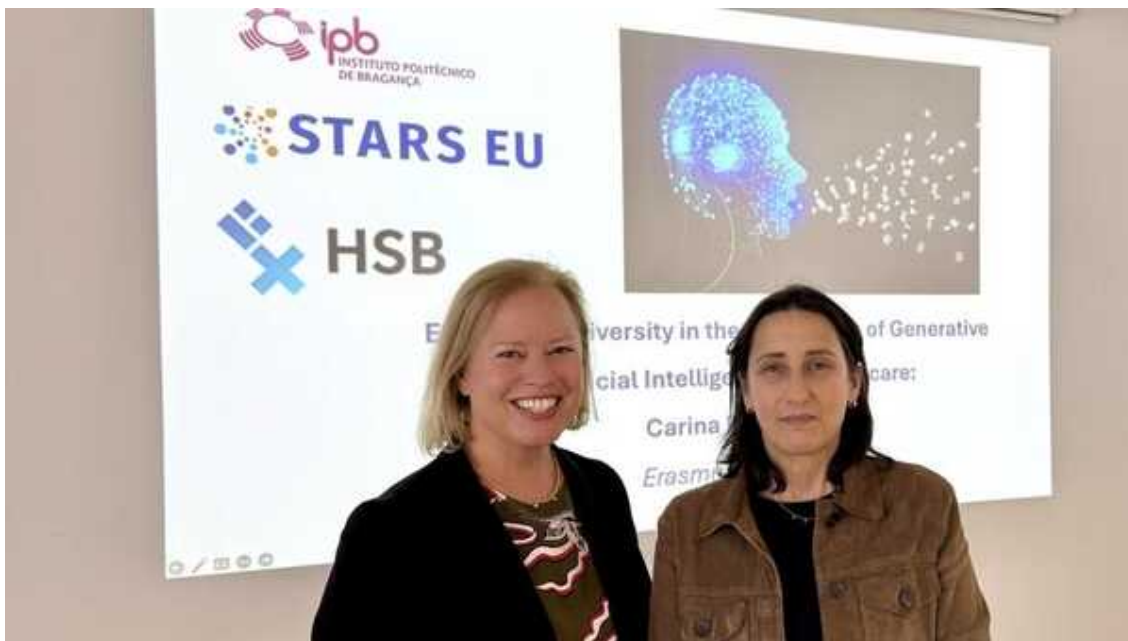


Curious about the STARS EU Seed Grant?

The STARS EU Alliance has launched its second Seed Grant which seeks to facilitate the preparation of competitive research proposals for European programs. Its objective is to promote collaborative research and innovation projects among the alliance's nine partner universities.

Want to know more? Then join the webinar about the Seed Grant hosted by Carl-Fredrik Miles from University West **on June 17th at 12.00 (CET)**. During the webinar you will learn more about what types of activities that can get funded, how to prepare a successful application and how the evaluation process works.

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Hochschule Bremen hosts talk by STARS EU professor

During the beginning of May Hochschule Bremen had the pleasure of welcoming Prof. Carina Rodrigues from the Bragança Polytechnic University (IPB) to give a talk about Generative AI in healthcare.

Prof. Rodrigues addressed pressing ethical challenges, emphasizing the need for culturally sensitive and equitable implementation across diverse health systems.

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AROUND THE STARS GALAXY



International Week in Czechia focused on innovation and academic collaboration

Around 80 academics and professionals from 15 universities across 10 countries — including France, Sweden, Portugal, Turkey, and the Netherlands — gathered for the second edition of the Staff Week at Silesian University in Opava.

The event, held from May 12 to 16 at the School of Business Administration in Karviná, featured working meetings, strategic discussions, and thematic workshops aligned with the main initiatives of STARS EU.

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Have something to share?

Do you have some STARS EU news that you would like to share with a wider audience, either through Nova newsletter or our other channels?

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