Building Bridges for Academic Freedom: The INGENIUM Alliance's Experience with Scholars at Risk



Jniversity o Dviedo

SCHOLARS AT RISK NETWORK

From Expectations to Action: The 1st Leadership Roundtable Journey (Gdansk, April 2023)

Lessons Learnt and Main Conclusions of the 1st Roundtable

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- The need for more flexible and less bureaucratic procedures
- Enhance collaboration with local authorities
- Adress regional disparities and engage more effectively with decision-makers

The Impact on our Involvement in Supporting Researchers at Risk

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- It was a turning point for the University of Oviedo
- It illuminated a new priority for our institution that had previously been overlooked
- This experience motivated us to actively engage in these initiatives through our leadership in the INGENIUM Alliance

"This is not just an academic imperative; it is a moral and social responsibility that we must undertake collectively"

INGENIUM Alliance of European Universities - ERASMUS-EDU-2022-EUR-UNIV-2 | Project number: 101090042

• Strategic commitment and adequate budget allocation



The Empowering Role of University Alliances in Supporting At-Risk Researchers: INGENIUM

BUDGET

- Total: €18 million (€14.4 million funded by the EC)
- Funding Model: lump-sum system

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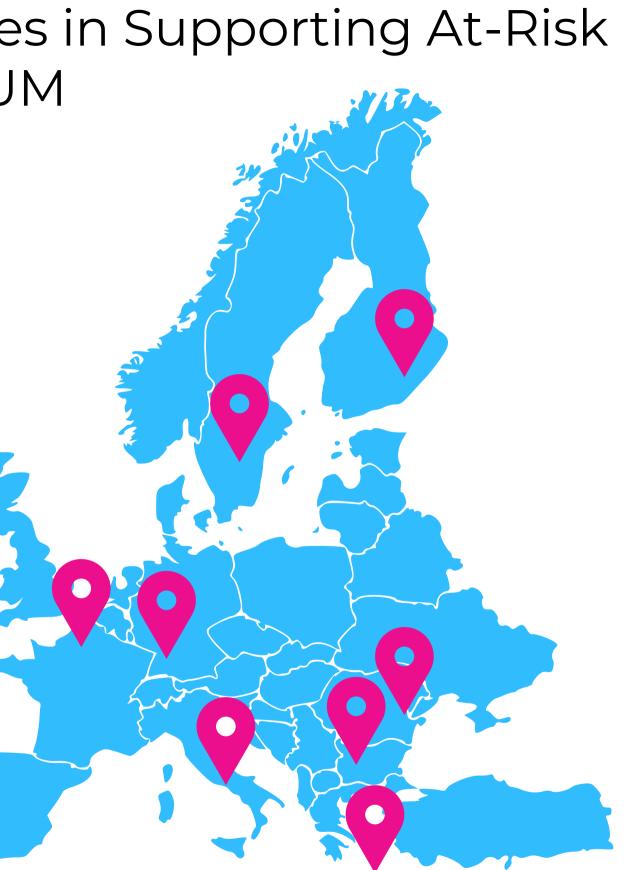
DURATION

- 4 years: until December 31, 2026
- Extension: possibility of renewal after 2026

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OBJECTIVES

- INGENIUM European Campus: Foster a vibrant European campus environment.
- Research Collaboration: Promote collaboration among research groups.
- Mobility: Facilitate mobility for students, faculty, and administrative staff.
- Entrepreneurship & Technology Transfer: Encourage entrepreneurship and technology transfer.





Co-funded by the European Union



10 DAYS OF INCENIUM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OVIEDO WINTER SENIOR SCHOOL * 17-21 FEBRUARY 2025



The 10 Days of INGENIUM is a twice-yearly initiative that brings together students and faculty from partner universities to take part in academic and cultural activities aligned with the Alliance's strategic themes.

The programme features two distinct events: the **Junior School,** for undergraduate students, and the **Senior School**, for master's and doctoral students. Each event takes place in a different city, offering participants the chance to learn, exchange ideas, and collaborate with peers from other countries. This initiative provides an excellent opportunity to foster mobility, diversity, and inclusion within the framework of the INGENIUM European University.

INGENIUM Winter Senior School 2025 at the University of Oviedo: Creativity and Communication in Research

The Winter Senior School 2025 focused on the increasing importance of **scientific outreach and communication** across diverse audiences. Participants explored the essential concepts of scientific communication and dissemination, engaging with both traditional methods and modern approaches. Special emphasis was placed on making complex ideas accessible to non-specialist audiences without compromising accuracy. In addition, the programme covered critical issues such as **academic freedom** and strategies to counter scientific **misinformation**.

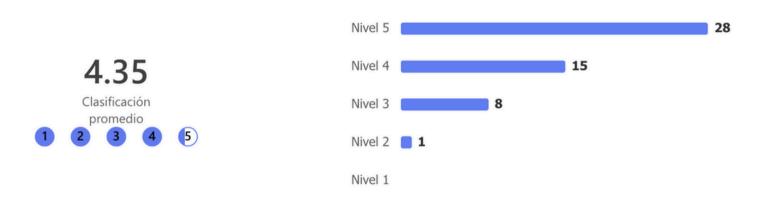
	Monday 17.02.2025	2.2025 18.02.2025		Wednesday 19.02.2025 Milán Campus		Thursday 20.02.2025 Milán Campus		Friday 21.02.2025	
Place	Milán Campus							Milán Campus INGENIUM Connects INGENIUM Talks – TED-Style Presentations with the Local Education Community	
9:30	9:30 Participant Registration Administrative building, 1st floor	30 INGENIUM Learns ch lars at Risk (SAR) Speaker aries – Lecture: Academic Freedom Worldwide Aulario Building A, 2nd Floor		9:30 INGENIUM Shares Group Project – Tackling fake news and misinformation through effective science communication		9:30 INGENIUM Learns Lecture – Effective Communication for Researchers			
10:00	Opening Ceremony Conference Room, Administrative								
10:30	Building, 1st Floor								
11:00	Or the Develo	Coffee Break INGENION Shares Scholars at Risk (SAR) Speal ars Series – Workshop: Recogn sing and Addressing Threaty to Academic Freedom in National Contexts		Coffee Break		Coffee Break			
11:30	Coffee Break			INGENIUM Shares Group Project – Tackling Fake News and Misinformation through Effective Science Communication		INGENIUM			
12:00	INGENIUM Learns					Effective	Science Factory Poster Session	Closing Ceremony, followed by the Tree-Planting Ceremony	
12:30	Introductory Masterclass – The Importance of Communication in								
13:00	Science & Research					Communication for Researchers		Bus to Gijón	
13:30	Lunch	Aularia Building A yind Elear) Lunch La Capilla		Lunch La Capilla		Lunch La Capilla			
14:00 14:30	La Capilla							Lunch (Llagar Trabanco)	
15:00				INGENIUM Shares					
15:30		INGENIUM Connects Cultural Visit and Institutional Reception with Local Authorities (to be confirmed)		Group Project – Tackling Fake News and Misinformation through Effective Science Communication Panel Session: Group Presentations		INGENIUM Shares Free Time to Prepare the INGENIUM Talks presentations			
16:00	INGENIUM Shares							1st Bus to Oviedo	
16:30	Scavenger Hunt – The Primitive Route of the Santiago Way (Team-								
17:00	Building Activity, Oviedo City)								
17:30								or	
18:00								Free time in Gijón	
18:30	Scavenger Hunt Awards (Aula Magna, Historical building)								
20:00		Dinner		Traditional Asturian Espicha Dinner				2nd Bus to Oviedo	

Dr Gokhan Sen's Lecture: "Academic Freedom Worldwide"

To what extent was the lecture clear and engaging?

(1 – Not at all engaging, 5 – Extremely engaging)

(0 punto)



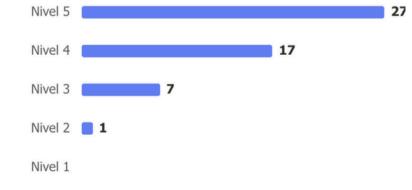
Dr Gokhan Sen's Lecture: "Academic Freedom Worldwide"

To what extent did the lecture provide valuable insights into academic freedom?

(1 – Not at all valuable, 5 – Extremely valuable)

(0 punto)























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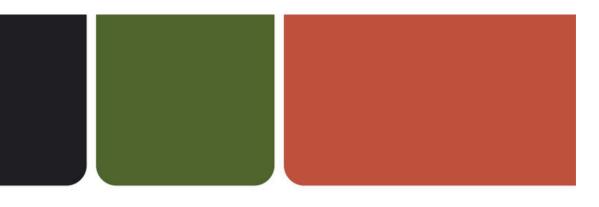
Dr. Şen's impact extended beyond the Senior School.

On 19 February, the Faculty of Law invited him to present a seminar titled 'From Authoritarian Constitutionalism to Populist De-Constitutionalisation: The Transformation of the Turkish State Under Erdoğan.'

Held at the Public Law Department, this event drew 30 faculty and students eager to explore his expertise in constitutionalism and Turkey's democratic decline.







SEMINARIO

FROM AUTHORITARIAN CONSTITUTIONALISM TO POPULIST **DE-CONSTITUTIONALISATION:** THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE **TURKISH STATE UNDER** ERDOĞAN.

19 DE FEBRERO DE 2025: 11:00 HORAS FACULTAD DE DERECHO. SALA DE TERCER CICLO DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE DERECHO PUBLICO

CON LA PARTICIPACIÓN DE:

Prof. Dr. Gökhan Şen Universidad de Óslo



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Human Rights Therapy: An Innovative Approach to Human Rights and Democracy Education

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Human Rights Therapy aligns directly with Ingenium's commitment to addressing Europe's and global challenges, particularly in the context of social cohesion, fighting discrimination, and tackling inequality.

Traditional human rights education often struggles to address the emotional and psychological barriers that reinforce these trends. Human Rights Therapy offers an alternative: a highly interactive, experiential learning approach that fosters self-awareness, critical thinking, and empathy.

Human Rights Therapy combines these methods to create a transformative learning experience, equipping participants with the tools to counter populism and authoritarianism, making it a vital addition to modern human rights education.

The module may be adjusted to span 1–5 days, depending on the context and availability. The ideal format is a 5-day separate event, but it can also be integrated into a longer Ingenium event (e.g., 10 days).



Outcomes

Dr. Şen reached an international audience of 80 students from 10 countries, plus Oviedo's faculty and local stakeholders

By integrating SAR into a high-profile European University event, we showcased how alliances can scale SAR's impact. Students left with a deeper understanding of academic freedom's fragility, and some expressed interest in SAR's work, potentially seeding future advocates.

This partnership aligns with the European Universities Initiative's pillars: fostering mobility, inclusion, and innovative education.



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THANK YOU!



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