

YUFE Professional Star

Factsheet

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General description

This reward recognizes personal and professional development activities undertaken by **students or staff of the Alliance or external learners** who join YUFE Entrepreneurship and Innovation ventures.

Activities will focus on identifying opportunities to improve existing solutions or develop new alternatives and on implementing positive changes and will have a strong **problem-based orientation**.

The activities have been designed to provide YUFE learners an inclusive and diverse ecosystem giving **research -and work- based opportunities**, leading to interdisciplinary and intersectoral knowledge, as well as skills acquisition.

YUFE offers personal and professional development through participation in challenges to improve existing solutions or develop new alternatives. Additionally, the Alliance fosters collaboration among research, education, industry and citizens in an **international and inter-cultural environment**.

The Professional Star is focused on **Entrepreneurship and Innovation competences**, related to the ability to identify needs or opportunities and **transform them into solutions**, for the benefit of the European citizens and regions.

Activities

A) Challenge Teams

It is a one-term intensive **team-based process for solving social, scientific and technological challenges**. Participants are gathered in teams to bring some novelty or innovation to the solution(s) working in a collaborative, multidisciplinary and multicultural environment.

- A hands-on innovative activity to tackle real-world challenges

The Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE) is one of the dynamic European University Alliances, selected by the European Commission. YUFE aims to shape a holistic and inclusive future for students and learners, and their society in Europe. The YUFE Alliance strives to be the front-running Alliance of European Higher Education in which students, learners, and staff are co-leaders, co-dreamers, and co-creators. YUFE's mission is to become a successful model of a socially responsible European University.



- Mentoring by academic and professionals
- Develop your soft skills
- The team presents the innovative solution to the Evaluation Committee

B) Entrepreneurial training

You can either:

- **‘Select your own itinerary’** where you will find activities that are focused entrepreneurial activities not linked to a long-term programme, having to choose from:
 - ▣ MOOCs
 - ▣ Talk Shows
 - ▣ YUFETHON, a **2-days** online ideation contest
- Or participate in an **online Intrapreneurship contest (one-term activity)**. This contest brings you the opportunity to see how your solutions are implemented at YUFE level, as it is focused on solving real problems.
 - ▣ Individual and group work
 - ▣ Use this work as a final bachelor’s or master’s thesis, if possible

C) Incubation Programme: Ideas Lab

A blended innovative program for participants who want to develop their cultural, social and business ideas. This **one-term** activity provides participants and projects a collaborative, international mentoring and feedback.

It offers a *‘learning by doing’* approach, using Lean and Design thinking methodologies. It also includes immersive experiences with startups and innovation events.

[Click here to discover all the activities leading to the Professional Star.](#)

Workload and requirements

You need to undertake at least one of the Professional Star activities, with a minimum expected workload of **60 hours**.

In order to be rewarded, you will need to have successfully completed:

- **One of the three activities** listed previously, with an expected workload as stated above.
- The Professional Star **Reflection Report**, in the Virtual Campus.

Competences

While participating in the Professional Star activities, you will develop some of the competences indicated below.

These competences have been identified as those that a learner will have acquired or further developed by successfully taking part in *Open YUFE* and in the *Star System*, plus the **EntreComp** competencies which is organized in three pillars:

- **Ideas and opportunities:** creativity and vision, spotting opportunities, valuing ideas, ethical and sustainable thinking.
- **Resources:** self-awareness, motivation, financial and economic literacy and mobilizing resources and others.
- **Ability to get into action:** taking the initiative, planning and managing, copying with risk, working with others and learning through experience.

Contribution of the entrepreneurial and innovation initiatives towards the YUFE competences

	Global literacy / systems thinking	Social responsibility / normative competence	Transformative engagement
Knowledge	European Identity and Responsibilities in a Global World Citizens' Well-being Digital Societies Sustainability		
Skills	Intercultural communication (C,E)	Moral/ethical reasoning (C,I)	(Glocal) participatory action (C,E,I)
	Perspective-taking (E,I)	Personal responsibility (C,E,I)	Change agency (C,E,I)
	Self-reflection (C,E,I)	Active listening (C,E,I)	Connecting and collaborating (C,E,I)
	Complex problem solving (E,I)	Upstander skills (C,E,I)	Conflict resolution (C,I)
	Critical thinking (C,E)	Emotion regulation (E,I)	Design thinking (C,E,I)
Attitudes and other characteristics	Commitment to inclusion (C,E,I)	Integrity (C,E,I)	Courage (C,E,I)
	Respect (C,E,I)	Sense of Purpose (C,E,I)	Trust (C,E,I)
	Humility (C,E,I)	Fairness (C,E,I)	Resilience (C,E,I)
	Curiosity (C,E,I)	Empathy (C,E,I)	Serenity (C,E,I)

(C)=Challenge Teams ; (E)=Entrepreneurial Trainings ; (I)=Ideas Lab

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