

YERUN Welcomes Pablo de Olavide University to Its Growing Network of Young Research Universities

26 June 2026

The Young European Research Universities Network - YERUN - is pleased to welcome Pablo de Olavide University (UPO) of Seville, Spain, as a new member of the network. Founded in 1997, UPO is a dynamic, research public university with more than 13,000 students and over 100 research groups working across a broad range of disciplines. UPO brings to YERUN a strong commitment to research excellence, internationalisation, innovation, sustainability, and societal impact. As a university deeply engaged in European and international cooperation, UPO offers valuable connections to Spanish and Ibero-American academic networks, expanding opportunities for collaboration across the YERUN community. The university's focus on open science, digital transformation, sustainability, and inclusive education aligns closely with YERUN's mission and values. YERUN looks forward to working with Pablo de Olavide University to advance research, innovation, and societal engagement across Europe and beyond.



"We are delighted to welcome Pablo de Olavide University to YERUN. As a young, ambitious and research-driven institution, UPO embodies the values that define our network: academic excellence, international collaboration and a strong commitment to addressing societal challenges. Its expertise in sustainability, life sciences, social sciences and innovation, combined with its active engagement in European research programmes, will further strengthen YERUN's collective impact and enrich opportunities for collaboration across our community."

Prof. Dag Rune Olsen, YERUN President



"We are at a decisive moment to influence the next European Union Framework Programme. Being part of YERUN allows us to strengthen our political voice and increase our visibility, participate in structured dialogues with the European Commission and other key stakeholders, and align ourselves with like-minded universities to develop joint projects and advocate for shared interests. As a young, dynamic, and internationally oriented university, UPO is eager to contribute its experience in European cooperation, its strong commitment to sustainability and social impact, and its innovative approach to education and research. Joining YERUN represents an important opportunity to connect our academic community with leading young research universities across Europe and to actively contribute to shaping the future of higher education, research, and innovation."

Prof. Francisco Oliva Blázquez, Rector of Pablo de Olavide University



"Very proud of having Pablo de Olavide University joining our YERUN network. UPO brings a distinctive profile, combining a strong research profile with deep regional engagement, incredible agile colleagues, and valuable connections across Spain, Europe and Latin America. We look forward to working closely with UPO to advance our shared priorities, and to creating new opportunities for our universities, researchers, staff and students."

Silvia Gomez Recio, YERUN Secretary General



About Pablo de Olavide University



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Founded in 1997 in Seville, Spain, Pablo de Olavide University (UPO) is one of the country's youngest public universities and has established itself as a modern, innovative, and internationally oriented institution. Named after the eighteenth-century reformer Pablo de Olavide, the university was created with a strong commitment to educational innovation, interdisciplinarity, and social progress. Since its foundation, UPO has distinguished itself through pioneering initiatives in Andalusia, including the introduction of double degrees, innovative learning structures, and flexible academic pathways.

Today, UPO serves approximately 13,000 students and offers a comprehensive portfolio of undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes across a wide range of disciplines. Its compact, integrated campus fosters close interaction between students, researchers, and staff, creating a vibrant academic community characterised by collaboration and personalised learning.

The university combines excellence in teaching and research with a strong commitment to sustainability, internationalisation, and societal impact. Its research strengths span areas such as artificial intelligence, sustainability, health, social sciences, and digital transformation, while its Green Campus distinction reflects its dedication to environmental responsibility. UPO offers a globally engaged academic environment with a strong capacity for international talent attraction, as reflected in the fact that 12% of its students are international credit-seeking. The International University centre (CUI) is a cornerstone of this strategy, driving both Erasmus+ mobility and broader international programme development. This model aligns with YERUN priorities, reinforcing UPO's role in advancing collaborative, high-quality European talent ecosystems..



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- YERUN Members -



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