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STYX FINAL EVENT – Collective Convergence Towards a Single Institution: Condition or Prerequisite?

The question of the legal status of European universities involves several intertwined folds. The analysis of the legal fold includes the appropriateness and convenience of the chosen legal instrument, the existing legal frameworks, other regulations and bylaws, tax policies, national or other constraints for the staff careers, estimated running costs, etc., that are mostly specific per member state. The other fold concerns phenomena that emerge as relevant and crucially important: the boldness of the institutions, the ambition of the alliance, the sociological acceptance of the initiative by the main stakeholders and the willingness of the regional and national administrations. These factors are key in EUt+'s ambition of strong integration and deep and meaningful systemic transformation. This trajectory is conditioned by the appropriation and the general willingness by actors to move towards a collective and primary identity. This way, the legal entity becomes, not an empty house, but our ultimate common home. The path to this ambition is informed by the sociological understanding of internal engagement and change management.

At this point, two questions show up as the most relevant facets of the Legal status project set up:

On a **strategic level**, what are the drivers for creating a general *affectio societatis* towards a single European University, whose common brand and strategy will take precedence over the members' existing identity, supported by the legal entity-ies that reflect the governance and management of joint activities in EUt+?

On a **managerial level**, what are the conditions for harmonising processes and methods, and how to balance them with subsidiarity, so that everyone feels a unique experience in every campus?

Without claiming to give a definite answer to these questions, the objective of this EUt+ STYX knowledge-sharing session is to provide synthetic feedback on our work and share the insights on these issues of common interest for Alliances.

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