

# Conceptual Approaches to the Third Mission of Universities

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- Third Mission of HEIs: Definitions and Models
- HEIs Third Mission in the EU Educational Policy: Latest Developments

# Third Mission Definitions and Models

Any activity beyond education and research

- *Civic engagement*
- *Community engagement*
- *Open Science*
- *Orientation towards the needs of the stakeholders*
- *Industry-university cooperation*
- *Inclusion*
- *Shaping social skills through educational programs*
- *Culture support and mass education*

## Service-oriented university

Guidelines for Institutionalization of Service-Learning, 2017

Any activity regarding production, application and use of knowledge outside of the academic environment

- *Knowledge, innovations and technology transfer*
- *Academic entrepreneurship and university entrepreneurship*
- *Intellectual property, patents&trademarks*
- *Valorisation of knowledge*
- *Industry-university cooperation*
- *Orientation of the study programs towards shaping the entrepreneurial skills*

## Entrepreneurial university – 6 models in the EU

(Cerver Romero, E., Ferreira, J.J.M. & Fernandes, C.I. )

Title.	Definition.
<b>Types of involvement</b>	
Public engagement / Public university	Covers all types of involvement of the HEI, its staff and students in the work withby the public
Cooperation with communities / Community engagement	Covers all aspects of interaction between universities and communities at different levels - local, regional, national and international - to support inclusiveness, reciprocity and partnership in exchange for resources and knowledge
Third mission	Covers various efforts by universities to collaborate with businesses andcommunities, often described as technology and innovation transfer, skills development and socialengagement as complementary to education and science
Valorization	Covers all practices of disseminating research results beyond the academic environment and includes open access and cooperation with non-traditional stakeholders in the field of education and science
<b>Collaboration models for innovation</b>	
Triple helix	The model describes the cooperation between government, business and highereducation in the economy knowledge to support innovation
Quadruple helix	To the triple model is added civil society as the fourth spiral for promoting a more human-centered, consumer-oriented approach to innovation,including their involvement in the process of creating innovations
The triangle of knowledge	it describes knowledge creation as the interaction of three components - science, education and innovation, which means that educational, scientific and innovation policies need to be coordinated. This approach is part of the EU's Lisbon Strategy.
Technology transfer	Describes the transfer of ideas, practices, knowledge, intellectual property, discoveries of HEI research (in collaboration with or without external partners) to thenon-academic environment, which can create benefits at the local, regional, nationalor global level
Smart specialization	A policy approach to investing in knowledge that aligns with education, industrial and innovation policy based on the comparative advantages of the community, region, and country; a strategic approach to economic development through targeted support for science and innovation
<b>Concepts for higher education institutions</b>	
Entrepreneurial University	An approach to organizing the university as a company in terms of both performanceand internal processes. This approach is associated with commercialization of knowledge and research results, development of entrepreneurial skills, etc.
Civic University	A civic university has an understanding of its purpose and place, a holistic vision ofengagement through the development of institutional cooperation with the non- academic environment, uses innovative approaches to cooperation with communities and the world, is transparent and responsible to stakeholders and the public
Innovative university	The approach developed in the OECD and the EU, when a university conducts a self-assessment manages resources, builds institutional capacity, cooperates with external stakeholders, creates and strengthens synergies between its core functions, uses digital technologies, supports entrepreneurship and promotes the exchange of knowledge with the outside world

## HEIs Third Mission in the EU Educational Policy: Latest Developments

2021

Council Resolution on a strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training towards the European Education Area and beyond (2021-2030)

European strategy for universities presented

2022

European strategy empowering higher education institutions for the future of Europe

2023

[European Higher Education Sector Observatory](#)

## CONCLUSIONS

TM is heavily research-dependent and research-related, having basically two models: entrepreneurial university and service-oriented universities pursuing the service-oriented learning approach

Regulatory frameworks at all levels are under development with research-related aspects being at for-run and well institutionalized at EU universities

TM is becoming a part of the accreditation procedures, being formal (AAs) or informal (by think tanks, NGOs)

TM regulation is very often of very framework nature offering the universities the possibility to develop own approaches and practices



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