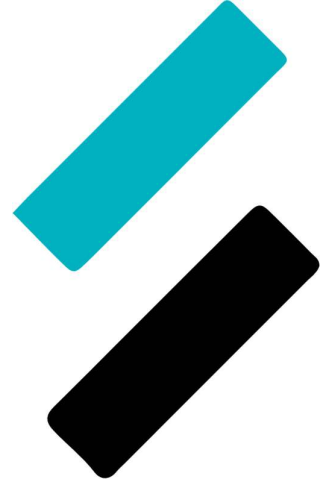


# FilmEU

## DYNAMIC CLUSTERS

### 2025 Call for Proposals



#### INTRODUCTION

##### What is the call about?

FilmEU+ unites 8 European Higher Education Institutions (or HEIs) to work together towards the shared goal of advancing innovation, pedagogical and educational transformation the multidisciplinary realm of Film and Media Arts. This collaboration aims to strengthen FilmEU's position as cultural intermediate in the creative industries and higher education in the arts.

In today's rapidly evolving educational landscape, fostering innovation requires more than isolated efforts; it demands collaboration and cross-disciplinary exploration. **We invite researchers to explore how dynamic clusters across diverse disciplines can drive meaningful advancements in pedagogy, educational technology, and teaching practices.**

This year's call for dynamic clusters is grounded in the belief that the future of the European Universities depends on innovative approaches that emerge from the confluence of diverse academic perspectives and research-led education. By clustering a variety staff with expertise in artistic research, pedagogy, educational theory, technology, social sciences, and other fields, we can unlock new avenues for creating impactful educational practices and innovative solutions.

Being part of a collaborative cluster offers a range of benefits that can significantly enhance the quality and impact of your work. Many of today's most pressing educational and pedagogical challenges require interdisciplinary approaches. FilmEU clusters facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration, enabling you to combine insights from various fields to tackle problems and generate innovative solutions. In addition, the clusters offer diverse perspectives when collaborating with researchers from different nationalities, cultural backgrounds and expertise. FilmEU clusters also expand your resources and learning opportunities; pooling resources such as equipment and facilities can upskill you, gain exposure to different methodologies, and broaden your expertise. Additionally, FilmEU clusters allow you to establish connections and build relationships with other institutions and organizations. These networks can lead to future collaborations, funding opportunities, and career advancement.

In 2025, the FilmEU Alliance will select **2 new dynamic clusters** awarded with seed funding and involving groupings of its academic staff and students across all participating institutions focused on innovation.

### What is a dynamic cluster?

A dynamic cluster in this call thrives on the exchange of ideas, technologies, research and expertise, enabling the development of new media tools, pedagogical formats, and innovative educational platforms. The aim of the FilmEU DCs is to support dynamic structures from the bottom-up, driven by existing expertise in the Alliance rather than through predetermined and imposed classifications. The structures are conceived as fluid, clustered around topics and consisting of a variety of international researchers from students to PhD candidates, early career to senior research profiles and practice-based research, and educational staff. The clusters are implemented in pilot projects making use of the labs and supported by seed funding. It must involve partnerships between at least three different HEIs, and should relevant stakeholders.

### What is a seed funding?

Seed funding provides a start to a new cluster. It is typically the first formal equity funding stage in a cluster's lifecycle, generally used to support initial collaboration and other early-stage activities to help the cluster gain traction.

A cluster can be awarded up to **15.000 euro** seed funding for pilot projects. It is possible for each cluster to propose one or more projects per cluster, but the maximum amount of seed funding is 15.000 euro per cluster.

The clusters can be staffed by staff for whom the work packages received HR budget. Please contact your HEI research coordinator about the HR possibilities. The seed funding does not include these HR expenses.

The clusters can be supported by mobility funds the work packages received. Please contact your HEI research coordinator about the mobility possibilities. The seed funding does not include these mobility expenses.

### How can we help?

If you are interested in joining or applying for a cluster, please register on the FilmEU CommUNITY platform and apply through the application form.

The call is launched mid-February 2025. All researchers interested in the call can attend the online **Matchmaking** event (*to be announced*). This is a hands-on opportunity for you to meet, listen and pitch ideas moderated in smaller thematic groups. The matchmaking allows you to explore the network and work creatively on the first ideas for an application.

## SPECIFICS

### Eligibility & requirements

- (1) Only clusters of researchers based **at the very minimum 3** of the partner HEIs are eligible.
- (2) The cluster lead should have a **senior profile** in one of the participating HEIs. A lead profile has at least 7 years of seniority at the HEI.
- (3) The same institution cannot be awarded multiple times as lead HEI in a single round; and
- (4) A proposal cannot be awarded in 2025 to a lead HEI that has already been awarded a collaboration initiative within the FilmEU cosmos calls of 2024, see <https://www.filmeu.eu/news/filmeu-new-dynamic-clusters?highlight=WyJibHVzdGVyIl0=>.
- (5) The maximum duration of a cluster is **20 months**, starting in June 2025 and ending January 2027.

### Areas for exploration are (but not limited to):

- Research-led education models / pilots
- Innovative teaching methods and pedagogy across disciplines
- The role of technology in transforming educational practices
- New approaches to curriculum design and assessment
- Understanding the impact of educational policies through interdisciplinary research

### Outcomes

The outcomes of the dynamic clusters will not only shape the future of teaching and learning but will also serve as models for scalable and sustainable educational innovations. We encourage proposals that envision transformative change through the collaborative efforts of staff working at the intersection of education, research, practice, and innovation.

### The deadline for applications is **24 April**.

As a reminder, this is the last call for dynamic clusters in the FilmEU+ project. Please send the application form in .pdf to Lies Van de Vijver (research coordinator at LUCA School of Arts) via e-mail to [lies.vandevijver@filmeu.eu](mailto:lies.vandevijver@filmeu.eu)

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