

Erasmus+ PACTUM PROJECT

Projecting Academic Capacities with Tunisian
Universities through Master courses.



PACTUM

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 01, DECEMBER 2022



CONSORTIUM PARTNERS



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Number : 618888-EPP-1-2020-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

WELCOME NOTE

No pain no gain. It has been hard to wait almost two years to know each other. It has been upsetting to organize dozens of online calls with no chance to socialize with the partners of the project for such a long time. However, we did not surrender. We have built a wide network and we have opened several lines of collaboration among European and Tunisian academics during 2021 and 2022. The first cycle of Summer Schools was entirely held online. The second cycle was organized in a blended mode but the mobility of teachers (especially from Europe to Tunisia) and students was seriously undermined until the second half of 2022.



Finally, we had, for the first time, the chance to meet in person (in Tunis, General Assembly of May 2022) and we have then started a number of activities in the preparation of the master program – the main academic output of the project. In particular, the two Training sessions held in Siena (November 2022) and Sousse (February 2023).

This series of Newsletters we are launching to accompany the final period of the project has the goal to disseminate the outreach and the experiences of this project which still has to express its enormous potential of impact. We want to create impact on students, first of all. But also, we think that our activities have a fundamental impact in terms of improvement of our curricula and teaching methods in both the sides of the Mediterranean sea. Which means, after all, impact on our Higher Education Institutions and our scientific communities.

Moreover, we can create positive impact and strengthen our cooperation with non-academic organizations, associations, Non-governing and governing institutions, media and public intellectuals.

The first issue of this agile newsletter is devoted to the account of the first phase of the Pactum project. Namely, the phase of preparation of the first two cycle of summer schools – almost entirely characterised by virtual communication and online calls. We will recount, in short, the activities preceding the Siena General Conference and Training Session of November 2022. In the next issues will provide more in-depth memories and reflections about our recent activities and the prospective ones. In particular, the next cycle of summer schools (to be held between June and October 2023).

Of course, if you like our approach and our efforts, you may get more information about present and future activities visiting our website and our social networks' pages. We are looking forward to seeing you and receiving your feedbacks and stimulations!

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter.

Prof. Luca Verzichelli, Grant Holder Coordinator

PACTUM PROJECT

PACTUM is a capacity-building project aiming to develop a high-quality, multi-disciplinary and stimulating program in social, political and behavioral sciences. The target country of this project is Tunisia, a key partner for European Union Higher Education Institutions. Tunisian universities have recently undergone a remarkable transformation, which is bound to, and complements, the processes of modernization and democratization of the political system.

Academic cooperation in a delicate and rapidly evolving field like that of social sciences and in particular those disciplines which are central to the formation of future ruling classes and higher civil servants is a crucial test for prospective cooperation among Tunisian HEIs and European HEIs engaging with capacity building activities.

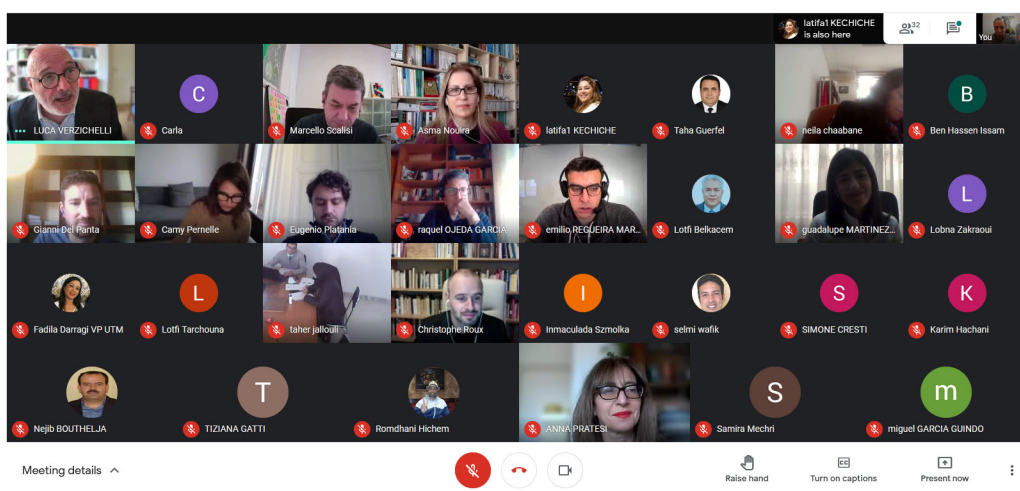
PACTUM GOALS

The goals of this project consisted in the exchange of degree planning experiences in the field of social sciences, the organization of preparatory summer schools, the design of a vocational master's course and the involvement of social actors and public administration and, finally, to converge on the crucial need to boost positive impact on students to gain mutual enrichment between European and Tunisian academics. In this perspective, the project mainly targets four groups in Tunisia: students, teaching staff, public employees, and engaged civil society.

Pactum's main outcome so far consisted in three annual cycles of five summer schools dedicated to sustainability, good governance and public administration, democratic theories, and participation in the Mediterranean area. On the way forward instead, a Master's program in social and behavioural sciences is our main expected outcome for the next months. All these activities have been and will be held by the five Tunisian universities also involving three of the European partners: the University of Siena, the University of Montpellier and the University of Granada.

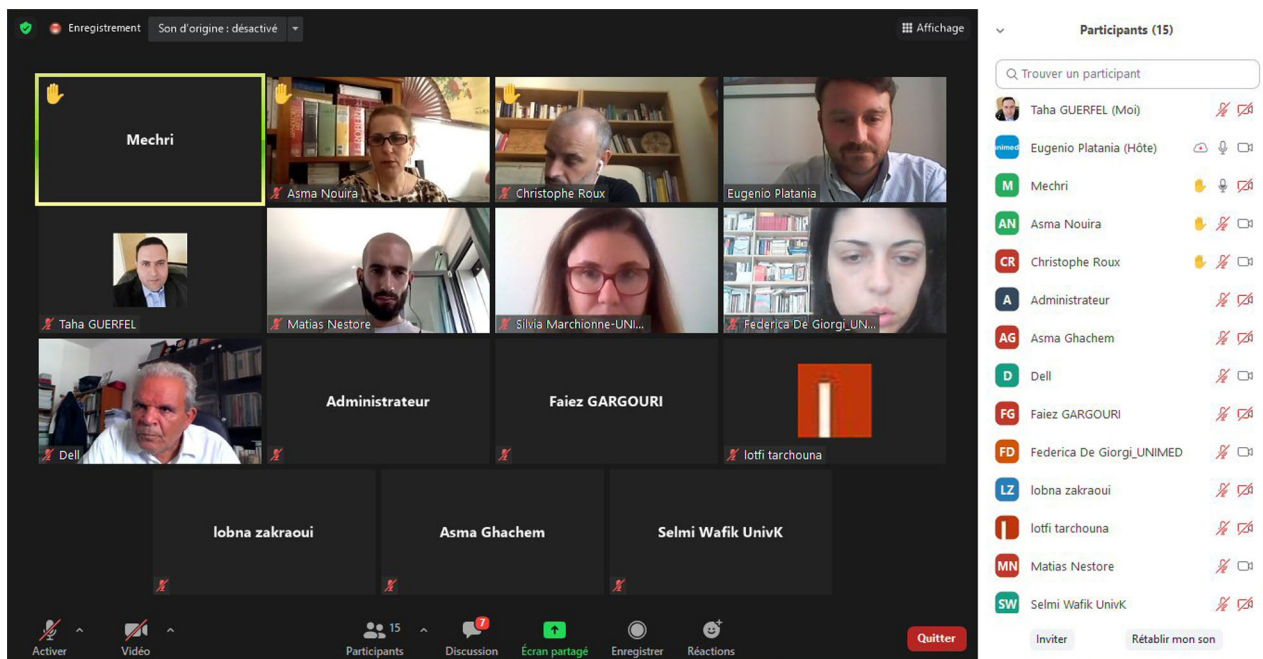
PACTUM KICK-OFF MEETING

On Monday 22 February at 9 a.m. -1 p.m. (CET) all PACTUM partners enjoyed to meet in our kickoff meeting, Prof. Luca Verzichelli introduced the project aims and objectives, and we talked about Academic Cooperation in the Mediterranean Area and the Experience of Granada and we made a Round table with representatives from Tunisian Universities.



FOCUS GROUP ABOUT POLITICAL SCIENCE IN TUNISIA

On 25 September 2021 at 9 a.m. we meet online to make a reflect about political science in Tunisia.



ERASMUS+ TUNISIA: PACTUM LOCAL DISSEMINATION

The National Erasmus+ Tunisia office organized a seminar on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 to present the results of the Impact study of Erasmus+ CBHE projects carried out between 2015 and 2020 in Tunisia. The objective is to shed light on the progress made in the implementation of CBHE projects in Tunisia and to examine the challenges they have faced. The University of Kairouan team was present to disseminate the PACTUM project and his outputs.



PACTUM SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

5 short summer schools have been organized in 2021 in the context of the PACTUM project. The summer schools aim at socializing Tunisian and European teachers and learners, providing intensive seminars in several social science fields.

The Five 2021 Pactum Summer Schools are :

University of SOUSSE

Inclusive politics and citizenship

[29-30 September - 1 October, 2021]

University of CARTHAGE

Comparative public policy and sustainable development

[4-5-6 October 2021]

University of KAIROUAN

Elites in regime changes

[7-8-9 October 2021]

University of SFAX

Dynamics of territorial politics and institutions

[11-12-13 October 2021]

University of TUNIS EL MANAR

Issues in contemporary Mediterranean democratic politics

[19-20-21 October 2021]



SUMMER SCHOOLS
SESSION 2021
FROM 29/09 TO 20/10

Five short summer schools will be organised in 2021 in the context of the PACTUM project. The summer schools aim at bringing together Tunisian and European teachers and learners, providing intensive seminars in several social science fields.

1. University of SOUSSE

Inclusive politics and citizenship
[29-30 September - 1 October, 2021]

2. University of CARTHAGE

Comparative public policy and sustainable development
[4-5-6 October 2021]

3. University of KAIROUAN

Elites in regime changes
[7-8-9 October 2021]

4. University of SFAX

Dynamics of territorial politics and institutions
[11-12-13 October 2021]

5. University of TUNIS EL MANAR

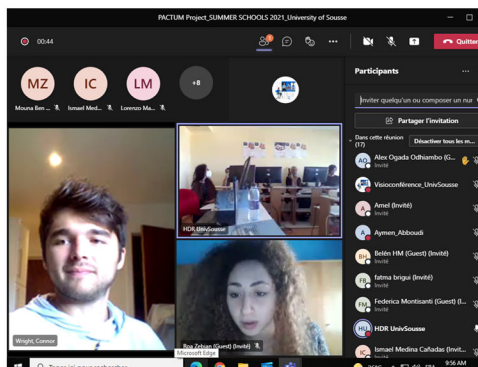
Issues in contemporary Mediterranean democratic politics
[18-19-20 October 2021]

»»» Visit the PACTUM website for more information and application.



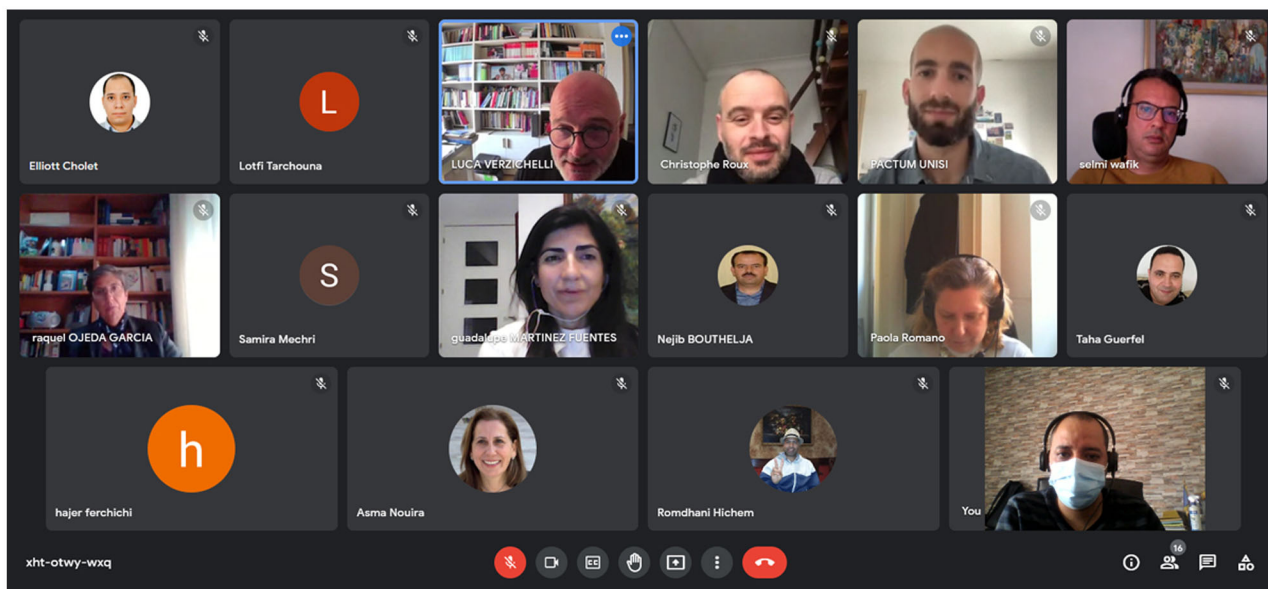
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PACTUM ONLINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On Tuesday, 15th March · 9:00 – 11:00 AM (Tunisian and European time) PACTUM project team meet online for the General assembly.



TUNIS PARTNERS MEETING (IN PRESENCE)

First PACTUM face to face meeting in Tunis 24 and 25 May 2022 in order to work on the master's planning and structure and identify the next steps.



PACTUM SUMMER SCHOOL 2022

5 short summer schools have been organized in 2022 in the context of the PACTUM project. The summer schools aim at socializing Tunisian and European teachers and learners, providing intensive seminars in several social science fields.

The Five 2022 Pactum Summer Schools are :

University of SOUSSE

Elections and democratic transitions

[24-25-27 June 2022]

University of CARTHAGE

Powers in crisis

[10-11 Nov 2022]

University of KAIROUAN

Populism and democratic transition

[18-19-20 July 2022]

University of SFAX

Policies of health and economic crisis management

[6-7-8 June 2022]

University of TUNIS EL MANAR

Human rights in the context of Covid-19

[19-20-21 October 2022]



Five short summer schools will be organised in 2022 in the context of the PACTUM project. The summer schools aim at bringing together Tunisian and European teachers and learners, providing intensive seminars in several social science fields.

1. **University of SFAX**
Policies of health and economic crisis management
[6-7-8 June 2022]
2. **University of SOUSSE**
Elections and democratic transitions
[24-25-27 June 2022]
3. **University of KAIROUAN**
Populism and democratic transition
[18-19-20 July 2022]
4. **University of TUNIS EL MANAR**
Human rights in the context of Covid-19
[19-20-21 October 2022]
5. **University of CARTHAGE**
Powers in crisis
[10-11 November 2022]

>>> Visit the PACTUM website for more information and application.



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PACTUM GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SIENA

In November 2022 the University of Siena held the PACTUM Project's General Assembly and Training Session event.



PACTUM SIENA MEETING
FROM 02 TO 05 NOVEMBER 2022

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THE UNIVERSITY OF SIENA PRESENTS:

- PACTUM GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
2/11/2022 at Palazzo del Rettorato, Via Banchi di Sotto, 55
- PACTUM TRAINING SESSION**
3-4-5/11/2022 Venues:
- Santa Chiara Lab - Via Val di montone, 1
- Presidio Mattioli -Via Pier Andrea Mattioli, 10

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PACTUM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2 November 2022 - Palazzo del Rettorato, Via Banchi di Sotto, 55 - Siena, Italy

During the General Assembly of November 2, all partners met in person to discuss the project progress. Each partner, in charge of the different work packages' management, had the opportunity to take stock of the situation by explaining what had been done until then, and what still needs to be done.

PACTUM TRAINING SESSION

From 3 to 5 November 2022 - Siena, Italy
- Santa Chiara Lab - Via Val di montone, 1
- Presidio Mattioli -Via Pier Andrea Mattioli, 10

The training days from 3 to 5 November were devoted to building a content-rich multidisciplinary Master Course, and to improve the administrative background necessary to start this new cooperative path. Many speakers had been invited to take part in this training session, each with his/her own expertise to contribute to the creation of a great international product, as the PACTUM Master Course is expected to be.



THANK YOU

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