



# PACTUM

## Internal report 2022

**Erasmus+ Programme**

**Key Action 2 “Capacity Building for Higher Education”**

**Grant agreement: 618888-EPP-1-2020-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP**



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## Project information

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>PACTUM</b>
<b>Full name</b>	Projecting Academic Capacities with Tunisian Universities through Master courses
<b>Project No</b>	618888-EPP-1-2020-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
<b>Programme</b>	EPPKA2 - Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
<b>Action</b>	CBHE-JP - Capacity Building in higher education - Joint Projects
<b>Coordinator</b>	USIENA
<b>Project start date</b>	15/01/2021
<b>Project duration</b>	36 months





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## 1. Introduction

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.

The goals of the project – exchange of degree planning experiences in the field of social sciences, organization of preparatory summer schools, design of a vocational master's course and involvement of social actors and public administration – converge on the crucial need to boost positive impact on students and mutual enrichment between European and Tunisian academics.

This Internal Report offers an overview on the organization, implementation and dissemination of the activities carried out during the year 2021.

The fundamental references inspiring this document are The Erasmus+ programme, aims and general objectives, the EACEA guide-lines for CBHE projects, the priorities for Tunisia. The present handbook will draw on a number of rules defined by the Pactum Grant Agreement and by the partnership Agreement.

This report aims at thoroughly describing the procedures adopted by the consortium for communication, reporting, and managing activities.

The present document has been drafted by the coordinating team, with the active participation of all the partners. All beneficiaries will therefore comply with the procedures agreed within the network and described in the Pactum handbook.

This second report comes after one year and a half of blended activities and online meetings. Indeed, due to the Pandemic, the network could not organize activities in presence since the very beginning of the project (January 2020). This has determined a difficult and somehow frustrating situation, with consequent delays in all the activities of the project.

Nevertheless, the network could organize a first meeting in person in Tunis (May 2022). This has allowed a positive reprise of the activities and a much more efficient socialization among all the people involved and within the team.



## 2. Project Info

### Members

Programme Countries' Institutions		
UNIMED	UNIMED	Italy
University of Granada	UNIGR	Spain
University of Montpellier	UMON	France
University of Siena	USIENA	Italy
Partner Countries' Institutions		
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research	MHESR	Tunisia
University of Carthage	UCAR	Tunisia
University of Kairouan	UNIK	Tunisia
University of Sfax	USF	Tunisia
University of Sousse	US	Tunisia
University of Tunis El Manar	UTM	Tunisia

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### **3. Year 2 activities**

The second year of activities has involved the organization of the first in person meeting in Tunis, the planning of the master's curriculum and implementation, the 2022 Summer Schools and a week-long training for professors taking part in the project in Siena, Italy. Although progress was made when it comes to Summer School activities, collaboration on the master's course curriculum is still difficult among project partners due to a lack of effective internal communication. In order to overcome this issue, the project coordinator is organizing bilateral meetings with the different partners.

#### **Activities carried out in 2022**

##### **WP2 - Summer School and Master Course's Co-Design**

###### **1 Scientific Committee meetings**

The scientific committee met in order to organize and coordinate the second edition of the Summer Schools. The scientific committee co-designed the summer school curriculum.

##### **WP3 - Master Course's Development**

According to the project's original design, the preparatory work was carried out on the master's course curriculum. Due to the Pandemic, this activity could not be done until it was possible to organize meetings in person. As a consequence, and differently from the summer school program, the whole development of the MAster course was delayed by one year. Moreover, there seem to be a number of administrative hurdles to overcome when it comes to accreditation. The project coordinator has provided a template to fill in with information and capabilities of the different project partners when it comes to the master's course planning and implementation. These results were discussed during the General Assembly and meetings in May and November 2022.

The template mentioned above was submitted to all partners and sent back to the coordination team, providing a series of syllabi - one per each teaching subject - and a provisional schedule of activities distributed along the four semesters.

All the contents related to the PACTUM Master's course were collected into a kit, following the feedback received by the partners, the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research - MEHSR, and our Project Officer.



Online meetings and in person discussions took place during the year to coordinate all the steps related to the Master's development. In this perspective, a coordination team was also established in November involving one representative per institution.

## **WP4 - Summer School's Development**

### **1. Summer Schools 2022 - Second Cycle**

The Summer School is composed of 24 hours in total. 16 of them are teaching hours (6 hours for each course) The other 8 hours represent what students have to do at home - that is, readings, assignments and preparation of oral presentations in class.

### **2. Summer School evaluation**

At the end of the Summer Schools, there is a broad and general evaluation of the courses offered and of the results obtained. Students and teaching staff's feedback are welcome and appreciated. A report in which the points of strength and weakness of the Summer Schools is provided. The goal is to carefully evaluate the Summer Schools and improve them in the following years.

Differently from the previous cycle of Summer Schools, the second series of events could count on the physical presence of all the instructors, including some from the European universities partners of the project. The format of the summer schools remained blended due to restrictions and in order to give the chance to those students who could not participate due to legal limitations under pandemic in Tunisia or in their countries. However, the presence of students in all the Summer schools was remarkable.



## **WP5 - Quality**

This WP produced the manual of data and methods for quality assessment of the PACTUM project. The Manual describes methods, tools, and timing of quality assessment procedures and activities. It includes quality criteria listed for each of the outputs/outcomes of the project, and the process for their application, quality indicators and templates for questionnaires and surveys. The Manual is available online. It is kept updated as the project evolves, e.g. by listing achieved / pending tasks

### **1. Mid-term evaluation report**

The Mid Term Evaluation Report gives a clear picture of the first half of the project including possible lack of quality, missing expected results and outputs and relative strategies in order to improve quality and correct the course.

## **WP6 -Dissemination**

Dissemination activities were carried out over the course of 2022 according to the Dissemination strategy guidelines.

Each partner took care of their own website, social media accounts and their relationships with students to sponsor the PACTUM project's activities. This engagement was mainly focused on the first meeting in presence, the second cycle of Summer Schools and the Siena event.

Regular updates on the PACTUM website were also provided as well.







## WP7 - Management

In 2022 WP7 was in charge of organizing in-person meetings, including a General Assembly of all partners involved in the project and a training session devoted to the development of the PACTUM Master's course. Both the events were held in Siena in November 2022.

During these plenary sessions the partners discussed the project's progress and planned the next steps and activities to carry out in order to comply with the deliverables explained in our working packages.

Moreover, this WP managed the relations with the partners in order to collect all the documents needed to carry out the intermediate technical and financial report, finally submitted to the EACEA.

DATE AND OBJECT OF THE EVENT	LINK TO THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
Erasmus+ Tunisia - Jan 11th, 2022	<a href="https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=5">https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=5</a>
Master's Program Design - Jan 18th, 2022	<a href="https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=6">https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=6</a>
PACTUM General Meeting - Mar 15th, 2022	<a href="https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=7">https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=7</a>
ERASMUS + PACTUM monitoring - Mar 29th, 2022	<a href="https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=8">https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=8</a>
PACTUM Progress meeting - May 24/25th, 2022	<a href="https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=9">https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php?entryid=9</a>
General Assembly - Nov 2nd to 5th, 2022	<a href="https://pactum-project.eu/mod/page/view.php?id=94">https://pactum-project.eu/mod/page/view.php?id=94</a>
Master's development - Dec 8th, 2022	<a href="https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php">https://pactum-project.eu/blog/index.php</a>

