



Contextual Background

Higher Education Autonomy in Europe: supranational, national, and institutional trends (HEAE-SNIT)

The project *Higher Education Autonomy in Europe: Supranational, National and Institutional Trends* (HEAE-SNIT, 2023–2026), adopting a multi-level approach (European, national and institutional), compares HE systems in **France, Finland, Poland, Portugal, and the Netherlands**.

HEAE-SNIT examines how supranational dynamics are reshaping higher education (HE) autonomy in Europe and how these are translated at the national and institutional levels. It focuses on how governance trends affect HEIs' articulation of education, research and innovation in fulfilling their missions. In recent decades, HEIs have faced growing pressures that challenge their traditional purposes and autonomy, particularly through labour-market-oriented education and economically driven research agendas.

The project analyses how HEIs respond strategically to these pressures and the implications for educational programmes and academics' autonomy in research. While institutional impacts have been studied, the reconfiguration of HE autonomy, missions and purposes remains underexplored. By comparing diverse European contexts, the project challenges the assumption that global trends lead to uniform responses.



Conference

Higher Education Autonomy in Europe: supranational, national, and institutional trends (HEAE-SNIT)

30th January 2026

10:00-10:30 - Opening

Overview of the project HE-SNIT

António M. Magalhães, Centre for Research in Higher Education Policies, University of Porto

10:30- 15:30 - National case studies

10:30-11:00 Finnish case, Jaakko Kauko and Paula Silvén, Tampere University

11:00-11:30 French case, Stéphanie Mignot-Gerard, Institut de Recherche en Gestion - Université Paris-Est Créteil

11:30-12:00 Polish case, Dominik Antonowicz and Maurycy Stempniewski, Nicolaus Copernicus University

12:30-14:30 Lunch

14:30-15:30 - Portuguese case

14:30-15:00 Amélia Veiga, Centre for Research and Intervention in Education, University of Porto

15:00-15:30 Maarja Beerkens, Netherlands case, Leiden University

15:30-16:30 - Debate and closing

16:30-17:00 - Coffee-break

20:00 - Dinner

CIPES

CONFERENCE

PUBLIC EVENT

 30.01.2026

HIGHER EDUCATION AUTONOMY IN EUROPE:
SUPRANATIONAL, NATIONAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL TRENDS

10:00–17:00

 Fundação António Cupertino de Miranda
Avenida da Boavista, 4245