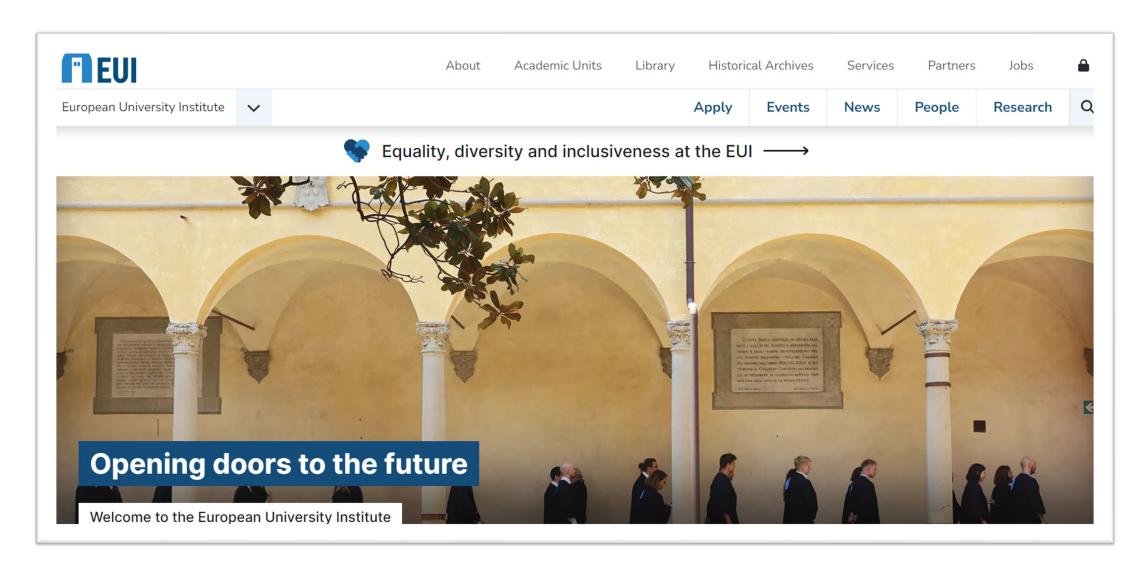# The Library Response to EUI policies on Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness: a European Perspective:

"Decolonising Inititiave"

Josep Torn Poch - European Universtiy Institute

Fiesole Retreat. Cape Town, SA. 07/05/2024

The European University Institute

The European University Institute

Set up by the founding members of the European Communities

1972

Academic units

7

Scholars

1000+

Countries of provenance

85+

The European shape: 1972 - 2024

Social Reshaping

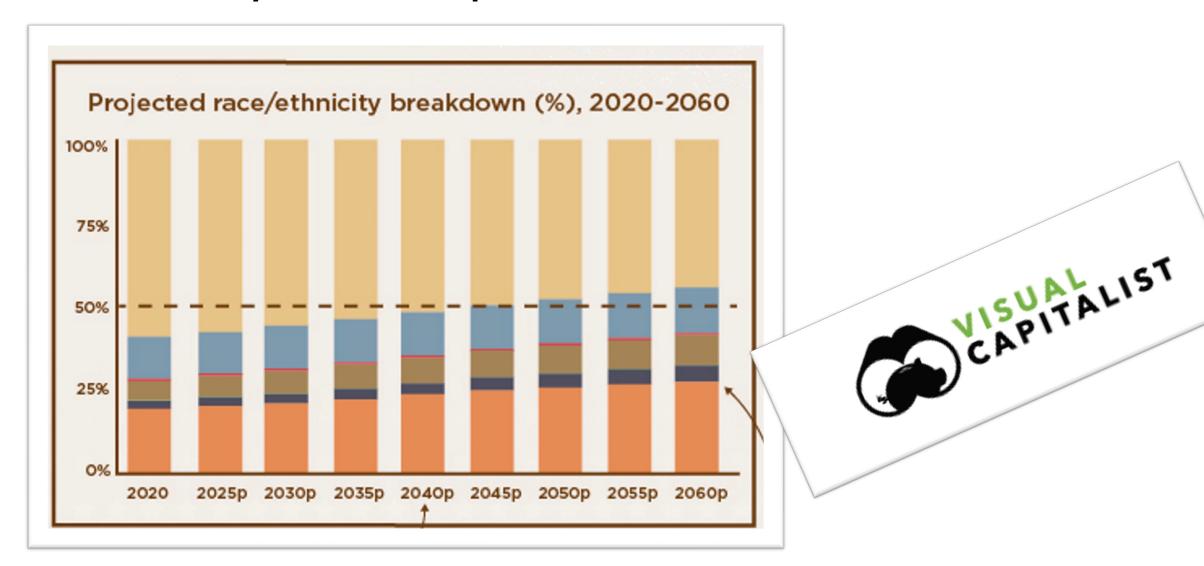- 14% of EU population are members of a *non-European minority*
- Only 5% of the MEP are members of a *non-European minority*
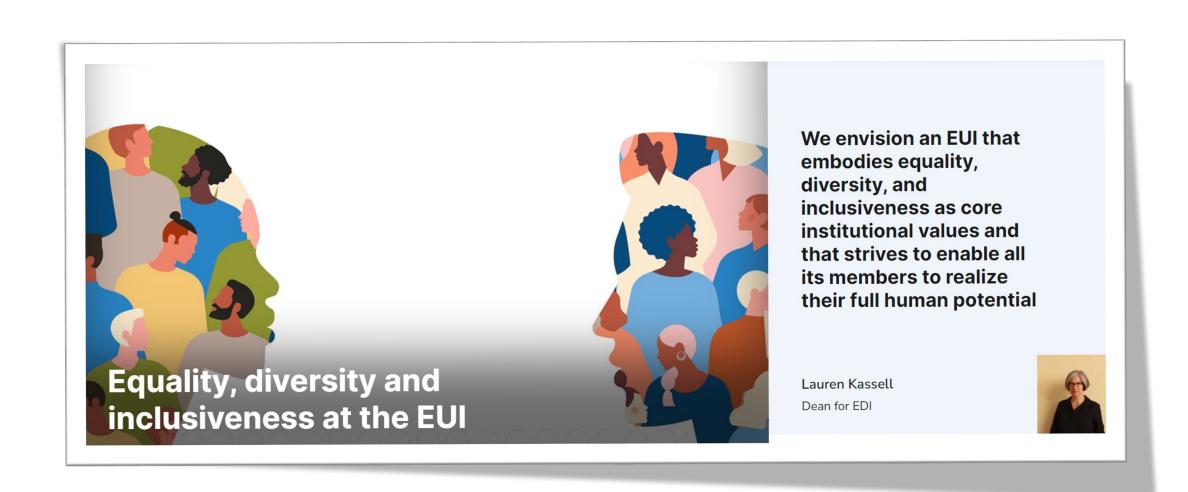
Intellectual/Scientific Reshaping

- EDI (admin approach)
- Decolonising Initiative (scholarly approach)

Woodford, L. (2022). Jubilee Think Piece. European Policy Centre.
https://www.epc.eu/en/events/EPC-Jubilee-Conference-The-EUs~4b9790

The *European* shape: 1972 - 2024

Projected race/ethnicity breakdown (%), 2020-2060

Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness at the EUI

Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness at the EUI

**EUI
Priority 5: Diversity and Inclusiveness**

**LIB
To identify scientific content, existing and potential, that covers topics such as diversity and inclusiveness from the viewpoint of the disciplines of the EUI**

LIB
Action plan for 2023

**LIB
To present a
report analysing language diversity in the EUI collection**

Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness at the EUI

2023 Calendar including EDI initiatives and International days

- World religion day – 15 January
- International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the victims of the Holocaust – 27 January
- Black History Month together with BHM WG (February)
- Love Data week (13 to 17 February)
- Women's History Month (8 March)
- International Day of the Elimination of Racial Discrimination – 21 March
- Cyrillic Alphabet (27 – 31 March)
- Sant Jordi/World Book Day (23 April)
- Mental Health exhibition with La Tinaia (May TBD)
- Europe day – 9 May
- World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development – 21 May

- Decolonisation (week in May chosen by researchers) (22 – 28 May)
- LGBT+ Pride Month together with LGBT+ WG (June)
- Nelson Mandela International day – 15 July
- International Day of Sign Languages/ incorporating all disabilities/languages – 23 September
- Open Access Week (last week of October)
- Academic Writing Month together with Language Centre (November)
- International Day for Abolition of Slavery – 2 December

Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness at the EUI

International days will be promoted by

- Book display in the Library

- Raising awareness on our social media platforms
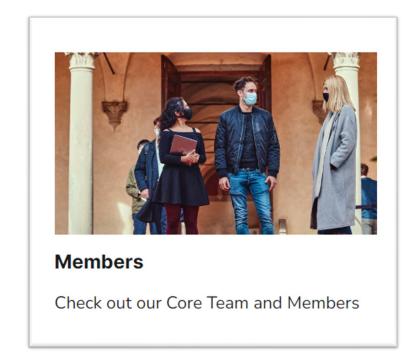
EDI initiatives

- <mark>Library collection development</mark>

- Book displays, raising awareness on social media platforms, presentations and recommendations by EUI members by video and on Radio Cavolo

- Signage in all Library collections (History, Economics, Political Science and Law)

- Exhibitions

EUI Decolonising Initiative

EUI Decolonising Initiative

A researcher-led project which aims at decolonising knowledge and practise

EUI Decolonising Initiative

- Colonisation studies vs Decolonising Initiative
- Profile of the scholars

Members

Check out our Core Team and Members

https://www.eui.eu/en/projects/decolonising-initiative/members

Collection Development

- "Collection development is enhanced by individual purchase requests from EUI scholars and project teams for books, journals, databases, news resources and reference works – in both the traditional EUI departmental profiles, and in specialised and ==emerging topics== which are essential for doctoral, post-doctoral and inter-disciplinary research in history, law and the social sciences. It is no longer possible to categorise any information requirements as 'non-core', and the Library fulfills the overwhelming majority of individual and project-related requests."

- "==Suggestions from scholars== help enrich the collections by informing librarians of ==emergent themes==, new works, new editions"

Collection Development

- "The needs of the disciplinary areas of the EUI in relation to national and linguistic requirements vary significantly by discipline, topic and research methodology. For example, history and law have much greater needs in this regard. Publication types considered important for country coverage include: (i) national histories (ii) journals focusing on national topics, discourse and culture, or on groups of countries with a common language (iii) bibliographies, dictionaries, encyclopedias and other reference works (iv) national newspaper archives (v) official and institutional publications (vi) law reports, now included in legal databases and (vii) series of foreign policy documents."

- "The nature of the EUI compels it to assume a multilingual approach as one of the principles of collection development – even if limits of a practical nature restrict its application. Research outputs in some disciplines, such as economics, political science and sociology, are overwhelmingly in English"
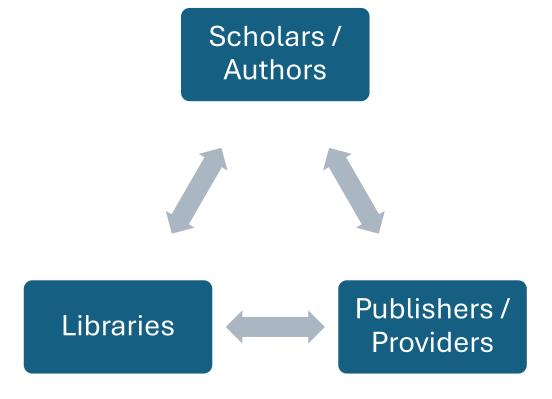
Collection Development

Transformació del paper a l'electrònic i canvi d'usos en la col·lecció degut a la pandèmia covid-19: el cas de la Biblioteca de l'Institut Europeu Universitari (EUI)[1]

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Transformation from Print to Electronic and Change of the Use in Collections Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic: the Case of the Library of the EUI

Conclusions

A. Holistic approach

Conclusions

B. Librarians (in general) need training

- Not a subject / Topic / Theme

- But an approach to Social Science: Economics, Political Science, Law.

Conclusions

C. Combination of Collections & Services

- Where collections play a central role
- Collections as Services

THANK YOU