

## Horizon projects at UCU (non-grant holder)



The Continuous Construction of Resilient Social Contracts Through Societal Transformations (CO3) (2024-2026): Pillar 2 (Global challenges) CL2 DEMOCRACY



Link4Skills (2024-2026): Pillar 2 (Global challenges) CL2TRANSFORMATION



EIT IQ Alliance (2021-2024): Pillar 3 Innovative Europe EIT HEALTH - reporting stage!



This project aims to develop and promote a more democratic, more inclusive, and more open model of social contracts that manifests political and social resilience in the face of major societal challenges, crises and anti-democratic tendencies, based on the analysis of the limitations and challenges of social contracts in theorizing and policy practices.

CO3 creates a theoretically and empirically grounded model of resilient social contracts that takes into account their continuously evolving nature.

CO3 makes an analysis of the key factors for challenging and strengthening social contracts under crises.

CO3 produces an applicable framework with policy recommendations for promoting resilient social contracts.

The Continuous
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Social Contracts
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Transformations (CO3)



## **Methodologies**

To support the uptake of its research findings, CO3 develops forward-looking future scenarios and policy recommendations, an applicable CO3 model for analysing and safeguarding democratic social contracts, and engages with stakeholders in democracy labs, schools, art interventions and scenario workshops. Research activities in CO3 have a multi-method approach, including:

- Empirical case studies
- **Ethnography**

Participatory art interventions

- Structured and semistructured interviews
- Surveys

Systematic literature reviews

- Media and thematic analysis
- Interpretive political analysis
- Social media analysis

Secondary data analysis

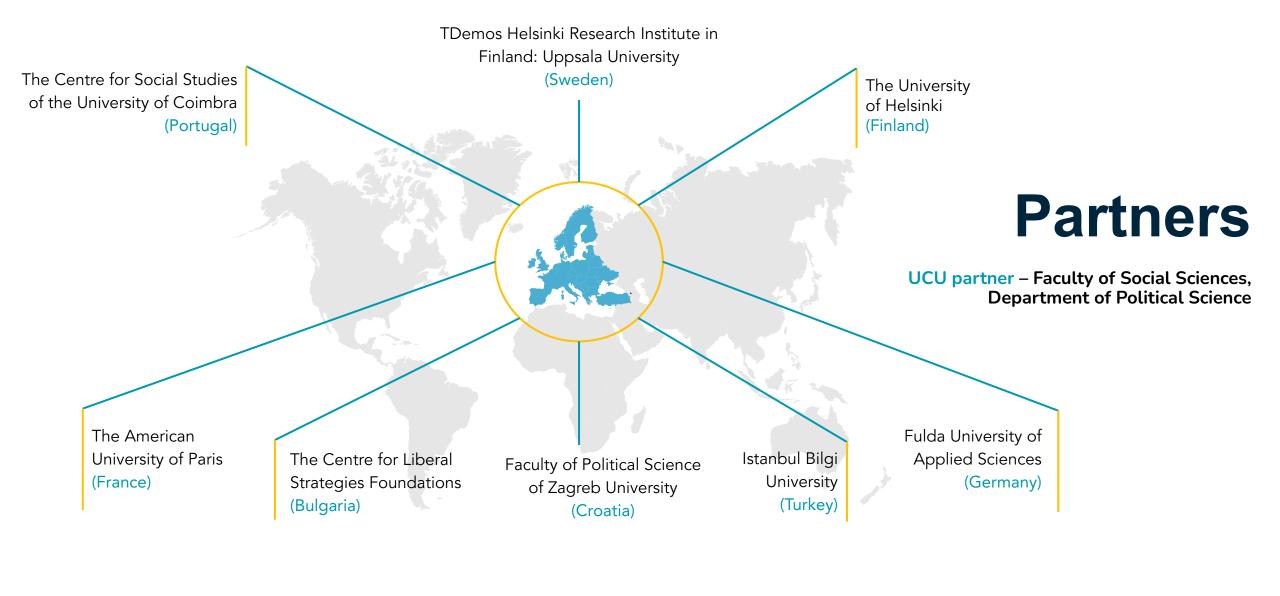
Democracy lab methodology

Delphi method

**Scenarios** 

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The project "Link4Skills" will centre its efforts on studying the global movement of talent and skills across four continents throughout a span of three years. It develops the Al-Assisted Skill Navigator for stakeholders from employment and vocational training organizations in origins and destinations.

To assess skill shortages and matching needs in changing labour market by modelling four approaches: re/up-skilling, raising wages, work automation and migration in order to mitigate the skill obsolescence in the EU labour markets.

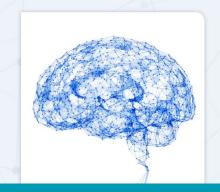
To examine migration skill corridors by matching origins and destinations by emerging and established skill and talent partnerships; analysing skill generating structures (education and training) in origins, analysing enablers and barriers of skills obtained in the origins and their recognition in the EU; patterns of skilled migration and retention of skilled migrants.

To co-create with stakeholders an Al-Assisted Skill Navigator based on an IT Knowledge Based Expert System (KBES), fed by the skill shortage assessments, skill opportunity structures in the origins and knowledge, enablers and barriers about migration skill corridors by matching origins and destinations.



### **AI-assisted Skills Navigator**

At the heart of the project is the development of the Link4Skills Navigator, guided by the key principle of ensuring fair skill flows between sending and receiving countries.



### Assess your migration skills

The "My Migration Dashboard" is a pioneering digital tool designed to collect and analyze data on the psychosocial capitals of both migrants and non-migrants.









To succeed in Horizon Europe projects, universities need to align strategically with the program's expectations and demonstrate effective project management capabilities. Here are some key lessons and recommendations for institutional preparedness:

1Strategic Fit and Alignment4Financial and Administrative Readiness2Strong Partnerships and Networking5Resilience and Adaptability3Institutional Support and Capacity Building6Focus on Training and Mentorship



Engaging partners effectively when not in the grant-holder role requires strategic positioning, strong collaboration skills, and a proactive approach. Here are some practical recommendations:

1	Demonstrate Value and Expertise	5	Invest in Communication and Collaboration Tools
2	Focus on Relationship-Building	6	Proactively Manage Dissemination and Impact Activities
3	Become the Go-To for Specific Roles	7	Seek Out Specific Roles in Reporting and Evaluation
4	Contribute to Work Package Leadership	8	Show Initiative in Developing Future Projects



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