OFFICIAL READER

Winterthur, Switzerland

8-10 NOVEMBER 2026

CREATED BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS

EELISA STUDENT-LED BOOTCAMP 2026

Organised by:

EELISA STUDENT COUNCIL

EELISA European University

Co-funded by the European Union

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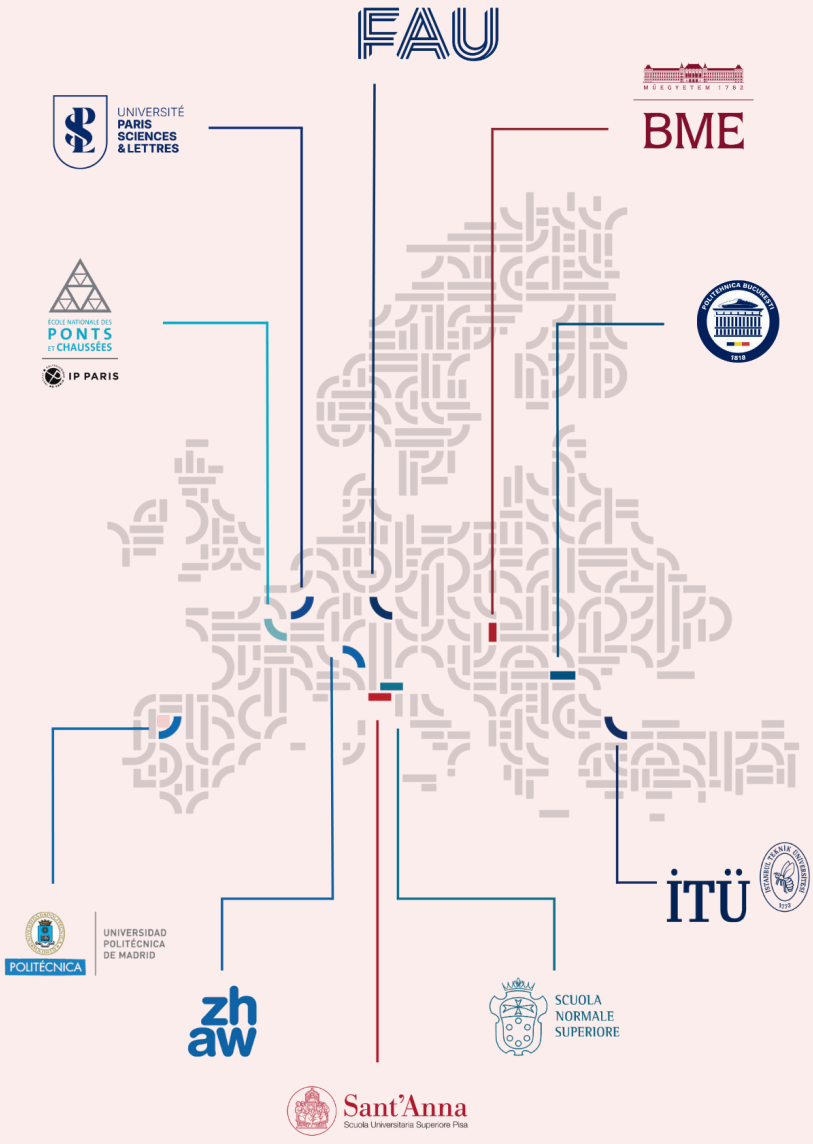
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"We are transforming today's higher education to impact tomorrow's society"

The European Engineering Learning Innovation and Science Alliance (EELISA) is a consortium of ten higher education institutions (graduate engineering schools, technical and full-spectrum universities) from eight different countries in Europe with the common ambition of defining and implementing a common model of European engineer rooted in society and of bridging engineering, sciences and humanities for inclusive, sustainable and digital societies.

Alliance members



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HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

CONNECT 2 EELISA
as a STUDENT

- Join EELISA Communities and collaborate on real-world challenges
- Earn EELISA Credentials that recognise your learning and societal impact
- Enroll in joint, flexible educational programs and degrees with a European and international added value
- Apply for mobility opportunities: short programs, internships, exchanges and joint activities
- Share your student experience and become an EELISA Career Ambassador
- Contribute to shaping the Alliance by taking part in student representation and governance

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THE EELISA STUDENT COUNCIL

The **EELISA Student Council** is the official body representing students within EELISA:

- It ensures that the **student voice** is actively integrated into the Alliance's governance, strategy and operations.
- It serves as a **collaborative** and **participatory platform** where students from all partner institutions co-create initiatives, contribute to strategic decisions and help shape the future of the alliance.

Its **mission** is to empower students to become agents of change, fostering academic excellence, intercultural understanding and sustainable innovation.

Acting as a bridge between students and institutional leadership, the Council promotes inclusive participation, transparent communication and a shared sense of responsibility across the Alliance.



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THE EELISA STUDENT COUNCIL

Each partner university is represented by **two student delegates**, forming a diverse network that operates through dedicated roles such as Co-Chairs, Secretary and officers for Communication, Finance and Events.

Elected representatives hold **voting rights** within the EELISA Executive and Governing Boards, ensuring that student perspectives are f**ormally represented** and considered in the Alliance's **highest decision-making processes**.

Beyond governance, every Council member may also **contribute to EELISA's operational framework** by joining one of the ten EELISA Work Packages. These working groups address key strategic dimensions of the Alliance (from mobility, digital transformation and communication, to quality assurance, sustainability and impact) allowing students to play an active role in implementing EELISA's mission.

The Council **convenes** bi-weekly online meetings and two in-person assemblies per year, fostering cooperation, strategic reflection and community building.

Guided by the **values** of representation, collaboration, internationality and community growth, the Council stands at the core of student participation and European engagement within the Alliance.

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DETAILED PROGRAMME

DAY 1 – 8 November		
Until 16:00	Participants arrival	
16:00 - 19:00	Welcome Social Activity Meeting point	• Only for registered participants
20:00	Kick-off dinner at Santa Lucia Restaurant	• Informal networking dinner for all participants and organizers. • At own participants expenses.

DAY 2 – 9 November ZHAW School of Management and Law		
8:30 - 9:00	**Welcome and registration** Lobby: SW E48	• Check-in at the registration desk. • Distribution of welcome kits. • Room assignment.
9:00 - 10:15	**Official Opening** Room: SW E11	• Welcome words by **Juan Diego Rodriguez**. • Short training on "*How to build-up your start-up*" by **Raphael Tobler**. • Short training on "*How to give a great pitch*" by **Azul Snaider.**
10:15 - 10:30	***COFFEE BREAK*** Lobby: SW E48	
10:30 - 12:00	**Teamwork: Concept and Ideation** Room: SW E11	• Brainstorming on concept and ideation. • Active assistance from mentors. • Checkpoint 1.

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DETAILED PROGRAMME

12:00 - 13:00	***LUNCH BREAK*** Lobby: SW E48	
13:00 - 15:00	**Teamwork: concept development** Room: SW E11	• Concept development: keep working on the selected idea. • Active assistance from mentors. • Checkpoint 2.
15:00 - 15:15	***COFFEE BREAK*** Lobby: SW E48	
15:15 - 17:15	**Teamwork: concept development** Room: SW E11	• Concept development: teams keep working on the selected idea. • Active assistance from mentors.
17:15 - 18:00	**Cleaning & Transfer of Equipment to ZHAW School of Engineering**	
18:30 - 21:00	**Dinner** Location: Restaurant "Zur Sonne"	• At invitation by ZHAW.

DAY 3 – 10 November **ZHAW School of Engineering**		
7:45 - 8:00	**Arrival**	
8:00 - 8:30	**Address by Rector Regula Jöhl** Room: TN E0.46 + TN E0.54	
8:30 - 10:15	**Teamwork: concept building** Room: TN E0.46 + TN E0.54	• Teams build their projects. • Active assistance from mentors. • Checkpoint 3.

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DETAILED PROGRAMME

10:15 - 10:30	***COFFEE BREAK*** Lobby: TN E0.94	
10:30 - 12:15	**Teamwork: pitch preparations** Room: TN E0.46 + TN E0.54	• Concept finalisation: teams finalised their idea and prepare final pitch. • Active assistance from mentors.
12:15 - 13:15	***LUNCH BREAK*** Lobby: TN E0.94	
13:15 - 15:00	**Jury presentations** Room: TN E0.46 + TN E0.54	• Teams present their solutions to the expert panel. • Immediate Q&A and feedback from the jury.
15:00 - 15:30	***COFFEE BREAK*** **Lobby: TN E0.94**	
15:30 - 16:00	**Cleaning and Deliberation** Room: TN E0.46 + TN E0.54	• Students and staff participate in room cleaning. • Jury conducts a private winners selection session.
16:00 - 17:00	**Awards Ceremony and Event Closure** Room: TN E0.46 + TN E0.54	• Official announcement of winners. • Award distribution. • Final closing.

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8-10 November, 2026
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ABOUT THE EELISA STUDENT-LED BOOTCAMP

This 2nd edition of the EELISA Student-Led Bootcamp invites participants to rethink how university campuses manage their resources, moving from a linear "take-make-dispose" model towards a more circular and sustainable future, under a hackathon format. Through interdisciplinary collaboration, creative problem-solving and hands-on prototyping, participants will develop innovative solutions to reduce waste, optimise resource use and promote circularity on campus. Beyond technical skills, the event will foster teamwork, social inclusion, ethical reflection and active European citizenship, empowering students to turn ideas into tangible impact.

TRAINING SESSION 1: How to build-up your start-up



Raphael Tobler

Raphael Tobler CEO & Founder eduwo.ch, Founder Startup Nights, President Swiss Startup Assocation

TRAINING SESSION 2: How to give a great pitch



Azul Snaider

She is the perfect example of modern and interdisciplinary engineering, constantly challenging the traditional mold to prove that engineers are no longer rigid or confined to pure technicalities. She currently works as an Operations and Logistics Manager at Amazon, leading high-performing teams and driving continuous improvement in fulfillment operations. Her dual profile bridges deep analytical rigor with high-impact communication, having ranked in the Top 5 of the World Public Speaking Championship last year.

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MEET THE HACKATHON MENTORS



Salome Berger

She is a research associate in the field of product development at the Institute of Product Development and Production Technologies at ZHAW. Her primary focus lies in industrial design, with a particular emphasis on circular economy design and sustainability. Her work involves both the application and teaching of circular design strategies, addressing these topics methodically and in terms of content.
She studied Industrial Design at the Zurich University of the Arts and then worked in various design agencies. Since 2014 she has been working at ZHAW.



Dr. Andrea Rega

He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering at the University of Naples Federico II (UNINA), Italy. His research addresses the design, modelling, and simulation of advanced manufacturing and mechatronic systems, with a particular focus on human–robot collaboration, model-based systems engineering, and digital twins.
He has contributed to national and European research projects advancing the digitalisation and sustainability of manufacturing.

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MEET THE HACKATHON MENTORS



Dr. Giuseppe Sanseverino

He is a Research Associate and Lecturer at TU Chemnitz, working at the intersection of Human–Computer Interaction, wearable sensing, and sports technology. His interdisciplinary research focuses on the design and evaluation of human–technology systems, with particular attention to user-centered design and emerging interaction technologies. During his doctoral research, he developed a digital-twin-based framework for the virtual testing of body-attached sensor networks, combining human modeling, sensor simulation, and machine learning. He is also actively involved in teaching and research on interactive design and human-centered technologies.



Helen Vogt

She trained as a materials engineer at ETH Zurich, holds a PhD in materials science, worked as a consultant at the Boston Consulting Group and spent 15 years in product management before joining ZHAW. She now heads the MAS Product Management programme and teaches innovation and marketing. Her research addresses the very question behind this hackathon: how to redesign resource and material flows so that "take-make-dispose" becomes a loop that also makes business sense. She has led projects such as the Food-Save Hub and a circular economy platform for used laptops and works on green product management and on how organizations turn data into new services, this is directly relevant once you start tracking resource flows across a campus. As a mentor she brings both an engineering and a business lens to the same idea, plus a lot of experience turning rough prototypes into convincing pitches.

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MEET THE HACKATHON MENTORS



Prof. Dr. Manuel Dömer

Prof. Dr. Manuel Dömer heads the Health and Environmental Analytics research group at the Institute for Data Science at ZHAW. His projects focus on data-driven and simulation-driven value creation in healthcare, the life sciences and the environmental domain. He teaches in various degree programmes at Bachelor's and Master's level as well as in continuing education. From 2021 to 2026, he established and led the BSc Data Science programme at the ZHAW School of Engineering. Prior to that, he worked for several years as a corporate actuary and data scientist at Swiss Re. He obtained his PhD in computational chemistry and biochemistry at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, following a degree in chemistry at the University of Zurich.



Erica Santaguida

She is a Research Fellow at the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies and a psychologist working at the intersection of clinical and experimental psychology, immersive virtual reality, and artificial intelligence. Her research explores how emerging technologies can contribute to meaningful, adaptive, and human-centered experiences for mental health, with particular attention to embodied, relational, and therapeutic processes. She has carried out multidisciplinary projects aimed at psychosocial well-being, combining psychological research, immersive technologies, and collaboration with schools and local healthcare services. Alongside her research, she is training in cognitive-constructivist intersubjective psychotherapy.

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MEET THE HACKATHON JURY MEMBERS



Sofia Costa D'Aguiar

She is EELISA's Executive Director. Prior to her appointment, she was the Head of Innovation & Digital Transformation at SNCF (France's national railway company) where she worked for over 10 years managing teams in innovative transversal projects and piloting the digital transformation process of the company. Sofia holds a PhD in Geotech and Environmental Engineering and was nominated ¨Women of the Industry, Research and Development¨ by the prestigious business and technology magazine L'Usine Nouvelle.



Alice Petrucciani

She is an energy engineer with a PhD in Emerging Digital Technologies. She is a researcher at the ICT-COISP Centre at Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies. Her research focuses on developing methodologies and guidelines for the steelmaking industry and other resource- and energy-intensive industries to maximise resource efficiency and reduce environmental impact by promoting circular economy and industrial symbiosis solutions.

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MEET THE HACKATHON JURY MEMBERS



Gabriel Schneider

He is a mechanical engineer, inventor, and hobbyist through and through. For the past 12 years, he has been a lecturer at the School of Engineering in the Department of Product and Process Development. He leads the Circular Economy Design (CED) program. His team of six works with companies to develop products and processes that are circular and improve sustainability. One of their flagship projects is a bicycle helmet grown from mushrooms.



Nina Walker

She is a scientific associate at the ZHAW School of Management and Law in Zurich and a doctoral candidate at the Chair of Information Systems, Innovation, and Value Creation at FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg. Her research focuses on entrepreneurial ecosystems and university collaborations. Before going into academia, she was part of the EPFL spin-off Space4Impact (now Ask Earth). As Head of Operations, she played a key role in promoting space technology through startup acceleration and educational initiatives. Nina holds a B.Sc. in International Hospitality Management from École hôtelière de Lausanne and an M.Sc. in Management with a focus on Business Analytics from HEC Lausanne at UNIL.

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COMMUNICATION

Join the Student-Led Bootcamp Whatsapp Group

CLICK HERE TO ACCESS

SCAN ME

ZHAW CAMPUSES

ZHAW School of Management and Law

Address:
ZHAW School of Management and Law, St. Georgen-Platz 2, 8401 Winterthur.

How to reach:

- Exit Winterthur Main Train Station (Winterthur Hauptbahnhof) through the main entrance.
- Turn left immediately after leaving the station.
- Walk along St.-Georgen-Platz, keeping the station on your left.
- Continue for about 150–200 meters.The ZHAW School of Management and Law (Volkart Building) at St.-GeorgenPlatz 2 will be on your right.





ZHAW School of Engineering

Address:
ZHAW School of Engineering, Technikumstrasse 7.

How to reach:

- After arriving at Winterthur Hauptbahnhof, exit the station through the main entrance (towards the city center).
- Walk straight across the station square (Bahnhofplatz) and follow Technikumstrasse.
- Continue along Technikumstrasse for about 5 minutes on foot.
- The main entrance of the Technikum Campus is located at Technikumstrasse 71, clearly marked with the ZHAW logo.

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HOST TOWN

Winterthur

Winterthur, home to the ZHAW, is Switzerland's sixth-largest city, with a population of over 115,000. It is a thriving university town and an important hub for both Swiss and international companies. Located just 15 minutes by train from Zurich Airport and 20 minutes from Zurich's main station, Winterthur enjoys excellent connections via public transport.

The city boasts a lively cultural scene, hosting numerous events throughout the year, including a major music festival like the Winterthur Music Festival Week or the Albani Fest, an international short film festival, and a celebration of world music and African culture. Winterthur is also internationally recognized for its art scene, with 16 galleries and an acclaimed museum of photography that was recently expanded. Additional highlights include a science museum, multiple theatres, concert halls, clubs, and alternative cultural venues.

Winterthur's historic old town and revitalized industrial area offer a wide selection of restaurants, cafés, bars, cinemas, and shops. Ample green spaces and a wide variety of sports and outdoor activities further contribute to the city's high quality of life.



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ARRIVAL IN WINTERTHUR AND TRANSPORTATION

Zurich Airport to main Train Station Winterthur

Upon arriving at Zurich Airport (Zürich Flughafen), follow the signs for "Bahn / Railway" to reach the train station located directly underneath the airport terminal. At the station:

- Purchase a ticket to Winterthur Hauptbahnhof (main station) at a ticket machine or counter. You can also use the SBB Mobile app.
- Trains to Winterthur depart frequently (every 10 - 15 minutes) throughout the day.
- The journey takes about 20 minutes.

Most trains are direct but always double-check the departure board for the next connection. Once you arrive at Winterthur Hauptbahnhof, you'll be in the city center, with public buses, taxis, and the ZHAW campus all easily accessible on foot.



Main Train Station Zurich to main Train Station Winterthur

At Zurich Main Station (Zürich HB), follow the signs to the SBB train platforms.

- Purchase a ticket to Winterthur Hauptbahnhof at one of the ticket machines, counters, or via the SBB Mobile app.
- Trains to Winterthur run frequently - approximately every 10 minutes during the day.
- The journey takes around 20 to 30 minutes, depending on the connection.

Direct trains are available and typically the fastest option. Look for InterRegio (IR), RegioExpress (RE), or S-Bahn (S12, S11) lines heading toward St. Gallen, Schaffhausen, or Frauenfeld - they often stop in Winterthur.

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ARRIVAL IN WINTERTHUR AND TRANSPORTATION

Public transportation and purchasing tickets

Switzerland has one of the world's most efficient, reliable, and integrated public transportation systems. Trains, buses, trams, boats, and some cable cars are coordinated through a nationwide timetable, making it easy to travel throughout the country with convenient connections. Most services operate frequently, are punctual, and are well signposted.

In the **Winterthur and Zurich** region, public transportation is managed mainly through the **Zürcher Verkehrsverbund (ZVV)**. Winterthur has an extensive local bus network. Public transport generally operates from early morning until late at night, with additional night services on weekends.

Tickets must always be purchased before boarding a train, bus, or tram. Ticket inspections are carried out regularly, and travelling without a valid ticket can result in a fine.

There are several ways to purchase tickets:

- **SBB Ticket Machines:** Ticket vending machines are available at railway stations and many public transport stops. They can be used in several languages and accept cash, credit/debit cards, TWINT, and mobile payment methods.
- **Ticket Counters:** Staffed ticket counters are available at larger stations, including Winterthur Main Station and Zurich Main Station (Zürich HB). Staff can provide travel advice, help plan connections, and assist with ticket purchases.
- **SBB Mobile App:** The official SBB Mobile app is the most convenient option for many travellers. It allows users to plan routes, check live departure information, purchase tickets, receive disruption updates, and use the EasyRide function, which automatically calculates the correct fare by checking in before the journey and checking out after arrival.

For visitors, downloading the SBB Mobile app is highly recommended. It provides real-time information and makes travelling throughout Switzerland simple and convenient.

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USEFUL INFORMATION

Emergency Numbers

- Police: 117
- Fire Brigade: 118
- Ambulance: 144
- Poisoning Emergencies: 145
- European Emergency Number: 112
- Medical Emergency Services (24/7): +41 52 203 00 00
- Pharmacy (7am – 10 pm, train station): +41 52 269 12 00
- Medical Center (7 am – 10 pm, train station): +41 52 267 01 01
- Hospital in Winterthur: +41 52 266 21 21
- ZHAW Emergency: +41 58 934 70 70

Organizers Contacts

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