

**Joint Declaration of the Rectors' Conferences of France, Germany and Poland
on the occasion of the International Expert Conference on the Recovery,
Reconstruction and Modernisation of Ukraine
hosted by the G7 Presidency and the European Commission
in Berlin on 25 October 2022**

The Russian attack on Ukraine is a great challenge for the existence of the Ukrainian state and for the cohesion of democratically organised societies in Europe and the world. European universities have stood by the Ukrainian universities and their students and staff since the beginning of the war, actively supporting them within their means.

In addition to the acute need for support, the focus is now on the medium and long-term challenges. It is very welcome that the decision-makers in politics are now setting the course for reconstruction. In this context, too, the universities are ready to make their contribution. Modern and internationally attractive universities as the core of a functioning education and research system play a central role in the recovery, reconstruction and long-term positive development of Ukrainian society and economy. After all, functioning universities are the prerequisite for training specialists and executives for business, politics and society in Ukraine, as well as for research and development to support reconstruction and modernization in all key fields of action.

The Rectors' Conferences of France, Germany and Poland declare their readiness for this long-term cooperation. In doing so, they are in agreement with the objectives of the European Rectors' Conferences united in the European University Association.

They call upon the participants of the Berlin International Expert Conference to take into account the relevance of education and research in their plans for the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine. It is crucial to create the political and financial conditions for long-term cooperation between Ukrainian and European universities. The long-term nature of the effort is key to the social and economic recovery, reconstruction and successful further development of Ukraine as part of the European community of states.