

## ESEU: LEGAL USE CASES

### 1. Hire staff

**Category:** human capital

**Goal**

ECIU University, as one European legal entity, can hire (full-time) staff from all EU countries through simple, agile, and equal processes.

**Example use case**

"ECIU University is planning to hire 5 new full-time employees across Europe as ECIU University employees. The main working site of all 5 employees resides in their home country (i.e., 5 different countries), however, all employees are treated similarly and equally in the hiring process. The contractual salary, taxing, social security, and pension rules are simple and fast to handle."

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**Comments (as needed)**

- The situation described should also be considered for a double affiliation (a person affiliated both by ECIU University (as one legal entity) and a member university). This might be a situation, for example, where ECIU University (as one legal entity) is the lead in a research project.
- What does hire mean in practice? Which services (e.g., payroll, IT support, various employee benefits) does ECIU University provide to the employees, if any? If none, what is the relationship of the employee to the local ECIU member university providing those services?



## 2. Receive public and private funding flexibly from various sources

**Category:** funding

### Goal

ECIU University as one legal entity is eligible for applying for national, regional and EU funding across Europe as well as receiving private funding. ECIU University can manage and distribute funding, also jointly with the ECIU member universities and other partners in the ECIU University ecosystem. This applies for all areas of operations.

### Example use case

“A group of researchers in the member universities plans a research project where multiple types of funding are combined for different parts of the project. The group applies for EU funding together with ECIU University (as one legal entity) and for regional co-funding in 6 different member states. The process for handling synergies between the multiple types of funding is transparent and clear across Europe and will ensure that the pool of funding from different sources will be optimally used for the research project and thus create more substantial impact across Europe. The legal role of ECIU University (as one legal entity) is clear in the process.”

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### Comments (as needed)



### 3. Provide flexible learning paths at the European level

**Category:** education

#### **Goal**

ECIU University as a one European legal entity, is recognised as a higher education provider at the European level and in the EU member states and can recruit and manage (non-degree) learners, provide learning opportunities (other than degrees) and reward micro-credentials/micro-certificates which are quality assured and recognised at the European level.

#### **Example use case**

"A learner, who is not registered in any of the ECIU member universities, aims to enrol to ECIU University to take advantage of the flexible learning opportunities. S/he enrolls through a simple registration process at the European level directly in ECIU University (as one legal entity). Next, s/he participates in a challenge and takes two micro-modules. In the end, s/he is rewarded with micro-credentials/micro-certificates by ECIU University (one legal entity). Afterwards s/he decides to continue for a master's degree in a university which is not connected to ECIU University (not an ECIU member university). All micro-credentials that s/he received from ECIU University (as one legal entity) are automatically recognised by the national university."

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#### **Comments (as needed)**

- Ensure that the concept of “micro-credential” is clearly defined.

## 4. Create private revenue on continuous education

**Category:** funding

### Goal

ECIU University as one legal entity can create private revenue through providing continuous education opportunities. Continuous education can mix contents- and resource wise with free public degree education (e.g., shared learning modules stemming from the ECIU member universities). Consequently, commercial continuous education in ECIU University might use learning opportunities developed with public funding.

### Example use case

"Customers of ECIU University (both individuals and public and private organisations) pay for continuous education opportunities to ECIU University (as one legal entity). The payment can be either through a one-time payment or through a re-occurring subscription model. ECIU University (as one legal entity) can use the revenue freely for further development of the ECIU University ecosystem without further reporting on the usage."

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**Comments (as needed)**

## 5. Invest into and manage facilities

**Category:** education, research, innovation

### Goal

ECIU University can invest in and manage physical and digital infrastructure and facilities, also jointly in collaboration with the ECIU member universities and the other ECIU University ecosystem partners.

### Example use case

“ECIU University (as one legal entity) together with the partners in the ECIU University ecosystem (i.e., ECIU member universities, public and private partners) is planning to invest into a major digital research infrastructure. The infrastructure will be used by all parties in the ecosystem. The funding for the infrastructure comes from both public (EU level, national) and private sources. ECIU University (as one legal entity) is the legal owner of the infrastructure.”

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### Comments (as needed)



## 6. Manage data related issues

**Category:** other

**Goal**

ECIU University as one legal entity can own, share, receive, and manage data.

**Example use case**

“To create a seamless digital flow of services for learners across the ecosystem, ECIU University needs personal (digital) information from the ECIU member universities and will also provide information towards the ECIU member universities. ECIU University (as one legal entity) is allowed to receive, store, manage and provide personal information through agile, digital processes without legal barriers.”

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**Comments (as needed)**



## 7. Manage IPR related issues

**Category:** other

### **Goal**

The role of ECIU University is clear in all IPR contracts. ECIU University as one legal entity can own (jointly) IPR as needed.

### **Example use case**

#### *Education*

“ECIU University (as one legal entity) has provided a 24/7 online micro-module as part of the ECIU University learning portfolio. The contents of the micro-module were developed by a group of teachers from the different ECIU member universities as part of their daily workload in the universities. ECIU University has the right to use the contents of the micro-module for future learning portfolio purposes. This includes the needs of continuous education which might also produce revenue for the ECIU University ecosystem in the future.”

#### *Research*

“ECIU University (as one legal entity) together with a group of researchers from the ECIU member universities and two private enterprises involved in the ECIU University ecosystem have received funding for a research project and IPR contracts are needed. The role of ECIU University (as one legal entity) is clear in the contracts and ensures that ECIU University can own (jointly) IPR for the purposes of the European level ecosystem, as needed.”

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**Comments (as needed)**

## 8. Buy and own goods and services

**Category:** other

### **Goal**

ECIU University (as one legal entity) can buy goods and services globally through simple, agile processes.

### **Example use case**

“ECIU University (as a one legal entity) plans to purchase data through a subscription model from a global vendor and use the data as part of educational services across the ECIU University ecosystem, thus also connecting to the ECIU member universities as needed. Issues related to taxing, competition law, public procurement etc. are straightforward and agile.”

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**Comments (as needed)**

