In 2017, the Europaeum will be celebrating its 25th anniversary – having supported some 4,000 leading young graduates and post-graduates from across Europe and beyond – future ‘leaders for Europe’ – through a range of scholarships; jointly-taught prestigious MA programmes; week-long flagship summer schools; multi-disciplinary graduate workshops looking at issues of current concern; international debates; mobility grants and many other new initiatives.

The Europaeum was founded on the vision of George Weidenfeld, who wanted what we termed a ‘university without walls’ that would bring together intellectuals, leading professionals, thoughtful politicians, academic experts, and especially young researchers to discuss issues of current concern. The idea was that they would develop a deeper ‘sense of Europe’ by learning, collaborating and spending time together.

Today, Europe faces multiple crises to do with membership, security, migration, equality, the social model, the future of the Eurozone, the pace and direction of integration, and the rise of Euroscepticism and right-wing populism. It is therefore as important as ever for decision-makers, opinion-formers, politicians and citizens in European countries to ‘think European’, to solve these and other global concerns.

The Europaeum association – responsive, multi-disciplinary, operating flexibly, responsibly, openly, and simply – with minimal bureaucracy and complexity – stands ready to contribute: offering small pump-priming grants, relying on tried and trusted networks of academics and intellectual supporters, and working through several over-arching programmes, on the role of leading universities today; on relations with US, China and India; on cultural difference and integration, and on Islam-in-Europe. It is governed under UK charity law by an independent international Board of Trustees, guided by an international representative Academic Council of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors from our partners, with a small Steering Committee reviewing the day-to-day activities, linked to local groups or committees.

Over the years it has successfully promoted academic mobility, created fresh partnerships, opened doors to young scholars to high office and influence, and propelled new ideas and policies. Above all, the Europaeum has added to the sum knowledge about, and for, the new Europe, leaving all involved with an enhanced ‘sense of Europe’. We will need more support – intellectual and financial – if we are to continue to deliver our vision.

The Europaeum is grateful for the generous benefactions received from the following since 1992:

- ARCO
- ARTAL (Mr Guy Ullens)
- The Bertelsmann Foundation
- The Bogotte Foundation
- BT
- Mr Friedrich Busse (Firmenich GmbH)
- Capital Group
- Clifford Chance
- The Clore Foundation
- DaimlerChrysler Services AG
- The European Commission
- Mrs Madeleine Feher
- The Forte Charitable Trust
- Sir Ronald Grierson
- Mrs Robin Hambro
- Sir Emmanuel Kaye
- Mr Pierre Keller
- Mr Claas Kleyboldt (AXA Konzern AG)
- Mr Henry Kravis
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- Mrs Maja Oetker
- Sir Angus Ogilvy
- The Lisbet Rausing Charitable Fund
- Mr Wafic Said
- The Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
- Mr Paul Fentener van Vlissingen
- Lord and Lady Weidenfeld
- The Hon Dr Paul Flather
- Lord and Lady Weidenfeld
- The Hon Dr Paul Flather

The Europaeum currently comprises the following European university members: University of Oxford; Universiteit Leiden; Europe – through for International and Development Studies, Geneva; Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne; Università Karlova v Praze; Helsingin Yliopisto, Helsinki; University Jagiellonii, Krakow; Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona; Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich; Universidad Complutense, Madrid, and Instituto de Estudios Políticos da Universidade Católica Portuguesa (IEP-UCP), Lisbon.

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Je vois avec plaisir qu’il se forme dans l’Europe une république immense d’esprits cultivés. La lumière se communique de tous les côtés.

Voltaire
(14 August 1767)
The Europaeum was launched in 1992 to give future young leaders, European Scholars and decision-makers a real ‘sense of Europe’ by meeting, discussing and working together, promoting collaboration and academic mobility. Key figures at the launch included George Weidenfeld, Ronald Grierson, Peter Pulzer, Prince Hans-Adam II, Claus Moser (all pictured below), Roy Jenkins, and Richard Southwood.

Three core partnerships were quickly established with Leiden and Bologna, and other universities joined over the years. Annual conferences and summer schools were launched. Initially, a Founders’ Council of key benefactors provided guidance and backing.

Through the 1990s, policy events and research groups emerged and a database of academics working in European Studies was launched. In 2000, a Secretary-General was first appointed to steer the association into fresh innovation within a changing European higher education landscape. A three year international project on The Future of European Universities was launched and new symposia and policy fora were introduced, alongside greater student involvement. The Jenkins Europaeum Scholarship Scheme, and pioneering jointly-taught Europaeum MAs, were created. Themed programmes on Trans-Atlantic Relations, Islam-in–Europe, and European Difference and Culture each ran over a decade. Doctoral and research graduate workshops also emerged as a unique feature of the association.

“We need European intellectuals who can give us the whole picture of Europe.”
– Romano Prodi, 2001

“I have no doubt that when the Europaeum shows the way, many will see it.”
– Viviane Reding, Education Commissioner, 2001

“I salute the Europaeum for reuniting scholars for meaningful exchanges, which constitute the web of our European ideas.”
– Jacques Delors, 2002

The Europaeum was founded in 1992 as an association of European universities, with a mission:

☐ to promote excellence in academic research and teaching collaboration between Europaeum partners;
☐ to develop a ‘pool of talent’ to carry out research and inquiry into problems confronting Europe;
☐ to act as an open academic network linking Europaeum partners and other bodies in the joint pursuit of study;
☐ to provide opportunities for the joint undertaking of new pan-European initiatives;
☐ to explore new ways for universities to fulfil their many roles in the new Learning Age;
☐ to train and educate future leaders for a new Europe.

Table of Activities:

☐ International Conferences: experts and professors from all member universities focus on key themes.
☐ Student Summer Schools: week-long annual flagship events for graduates to debate current issues.
☐ Joint Teaching Programmes: collaborative, multi-centred, MA-level, and short courses, offering future ‘leaders’ high-quality, pan-European educational experiences.
☐ Scholarship Programmes: to support and promote student mobility across the association.
☐ Research Projects Grant: to encourage international research collaboration, including past themes such as e-commerce, integration, liberalism, political concepts, cultural difference, transmission of science, and the role of the Church.
☐ Mobility Programmes: support annual Visiting Professors and research scholars participating in Europaeum activities.
☐ Lecture Series: addresses by distinguished Europaeum scholars delivered at partner institutions.
☐ Publications: edited volumes, workshop reports, briefings, and lecture pamphlets.
☐ New Initiative Scheme: support for student-orientated projects, debates and events.

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