

SELF-REFLECTION TOOLS FOR SMART UNIVERSITIES ACTING REGIONALLY



#### **CHECK IT OUT!**

WELCOME TO RE-ACT! - 1

THE FIRST STEPS - 2

**CURRENT STATUS - 2** 

NEXT STEPS - 2

# **WELCOME TO RE-ACT!**

We are delighted to present Newsletter#1 of the project RE-ACT- Self-reflection tools for smart Universities acting regionally. This ERASMUS+ project aims at exploiting the potential of existing self-reflection tools, particularly HEINNOVATE, for the design and implementation of RIS3. RE-ACT partners (from Portugal, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Italy and Belgium) will identify, develop and test an innovative policy approach that has the potential of becoming mainstreamed and generate improvements in the Higher Education system and the "connectivity" of its interface with private and public sectors, within the quadruple helix ecosystem.

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### **THE FIRST STEPS**

RE-ACT partners met in Porto in January 2020 to kick off the project and decide on the first steps, which were impacted (and to some extent delayed) due to the pandemic. However, the partners still contacted actors from the quadruple helix to underpin their collaborative work for smart specialisation strategies. At the same time, partners discussed the best ways to translate the potential of HEINNOVATE for RIS3 into an upgraded online self-assessment tool.



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## **CURRENT STATUS**

In the last few months, partners have conducted an extensive research analysis (including Literature Review, Delphi Study and Interviews) involving experts from HEINNOVATE and S3 and public authorities leading RIS3 processes at regional and national level. The results of this analysis were discussed during the 2nd partners' meeting, on 14th of October.

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#### **NEXT STEPS**

RE-ACT's partners are currently finalising the **Research Report** (with results from the Literature Review, Delphi Study, and Interviews). After this stage, validation workshops will be organised to collect feedback from key stakeholders on the research findings and key takeaways. In total, 75 regional actors will be invited to participate (15 per workshop, including 5 HEIs, 5 industry representatives and 5 local authorities/policy makers). The inputs collected in the workshops will be gathered and considered for the development of the **Guidelines for HEINNOVATE for RIS3**.

