

Ukraine - UK

Twinning explained



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GROUP

Internationalising Higher Education

Background



- CCG had been established in the wider region for 23 years.
- We had team members based in Ukraine
- We had strong relationships with a number of Ukrainian universities.
- After Russia invaded on 24th February our first concern was our staff, and also colleagues in universities.
- Initially we focused on supplying equipment (helmets etc) and medical equipment.
- UK universities approached us , asking for ideas on how to help
- Under pressure from their students, staff and academic communities.
- We came up with the concept of twinning and shared it with client universities
- UUKi approached us and we agreed to partner with them to increase the number of universities involved.



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What is Twinning?



Twinning is an Initiative created and delivered by CCG with the support of UUK that aims to help Ukrainian HE institutions during and after the Russian aggression.

Objectives of Twinning:

- Express solidarity and allow all key university stakeholders to become involved
- Support the integrity of the Ukrainian universities
(Help maintain the link between the institution and their staff and students)
- Help institutions to continue to teach, and award degrees
- Help academics to continue to research and teach
- Prevent brain drain
- Be a long-term commitment and help to rebuild HE



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How does Twinning work?



- Match process (CCG matches a UK and UA universities based on size, research intensity, subject fit, offer/requirements, relevant previous links/affiliations)
- Confirmation of interest and matches
- Arrangement of an introductory meeting
- Arrangement of 6 weekly follow-up calls (production of summary notes and oversee of the discussion)
- Signing of a Twinning MOU (disengagement of CCG from active discussion)
- Arrangement of monthly meetings to ensure advancement of the partnership



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What are the most common requests?



Short-term:

- Base for Staff to teach UA online courses to students in Ukraine and elsewhere
- Support in developing Distance Learning
- Help with online assessment tools
- Access to online resources
- Visiting professors (micro grants)
- Including academics in research groups
- Access for students to online courses - to earn credits that can be recognised by Ukrainian partner
- Hosting summer schools and Island programmes
- Servers and Technical support (Jisc)
- Equipment
- Linking Student unions (and Scientific societies)
- Fundraising to support institutions
- Support with mental health
- Help with the damaged facilities and equipment
- Preservation of historic archives and books

Medium and long-term goals:

- Double-degree partnership
- Joint research projects;
- Schemes for student and staff mobility (summer camps, short term internships etc.)
- Curriculum development
- Quality Assurance standards



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Recent Twinning Statistics:



- Registered universities:
 - Ukrainian: 133
 - British: 78
 - Canadian: 15
 - American: 7
 - European: 5
- Twinned universities: 72



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What do Ukrainian colleagues say about Twinning?



"We are highly appreciate all Universities who held out the "twinning hand" to Ukrainian universities to show their support in the struggle for the values of freedom, democracy and self-determination. We strive for deeper integration into the global educational space! The Twinning Initiative is one of the best tools for realizing this aspiration!"

Olga Budnyk, Adviser to the President of Ukraine on the Presidential Fund for support the education, science and sport.

"We find Charles Cormack's "Twinning Initiative" very promising. The idea of launching a programme of support when our University is twinned with an institution of higher education of a similar profile from the UK as a reliable partner will definitely contribute to enhance the quality of higher education in both universities, exchange best practice as well as recognize opportunities for future development and creating positive space for research and new ideas. Especially for Mariupol State University that is now temporary displaced to Kyiv"

Mykola Trofymenko, Rector of Mariupol State University

"Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University expresses its respect to you and informs you that we appreciate your interest in our cooperation and partnership. We sincerely hope that our cooperation with Charles and his associates in project "Twinning" will be very best experience we have had."

Mykola Rozhko, Rector of Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University



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Other activities CCG is involved in



- Open University for Ukraine
- Support for academics
- Work with Ro NGO 'Ruscovan' that send over medical supplies to Ukraine
- Resources sharing:
 - Mental health/psychological support resources
 - English language resources
 - Academic
- Development of course resources
- Development of Military vocabulary for Ukrainian military personnel
- Introducing Twinning into UA VET sector



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