

CALL FOR ACADEMIC STAFF PARTICIPATION
EUNICE RESEARCH SUMMER SCHOOL 2027
THEATRE, CULTURE AND THE CREATION OF COLLECTIVE MEMORY

We are pleased to announce the upcoming edition of the EUNICE Research Summer School, organised in collaboration with the Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo (UIMP), to be held at the Palacio de la Magdalena in Santander, as part of the activities of the EUNICE Alliance.

The 2027 Research Summer School will be coordinated by the University of the Peloponnese, with Assistant Professor Ioanna Papadopoulou as Academic Coordinator, under the title: “Theatre, Culture and the Creation of Collective Memory”.

The Summer School will be organised as a **Blended Intensive Programme (BIP)**, combining online sessions with a face-to-face component in Santander, expected to take place during the **21 to 25 June 2027** (exact dates to be confirmed).

Academic staff commitment involves:

- Collaborating in the academic design and preparation of the course content.
- Contributing to the online phase of the programme.
- Travelling to Santander to participate in the in-person sessions.
- Contributing, where appropriate, to lectures, thematic seminars, case-study sessions, research workshops and other forms of academic exchange involving active participation by students and early-stage researchers.

Travel and subsistence expenses may be requested through **Erasmus+ funding**, with the support of the respective local International Relations Offices (ORIs).

The Summer School adopts a deliberately broad and interdisciplinary approach to the study of collective memory, bringing together scholars and students from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds. The topic lends itself naturally to dialogue across fields such as theatre and performance studies, classical studies, literary studies, history, cultural studies, memory studies, heritage studies, and other related areas.

We are currently inviting **academic staff members from EUNICE partner universities** who would be interested in contributing to one or more of the following thematic areas:

1. Theatre, Performance and Collective Memory

This thematic area addresses the central theoretical concepts underpinning the Summer School, including collective memory, cultural memory and social memory, as well as the role of theatre and performance as sites, practices and agents of remembrance.

Contributions may explore the ways in which theatrical and performative practices preserve, transmit, reconstruct or contest shared understandings of the past, thus providing a broader conceptual and methodological framework for the programme.

2. Classical Drama, Reception and Cultural Memory

This area focuses on Greek and Roman drama and on the ways in which classical texts, myths and theatrical traditions have been received, adapted and reinterpreted in later historical and cultural contexts.

Classical drama offers a particularly rich field for examining how cultural memory is transmitted, transformed and renegotiated across time and across different European cultures. Contributions may address reception, adaptation, performance traditions, cultural transmission, reinterpretation and the contemporary significance of classical dramatic traditions.

3. Theatre, History and Trauma

This thematic area explores the relationship between theatre, historical experience and difficult or traumatic memory.

Possible topics include war, political violence, displacement, exile, loss and other forms of collective trauma, as well as the role of theatre and performance in representing, processing, transmitting or contesting such experiences.

Particular emphasis may be placed on the ways in which performance creates spaces for confronting contested histories and negotiating the relationship between individual experience and collective remembrance.

4. Performance, Identity and Community

This area examines the relationship between performance, memory and the construction of collective identities.

Contributions may address questions of national and cultural identity, gender, community, belonging and exclusion, as well as the ways in which theatrical and performative practices can reinforce, reshape or challenge shared narratives about the past.

The comparative exploration of different national, social and cultural contexts is particularly welcome.

5. Heritage, Adaptation and Contemporary Performance

This thematic area brings the discussion into contemporary cultural and performative contexts and explores the relationship between cultural heritage, adaptation and living practices of remembrance.

Possible topics include adaptation, re-enactment, site-specific performance, festivals, public performance, commemorative practices and other contemporary forms through which societies engage with the past and transform inherited cultural material into living cultural experience.

While these five thematic areas provide the core academic structure of the Summer School, the coordinating team also welcomes proposals from other relevant fields and disciplinary perspectives that may enrich the programme and contribute meaningfully to its overall objectives.

The programme is intended to encourage not only the presentation of research but also **dialogue, comparison and active research exchange**. Contributions that lend themselves to interactive formats, comparative case studies, discussion-based seminars or research workshops are therefore particularly welcome.

Application

Academic staff members interested in participating are invited to complete the following application form by **25 October 2026**:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/WU1zgYaRDD>

Applications will be reviewed by the coordinating team with the aim of ensuring a balanced representation of thematic areas, disciplinary perspectives and EUNICE partner institutions.

Please note that, depending on the number of applications received and the overall structure of the programme, it may not be possible to accommodate all proposed contributions.

We thank you very much in advance for your interest and for your contribution to this international and interdisciplinary academic initiative.