



**TALENT.
TECH.
TRUST.**

**Synergies with 28DIGITAL for
prospective EIT HEI Initiative
applicants**

*Focus on strengthening synergies between the
European Universities alliances and the EIT ecosystem*



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About 28DIGITAL

[28DIGITAL](#) is Europe's digital innovation engine, a multi-stakeholder platform, rooted in European values and open to the world, we turn knowledge into innovation, scale startups into global ventures, and build the next generation of digital talent to shape a fair, competitive, and human-centric digital future.

We work at the intersection of science, business, and society, transforming breakthroughs in AI, cybersecurity, robotics, and advanced computing into solutions that strengthen Europe's sovereignty, accelerate the green transition, and improve lives.

28DIGITAL plays a strategic role in strengthening the innovation and entrepreneurship capacity of European universities. Our activities directly support the HEI Initiative objectives through:

1. shared entrepreneurship and innovation modules;
2. deep-tech talent development pathways;
3. support for research commercialization;
4. structured cooperation between universities, industry, and innovation ecosystems.

28DIGITAL supports universities in strengthening their innovation capacity, entrepreneurial education, and digital transformation initiatives.

28DIGITAL was founded upon the initiative of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. 28DIGITAL received €1.1B funding and strategic guidance from the EIT over 15 years as an EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC). Following the successful signature of a Memorandum of Cooperation, the EIT and 28DIGITAL collaborate to further boost innovation in digital transformation across Europe and beyond.

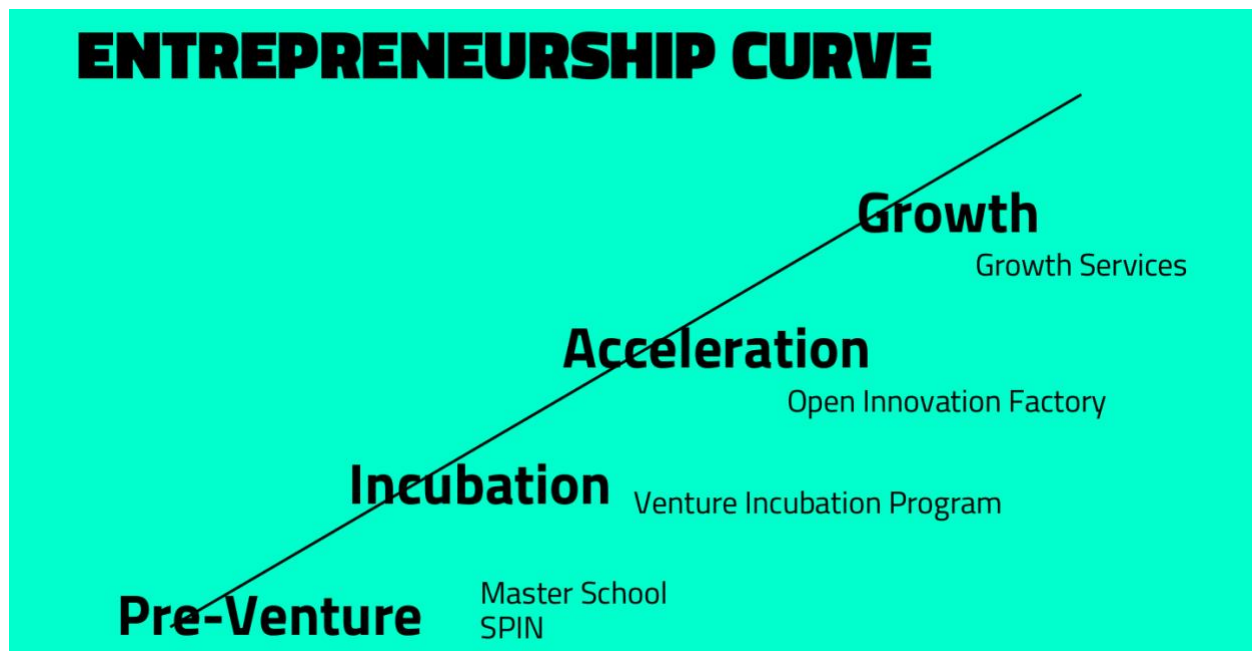


What we do

Launched in 2010, 28DIGITAL set out on a journey of growth. Growth of our community, growth of delivery on innovation, entrepreneurship and talent, and growth of its impact through thought leadership.

Since its launch, 28DIGITAL has equipped more than 3,500 students with the skills to innovate and become entrepreneurs; 28DIGITAL has supported more than 780 start-ups and scaleups to grow internationally, created more than 250 ventures and launched more than 540 products and services commercially.

28DIGITAL matured against the background of a fast-accelerating digital world and a growing focus on entrepreneurship in Europe. Complementing the strong European research base, this entrepreneurial mindset will strengthen Europe's position in a digital world driven by data, platforms, and the network economy. Creating a Strong Digital Europe will safeguard European values by being inclusive, fair, and sustainable.





In the entrepreneurship curve above, 28DIGITAL represents its main four pillars:

- **Pre-venture**, including programmes such as the [Master School](#), as 28DIGITAL offers deep-tech master's degrees with a focus on Entrepreneurship & Innovation at multiple universities across Europe. Moreover, this pillar involves [SPIN](#) as well, a programme focused on helping deep-tech researchers to turn their ideas into market-ready innovations.
- **Incubation**, including, for example, the [Venture Incubation Programme](#), a two-stage initiative by 28DIGITAL, combining entrepreneurial education and venture-building support.
- **Acceleration**, including initiatives like the [Open Innovation Factory](#), that connects high-potential digital startups with the right partners, funding instruments, and ecosystem opportunities across Europe.
- **Growth**, to receive unparalleled [fundraising support](#), as our team of venture capital experts help European deep tech companies gain access to the financing they need to scale their businesses.



Collaborating with 28DIGITAL

[On the page dedicated to the current opportunities](#), you can dive deep into the several services the 28DIGITAL ecosystem can apply for!

For example, EIT HEI Initiative project partners could be interested in the following activities:

Unipreneurship services

SPIN

Are you a Deep Tech researcher interested in turning your breakthrough ideas into market-ready innovations?

SPIN can be integrated into alliance doctoral schools, research support services, or early-career researcher programmes. It provides a structured, KIC-backed pathway for transforming research outcomes into societal and market impact.

SPIN: Explore

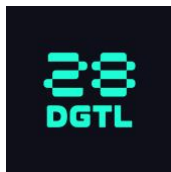
SPIN: Explore is a 9-hour online training course, which aims to inspire and empower researchers and scientists, by equipping them with foundational business skills and stimulating their interest in the journey from lab to market.

[Read more and remain updated on the next cohort.](#)

SPIN: Rise

SPIN: Rise is a hybrid entrepreneurial training and pre-incubation programme designed for researchers who want to explore how their work can drive change and create impact beyond academia.

[Read more and remain updated on the next cohorts.](#)



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(d)Academy

A one-stop-platform for life-long upskilling and reskilling that aims at covering skill gaps and unclear pathway to employment in the rapidly evolving job market. Additionally, (d)Academy automatically transforms your CV into a professional and dynamic profile that highlights your strengths, skills, and experience. It acts as a digital showcase, helping you connect with employers and find new career opportunities.

UPSKILL TO ACHIEVE YOUR FUTURE GOAL



Follow customised learning pathways



Bridge your skills gaps



Be ready for your next career opportunity

Complete your (d)Academy profile today!





Education programmes

28DIGITAL's Education Pillar offers deep-tech master's degree tracks combining technical excellence with entrepreneurship and innovation. Selected modules can be offered to alliance partners as:

- standalone online courses;
- joint summer schools.

This provides alliances with a ready-to-use portfolio of high-quality, innovation-focused education content.

EU-funded projects

DigitalTech EDIH

[DigitalTech EDIH](#), part of the EU's European Digital Innovation Hubs, offers free training and consulting in cybersecurity, fintech, edtech, blockchain, and business development. Supporting Hungarian SMEs and public bodies, it boosts efficiency and competitiveness nationwide.

HDS EDIH

[Health Data Sweden \(HDS\)](#) is a national ecosystem supporting SMEs and the public sector in health data innovation. With a strong network of regions, universities, and hubs, the hub offer tailored services, technical expertise, and funding advice to boost digital maturity from idea to product.

FAIR EDIH

The [Finnish AI Region \(FAIR\)](#) offers free, low-threshold support to SMEs in AI, AR, HPC, and cybersecurity. Funded by the European Commission, Business Finland, and Helsinki's Innovation Fund, FAIR helps companies adopt smart digital solutions and grow their business.





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DIPS

The [DIPS project](#) – Digitalization and Innovation of Public Services – received the “Seal of Excellence” from the European Commission under the Digital Europe Programme. As a nationally funded initiative via PNRR, DIPS is part of the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH) network serving public sector organisations.

How to reach out to us

If you are interested in any of our services, feel free to visit our [website](#), sign up to our [newsletter](#) or contact us at info@28digital.eu.

