



BEELEAD

THE CIRCLE U. WOMEN FOUNDERS NETWORK



THE CHALLENGE

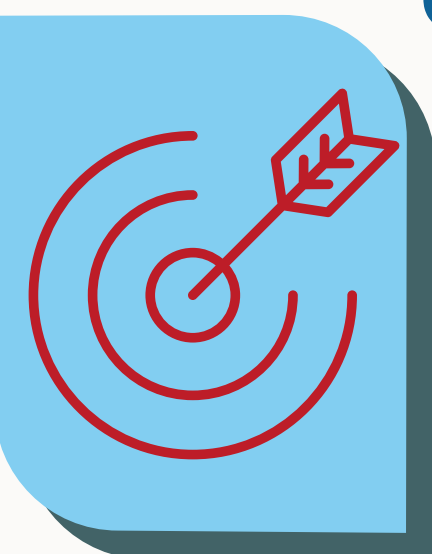
Entrepreneurship in Europe face a striking gender gap. Only one-third of EU start-ups are led by women. Young women innovators and especially students are underrepresented. This gap limits opportunities and stifles innovation, since diverse perspectives are essential in addressing contemporary challenges.

OUR RESPONSE



The Circle U. Women Founders Network was founded to address this gap. We are a student-led initiative that builds an inclusive and supportive community where young women can connect, exchange ideas, and gain the knowledge and skills needed to thrive as entrepreneurs.

OUR GOALS



- Create opportunities for young innovators to achieve equality in entrepreneurship
- Build a vibrant community for exchanging resources, skills, and ideas
- Provide mentorship to empower women on their entrepreneurial journey



FUTURE PLANS

Our journey continues, as we grow the Circle U. Women Founders Network.

- Community-building and empowerment events: Workshops on leadership, project pitching, teamwork, and networking with local women founders and start-ups.
- Expanding the network: 1: University of Vienna (Nov 2025): Discover the Female Founder in You! – building self-confidence, personal branding, and pitching skills., 2:UCLouvain (2026): Building Teams and Community – collaboration, networking, and strengthening the Women Founders Network.
- Strengthening our student-led platform: Weekly online meetings and webinars

Together, we are shaping a bold future for women innovators across Europe.

OUR JOURNEY

Paris – (March 2023)

From Ideas to Impact

Our journey started at Université Paris Cité, where students and academics from across the Circle U. alliance gathered for the Female Founders Retreat.



The retreat concluded with the creation of our Manifesto for a European, student-led network.



Pisa – (September 2024)

Empowerment and Connection

The next step took place at the University of Pisa.

Alongside the European Researchers' Night, students engaged in a Researcher Treasure Hunt, connecting with female scientists and innovators.



Aarhus – (April 2025)

Hackathon and Community Building

At Aarhus University, the WFN hosted a two-part event: community-building workshops and a hackathon.



Participants collaborated to design entrepreneurial projects supporting emotionally nurturing environments for women innovators.

