



U-Multirank: 2015 Global University Rankings

The new U-Multirank global university ranking released its second edition on-line on 30 March 2015 (www.umultirank.org), providing users with information on more than 1,200 higher education institutions from 83 countries.

Sponsored by the EU Lifelong Learning Programme, U-Multirank compares and grades performance across five broad dimensions (teaching and learning, regional engagement, knowledge transfer, international orientation and research) and allows users to make their own multi-dimensional comparisons. This scoring system shows that ‘various aspects of excellence are to be found in many different universities and that the concept of “best” university in the world depends on what you’re looking for.’

Greece is well represented on the new platform, with information available on 13 of the country’s higher education institutions. Among these, University of Crete comes first overall, with 5 ‘A’ (‘gold’) and 7 B (‘silver’) scores. The results show again that the University’s primary strengths are in research and research linkages.

Information is also available on specific fields with psychology, computer science, and medicine included in this new edition, adding to the information already available for business studies, electrical and mechanical engineering, and physics. The strong performance by the University’s Physics Department in research indicators (10 ‘A’ scores) was published last year. This year the results show ‘gold’ graded performance for several indicators in Computer Science (5), Psychology (5), and the Medical School (7), again primarily related to research. Overall, these scores put the University’s Medical School 23rd on the list of 116 EU University Medical Schools included in U-Multirank, and heading the list for Greece.

Surveys of students at participating universities form a very significant source of data for U-Multirank, particularly on the teaching-learning performance indicators. Psychology was the only Department to benefit from this with a response rate of over 10%. Hopefully University of Crete students will make use of this opportunity to make their opinions known in the next U-Multirank.