

CIVIS 2025 – STUDENT PROJECT

1. Project Title

Comme Toi – Crossed Perspectives on Difference in Europe

Comme Toi weaves connections across Europe, where otherness becomes a shared language, affirming that our differences are our greatest strength.

2. Why this project? Why with CIVIS?

Comme Toi was born from the conviction that otherness is not a barrier, but a form of wealth. Behind each face lies a story of struggle, hope and identity that deserves to be told.

Through this project, I wish to use art as a means of inclusion, dialogue and solidarity among European students. My own life path, marked by exile, reconstruction and integration, deeply nourishes this approach.

CIVIS, with its values of civic engagement, diversity and transnational cooperation, offers the ideal framework to bring this project to life. *Comme Toi* fully aligns with the CIVIS dynamic by creating a space for mutual recognition and reinforcing a European spirit of openness, respect and humanity.

This project also gives CIVIS universities the opportunity to highlight the experiences of refugee, migrant, displaced and underrepresented students by involving them in a collective creative process and intercultural awareness initiative.

3. Project Objectives

This student-led project seeks to explore the notions of difference and identity through an artistic and documentary approach.

Through photographic portraits and testimonials collected across different countries, students will share their vision of a more inclusive "living together".

The project encourages multilingual and intercultural dialogue, mutual recognition, and civic engagement across CIVIS universities.

4. Project Summary

Comme Toi is an artistic and human-centered project focused on otherness. It gathers European students around the production of portraits and life stories, showcasing the authenticity of each personal journey, whether shaped by ethnicity, social background or culture.

The goal is to create a traveling exhibition, accompanied by a multilingual booklet and a web platform, highlighting shared values beyond cultural differences.

Through art, photography and storytelling, students will build a common language based on dignity, memory and resilience.

5. Partnerships and Transnational Dimension

The project is based on collaboration between students from all CIVIS member universities. Each partner student will collect local portraits and stories, to be translated and shared. Exhibitions and related events will take place at participating universities.

CIVIS universities offer a rich ground for welcoming refugee students and engaging with student associations representing minorities (LGBTQIA+ community, socially excluded individuals, migrants, displaced people, etc.).

Language and Art are used as powerful tools for integration and emancipation, with support from the Universities' Language Services.

Participating universities (CIVIS):

- Aix-Marseille Université (France)
- Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain)
- Sapienza Università di Roma (Italy)
- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece)
- Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)
- Université de Lausanne (Switzerland)
- Université de Bucarest (Romania)
- University of Glasgow (United Kingdom)
- University of Salzburg (Austria)
- Stockholm University (Sweden)
- Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen (Germany)

(CIVIS Afrique - Bassin Méditerranéen):

- University of Sfax (Tunisie)
- University Hassan II of Casablanca (Maroc)

6. Image Production – Artistic Methodology

The project lead, Macilon dos Santos, acts as the main photographer and artistic director. He proposes a sensitive documentary methodology based on listening, respect and individual valorization.

Partner students will adopt this method within their local context, with pedagogical guidance provided by Macilon (online meetings and support materials).

He will produce part of the portraits at Aix-Marseille Université and will curate images submitted by partner students to ensure visual and ethical coherence. This approach combines diversity of perspectives with a unified artistic vision.

7. Simplified Budget Forecast

- Photo prints / exhibitions (6 locations): €3,000
- International mobility / €3,250
- Audiovisual equipment rental: €650
- Multilingual translations / proofreading: €600
- Web platform creation / booklet design: €1,200
- Communication (posters, flyers, social media): €400
- Image rights / legal printing: €200
- Miscellaneous / unforeseen costs: €300

TOTAL: €9,600

8. Provisional Timeline

May – June 2025:

- Creation of an international student team
- Launch of coordination

July – October 2025:

- Production of photographic reports and student testimonials in each country

November – December 2025:

- Translation, editing, post-production

January – March 2026:

- Finalization of exhibition and publishing materials

April – June 2026:

- Launch of traveling exhibition and public events

9. Conclusion

Through *Comme Toi*, European students become the actors of an artistic and civic dialogue without borders.

This engaged and collaborative project celebrates the diversity of student journeys and transforms otherness into a source of collective memory and social innovation. It affirms the belief that through art and storytelling, a more inclusive and supportive society can be built, led by students.

Comme Toi aligns with a strong European dynamic by gathering students from all CIVIS universities. It stimulates vibrant exchange between student cultures, where differences are embraced as shared strength through art.