

Maastricht University

Netherlands · Europe · measured over co-authored research published 2021 to 2025

#197 in the world

Gold standing

#98 in Europe

#29 in the world for Health Professions

38,331

co-authored works, 2021 to 2025

1,062

partner universities

76

partner countries

845

sustained deep ties

3.21

citation impact of the joint work

92%

of partners non-redundant

What this document is

The index measures **collaboration, not reputation**: how central Maastricht University is in the global research network, computed from the open research record rather than from any survey. This dossier takes the same evidence further than the public page can. It reads the whole cohort of 1,195 ranked universities on your behalf and answers the questions you cannot answer from inside one institution: how your pillars compare with the peer group the index itself assigns you, where your published subject standing is strongest and weakest across all 25 ranked fields, how exposed your network is to a small number of partners, and which specific universities you are not yet anchored to that the data says you should be.

Every figure is traceable. Each visual carries what it shows, what it means and the source it came from, and the final page lists every source with the place you can check it for yourself. **GRP is independent and the index is free and public. No commercial relationship with GRP changes any university's score or position, and none ever will.**

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Where Maastricht University stands, and what to do about it

Three strengths to lead with, three problems to manage and three moves to make, each drawn from a specific figure later in this document.

The finding. Maastricht University is a world top-29 university in Health Professions, with 10 of its 25 ranked fields inside the world top 100. The gap that matters is diversity, where it sits 23.0 percentile points behind its own peer group. The largest single move available is City University of Hong Kong, ranked #1 in Materials Science against your #649, and not currently an anchor partner.

Strengths

Health Professions is the anchor field. World #29 of 1,175 ranked universities, with Psychology at #33, Neuroscience at #48 behind it. These are the fields a consortium should be built around.

Strong on international and impact. Maastricht University sits in the 95th percentile for international and the 83rd for impact.

A bridge, not only a hub. 167 of 181 partners (92%) are non-redundant, so the network connects communities that would not otherwise meet.

Challenges

Diversity is the softest pillar. At the 57th percentile it sits clearly below the others, and it is the single clearest place to build.

Behind your own peer group on diversity. Your diversity percentile is 57 against a peer-set mean of 80.0, a gap of 23.0 points.

Earth and Planetary Sciences is the weakest published field. World #851 of 1,112, far behind the rest of the portfolio.

Opportunities

Lift PolyU Hong Kong. They rank #1 in Business, Management and Accounting against your #53, and they are not among your 15 anchor partners. Route: Horizon Europe association or third-country participation, or a bilateral link between NWO and the RGC.

Close the gap with CityU Hong Kong. They rank #1 in Materials Science against your #649, and they are not among your 15 anchor partners. Route: Horizon Europe association or third-country participation, or a bilateral link between NWO and the RGC.

Lift LSE. They rank #2 in Economics, Econometrics and Finance against your #76, and they are not among your 15 anchor partners. Route: a Horizon Europe collaborative call, or a bilateral programme linking NWO and UKRI.

The peer group this dossier measures you against

The five universities the index places closest to Maastricht University on the standing score. Every peer comparison in this document uses this set, not a group chosen to flatter.

University of Illinois
Chicago
United States, world
#194

Delft University of
Technology
Netherlands, world
#198

University of Bergen
Norway, world #200

Northeastern
University
United States, world
#202

University of Surrey
United Kingdom, world
#199

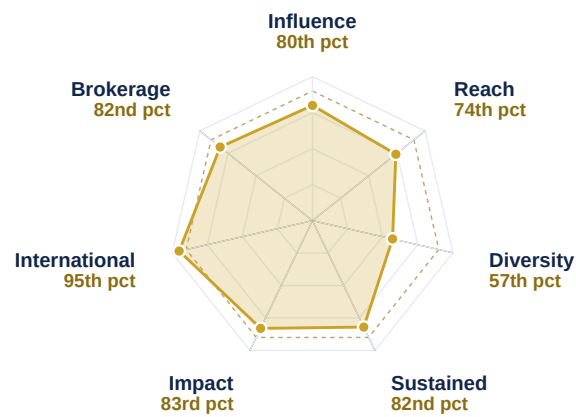
Source: Research Collaboration Index 2026, published master record and RCI subject indices, 26 fields, 2026 edition.

VISUAL 1 AND VISUAL 2

Your collaboration profile, and how it reads against your peers

Visual 1. Six scored pillars and brokerage, as global percentiles

Each axis is a percentile against all 1,195 ranked universities. The dashed ring marks the top decile, so anything touching it is a top ten per cent position.

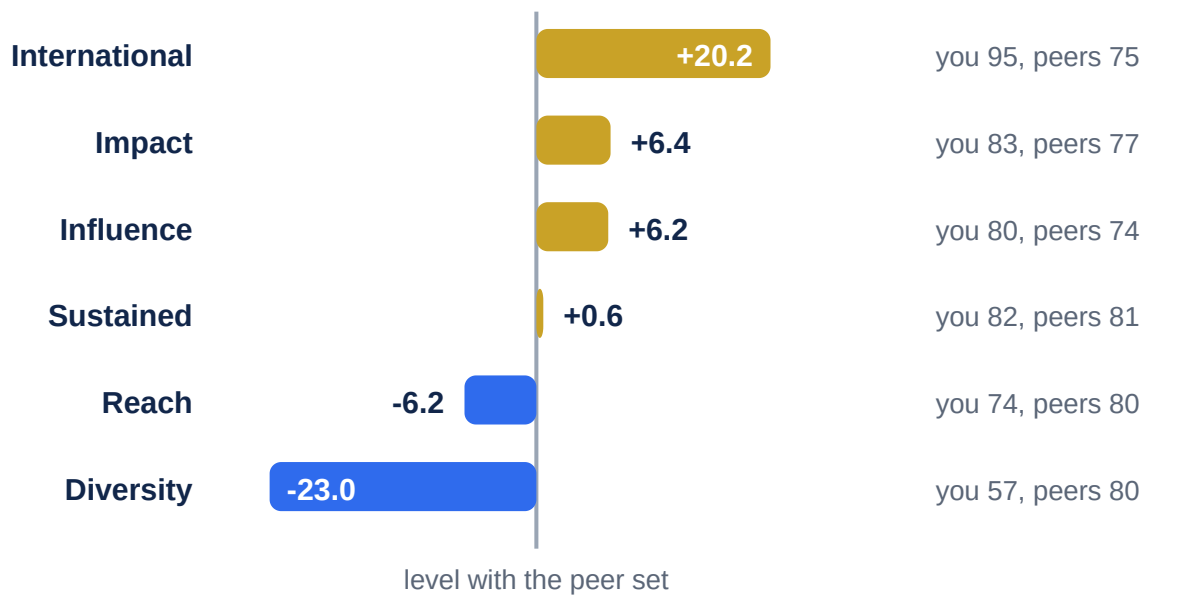


Maastricht University is strongest on **international**, at the **95th percentile**, then impact (83rd) and sustained (82nd). The dashed ring is the top decile, so anything touching it is a defensible strength. Brokerage is shown alongside the six scored pillars but is deliberately not part of the score: **167 of 181 partners (92%) are non-redundant**, which is a measure of whether you connect communities that would otherwise stay apart, not of how widely you publish.

Source: open scholarly record (OpenAlex), co-authored works 2021 to 2025. Verify at [the methodology page at globalresearchpartnerships.com/rci/methodology](https://globalresearchpartnerships.com/rci/methodology).

Visual 2. The same pillars, measured against your own peer group

Your percentile minus the mean of your five index-assigned peers. Gold is ahead of the peer set, blue is behind it.



Against the five universities the index places closest to you, Maastricht University is furthest **ahead on international**, by +20.2 percentile points, and furthest **behind on diversity**, by -23.0. This is the comparison a university cannot make for itself: it requires the cohort's percentiles, not its own. The peer set is University of Illinois Chicago at #194, Delft University of Technology at #198, University of Bergen at #200, Northeastern University at #202, University of Surrey at #199.

Source: Research Collaboration Index 2026, published master record.

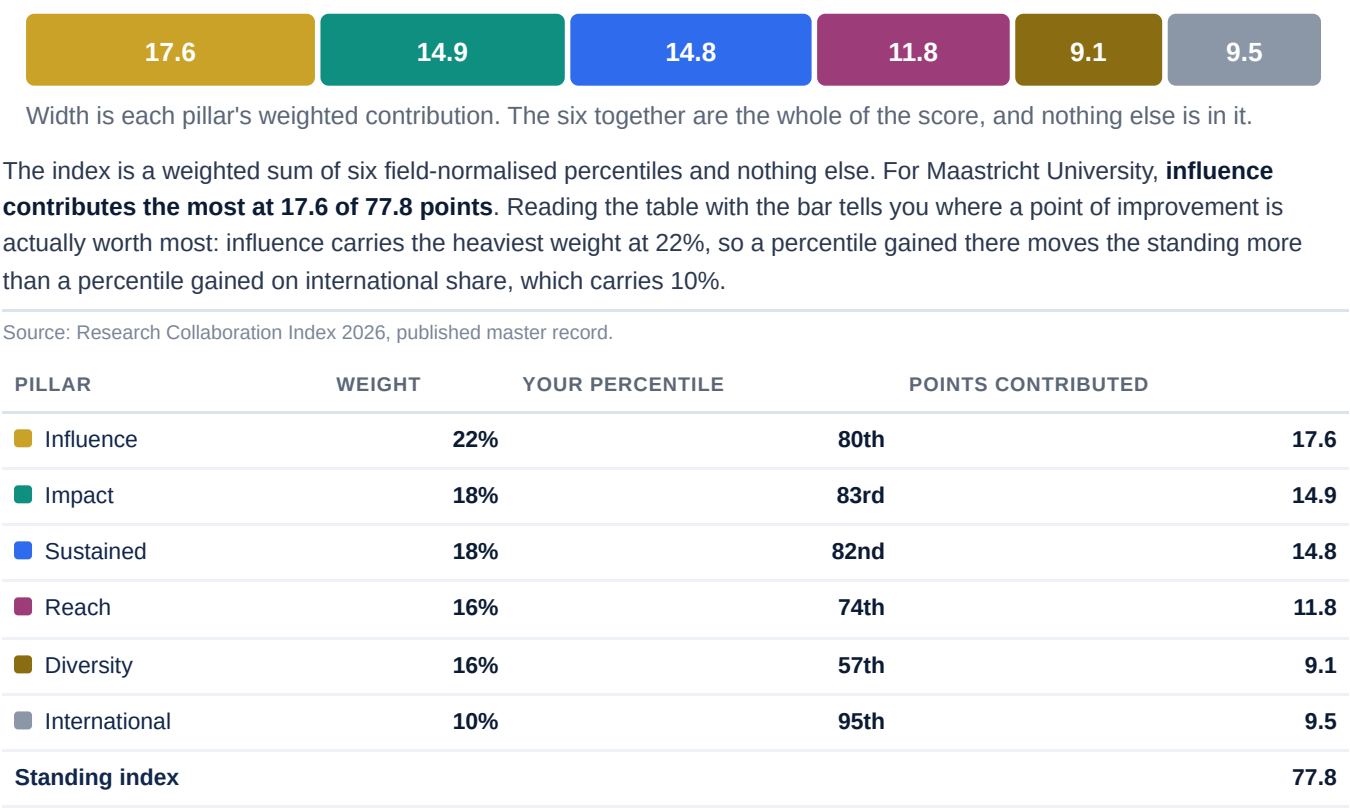
VISUAL 3

Exactly what your standing is built from

Nothing is hidden and nothing is discretionary. This is the entire calculation.

Visual 3. The anatomy of the standing index

Each block is one pillar's weighted contribution. The blocks together are the score.



Source: Research Collaboration Index 2026, published master record.

Maastricht University ranks **#145 in the world for collaboration efficiency**, the citation impact returned per partnership, against #197 on the overall index. That is 52 places better than the headline standing, so the network converts partnerships into impact more effectively than its size suggests. The argument to make externally is quality of partnership, not volume.

Brokerage is reported, never scored. It is a diagnostic of whether you join communities that would otherwise stay apart. Folding it into the score would let a university raise its standing simply by publishing more widely, so GRP keeps it out and prints it beside the score instead.

Your entire published subject portfolio

Every field the index ranks you in, not the handful the public page has room for.



How you collaborate, faculty by faculty

The same network divided into its four broad domains, with the partners each one actually leans on.

Health and Medicine

Best field: #29 in Health Professions

5 ranked fields, domain rank #124

TOP PARTNERS HERE



Life Sciences

Best field: #48 in Neuroscience

5 ranked fields, domain rank #375

TOP PARTNERS HERE



Physical Sciences and Engineering

Best field: #167 in Computer Science

9 ranked fields, domain rank #915

TOP PARTNERS HERE



Social Sciences

Best field: #33 in Psychology

6 ranked fields, domain rank #282

TOP PARTNERS HERE



Split the same network by faculty and the picture changes. **Health and Medicine** carries the strongest field position, and the partners listed under each domain are the ones a dean in that faculty already works with. Use this page to hand each pro-vice-chancellor the part of the network that is theirs, rather than an institutional average nobody owns.

Source: RCI subject indices, 26 fields, 2026 edition and domain-level co-authorship from open scholarly record (OpenAlex), co-authored works 2021 to 2025.

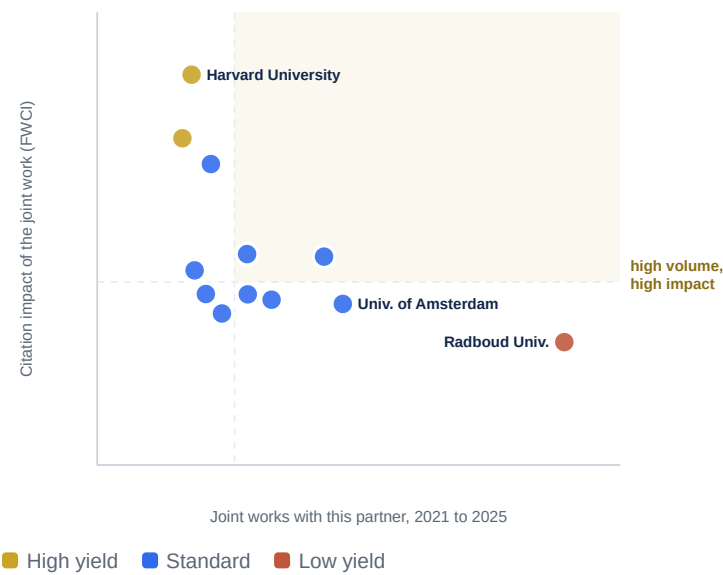
VISUAL 5

Which partnerships actually pay off

Volume is not value. Every anchor partner plotted by how much you publish together against how much that joint work is cited.

Visual 5. Collaboration volume against citation impact

Each dot is one anchor partner. The dashed lines are this set's medians; the shaded quadrant is high volume and high impact.



Harvard University returns the highest citation impact of the set at FWCI 9.4 on 719 joint works. That is a consortium waiting to be formalised: the relationship already produces the impact, it simply is not funded as a programme. **Radboud University Nijmegen** is the opposite case, 3,557 joint works at FWCI 3.0. That volume is worth a question: what is it buying, and would the same academic time spent on the high-yield tie return more.

Source: open scholarly record (OpenAlex), co-authored works 2021 to 2025, with field-weighted citation impact.

ANCHOR PARTNER	COUNTRY	JOINT WORKS	FWCI	YIELD
Radboud University Nijmegen	Netherlands	3,557	3.0	Low yield
University of Amsterdam	Netherlands	1,870	3.9	Standard
KU Leuven	Belgium	1,727	5.0	Standard
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam	Netherlands	1,328	4.0	Standard
University of Groningen	Netherlands	1,147	4.1	Standard
Utrecht University	Netherlands	1,142	5.1	Standard
RWTH Aachen University	Germany	950	3.6	Standard
University College London	United Kingdom	866	7.2	Standard
Erasmus University Rotterdam	Netherlands	828	4.1	Standard

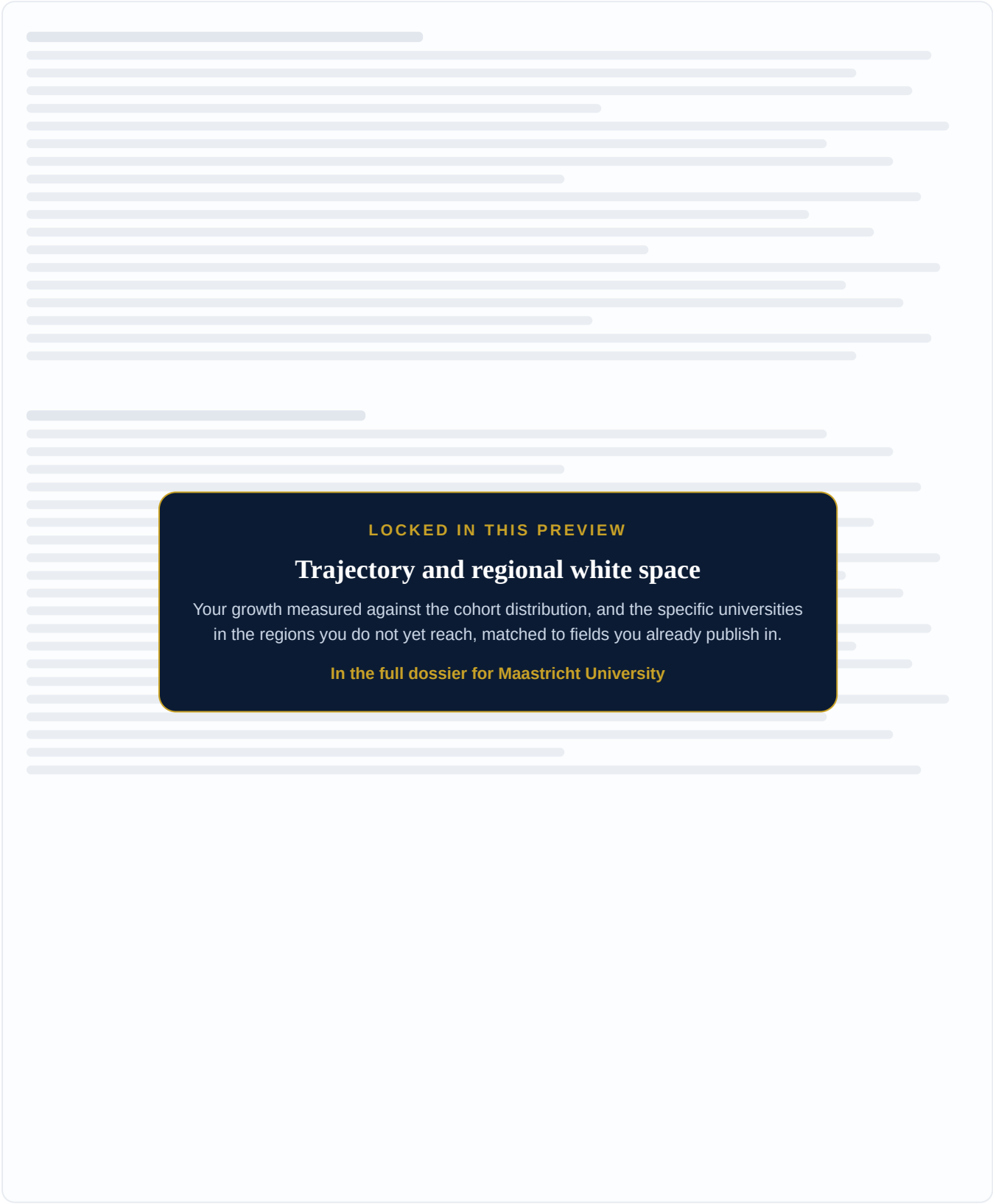
How concentrated your network really is

A number no university computes for itself, because concentration looks like strength from the inside.



Your trajectory, and the regions you do not reach

Growth is only meaningful against the cohort, and a gap is only useful once it has names in it.



LOCKED IN THIS PREVIEW

Trajectory and regional white space

Your growth measured against the cohort distribution, and the specific universities in the regions you do not yet reach, matched to fields you already publish in.

[In the full dossier for Maastricht University](#)

FUNDING

The funding behind the network, and the routes that pay for the next one

What GRP can evidence, stated plainly, and nothing beyond it.



Maastricht University holds **411 awards** across the funders listed, every one of them published by the funder itself and searchable by anyone. The split between Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 matters for planning: the Horizon 2020 share is closing, so a partnership built on that record needs a Horizon Europe successor call, not a renewal.

FUNDER	IDENTIFIED	AWARDS	CHECK IT YOURSELF
European Commission	€246M	411	cordis.europa.eu, searchable by participant name
Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020			

What our funding data does and does not cover. GRP states a funding figure only where the funder publishes the award itself. That is the European Commission for 417 of the 1,195 ranked universities and the US National Institutes of Health for 158. Where neither applies, this dossier names the funding route for each recommended partnership instead of quoting a total we cannot evidence.

Funding routes for the partnerships recommended in this dossier

The programme that would credibly fund each specific pairing, given both countries.

PARTNER	COUNTRY	ROUTE
PolyU Hong Kong	Hong Kong SAR	Horizon Europe association or third-country participation, or a bilateral link between NWO and the RGC
LSE	United Kingdom	a Horizon Europe collaborative call, or a bilateral programme linking NWO and UKRI
CityU Hong Kong	Hong Kong SAR	Horizon Europe association or third-country participation, or a bilateral link between NWO and the RGC
University of Göttingen	Germany	a Horizon Europe collaborative call, or a bilateral programme linking NWO and the DFG

Source: GRP funder and programme mapping by country pair, with European Commission CORDIS project database, Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020.

Source: European Commission CORDIS project database, Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 and US National Institutes of Health award records. Verify at cordis.europa.eu and reporter.nih.gov.

The partners who would lift what you are already good at

Universities ranked ahead of you in the fields you are already strong in, that are not among your 15 anchor partners.

LOCKED IN THIS PREVIEW

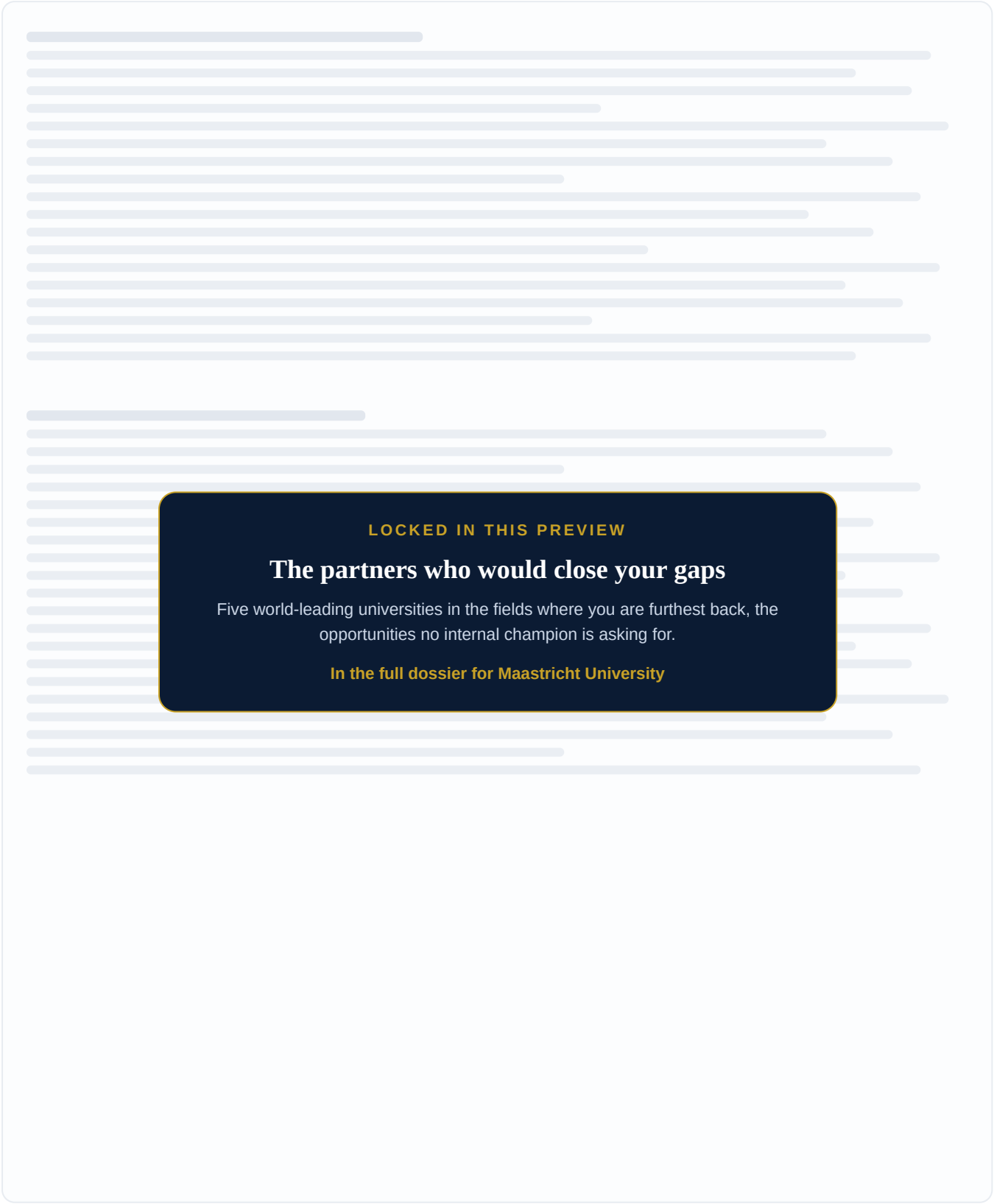
The partners who would lift your strengths

Five named universities ranked ahead of you in your own strongest fields, each with the field, both positions and the programme that would fund the work.

[In the full dossier for Maastricht University](#)

The partners who would close what you are weakest at

World-leading universities in the fields where your published standing is furthest back.



Signature joint research

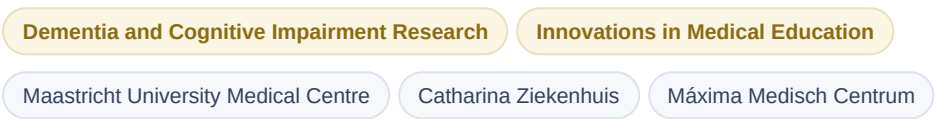
The most cited work produced with partners in the window, each one resolvable by DOI.

PAPER	YEAR	CITATIONS
The impact of the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic on stress resilience and mental health: A critical review across waves https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroneuro.2021.10.864	2021	483
Occupational burnout and job satisfaction among physicians in times of COVID-19 crisis: a convergent parallel mixed-method study https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-021-10897-4	2021	277

Source: open scholarly record (OpenAlex), co-authored works 2021 to 2025. Verify at doi.org.

The research base behind the network

A partnership plugs into a base, not a name: the concentrations of joint work, and the affiliated institutes and hospitals.



A 90 day plan, written from your own data

The dossier ends where a strategy meeting starts. Three moves, sequenced, each pointing back to a specific figure above.

0 to 30 days

Name the two targets

Put PolyU Hong Kong and CityU Hong Kong to the relevant deans as formal partnership targets, with the rank comparison from this dossier attached. The evidence is a published index position, not an opinion, which is what makes the conversation short.

30 to 60 days

Open the funding route

Scope the named programme for each target and identify the principal investigator on both sides in Business and Management. Formalise the highest-yield existing tie into a funded consortium concept at the same time, so the effort produces two proposals rather than one.

60 to 90 days

Fix the soft spot and set the measure

Take the weakest pillar, diversity, and the concentration figure on page 8 to the research committee with a target for the next edition. Set one measurable objective: a named new anchor partner outside your top two countries, with a submitted joint proposal.

What GRP does and does not do. We publish the index and we tell you what it says about you. We do not broker the introductions, and a partnership with GRP will never change your position, your band or any other university's. That independence is the only reason this document is worth reading.

SOURCES AND METHOD

Every figure in this dossier, and where to check it

GRP publishes its method and its sources because the index has to survive being checked. Nothing here rests on a proprietary dataset you cannot see.

WHAT	USED FOR	WHERE TO VERIFY
The index itself Research Collaboration Index 2026, published master record	Pillar percentiles, standing, band, region rank, partner list, growth series, brokerage.	globalresearchpartnerships.com/rci/methodology
Subject indices RCI subject indices, 26 fields, 2026 edition	Every field rank printed in this dossier, 25 of 26 for this university.	globalresearchpartnerships.com/rci/subjects
The research record open scholarly record (OpenAlex), co- authored works 2021 to 2025	Co-authorship, partner countries, citation impact, research themes, exemplar papers.	openalex.org , free and open to anyone
European funding European Commission CORDIS project database, Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020	Amounts and project counts for the 417 ranked universities the Commission publishes.	cordis.europa.eu
US federal funding US National Institutes of Health award records	Award totals and counts for the 158 ranked universities with NIH awards.	reporter.nih.gov
Subject Awards RCI Subject Awards, editorial review, announced 15 September 2026	Winner and finalist standing, the anchoring paper and the verified named academic.	globalresearchpartnerships.com/rci/awards
Attribution register RCI affiliation-attribution register, 2026 edition	The multi-campus affiliation check run before any subject strength is asserted.	stated on this page where it applies

How the score is computed

Six field-normalised pillar percentiles, weighted: influence 22%, impact 18%, sustained ties 18%, reach 16%, diversity 16%, international share 10%. Influence on the overall index is weighted eigenvector centrality on the giant component of the collaboration network. The subject indices use PageRank at alpha 0.85, because at field level eigenvector centrality localises onto the densest cluster and produces results that are mathematically correct and substantively wrong. Brokerage is computed as 60% Burt structural holes and 40% disparity-filter backbone betweenness, and is reported beside the score, never inside it.

What this measures, and what it does not

The index measures collaboration. It is not a measure of teaching, of research quality in the abstract, or of institutional prestige, and a university that collaborates less by deliberate strategy is not failing at anything this index can see. Attribution follows the affiliation string the authors wrote, so a multi-campus system can pool output across its siblings; where our register flags that, it is stated on page 2 rather than left for you to discover.

Corrections

If any figure here is wrong, tell us and we will check it against the source and correct it publicly. Write to factfile@globalresearchpartnerships.com. Corrections are free, they are not conditional on any commercial relationship, and the published scores for the 2026 edition are fixed until the next release, so a correction is recorded and carried forward rather than quietly changing a rank that others have already cited.

Independence. The Research Collaboration Index is free, public and independent. No university can buy a position, improve one, or remove one. Partnership with GRP changes what we can tell you about your own network and nothing whatsoever about where you sit in it.