RENOVATE

Regenerative engineering innovation in early intervention of osteoarthritis

101227121 – RENOVATE

Funded by the European Union

Horizon Europe Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions Doctoral Networks (MSCA-DN)

RENOVATE

HORIZON-MSCA-2024-DN-01

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NEWSLETTER Nº 1

April 2026

Welcome to this first newsletter of RENOVATE project. Some events for the last few months. We'll try to summarize the most relevant news in the following sections. The first year of the project is taking place with the development of the recruitment process.

Enjoy this newsletter!

NEWS

Kick-off meeting of RENOVATE project

November 18, 2025

The new project: **“Regenerative Engineering Innovation in Early Intervention of Osteoarthritis (MSCA-DN 101227121 RENOVATE)”** properly began with its formal announcement. That project was funded by the European Union under the **Horizon Europe programme**, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – **Doctoral Networks (MSCA-DN)**. The consortium, coordinated by the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, is composed of **seven beneficiaries and four associated partners**.

The **kick-off meeting** took place **on 17 November 2025** in Gran Canaria, Spain.

The main objectives of this project are:

- To create an innovative, multinational, multi-sectoral, and multidisciplinary doctoral network of excellence to train **10 early-stage researchers (DCs)**.
- To define patient-specific key requirements for **large osteochondral scaffolds**, improving the understanding of cartilage and subchondral bone damage progression.
- To develop **highly adhesive and biocompatible porous 3D structures** that mimic the native hierarchical structure of osteochondral tissue, using alternative biomaterials, bioinks, and nanocomposites.
- To produce **multi-material, graded osteochondral scaffolds** according to patient-specific functional and mechanical requirements.

MSCA-DN RENOVATE Recruitment

December 12, 2025

The **recruitment process** for the **10 doctoral candidate positions** within the framework of the **MSCA-DN RENOVATE project** had officially begun.

Positions are available and can be viewed at the following **EURAXESS** links, where you will find detailed information on eligibility criteria and application procedures:

PhD CANDIDATE POSITIONS

Celebrating 30 years of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

March 10, 2026

Video message from Marie Skłodowska-Curie’s granddaughter:

https://lnkd.in/daMMtVh8

Celebrating RENOVATE Symposium at TERMIS-EU 2026

April 24, 2026

The **MSCA-DN RENOVATE** project successfully promoted an official symposium at the **TERMIS-EU 2026 congress,** one of the leading international conferences in the field of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. The congress took place from **Monday** until today**, Friday in Palma de Mallorca, Spain**.

Participation in the congress was a great success about **90 attendances**, including speakers, listeners and chairmans.

The symposium, entitled "**Regenerative Engineering Innovation in Early Intervention of Osteoarthritis**," was included in the final scientific program after being selected for the high quality of the proposal and the interest it generated within the research community.

Two of the three chairman were partners in the project, **Mario Monzón** and **Chaozong Liu**.

This Symposium featured an invited speaker, **Professor Miguel Oliveira**, with the title: "Biomaterials advances and engineering approaches for osteochondral tissue engineering scaffolding"**,** along with three oral presentations by researchers from the consortium:

- **Zaida Ortega**: "RENOVATE Project: Regenerative engineering innovation in early intervention of osteoarthritis".
- **Ricardo Donate**: "Piezoelectric PLA/BCZT composite scaffolds with optimized gyroid architecture for bone regeneration".
- **Chaozong Liu**: "Insights into the mechanisms of subchondral bone cyst formation in osteoarthritis revealed by synchrotron XRF/XRD analysis".

The other papers accepted at the symposium were:

- **Marcin Kotlarz**: "Cell-source dependent phenotype preservation and plasticity in hydrogel-bioceramic osteochondral engineering"
- **Graciosa Teixeira:** "Dynamic loading enhances meniscus-like matrix formation on non-woven PET scaffolds seeded with human mesenchymal stromal cells"
- **Sandhya Natesan**: "Engineered peptidoglycan matrix mimics reinforce hyaluronic acid gel retention and promote biochemical restoration in cartilage regeneration"
- **Michela Uberti**: "In vivo evaluation of ACL injury–induced changes in bone remodeling in post-traumatic osteoarthritis"

Overall, the symposium provided an excellent platform to present the project's scientific vision, its main objectives, and the initial progress made in developing regenerative strategies for osteoarthritis.

Participation in TERMIS-EU 2026 has been a **significant milestone for RENOVATE**, helping to strengthen its international visibility, promote scientific exchange with leading experts, and consolidate its position in the development of innovative approaches for early intervention in osteoarthritis within a highly competitive global environment.

Welcome to Our New Researches

April, 2026

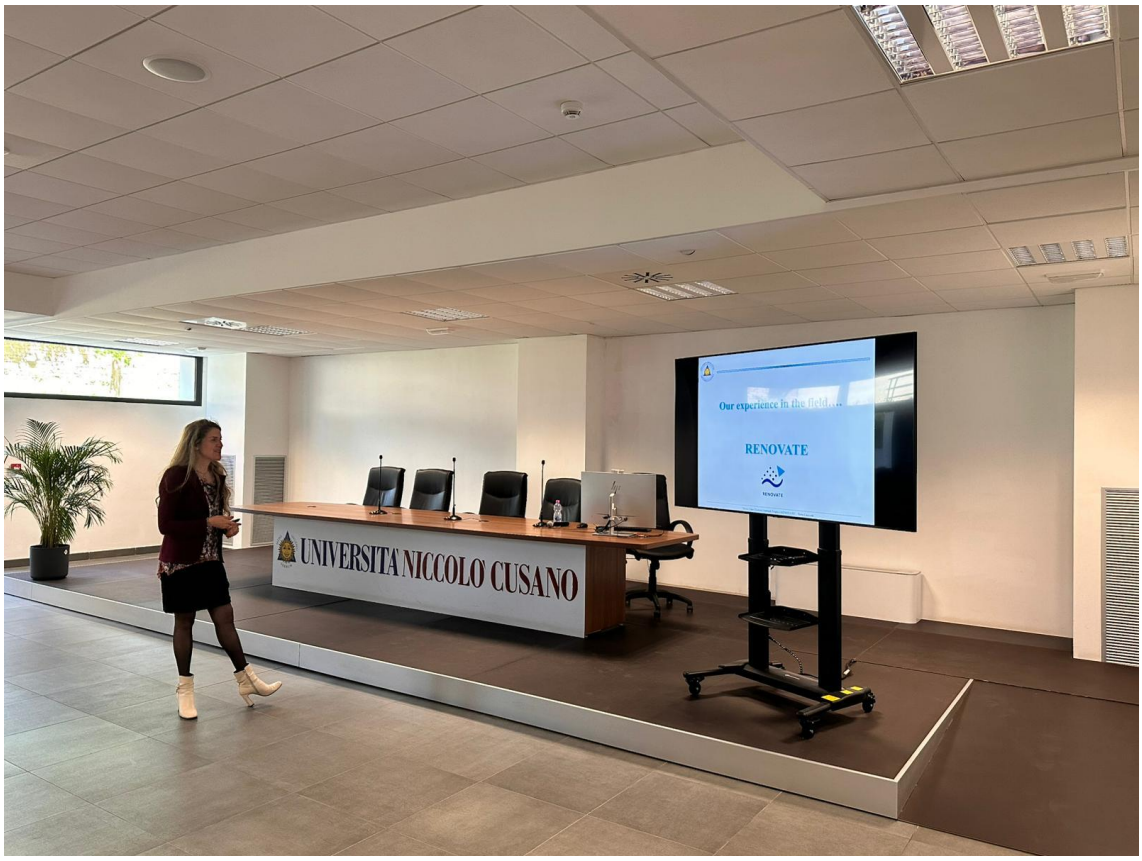
We are delighted to welcome **Miss Anlin Chen** and **Miss Xinyi Chen** to the **UCL team**, who are joining **the EU RENOVATE project** as new PhD students. Their work will contribute to the project's interdisciplinary research activities, strengthening our capabilities and fostering innovation across the consortium.

We look forward to their contributions and wish them every success as they begin their doctoral journeys with the RENOVATE team.

UCUSANO presentation in the Internationalization INfoDay

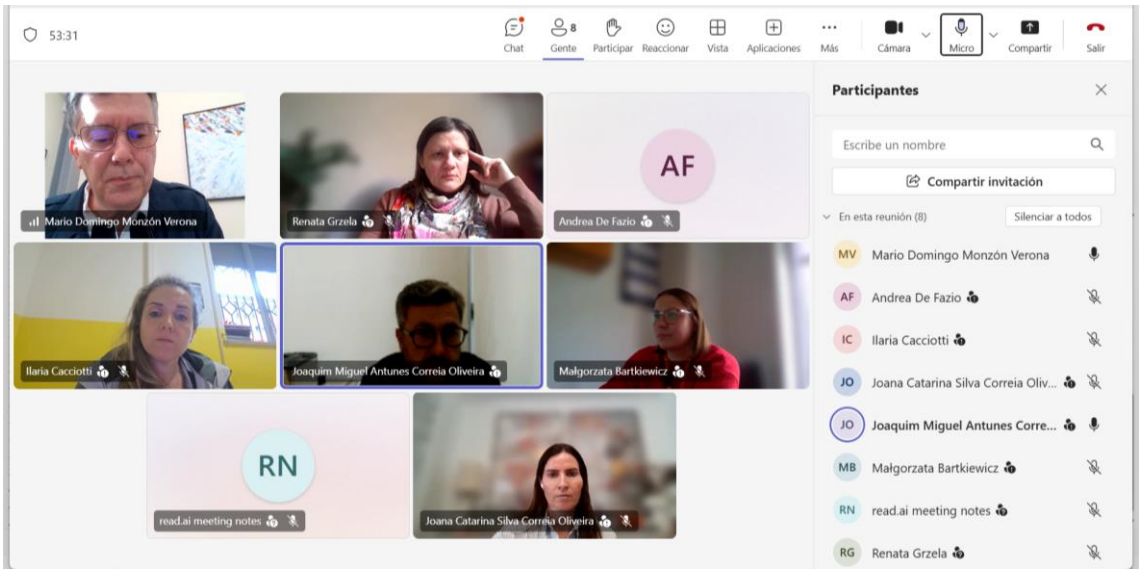
April 28, 2026

On April 24th, our partner **Ilaria Caciotti** from **Niccolò Cusano University** presented the **RENOVATE project** at an evening event called **"Internationalization INfoDay"**, where 50 participants attended.



Online meeting of RENOVATE project

April 30, 2026



An online meeting about the **recruitment progress** and **administrative procedures** took place on April 30th of **RENOVATE project**. The discussion focused on the hiring of doctoral candidates, timelines and compliance requirements.

The team confirmed the **annual in-person meeting** at month 12 (likely late November at the facilities of **UMINHO**, Portugal) with all ten fellows under contract.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information, visit our NEWS section and Linkedin.

PARTNERS

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