



ESSCA

Press release

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ESSCA School of Management inaugurates its new campus in Malaga, set in the heart of a renovated former convent

Present in Malaga since 2023, ESSCA School of Management is inaugurating its new campus in the city, marking a new stage in the School's international development. This location, in the heart of the historic centre, inside a former music conservatory later converted into a convent, embodies ESSCA's multi-campus strategy and its ambition to combine heritage, pedagogical innovation, and social responsibility. Now established in ten cities in France, Europe and China, ESSCA is strengthening its position as a European business school with an international outlook and reaffirming its ambition: to make Europe the foundation of its internationalisation while ensuring that every student benefits from intercultural exposure.

"This new campus is part of a clear trajectory: to train managers capable of understanding economic, social and environmental transformations in an open world. Malaga is a strategic anchor point for promoting this vision on a European scale. Transforming a heritage building into a higher education campus sends a strong message. It says something about our relationship with long-term thinking, transmission, and our responsibility as a world-class academic institution" says Jean Charroin, Dean & CEO of ESSCA.

Malaga, an international academic hub at the heart of ESSCA's strategy

Since launching its activities in Malaga in 2023, ESSCA has already welcomed **nearly 1,000 students** to the site through international mobility programmes and summer courses. The campus attracts students from Central and Latin America as well as North Africa. It currently hosts students enrolled in the Bachelor in International Management, and also offers international semesters, executive education programmes, and summer programmes, all taught in English.

Programmes are built on new economic models supported by innovative technologies widely developed in the local ecosystem, including cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and the metaverse. **From 2027, the academic offer will be expanded with the opening of the Master cycle of the Grande École Programme (PGE)**, further enhancing the attractiveness of the Malaga campus.



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A 3,200 m² campus designed to welcome nearly 500 students

Located on Calle Marqués de Valdecañas, the campus covers **3,200 m²** across **four levels**. It has been designed to accommodate up to **500 students**, meeting international standards in higher education while respecting the heritage constraints of the building.

The campus includes **12 classrooms**, designed to accommodate between 25 and 50 students, and equipped to support active pedagogies, collaborative work, and hybrid teaching formats.

Signature spaces designed to enhance the student experience

Beyond classrooms, the campus has been conceived as a place for life and exchange. “The goal was not only to create classrooms, but a campus where students would want to stay, work, and interact. Here, spaces are designed to encourage encounters as much as learning,” explains Stéphane Ruiz, Director of the Malaga campus.

The campus integrates several signature ESSCA spaces:

- **La Source:** a learning centre dedicated to individual and group work, designed as a space for focus and academic resources.
- **La Forêt:** a dining and social area encouraging informal exchanges between students, faculty and external contributors.
- **The Student Experience Area:** dedicated to student clubs and interactions with companies.

All these spaces are organised around a central atrium, covered by a glass roof, which forms the heart of the campus. This area hosts conferences, forums, academic events and key moments open to the city.

A heritage building renovated and adapted to contemporary use

The renovation of the building—listed in Spain as a “Bien de Interés Cultural”—has made it possible to adapt a historic structure to contemporary higher education needs. Works have been carried out with respect for the architectural identity of the site, while integrating modern requirements for **universal accessibility, safety and energy performance**.

A project aligned with the KAIROS 2030 vision

This new campus is part of the **KAIROS 2030** strategic plan, which positions ESSCA as a major player in the European higher education and research ecosystem, committed to ecological and digital transitions, social inclusion and organisational responsibility.



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As a non-profit association, ESSCA develops a model based on academic, social and territorial impact, closely linked to the economic world. In Malaga, this ambition translates into collaborations with local institutional, cultural and economic actors, as well as regular openings of the campus for academic and professional events. “We want students, faculty members and local partners to meet naturally, beyond the strict academic setting,” adds Stéphane Ruiz.

About ESSCA

Based on its rich 115-year history, ESSCA School of Management is a renowned and firmly established French and European institution. A pioneering school in terms of teaching innovation and social and economic inclusion, it has striven to evolve on a permanent basis to incorporate the demands and challenges of the modern world with a will to train responsible leaders and assist organisations undergoing change.

A private higher education institution of common interest built upon a not-for-profit associative structure and a member of the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles, ESSCA School of Management delivers an officially recognised 5-year post-secondary Master degree and also offers a fully accredited Bachelor in International Management degree programme, an MBA Business & Technology and Master of Science programmes. The school also offers a range of training programmes designed specifically for senior executives, managers, and operational teams, with degree-awarding training (including an Executive Master in Global Management) and custom programmes. ESSCA is also developing on-line designed by ESSCA online campus.

Thanks to its AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS triple crown accreditation, a status held by only 1% of business schools around the world, the School is an internationally renowned institution. It features in the top 100 Masters in Management programmes in the world in the 2023 Financial Times ranking.

Strengthened by a multicampus structure that helps consolidate its appeal to local regions and the showcasing of French expertise in the areas of higher education and research, ESSCA can call upon a network of almost 21,500 alumni working all across the world and currently welcomes over 500 faculty and staff and 7,000 students on its campuses in France (Aix-en-Provence, Angers, Bordeaux, Lyon, Paris and Strasbourg), Hungary, China and most recently in Spain and Luxembourg.

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