

HIGHER EDUCATION & CIVIL SOCIETY: BUILDING A BRIDGE

Dr. Alberto Frigerio (PhD)

Professor at the School of Politics and Law, Almaty Management University (Kazakhstan)



1. INTRODUCTION

Universities are fortresses of knowledge... but how do they interact with the surrounding framework?



The third mission concept suggests the necessity to build more constructive relations with civil society!

4. MAIN OBJECTIVE

The main objective is the construction of a bridge between universities and civil society to foster a constructive process of knowledge sharing and problem solving for the benefit of local communities.



7. SPL ACTIVITIES 2021-22

1. Creation of an educational module (17 ECTS) on civil society and sustainability.



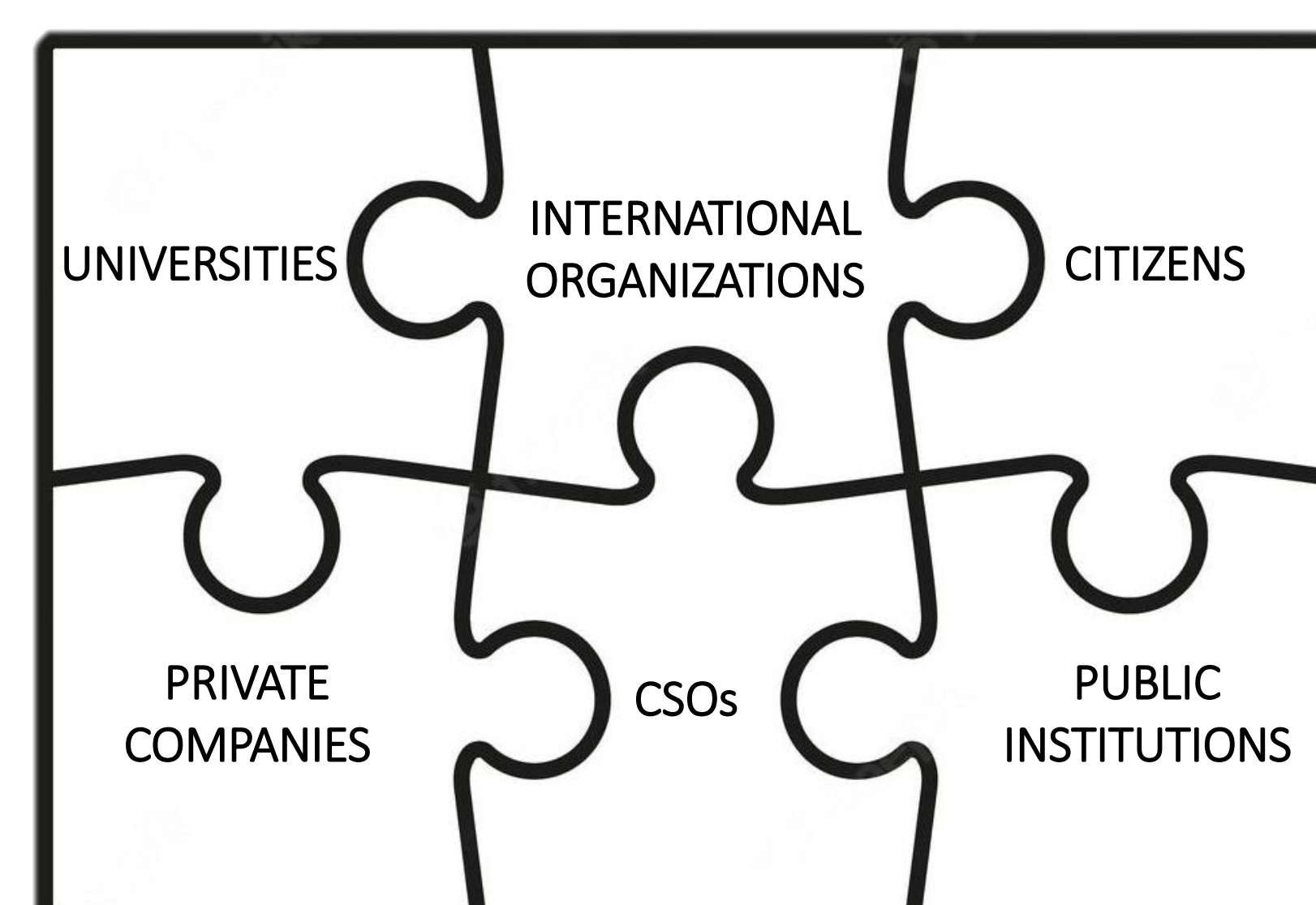
8. ACHIEVED RESULTS

- Hundreds of AlmaU students cooperating with local NGOs.
- Growing attention over the issue of public trust and social capital in Kazakhstan.
- Over 10 universities are ready to support the IRB project.

2. SPL VISION

AlmaU School of Politics and Law is a reference point in the country in the sphere of education about civil society and a model in the Central Asian region for the training of highly qualified professionals who see their vocation in serving the community.

5. ACTORS



2. Organization of an annual international conference on "Public Trust and Social Capital" and opening of the Center for the Development of Civil Society.



9. CHALLENGES

- Time
- Resources
- Methods of impact assessment
- Coordination
- Consistency
- Comfort zones
- Communication

3. QUESTION

How to turn such a strategic vision into a successful reality?



6. KEY DIMENSIONS

- Cooperation
- Education
- Ethics
- Gamification
- Research
- Storydoing
- Storytelling

3. Promotion of different students' projects, included a Project on Creating an Ethical Commission (IRB) on Research in Social Sciences in Kazakhstan (in cooperation with Lehigh University – USA).



10. CALL TO ACTION

Much still needs to be done ... but building the supporting pillars is the first step in constructing a bridge. It is time that universities take responsibility to act for the good of the entire community in which they operate.

