University of Crete makes the grade

University of Crete is ranked #58 in the Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Rankings, published on 5 April 2017. This is the sixth annual ranking of universities under 50 years old, and the sixth time University of Crete has been included among the world’s best young universities, moving up this year from =66 in 2016.

The Young University Rankings, previously known as the THE 150-Under-50 Rankings, have now been extended to include 200 institutions. They apply the same performance indicators as the overall THE World University Rankings, with young universities measured on their teaching, research, citations, international outlook and industry income. However, to reflect the characteristics of younger universities, less weighting is given to academic reputation – closely associated with age, heritage and endowment wealth – which favors the traditional elite of old universities.

This year, the THE also compares institutions of similar ages. University of Crete is ranked #30 in the Top 50 ‘Generation X’ of universities established between 1967 and 1985, drawn from the pool of 104 ‘Generation X’ universities included in the top 200 young universities. The Generation X list is topped by École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, which is also first again in the overall ranking.

The fact that University of Crete is included again in this prestigious ranking is a significant achievement in itself. It is impressive given the long drawn out recession in Greece that has been impacting on education and research. In particular, it is worth noting that in terms of research impact, as indicated by citations, the University is #26 in the overall ranking of 200 institutions. This is a credit to the academic community at the best of times.