

Directorate of school, out-of-school
and higher education
Higher Education and Research
Division



**Higher Education Governance
between democratic culture,
academic aspirations and
market forces**

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE
HEADQUARTERS
PALAIS DE L'EUROPE**

Strasbourg
22 – 23 September 2005
Room 5

PROGRAMME

Draft

Learning and living
democracy

The Council of Europe Higher Education Forums are intended to highlight and address particular issues of concern in a regular and flexible fashion, offering a major platform for high level policy debate in the area of higher education in Europe and beyond.

Higher Education Governance

Higher education governance is an issue that is strongly connected to the Council of Europe's key missions: protection of human rights, democracy and the rule of law. It is also very much present in the discussions in the framework of the Bologna process. Although it has not yet been treated as a separate issue, it is an underlying theme for all aspects of the implementation of the Bologna Declaration.

The CDES (Steering Committee for Higher Education and Research) launched a project on "Higher education governance" in autumn 2003, intended as a contribution to both, the European Year of Citizenship through Education, a Council of Europe initiative for 2005, and to the work programme of the Bologna Process, the creation of a European Higher Education Area by 2010. It aims to strengthen the participation of students, staff and other stakeholders in higher education governance.

The conference in September will present the results of two years of work and offer a platform for discussion and debate.

The conference will address in particular key issues such as

- Governance and Good Governance – what does it mean? (terminology)
- The changing societal context and forces that influence the options and choices for governance in general and in higher education in particular
- The Governance of Higher Education Systems and Institutions (structures, procedures, processes)
- The actors of Higher Education Governance (people)
- Higher Education Governance – What is at stake?
- Creating commitment and shared ownership

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"Effective university governance transcends the formal responsibilities of officially-designated governors; it is shared with and engages all legitimately interested stakeholders." Robin H. Farquhar, former President, The University of Winnipeg and Carleton University, Canada

"The concept of "governance" is not new. It is as old as human civilization. Simply put "governance" means: the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented)."

<http://www.unescap.org/huset/gg/governance.htm>

The European Year of Citizenship through Education

How can we make our societies truly inclusive? How can we encourage participation in politics, public life and civil society? How can we raise awareness about the protection of our environment, our heritage, our human rights? Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights (EDC/HRE) aims to give people knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes they need to have an influence and make a difference, be it at local, national or international level. The Council of Europe has long recognised the important role of education in making Europe a safer, fairer and more peaceful place for all Europeans.

The Launching Conference of the European Year of Citizenship through Education in December 2004 in Sofia emphasised in one of its main messages: "Learning democracy is a life-long process, concerning not only the transmission of knowledge, but also the practice of democracy, through active political and social involvement, participation in decision-making, informed discussion, negotiation and peaceful solution seeking."

The "Year" is an important step in a sustainable process for developing European co-operation for "Learning and Living Democracy".

The process is expected to continue over the years to come. The long term aim is to move from an awareness of how education can contribute to the development of democratic citizenship and participation - and a subsequently strengthened commitment to making EDC/HRE a priority objective - towards the implementation of reforms at all levels of the educational system that will make education the key space for the development of a democratic culture.

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"The governance of higher education in the 21st century needs to develop a fusion of academic mission and executive capacity, rather than substitute one for the other." Institutional Management in Higher Education (OECD)

Thursday 22 September**9h00 – 9h30 – Opening and welcome**

Welcome by the Vice Chair of the Steering Committee for Higher Education and Research of the Council of Europe

Welcome by the Council of Europe Secretariat – the conference in the context of current Council of Europe priority actions

9h30 – 10h30 – Keynote – Pavel Zgaga, Slovenia

Keynote speech, discussion

Break

10h50 – Introduction to the conference - Jürgen Kohler, Chair of the Working Party

History, purpose, programme and expectations

11h30 – 12h30 - Governance in Higher Education - key issues and evidence in literature – Jochen Fried, Austria

Presentation, discussion

Lunch

14h30 – 17h45 - Working group sessions in parallel

Plenary introduction to working groups, Secretariat

Working Group A – The objectives of and expectations towards higher education in the changed societal context and its implications for governance

Speaker: Aleksander Lomaia, Minister of Education, Georgia (case study)

Chair: Virgílio Meira Soares, Portugal, (overview of key issues)

Rapporteur: To be announced

Working Group B – The Governance of Higher Education Systems

Speaker: Jaak Aaviksoo, Estonia

Chair: Michael Daxner, Germany

Rapporteur: To be announced

Working group C – The Governance of Higher Education Institutions

Speakers: Dijana Tiplič, Norway, (general overview), Radmila Nedučin-Marinković, Serbia and Montenegro, (case study)

Chair: Pavel Zgaga, Slovenia

Rapporteur: To be announced

Working group D – The actors of Higher Education Governance

Speakers: Robin Farquhar, Canada, (general overview), Erdal Emel, Turkey, (case study)

Chair: Marija Stambolieva, “the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”

Rapporteur: To be announced

18h00 – 19h00 – Meeting of Rapporteurs and Chairs**Friday 23 September****9h00 – 10h30 - Panel debate “Higher Education Governance – What’s at stake?”**

Sjur Bergan, Higher Education and Research Division, Moderator

Vanja Ivošević, The National Unions of Students in Europe (ESIB)

Josef Jařab, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Jan Karlsson, Institutional Management in Higher Education (OECD/IMHE)

Isabelle Le Nir, Research coordinator, Schlumberger Group

Philip Nye, Higher Education Directorate, DFES

Roland Vermeesch, European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE)

11h00 – 12h00 - European Year of Citizenship through Education 2005

Krzysztof Ostrowski, Ministry of Education, Poland - Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts for the European Year of Citizenship through Education (CAHCIT)

Henry Teune, University of Pennsylvania

14h00 – General report and recommendations – Martina Vukasović, General Rapporteur**15h00 – 16h00 - Closing session**

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“Higher education is too important to society to be left to itself;

governance must be a partnership between outsiders and insiders.” Roderick Floud, London Metropolitan University

«Here again the principle of subsidiarity must be respected: a community of a higher order should not interfere in the internal life of a community of a lower order, depriving the latter of its functions, but rather should support it in case of need and help to coordinate its activity with the activities of the rest of society, always with a view to the common good». (Cfr. John Paul II, Lettera Enciclica Centesimus Annus, in “Acta Apostolicae Sedis”, 83 (1991), n. 48)

Submitted by Guglielmo Malizia, Holy See delegation

“Europe needs strong universities (in the broadest sense) as “motors” in the knowledge triangle of education, research and innovation. We need universities that are able to move out from the shadows of nation states and are able to do both: go for excellence in research as well as in teaching and provide broad, equitable access to basic higher education in Europe.” Georg Winckler, President of EUA

“Effective governance is a harmonious fusion of power and authority and equal balance between trust and control where democratic, autocratic and laissez faire management styles are addressed according to the needs of a society and within the boundaries of active legislation.” Lela Maisuradze, European Integration Division, Ministry of Education and Science, Georgia

“Higher education and research are probably the most productive investments of human and natural resources in the long run. The optimal utilization of precious and scarce resources, however, depends on an efficient system of policy-making and policy-implementation.” Joseph S. Joseph, University of Cyprus, Member of CDESR

“There is no contradiction between professional university governance and the special organisational characteristics of the university. On the contrary, one important priority for the university management is to preserve those characteristic features at a time of growing demands from society.” Soren Nedergaard, Special Adviser, Division of Education and Science Institutions Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Denmark

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