HIGHER EDUCATION'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
Building a more sustainable and democratic future

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The COVID-19 pandemic is a watershed. Higher education had to react rapidly and take challenging decisions on how to reorganise teaching and learning as well as research and other activities. Institutions needed to take account of the health and safety of students and staff as well as of the framework established by public authorities for addressing the sudden health crisis. Beyond this immediate response, higher education must play a major role in helping to shape a better, more equitable and just post-COVID world.

Higher education's response to the Covid-19 pandemic explores the various responses of higher education to the pandemic across Europe and North America, with contributions also from Africa, Asia and South America. The contributors write from the perspective of higher education leaders with institutional responsibility, as well as from that of public authorities or specialists in specific aspects of higher education policy and practice. Some contributions analyse how specific higher education institutions reacted, while others reflect on the impact of COVID-19 on key issues such as internationalisation, finance, academic freedom and institutional autonomy, inclusion and equality, and public responsibility.

The book describes the various ways in which higher education is facing the COVID-19 pandemic. It is designed to help universities, specifically their staff, students, and partners – including public authorities – contribute to a more sustainable and democratic future.

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