



Infosheet

European Students' Convention 40

“Students organizing in times of Disruption - Stocktaking, impact assessment and drawn lessons from a semester under lockdown.”

Due to the ongoing implications of the COVID-19 in Europe and all over the world, the **40th European Students Convention will take place online between the 17th and the 19th of September.** The event is being co-hosted by the European Students Union (**ESU**) and the Croatia Student Council (**CSC**).

This Infosheet aims at giving delegates the opportunity to have a preview and arrange their calendars according to the agenda before the event reader is sent out in due course.

The registration for this event will open next week. The participation is open for everyone and there is no maximum limit of delegates per union.

If you have any questions for now, please contact:

presidency@esu-online.org





Agenda

Day 1 - 17th of September 2020

All times in CEST

Timeslot	Session
10:00 - 12:00	ESU for Beginners
13:00 - 14:00	ESC 40 Opening Session
14:15 - 15:45	The impact of COVID-19 on students in Europe
16:00 - 17:30	Future of Education
18:30 - 20:00	Leisure Session (Getting to know each other)

Day 2 - 18th of September 2020

All times in CEST

Timeslot	Session
10:00 - 11:00	Session hosted by CSC
11:15 - 12:45	Vision of the EEA & European Universities
13:00 - 14:00 (Parallel)	Women's Meeting
13:00 - 14:00 (Parallel)	Allyship Session
14:15 - 15:45	Internationalization Session - The global Struggle for Education and Democracy
16:00 - 17:00 (Parallel)	Human Rights Session
16:00 - 17:00 (Parallel)	Membership Session





19:00 - 21:00	Leisure Session (Intercultural Night)
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Day 3 - 19th of September 2020
All times in CEST

Timeslot	Session
10:00 - 11:00 (Parallel)	Housing and Transport Statement
10:00 - 11:00 (Parallel)	Ministerial Conference Statement
11:15 - 12:45	Bologna Session
13:00 - 14:00 (Parallel)	ESU Finances
13:00 - 14:00 (Parallel)	PR Policy Paper
14:15 - 15:45	Digitalisation and AI in Higher Education
16:00 - 17:30 (Parallel)	Mental Health Charter
16:00 - 17:30 (Parallel)	Plan of Work and Strategic Priorities





Sessions Guide

ESU for Beginners

If you are delegated by your national union of students (NUS) to represent your union within ESU - this session is for you. Come with an open mind and questions. Please register if you intend to participate in this session.

ESC 40 Opening Session

The opening session will feature speakers from ESU, CSC and external guests.

The impact of COVID-19 on students in Europe

The current pandemic has had a huge impact on higher education, and this situation will continue to be felt in the upcoming academic years. The outcomes of the COVID-19 survey conducted by ESU, IDE and the University of Zadar will be presented, and a discussion will be held regarding possible policy inputs that ESU can put forward to the BFUG

Future of Education

The world of higher education is changing rapidly under the influence of some major developments: digitalization, flexibilization, increased focus on skills, and of course the current COVID-19 crisis. We have to rethink our higher education frameworks for the future, and take into account the importance of higher education as leading institutions to be involved in solving the societal problems we are facing, such as climate change. In this session we will challenge you to think with us how we should do this, and how we should work towards achieving this

Leisure Session (Getting to know each other)

This session will allow old and new delegates to get to know each other through different team activities and space for informal exchange of thoughts.

Session hosted by CSC

The theme of this session will circle around brain drain and student entrepreneurship. More details TBA in the reader.





Vision of the EEA & European Universities

The purpose of this session is to discuss with the participants the communication of the European Commission about the European Education Area (to be published end of September) and present the developments of the European Universities Initiative.

Closed session, for ESU membership only

Women's Meeting

Safe group meeting for women within ESU + review of Code of Conduct. The link will be sent to all delegates who identify as women.

Allyship Session

In the allyship session we will be looking at the draft of the updated Code of Conduct for ESU, going through the most important changes proposed, and your comments and thoughts.

Internationalization Session - The global struggle for Education and Democracy

This session will bring together speakers from the Global Student Forum Steering Committee and student activists from Africa, Latin America and Asia who fight on the forefront of democracy struggles in their country and region. It will provide a different perspective on student activism on a global scale.

Human Rights Session

The ongoing fight for freedom from authoritarian president Alexander Lukashenko in Belarus will serve as the platform for our discussion on the role of students and student representatives in defending democratic culture. The session will highlight the bold work of Belarusian student and human rights activists as they demand democracy and freedom & autonomy of academic and civic institutions against all threats.

Membership Session

During this session we will present and discuss the outcomes of the Task Force on Event Hosting.





Leisure Session (Intercultural Night)

This informal session will provide space for a gathering, in nostalgic thoughts of past and hopeful thoughts of future events that feature the “analog” intercultural night. As always, bring your favourite national drink and food (this time, next to your computer...).

Housing and Transport Statement

This session provides the Board with further opportunity to resolve amendments to the statement on Student Housing and Transport Policy - prepared by the Task Force on the Creation of New Policy, that lays out ESU's demands for student-friendly housing and transport systems.

Ministerial Conference Statement

The session will provide the opportunity for the Board to review the Ministerial Statement of the upcoming EHEA Ministerial Conference 2020 and to discuss different lobby strategies for student representation in the Conference itself and beyond that, to demand action on the commitments made by national education ministries and institutions.

ESU Finances

The session will present amendments to the Financial Standing Orders of ESU and the financial documents of the organisation.

Closed session, for ESU membership only.

PR Policy Paper

This session will provide further opportunity to discuss the EC proposal for a new Policy Paper on Public Responsibility. Financing and Governance of Higher Education.

Digitalisation and AI in Higher Education

During the Board meeting in Sofia, ESU agreed upon having a statement on digitalisation. Higher Education was already impacted by the process of digital transformation, before the outbreak of the global pandemic. However, the scale and need for supporting Higher Education through the use of digital tools have unprecedentedly forced HEI's to quickly adapt to reality. What is the role of student representatives in the new circumstances? How to ensure meaningful participation in the new reality?





The session participants will have a chance to:

- Look upon the state of play of a few European initiatives (Digital Education Action Plan, Europass, DigiEduHack, Micro-credentials)
- Discuss and exchange the experiences on preparations to the new academic year and students' role in digital change

Mental Health Charter

The main aim of the session is to resolve any concerns, comments or ideas participants will have regarding the Mental health Charter.

Plan of Work and Strategic Priorities

This session provides the Board with further opportunity to resolve amendments, questions and discuss feedback to the new Plan of Work 2020-2021 and the new Strategic Political Priorities of ESU 2020-2022.

