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Draft Agenda

HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH STANDING COMMITTEE (HERSC) MEETING

27-28 February 2024
Brussels

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Venue: Conference center "MeetDistrict" (1st floor) in "Spectrum" Building
Bischoffsheimlaan 15, 1000 Brussels

DAY 1

12.00		Lunch
13.00	**1**	**Welcome**
		By Rob Copeland, UCU (UK), HERSC chair
13.05	**2**	**Adoption of the Agenda**
13.07	**3**	**Adoption of minutes of the previous HERSC meeting (September 2023)**

International policy developments on higher education and research

13.10   **4**   **International developments**
by Sonia Grigt, Education International

Discussion

Background information/documents:
- Higher education in EI World Congress, Buenos Aires, July 2024
- IHERSC: Mexico Go Public! Advancing Further and Higher Education and Research for the Common Good (ei-ie.org)

Attractiveness of the teaching and research professions

13.40   **5**   **Update on Attractiveness Campaign**
By Susan Flocken, ETUCE and Thomas Bouïssaguet, ETUCE

14.00   **6**   **Attractive careers – organizing trade union members in higher education and research sectors and supporting early career staff**
- Update on European Sectoral Social Dialogue for Education
- Recent ETUCE work on renewal

By Leonardo Ebner, ETUCE
Discussion

Background information:
• Draft ETUCE – FES report (tbc)
- [ETUCE Policy Paper on Early Stage Researchers /Doctoral Candidates](#) (2014)
- [EFEE/ETUCE Joint Declaration on "Supporting early career researchers in Higher Education in Europe](#)" (January 2015)
- [Raising the Status and Improving the Attractiveness of the Teaching Profession (2022) - European Trade Union Committee for Education (csee-etuce.org)](#)

14.30   **Coffee break**

Preparation to the Tirana Ministerial Conference

14.45   7   **Update on drafting the Tirana Ministerial Communique**
Presentation by Horia Onita, ESU (20')
Discussion

15.40   8   **Report from BFUG Plenary meeting (November 2023 & 19-20 February, 2024)**
Presentation by Agnes Roman, ETUCE (10')

Background information/documents:
- Reports from meetings and draft documents: http://www.ehea.info/page-BFUG-Board-meetings-2
- ETUCE BFUG table report (Sharepoint)
- BFUG Plenary meeting (Nov, 2023 minutes) (Sharepoint)
- Restart of Tirana Communique with ETUCE comments (Sharepoint)
- DRAFT_Roadmap_2024_Tirana (Sharepoint)
- 1st [EHEA Newsletter](#) and [2nd EHEA Newsletter](#)

15.55   9   **Update on drafting the Global Policy Statement**
Presentation by Hanna Tanskanen, OAJ
Discussion
Background information/documents:
- Draft Global Policy Statement_ETUCE comments (Sharepoint)

16.15   10.   T**rade union strategies for the Tirana Ministerial Conference**
•   Country case: Sweden
•   Country case: Italy
Discussion

Background information/documents:
- ETUCE Call to the Ministers of the Bologna Process (Sharepoint)
- TEMPLATE for Call to the Ministers of the Bologna Process (Sharepoint)
- ETUCE Timetable until the Tirana Ministerial Conference (Sharepoint)

17.00   End of Day

DAY 2

09.00   Welcome
                by Rob Copeland, UCU (UK), Chair of HERSC

EU policy developments on higher education and research

09.05 11   Preparation for the ETUCE Congress (November, 2024, Budva)
                Discussion about HERSC preparation
                by Susan Flocken, ETUCE (5')
                by Rob Copeland, UCU

                Background information:
- ETUCE Resolutions: Resolutions - European Trade Union Committee for Education (csee-etuce.org)
- Campaigning for a better future for higher education and research (2021)
- Strengthening academic freedom in Europe (2018)

09.45 12   Relevant EU policy developments
                by Agnes Roman, ETUCE Senior policy coordinator

                Discussion

                Background documents/ information:
- Belgian Presidency's Priorities (sharepoint)
- European Commission's work programme 2024
- ETUCE's replies to public consultations on Higher Education Package (deadline 6 Febr.):
  - Career framework: Feedback from: European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) (europa.eu)
  - Joint degree Feedback from: European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) (europa.eu)
  - Quality assurance: Feedback from: European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) (europa.eu)
- Eurograduate survey results: https://www.eurograduate.eu/results
- ETUCE webinar on collaborative decision making in higher education within Education Leadership Network Europe
- Draft ETUCE Position on Recognition of teachers' qualifications (Sharepoint)

                Questions for discussion:
1. Do you consider to present a research or webinar proposal on collaborative decision making in higher education to the Education Leadership Network Europe in 2025?
2. Is there graduate tracking system in your country? Does it have any positive or negative impact on the work of the academics and academic freedom?
3. Do you think there is enough support and fair treatment of integrating students / academics of non-EU countries to learning and working in higher education & research institutions in the EU?

10.30   Coffee break

10.45 13   European Commission's upcoming initiative on higher education:
                        a) Joint European degree

b) Council Recommendation on attractive and sustainable careers in higher education

c) Council Recommendation on a European quality assurance and recognition system

Presentation by Kinga Szuly, European Commission

Background information:

- Public consultation on Attractive and sustainable careers in higher education ETUCE reply: Feedback from: European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) (europa.eu)
- Public consultation on Joint European degree
ETUCE reply: Feedback from: European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) (europa.eu)
- Public consultation on European Quality Assurance and Recognition System (new guidance)
ETUCE reply: Feedback from: European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) (europa.eu)

Discussion

11.45 **14** **Any other business**

11.55 **15** **Conclusions**

12.00 **End of meeting**