

## UNICA Student Conference 2017

### Topics for the 10 discussion Fora

(selected together with student representatives  
from the European Students' Union and Erasmus Student Network)

#### 1 - Quality of Higher Education

- How to improve the quality of the learning experience?
- Evaluation of learning instruments (Quality Committee)
- High quality universities with low fees: Is it possible?

##### Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:

- [European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA](#)
- [EQUIP project: Enhancing Quality through Innovative Policy & Practice in European higher education](#)
- [Application of learning outcomes approaches across Europe](#)

#### 2 – Student-Centred Learning

- Concept of “Student-Centred Learning”
- Benefits of innovative learning for teachers and students
- Challenges of innovative learning for teachers and students

##### Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:

- [Overview of student-centred learning in Higher Education in Europe](#)
- [Student-Centred Learning Toolkit](#)

#### 3 - New ways of teaching and learning

- Learning in the digital era: E-learning and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- Innovation and Education: Can universities nurture the creativity of students?

##### Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:

- [New modes of learning and teaching in Higher Education](#) (report of high-level group on modernisation in higher education)
- [21st Century Learning: Research, Innovation and Policy \(OECD\)](#)

## 4 – Fostering access to Higher Education

- Importance of diverse classrooms
- Student services
- National/Institutional policies/strategies for access to Higher Education

### Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:

- [Adult Education and Training in Europe: Widening Access to Learning Opportunities](#)
- [Thematic report: Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Access, retention, employability](#)
- [Access to Higher Education: Council of Europe](#)

## 5 - Student Mobility

- Barriers for student mobility: Visas and socio-economic issues
- How to choose the university to study at: Are the international rankings used by students?
- HousErasmus+: What are the challenges international students and trainees face when looking for accommodation abroad and how to improve the situation
- European and international mobility for study or traineeships under the Erasmus+ programme: Benefits and challenges

### Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:

- [Erasmus facts, figures, and trends](#)
- [Erasmus impact study \(2016\)](#)
- [HousErasmus project](#)
- [ExchangeAbility](#)
- [MappED project](#)
- [U-Multirank](#)

## 6 – Recognition in HE

- Recognition of credits and conversion of the grades for exchange students
- Recognition of titles for degree seeking students (Lisbon Convention)

### Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:

- [Lisbon Recognition Convention](#)
- [EGRACONS: European GRAdE CONVersion System](#)
- [PRIME: Problems of Recognition In Making Erasmus](#)

## 7 - Employability of students

- Cooperation with enterprises for the continuous improvement of education and employability of Students
- Impact of students' international mobility on their employability
- Hard and soft skills: Are European universities helping students to develop both?
- Formal and non-formal education

### **Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:**

- [New Skills Agenda for Europe](#)
- [Supporting growth and jobs – an agenda for the modernisation of Europe's higher education systems](#)
- [Thematic report: Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Access, retention, employability](#)
- [Erasmus impact study](#) (2016)

## **8 – Greener Universities**

- Greener universities: The role of students

### **Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:**

- [COPERNICUS CHARTA 2.0/2011 European Commitment to Higher Education for Sustainable Development](#)
- [UNICA GREEN](#)
- [SAVES project: Putting students at the heart of an energy-efficient Europe](#)
- [WE ARE PARIS project](#)

## **9 – Integration of refugees: What can universities do?**

- How to overcome language barriers as an international student?
- Refugee crisis: Can universities and European institutions do more?
- The importance of cross-cultural understanding

### **Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:**

- [Refugees Welcome Map by European University Association](#)
- [European higher education for refugees](#)
- [Academic Refuge project](#)
- [Students at Risk](#) (pilot)
- [Scholars at Risk](#)

## **10 - The Future of Europe**

- Unity and diversity in Europe: The challenge of multiculturalism
- Student mobility and the enlargement of the European Union
- Europe's political future

### **Example of reference documents/Suggested reading:**

- [White Paper on the Future of Europe](#)
- [Europe 2020 strategy](#)
- [The Rome Declaration 2017](#) (60th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome)