

The crucial role of youth organisations in the achievement of the SDGs

By The European Students Union

Sebastian Berger
UNICA «SDGs Strategies of Universities and THE Impact Rankings»

Online – 9th of September 2020



Talking Points

1

Who is involved and how?

2

Best practises of student led action

3

Education on sustainable development

4

ESU's policy on sustainability

1. Student-led actors and programs in Europe



Generation Climate Europe (GCE) - <https://gceurope.org/>

As Generation Climate Europe we have 6 concrete demands:

- 1) The EU declares a Climate Emergency.
- 2) Europe listens to its youth.
- 3) The EU must be a better climate leader.
- 4) Fuel the transition, not dirty energy.
- 5) Sustainable transport for the Erasmus Generation.
- 6) Better education for a better environment.



1. Student-led actors and programs in Europe

Students Organizing for Sustainability (SOS) - <https://sos.earth/>



2. Best practices in student-led action e.g. UK

HEI Divestment from fossil fuels



Global Goals Teach In



NUS-SOS-UK Learning Academy and Bootcamp



3. Education on Sustainable Development

- HEI should **mainstream sustainability** in local and global contexts in their **teaching, research and all their operations**
- ESD is **central aspect of education quality** as graduates must become equipped to do their part to deal with the climate and ecological crisis
- Quality ESD requires **far-reaching changes in study programmes** and overarching **learning and teaching strategies** of HEI's
- **Student-centred learning** and stronger **democratic involvement** of students and staff

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



4. Advocacy efforts on the European level

- **ESU's policy on Sustainability** - <https://www.esu-online.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Statement-on-Sustainability.pdf>
 1. The Responsibility of Educational Institutions
 2. The Responsibility of Governments
 3. The Responsibility of the Media
 4. The Responsibility of ESU



Thank you for your attention



@Europeanstudents



@ESUtwit



Subscribe to our Newsletter:

<https://bit.ly/2o1HOso>

The European Students' Union

Avenue des Arts 7/8 · 1000 Brussels, Belgium · Tel: +32 2 893 25 45 · www.esu-online.org



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

ESU has received financial support from the European Commission through Erasmus+ Programme: KA3, Support for Policy Reform- Civil society cooperation in the field of education and training.