



Ministry of Education, Culture and  
Science of the Netherlands



Ministry of Education  
of the Republic of Moldova

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## Update from the European Students' Union (ESU)

Since the last update to the Bologna Follow-Up Group (Latvia 2015), ESU has held two general assemblies and one European Students' Convention:

- During the **General Assembly (BM69)** in May 2015 (Yerevan, Armenia) ESU elected a new leadership for the mandate July 2015 – June 2016; adopted a Statement to the EHEA Ministerial Conference, and a new Human Rights and Solidarity Strategy. At this meeting ESU accepted as candidate members two student unions from Moldova and Montenegro. You can see here the newsletter following this event: [click here](#).
- The **30<sup>th</sup> European Students' Convention** in September 2015 (Brussels, Belgium) overarching topic was Student-Centred Learning. Within this framework there were sessions about how SCL can be implemented in practice as well as in blended learning and non-formal learning; possible ways of evaluating the implementation of the SCL approach in higher education institutions; the implications of the Paris Declaration in higher education; and how SCL contributes to the social dimension. Moreover, after a presentation of the implementation report of EHEA, Trends and Bologna With Student Eyes we discussed the future challenges of the Bologna Process and the impact of the modernisation agenda of the EU. This was followed by a discussion on the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN and the impact of the goal 4.3 tackling higher education. Last but not least, we engage in a very active discussion about the reactions needed from the higher education sector in relation to the influx of asylum seekers arriving in Europe. You can see here the newsletter following this event: [click here](#).
- During the **General Assembly (BM70)** in December 2015 (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) ESU revised its policy paper on the Social Dimension of higher education; adopted a statement entitled "[European Students call for pan-European and proactive solidarity with refugees](#)"; adopted the Plan of Work for 2016 as well as the budget for 2016. At this meeting, the European Deaf Student association become associate member of ESU. Prior to the general assembly, ESU held a seminar on the implications of the new Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance (ESG 2015) endorsed at the EHEA Ministerial Conference in Yerevan. You can see here the newsletter following this event: [click here](#).

Moreover, ESU is actively contributing to the BFUG advisory groups and working groups, as well as co-chairing the working group 3 on new EHEA goals. ESU has been also selected to become member of the EU's ET2020 working group on modernisation of higher education; and of the Council of

Europe's working group on the recognition of qualifications held by refugees, asylum seekers and persons in a refugee-like situation.

### Highlighted news

- [ESU launches new Pool of Trainers](#)
- [Special edition of our newsletter: Refugees in Europe](#)
- [Guidance on Protecting Education on Anniversary of Deadly School Attack](#)
- [ESU calls on protection of academic freedom and student rights in Belarus](#)
- [ESU stands in solidarity with Belarusian students and calls for the end of suppressions!](#)
- [International Students' Day - Students worldwide stand up for free education as a tool against radicalisation and xenophobia](#)
- [ESU calls on the European Commission to exclude both public and private education from TTIP](#)

### New publications

- [ESU Activity Report 2014](#)
- [Bologna With Student Eyes 2015](#)
- [Overview on Student-Centred Learning in Higher Education in Europe](#)
- [Comparative Study on students involvement in quality assurance](#)

### Upcoming events

- 31<sup>st</sup> European Students' Convention, Amsterdam (The Netherlands), 9-11 March 2016.
- Workshop on European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (EQUIP project), Amsterdam (The Netherlands), 14th-15th March.
- PLA on QA of Student-Centred Learning (HERE-ES project), Alcalá (Spain), 6-7 April 2016.
- General Assembly BM70 + Seminar on international students' cooperation, Bergen (Norway), 9-14 May 2016.
- Final conference of the project Peer Assessment of Student-Centred Learning (PASCL), Brussels (Belgium), 26-27 May 2016.

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