

**Bologna Seminar
Bologna 2020
Unlocking Europe's potential - Contributing to a better world
Ghent, 19-20 May 2008**

Purpose of the seminar

At the London Ministerial meeting, European Ministers in charge of higher education asked the Bologna Follow-up Group as a whole "to consider how the European Higher Education Area might develop after 2010 and to report back to the next ministerial meeting in 2009".

In this context several national and European consultations and reflection events on the "Bologna Beyond 2010" issue have been set up by national governments, consultative members of the Bologna Process, Bologna partner organisations and other international associations, each from their different perspectives.

The Ghent seminar organised by the Flemish Community of Belgium and Luxembourg in the context of the Bologna 2007-2009 work programme will also in its own way contribute to the reflection process by providing some elements which could be integrated in the future BFUG report.

This report should develop a clear vision on the challenges for European higher education for the next decade and therefore needs a fresh and critical look.

In order to meet this requirement the background materials for the seminar were prepared by consultation of different stakeholders with a strong commitment to European higher education and by essays from researchers from all over Europe in the field of higher education policy. All these contributions will be made available for publication.

The organisers of the seminar highly appreciate that for this kind of creative exercise the full intellectual freedom of the contributors should be guaranteed and consequently abstained from attempts of streamlining the contributions. Some of the ideas brought forward might be provocative and will certainly challenge the assumptions always defended in the traditional Bologna fora but this is exactly the merit of such an "off the beaten track" exercise, given the fact that the context have been changing dramatically since the time of the signing of the Bologna Declaration in 1999.

The participants of the Ghent seminar will be the first to receive the texts of the contributions which will also be presented in summary by the respective coordinators.

After this presentation the seminar is structured in different plenary and group working sessions which will be aimed at one central question : how can we translate the different visions and ideas as expressed by the contributors to the background material and by the speakers and participants to the seminar into a coherent and political strategy for "Bologna 2020" ?

Provisional programme
06.03.2008

Preconference programme

Sunday 18 May

Afternoon : boat trip on Ghent canals

19.30 : reception followed by buffet dinner in Novotel, Ghent.

Conference programme

Monday 19 May

Location : University of Ghent, Het Pand

- Opening
9.00 : Short addresses by Prof. Paul Van Cauwenberge, Rector of Ghent University
- Plenary session
Chair : Prof. Dirk Van Damme , Director of Cabinet of the Flemish Minister for Work, Education and Training
- 9.30 : Presentation of the outcome of the stakeholders' consultation on the Bologna beyond 2010 issue by Minister François Biltgen (Luxembourg)
- 10.00-10.45 : Summary of the essays prepared by researchers in the field of higher education policy on the future of the Bologna Process by Prof. Barbara Kehm (University of Kassel)
- 10.45-11.00 : questions from the audience followed by summary by the Chair

Coffee break

- Panel session
Chair : Prof. Benjamin Van Camp, Rector of Free University of Brussels
- 11.30-12.30 : debate of representatives of different stakeholder groups in higher education (HEIs, students, staff...)

Lunch

- Working group sessions
- 14.00-15.30 : 6 working groups on different topics related to challenges for the next decade:

(1) impact of globalisation (different aspects of globalisation, public responsibility, international partnership, attractiveness, sustainable development...)

Chair : Monique Fouilhoux (Education International)

(2) convergence and diversity in European higher education (knowledge and diversity, typology/classification of HEIs..)

Chair : Representative of EURASHE (tbc)

(3) sustainable funding and governing of higher education (diversification of sources...)

Chair : Prof. Radu Damian (Chair CD-ESR, Council of Europe)

(4) relevance of higher education (employability, economic and social development, innovation...)

Chair : Representative of Business Europe (tbc)

(5) changing paradigms in higher education ("from information to conceptual age", inter- and multidisciplinary organisation of curricula, liberal arts issue..)

Chair : Stephan Neetens (Bologna expert, Flemish Community of Belgium)

(6) European identity (what does *European* Higher Education Area mean, issues of multilingualism, intercultural dialogue...)

Chair : Guy Haug (Higher Education Europe)

Note : Each working group will start with 2 expert introductions of 10 minutes. In the choice of the experts the balance between the geographical regions of the EHEA and between the different stakeholders to higher education will be respected

Coffee break

- Plenary session

Chair : Prof. Marcel Crochet (Université Catholique de Louvain)

- 16.00 : A perspective from the United States on the emerging European Higher Education Area by Prof. David Dill (University of North Carolina) and Dr. Robert Zemsky (Learning Alliance)

- 16.30 : Reflection on the dynamics of the European Higher Education based on the discussions of the day by Prof. Frans van Vught (University of Twente)

- 16.45 : Information on the planning of the Bologna Follow-up Group of the discussions on the Bologna Beyond 2010 issue by Darinka Vrecko (Slovenian Chair of the BFUG)

- 17.00 : closing of the day

(17.30 : meeting of rapporteurs of the working groups with the general rapporteur)

18.30 : *cultural programme : visit to the City Museum of Contemporary Art*

19.30 : *Formal dinner*

20 May 2008

- Plenary session

Chair : Prof. Marijk van der Wende (University of Twente and Free University of Amsterdam)

- 9.00-09.45 : Reflections from the perspective of the international academic community by Ms Eva Egron-Polak, Secretary General of IAU

- 09.45-10.30 : Presentation of the conclusions of the conference by the general rapporteur, Prof. Marek Kwiek (University of Poznan)

Coffee break

- Plenary session

Chair : Mr. Germain Dondelinger (MCESR, Luxembourg)

- 11.-11.30 : debate with the audience with a view to adoption of the conclusions
- 11.30 : closing addresses of European Commissioner for Education and Culture Ján Figel' (tbc) and Flemish Minister for Work, Education and Training, Frank Vandenbroucke

Lunch