

Short overview of the EUA and ESU Conferences:

EUA Spring Conference (March 11 – 13, 2010, University of Vienna)

The Bologna process has created a significant reform dynamic in Europe's universities. This has enabled universities to reflect about and act in terms of future challenges. In 2010, the time has come to look back and learn from the achievements, and also, maybe more importantly, to look forward. The overarching structure is in place, but how much fine-tuning is still needed? In what areas do Europe's universities need to perform better? Do universities have the autonomy they need to perform the multiple tasks they have been entrusted with? In what way have universities adapted to a lifelong learning environment? Has the research capacity of Europe's universities grown? How attractive are European universities for foreign students?

Informed by the final "Trends" report, EUA member institutions will debate these topics and present the outcomes to the ministerial conference.

ESU-Conference (March 9 - 12, 2010)

The European Students' Union (ESU) will show why and how the European Higher Education Area affects the student body and universities directly. The main title of the conference will be "What have been the overall achievements of the Bologna Process for students?" ESU will prepare its report 'Bologna with Student eyes at the Finish Line' for the conference and discuss it in the light of the independent assessment. ESU will also develop the student contribution towards the future of the Bologna Process in this conference. Around 200 students will participate in the conference.