



Education International Update to BFUG 12-13 February 2009

Let's Go! Mobility campaign

As reported at the last BFUG meeting, Education International and the European Students' Union, have brought the mobility campaign "Let's Go!" to a conclusion.

The background material, results and the final report can be found on <http://www.ei-ie.org/highereducation/en/calendarshow.php?id=154&theme=highereducation>

The results of the Campaign have also fed into the work of the Mobility Coordination group, thus moving the work on mobility in the Bologna Process forward.

Although the Campaign itself has been concluded, it is still possible to sign the Petition related to the Campaign, as well as add articles to the Wiki part of the Campaign website. This can be done on www.lets gocampaign.net

EI is now considering how the work on improving staff mobility can be taken forward until 2010 and beyond.

EI participation in Bologna seminars

EI has taken part in a number of Bologna and other seminars during the autumn. At those seminars EI has been able to explain and make clear the higher education staff position on matters related to higher education reforms.

Conference of Education Unions in the OECD countries on "Governance and Financing of Educational Institutions"

EI held a conference for its affiliates in OECD countries on "Governance and Financing of Educational Institutions". The leaders of affiliates in those countries met to discuss in particular the financing of education, the impact of OECD international comparative surveys on education policy and governance and school leadership and institutional management. Participants focused especially on the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), the Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS), the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies PIAAC and the Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes (AHELO). Furthermore issues relating to public-private-partnerships and the financial crisis were discussed. Trade union responsibilities and possibilities to work on climate change issues were also touched upon. It was noted that climate change needs to be addressed via collective action, something with which that trade unions have working experience.



International Students' Platform

EI attended and gave support to a meeting of leaders of students unions from across Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe and North America who came together in Paris on January 21 to 23 to prepare for the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education. Organised by the European Students' Union through its International Cooperation Working Group, student activists from 17 organisations around the world have forged a new alliance to assert a principled and equitable approach to the challenges of higher education. EI salutes the Global Student Statement which was adopted and which, for the first time, represents a united student voice that will be heard during the World Conference.

Higher Education Standing Committee (HERSC) meeting

The HERSC met again on the 5-6 February in Brussels. The Committee prepared the EI input and contribution to the Ministerial meeting in April. Furthermore the Committee discussed the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education which will be held on the 6-10 of July, as well as the UNESCO Higher Education Conference for the European Region to be held on the 22-24 of May. EI will, especially in relation to the World Conference prepare contributions and a special EI event to take place alongside the World Conference.

The HERSC also looked into the matter of Academic freedom to determine how this important topic can be further promoted in discussions on higher education

EI Executive Board meeting

EI will hold an Executive Board meeting on the 24-26 of March in Brussels, Belgium. The board consists of representatives from all world regions and all levels of education.

The Board will discuss the programme for the next EI World Congress which is to be held in summer 2011. The Board will also discuss the impact of the financial crisis on education and teachers and the possibility for teachers to mitigate its worst effects on education and education workers.