



Education International



The National Unions  
of Students in Europe



University and College Union



## **BOLOGNA PROCESS OFFICIAL SEMINAR**

London, 8-9 February 2007

**“MAKING BOLOGNA A REALITY”**

**Mobility of staff and students**

**ORGANIZED BY EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL  
PAN EUROPEAN STRUCTURE**

In collaboration with:

***THE NATIONAL UNIONS OF STUDENTS IN EUROPE (ESIB)***

**AND**

***THE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE UNION (UCU, UK)***

Venue: TUC Congress Centre 23 - 28 Great Russell Street London  
WC1B3LS, United Kingdom

## RATIONALE

In May 2005, the Bergen Ministerial Conference endorsed the follow-up structure set up in Berlin, with the inclusion of the Education International (EI) Pan-European Structure as one of the new consultative members of the Follow-up Group.

They underlined the central role of higher education institutions, their staff and students as partners in the Bologna Process and welcomed “the support of organisations representing business and the social partners and look forward to intensified cooperation in reaching the goals of the Bologna Process.”

Academic staff and their representative organisations are crucial to the implementation and the objectives and goals of the Bologna process. During the last three years Education International worked intensively together with its member organisations towards the establishment of the European Higher Education Area in particular through its Standing Committee on Higher Education and Research . The involvement of academic staff needs to be strengthened and Education International membership better prepared for future challenges in cooperation with all the stakeholders.

Education International organised in February 2005 a successful Conference in Brussels:” From Bologna to Bergen: A mid-term review from the Academics’ point of view” where the results of a survey on “ the role of academics and their representative organisations, participation and opinions” were presented. Based on the outcomes of this survey and the conclusions of the Conference Education International adopted a Statement calling for an expansion of mobility programmes for both students and staff and underlining a range of obstacles to be tackled with ( see: [www.ei-ie.org](http://www.ei-ie.org))

## AIMS AND CONTEXT

Ministers in Bergen considered mobility of staff and students as one of the “future challenges and priorities”

*They “recognise that mobility of students and staff among all participating countries remains one of the key objectives of the Bologna Process. Aware of the many remaining challenges to be overcome, we reconfirm our commitment to facilitate the portability of grants and loans where appropriate through joint action, with a view to making mobility within the EHEA a reality. We shall intensify our efforts to lift obstacles to mobility by facilitating the delivery of visa and work permits and by encouraging participation in mobility programmes. We urge institutions and students to make full use of mobility programmes, advocating full recognition of study periods abroad within such programmes. and within the work programme set by the Bologna Follow-up Group”,*

Education International organise this seminar on mobility of staff and students in relation with the Working Group on “Social dimension and data on staff and

student mobility". This seminar constitutes part of the official Work programme adopted by the BFUG whose recommendations will contribute to the ministerial conference in London in 2007.

The objectives are to raise with target groups of both key decisionmakers, trade unionists in higher education, rectors and students across Europe, the profile of issues like pay and conditions, job security, career progression, the position of researchers, protection and portability of pension and social security rights and removal of obstacles to staff and student mobility, which have been largely overlooked by the Bologna process up to now. But they are key to the success of the project.

It is essential for academics and their trade union organisation to exchange information and experiences, to think about ways to improve mobility at the European, national and institutional levels and to propose more effective and positive means of promoting mobility.

In order to contribute to an elaborate and informed discussion, EI carried out a study over the past year, on the issue of staff mobility and academics in the labour market, the final report of which is to also to be treated as a basis for discussion, as well as the report on Students which will be presented by ESIB.

## **PARALLEL SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS**

The seminar will concentrate its work on four different workshops. Each participant is asked to join one of the four . Be prepared to accept an alternative session in case your first choice is already fully booked

- 1. Social Rights and conditions**
- 2. Mobility/External dimension/Brain Drain**
- 3. Recognition of Qualifications**
- 4. Student mobility: a factor for societal and economic growth**

# Draft programme

## DAY 1 Thursday 8 February

9.30                    **Registration**

11.00-13.00

### **Opening Addresses**

- TUC General Secretary : **Brendan Barber**
- EI General Secretary: **Fred van Leeuwen**
- UK Government: name to be confirmed
- ESIB Chair: **Koen Geven** (to be confirmed)
- UCU President: name to be confirmed

Presentation of the study on staff mobility  
**Conor Cradden**, Independent Researcher

Presentation of the study on students mobility  
**ESIB representative**, (name to be confirmed)

13.00 – 14.00        Lunch (Buffet)

14:00 – 14.30        **Presentation of the outcomes of the Working Group on Social Dimension and mobility data**

**Annika Persson-Pontén**, Ministry of Education, Research and Culture, Sweden, Chair of the Working Group

14:30                    **Panel discussion**  
**Increasing academic staff and student mobility: From individual to institutional responsibility?**

**Chair:** to be confirmed  
**David Crozier**, European University Association  
**ESIB** ( name to be confirmed)  
**Jens vraa Jensen**, DM, Denmark  
Gvt (Name to be confirmed)

16:00                    Coffee/break

16:30 – 18:30        **Parallel Workshop Sessions**

1. Social Rights and Conditions – tools or obstacles?
2. Mobility, the External dimension, and Brain Drain
3. Recognition of qualifications -
4. Student mobility – a factor for societal and economic growth?"

18:30 – 19:30      **Reception/Cocktail**

## DAY 2 Friday 9 February

9:00 – 10:30      **Presentation and discussion of the workshops results**

10:30 – 11:00      Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30      **Panel discussion: Realising the Potential of Mobility**

**Chair: Paul Bennett**, Education International Europe, Vice President.

**ESIB**, name to be confirmed

**Lesley Wilson**, General Secretary, European University Association,

**Pedro Gonzales Lopez**, FE.CC.OO, Spain

**William Ratterree** ILO, ( to be confirmed)

European Commission , to be confirmed

**Council of Europe**, name to be confirmed

12:30 – 13:15      General report and Discussion or Recommendations  
**Ann Fritzell**, SULF, Sweden

13:15                End of seminar and lunch