EUA AND MULTILINGUALISM
“UNIVERSITIES WITHOUT WALLS” (A VISION FOR 2030)

Anne Lequy
EUA Board Member 2021-2025

ECSPM Symposium 2023
23 March 2023
EUA has 840 members based in 48 countries (as of 31 Jan 2021)
Main objectives

• Facilitates dialogue on higher education & research
• Represents the interests of higher education sector
• Ensures the voice of universities is heard in EU policy making & in the EHEA
• Support its members with a range of services (strategy development, thematic peer groups & focus groups, events and publications)
Who are EUA’s members?

- National Rectors’ Conferences (33)
- Individual Full Members (725 in 48 countries): HEIs that award doctoral degrees or can demonstrate critical mass in research
- Individual Associate Members (64): HEIs that award BA and MA degrees but do not meet the research criteria
- Affiliates
- EUA membership is extremely diverse
Universities without walls
A vision for 2030
University missions in 2030

The unique combination of the missions of learning and teaching, research, innovation and culture – and their fruitful interrelations – will remain the key characteristic of Europe’s universities. These missions will be equally important and mutually enhancing, and an integrated approach will be beneficial to harnessing synergies. Through these missions universities will support Europe’s open, pluralistic and democratic societies.
Universities will be active in cultural debates, providing evidence to demonstrate the changing nature of culture, giving new interpretations to cultural heritage and acting as a window to different kinds of culture. They will promote the study and knowledge of culture and language diversity within Europe and beyond and will continue to be places where people from different cultural backgrounds meet, exchange and collaborate. As such, they will foster mutual understanding and the development of intercultural competences, a vital contribution in a world where local and global realities converge through the increased use of digital technologies.
EUA advocates for multilingualism in Europe

- How?
  3 types of activities
  3 examples
Main activities

**Stakeholder dialogue**
European institutions, European associations, national organisations, global partners, media, etc.  
Makes the voice of European Universities heard

**Policy development**
Consultations, recommendations, reports, policy positions  
Influences European policies for the benefit of the university sector

**Membership activities**
Events, projects, focus groups, thematic peer groups  
Allows members to share good practice and EUA to gather evidence
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12
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I. Autonomy scorecard

The Scorecard is based on more than 30 different core indicators in four key dimensions of autonomy. These include:

- **Organisational autonomy**
  covering academic and administrative structures, leadership and governance

- **Financial autonomy**
  covering the ability to raise funds, own buildings, borrow money and set tuition fees

- **Staffing autonomy**
  including the ability to recruit independently, promote and develop academic and non-academic staff

- **Academic autonomy**
  including study fields, student numbers, student selection as well as the structure and content of degrees
### Table 1 Participating higher education systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Country/system</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2023</th>
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<td>Austria</td>
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<td>BE-fi</td>
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<td>UK-sc</td>
<td>Scotland (UK)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMIC AUTONOMY</th>
<th>Ability to choose the language of instruction</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Capacity to decide on overall student numbers</td>
<td>• Capacity to select QA mechanisms and providers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Ability to select students</td>
<td>• Ability to design content of degree programmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Ability to introduce programmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Ability to terminate programmes</td>
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</table>
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4. Academic autonomy

Map 13 Academic autonomy clusters
I. Autonomy scorecard

One-Minute Activity
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II. Assessment of academic careers / Open Science

- Using a **broader set of evaluation practices** for academic careers
- Promoting further **parity of esteem** between different career paths
- Enabling and valorising **Open Science** in career and research assessment
- Incentivising activities with **different forms of impact**
- Making academic careers less precarious and **more attractive**
- Providing **more flexibility** for academic careers
II. Assessment of academic careers / Open Science

- The EUA Open Science Agenda 2025 (February 2022)
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III. Council for Doctoral Education

- About EUA-CDE
- Vision paper (June 2022)
Strict immigration policies can reduce the mobility of international doctoral candidates. While English has become a lingua franca in many disciplines, multilingualism opens new perspectives for research and is welcoming for candidates from other linguistic groups.

**Ways forward**

A diverse doctoral education must be sensitive to the different backgrounds that doctoral candidates bring with them. Doctoral education should encourage reflection on and the overcoming of any social, economic or cultural barriers. It should foster a diversity that goes hand in hand with excellence and a shared understanding of research quality. Institutions need to ensure that access to doctoral education is driven by talent rather than resources and be mindful of existing inequalities and individual situations. Flexible working hours, support networks and mentoring all have a part to play. There is a need to build opportunities to remain and pursue a career in the country of the doctorate-granting institution, for which appropriate support structures and funding should be provided.
One invitation and some questions

- Upcoming event
- Many more topics – your questions?
2023 EUA Annual Conference

We need to talk about impact

20 - 21 APR 2023 | CONFERENCE
📍 GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY | GDAŃSK, POLAND

Universities have a profound impact on individuals and societies, as well as the policies that govern both. But what do we really mean when we talk about impact? The European University Association’s 2023 Annual Conference, hosted by Gdańsk...
Thank you for your attention