

eucen 2018 Policy Talks

Brussels, Thursday 26 April 2018

Event hosted by the EESC | Rue Belliard 99, Brussels (BE)

Special Announcement

eucen Policy Talks 2018 will be held in Brussels on Thursday, 26 April 2018. This announcement describes a thematic model for discussion to be organised by the following potential partners. Title:

Balancing social cohesion with economic necessities - promoting cultural diversity and sustainability in university lifelong learning

Main goals of the eucen 2018 Policy Talks

This year's Policy Talks puts the benefits of lifelong learning and cultural diversity into the focus and relates the Social Development Goals' (SDG) recommendations to both social and economic dimensions in frames of three sub-themes:

- **University lifelong learning as a policy matter for Higher Education Institutions**, to reflect on the promotion and improvement of governance and participation of relevant stakeholders
- **Lifelong learning for inclusion and social cohesion in a value context**, to focus on universities to develop and promote cohesion, growth and stability by balancing social and economic needs.
- **Facilitating lifelong learning to provide bridges between higher education and VET**, to highlight challenges for universities in creating the conditions for effective knowledge transfer with VET

eucen has so far collected, shared and developed innovative thoughts and policy-based models in the above listed sub-themes through specific projects like COMMIT¹ and its currently running HE4u2². Those projects have enabled eucen to demonstrate a quality orientation towards university lifelong learning with policy measures and implications.

Through the eucen Policy Talks 2018 we intend to continue our contribution to the Agenda 2030 and SDGs related discourse in the context of quality education and lifelong learning from the perspective of HEIs. eucen believes that a new, socially driven Europe needs the active participation of universities to successfully respond to global challenges of sustainable development in the context of quality learning and education and, simultaneously, to support local and regional, national policies and relevant initiatives.

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¹ <http://commit.eucen.eu>

² <http://he4u2.eucen.eu>

This focus enables us to reach for social stability and solidarity through collaborative actions of lifelong learning and social engagement, and, for economic advancement based on lifelong learning for technological advancement via innovation, research and development alliances, platforms and projects.

Representatives of selected organisations will be invited to a facilitated dialogue referring to the above topics, reflecting on the benefits of lifelong learning in the context of university values. The sub-themes will be opened for round-table discussion amongst enrolled invitees and later on discussed in plenary, to share ideas and findings. We recommend that the participants actively reflect on the above listed themes and are prepared to generate a wide spectrum of discourse.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

13:45 *Arrival and Registration*

14:00 **Opening** – Françoise de VIRON, President of [eucen](#)

14:15 **Inspiring note** “*The value of identifying and living values for Life Long Learning*“, David J LOCK, Secretary General, Magna Charta Observatory

14:45 **Perspective views:**

- Economic context: “**Transition qualifications, workbased learning and cooperation between the world of education and the labour market**“, Simon BROEK, CEDEFOP and EPALE
- Social context “**Integrating Cultural Diversity in University Continuing Education**“, Josephine FINN, Maynooth University (IE) and HE4u2

15:30 *Coffee break*

15:45 **Reflections** in three small groups

- ULLL as a policy and value matter for HEIs
- LLL for inclusion and social cohesion
- Facilitating LLL as bridge between different types of education

16:45 Sharing reflections in an **Open discussion**

17:30 **Conclusions**

17:40 Closing

DATE | Thursday 26 April 2017

VENUE | Event hosted by EESC, rue Belliard, 99, Brussels



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FURTHER INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION | events@eucen.eu

