



BOLOGNA POLICY FORUM
Austria 2010

Bologna Policy Forum Statement

Vienna, March 12, 2010

1. Today, the European Higher Education Area has officially been launched. In this context, we note that the Bologna Process of creating and further developing this European Higher Education Area has helped redefine higher education in Europe. Countries outside the area will now be able to more effectively foster increased cooperation with Bologna countries.
2. We, the Ministers of Higher Education and heads of delegation of the countries, institutions and organisations participating in the Second Bologna Policy Forum, held a dialogue on systemic and institutional changes in higher education in the developing global knowledge society.
3. We focussed our debate on how higher education systems and institutions respond to growing demands and multiple expectations, discussed mobility of staff and students, including the challenges and opportunities of “brain circulation”, and the balance between cooperation and competition in international higher education.
4. To address the great societal challenges, we need more cooperation among the higher education and research systems of the different world regions. While respecting the autonomy of higher education institutions with their diverse missions, we will therefore continue our dialogue and engage in building a community of practice from which all may draw inspiration and to which all can contribute.
5. To facilitate policy debates and exchange of ideas and experience across the European Higher Education Area and between countries, institutions and organisations participating in the Second Bologna Policy Forum, we will each nominate a contact person and inform the Bologna Secretariat by May 31, 2010. These contact persons will also function as liaison points for a better flow of information and joint activities, including the preparation of the next Bologna Policy Forum at ministerial level.
6. We welcome the commitment of the European Bologna Follow-up Group to provide expertise on the Bologna Process and the European Higher Education Area.
7. We welcome the initiatives of the institutions and organisations participating in the Second Bologna Policy Forum to promote dialogue and cooperation among higher education institutions, staff and students and other relevant stakeholders across the world. In this context, we especially acknowledge the need to foster global student dialogue.
8. In September 2010 the OECD will be hosting an international conference on how the crisis is affecting higher education and how governments, institutions and other stakeholders can work towards a sustainable future for the sector. In 2011, a seminar on quality assurance will be organised with the support of the European Union.
9. Cooperation based on partnership between governments, higher education institutions, staff, students and other stakeholders is at the core of the European Higher Education Area. This partnership approach should therefore also be reflected in the organisation of the next Bologna Policy Forum at ministerial level in 2012.

ANNEX

Participating countries in alphabetical order

Albania	Germany	New Zealand
Andorra	Ghana	Norway
Argentina	Greece	Philippines
Armenia	Holy See	Poland
Australia	Hungary	Portugal
Austria	Iceland	Romania
Azerbaijan	Ireland	Russian Federation
Belgium	Israel	Saudi Arabia
Bosnia- Herzegovina	Italy	Senegal
Brazil	Japan	Serbia
Bulgaria	Jordan	Slovak Republic
Canada	Kazakhstan	Slovenia
China	Latvia	South Africa
Colombia	Liechtenstein	Spain
Croatia	Lithuania	Sweden
Cyprus	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Czech Republic	Malaysia	Thailand
Denmark	Mali	'the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia'
Egypt	Malta	Tunisia
Estonia	Mexico	Turkey
Finland	Moldova	Ukraine
France	Montenegro	United Kingdom
Georgia	Morocco	United States of America
	Netherlands	

Participating institutions and organisations in alphabetical order

BUSINESSEUROPE

Council of Europe

Education International Pan-European Structure (EI)

European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA)

European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE)

European Commission

European Students' Union (ESU)

European University Association (EUA)

International Association of Universities (IAU)

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)