

2024 European Learning & Teaching Forum
Learning for, in and with society
Hosted by Ruhr University Bochum
8-9 February 2024

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for submission: 2 October 2023, 23.59 CEST

Context and objectives

An initiative launched by the European University Association in 2017, the European Learning & Teaching Forum is an opportunity for the European higher education community to exchange on institutional practice in learning and teaching and European higher education policy. The Forum welcomes members of higher education institutions, in particular vice-rectors for academic affairs, deans, heads of learning and teaching centres, as well as management and students, but also policy-makers and other stakeholders.

For the upcoming 2024 Forum “Learning for, in and with society”, EUA invites proposals presenting practice and research on higher education learning and teaching at institutional, national or international level. Proposals may take the form of a paper, a workshop or a practice presentation.

Drawing inspiration from the EUA vision for 2030, “Universities without walls”, this event will explore the various links between the societal responsibility of higher education and universities’ learning and teaching activities. It will address learning from three perspectives:

- For society, because there are many ways in which universities can have and demonstrate their impact as learning institutions in service to society, for example through community-based learning and open education.
- In society, because universities can only truly serve society if higher education is based on a comprehensive, agile and forward-looking understanding of learning and skills needs, for example in the form of authentic learning.
- With society, because universities need the exchange and engagement of all stakeholders and their broader community, for example through co-curricular and other co-creative approaches to learning and teaching, in order to understand and address current and upcoming learning needs.

Through a mix of plenary and parallel sessions, the Forum provides a platform for discussion on how universities enhance learning and teaching, while also presenting the work of the [2023 EUA Learning & Teaching Thematic Peer Groups](#).

When preparing your proposal, please bear in mind the diverse backgrounds of participants and focus on the transferability of results and practices to increase the relevance of your contribution. In addition, all proposals are expected to stimulate interaction and discussion with the participants, thus enhancing peer learning.

Types of contributions

Your submission should relate to the Forum theme “Learning for, in and with society” and this connection should be made evident in the proposal. It may be based on research (i.e. analysing concepts or data related to learning and teaching with discussion on the implications for policy or practice). Alternatively, submissions may present an institutional case study or policy approaches at national or European level, analysing the success factors, challenges encountered, possible shortcomings and transferability to other contexts.

Please pay special attention to your abstract: it should be concise, correspond to the content of the contribution, appeal to the participants and have a succinct title. This is important as the abstract will be published on the [Forum webpage](#) and in the event app. It will guide Forum participants in their decision on which session to attend.

If selected, EUA reserves the right to amend the abstract in order to ensure that it accurately reflects the content of the proposed session and is linguistically correct.

There are three types of possible contributions, which are listed below. Please choose the most suitable type of contribution based on the kind of input and added value the session is meant to provide.

In the case of all three types of contributions, joint proposals in collaboration with students are encouraged. All contributions are expected to be geared towards some degree of interaction with the audience. All proposals must be accompanied by a short video message (e.g., a recording of yourself, a voiced-over PPT) of 1-3 minutes summarising the proposal.

1) Papers

All papers are expected to be research-based, and to contain:

- an introduction providing background information on the rationale behind the paper;
- a research question or hypothesis;
- a methodological introduction outlining the approach and, if applicable, rationale behind the data/material selection;
- a body outlining the available data/material and a concise analysis thereof;
- a clear conclusion;
- discussion questions for the audience;
- bibliographic references.

Paper sessions should present a new study, challenge current research, or explore the applicability of existing research. They should invite the audience to engage in a critical and constructive discussion on the key points and results of the presentation. Submitted papers must be accompanied by a short (1-3 min) video message summarising the proposal.

Paper sessions will take place during time slots of 40 minutes each. The session should allow for enough interaction and discussion time with the audience. If presenters would like to provide a PowerPoint presentation, this part of the session should not exceed 20 minutes.

A paper proposal should:

- identify the author(s), and, in the case of co-authored papers, indicate who will be responsible for presenting the paper at the Forum;

- include the authors' short biographies (up to 150 words each);
- consist of a fully written paper of a minimum of 1,000 and a maximum of 3,000 words (excluding references¹);
- be accompanied by an abstract of a maximum of 150 words and up to five key words;
- be written in English.

The papers will be assessed by members of the EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee on the basis of the following criteria:

- the paper meets the quality standards of research publication practice;
- the paper matches the Forum theme;
- the paper has a clear focus that will be of interest to the participants;
- the argument, development and structure are logical, coherent and understandable and the language is correct;
- the paper has the potential to sustain a lively discussion;
- the paper looks at transferability beyond the original context;
- no proposal for commercial purposes will be accepted.

[Paper submission form](#)

2) Workshops

Workshop sessions will take place during a time slot of 90 minutes each. Proposals for workshops should focus on providing participants (up to 30) with a structured exercise to enhance their understanding of a specific topic, or provide hands-on practical advice on how to implement or use specific tools as well as tangible solutions to current challenges. The focus in the workshops should be on participant activity rather than a presentation by the session facilitator(s). Collaborative workshop proposals, submitted by a team of contributors representing different institutions, institutional levels or types of actors and stakeholders, are encouraged.

The proposal should:

- identify the facilitator(s);
- include the authors' short biographies (up to 150 words each);
- identify the target audience for the session;
- explain the main objectives/intended learning outcomes;
- explain the activity to be carried out during the session, including timing for each activity;
- specify any practical requirements (materials, audio-visual, room layout, etc.);
- be no more than 700 words long;
- be accompanied by an abstract of a maximum of 150 words and up to five key words;
- be written in English.

Any written supplementary session materials (e.g. questionnaires) should be added to the submission form. In addition, submitted workshop proposals must be accompanied by a short (1-3 min) video message summarising the proposal.

Proposals will be assessed by members of the EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee on the basis of the following criteria:

¹ Please apply the Harvard style system (UK spelling) for text and bibliography.

- the topic and objectives of the session are clear and relevant to the Forum theme and audience;
- the topic looks at transferability beyond the original context;
- the level and type of participant activity aim to sustain lively engagement with the audience in a hands-on way, which is geared towards providing tangible and actionable take-aways;
- the activity description is coherent, understandable and comprehensive enough to provide a clear picture of the session;
- no proposal for commercial purposes will be accepted.

EUA strongly encourages selected facilitators to prepare their activities carefully, and manage the timing of these effectively. They should also be prepared to adapt their activity to the final number of participants.

[Workshop proposal form](#)

3) Practice presentation

Practice presentations are expected to share and discuss experiences with a particular practice or approach at the institutional, local, regional, national or European level in a self-reflective and critical way, or to test ideas for new initiatives and receive feedback from participants. They are shorter than paper presentations (see contribution type 1 above) and should present activities which have been implemented already or tested beyond a pilot phase – their focus is thus more practice-oriented instead of being research-based like paper submissions. Practice presentations should invite participants to reflect on whether lessons learnt from this practice or approach could be transferable to their contexts, allowing the audience to exchange on similar experiences and on how they compare to the presented practice. To ensure audience engagement, presentations will be limited to 7-10 minutes and be followed by a discussion with the audience. Two successful proposals for practice presentations each will be grouped together in one session of 40 minutes.

The proposal should:

- identify the author(s), and, in the case of a co-authored proposal, indicate who will be responsible for presenting it at the Forum;
- include the authors' short biographies (up to 150 words each);
- be clearly and concisely written, and a maximum of 800 words;
- aim to present a particular practice or approach, including an explanation of why the presented topic is considered relevant for the Forum audience, a critical analysis of challenges, benefits and problem-solving strategies, as well as lessons learnt;
- include discussion questions for the audience;
- be written in English.

Submitted practice presentation proposals must be accompanied by a short (1-3 min) video message summarising the proposal.

The proposals will be assessed by members of the EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee on the basis of the following criteria:

- the proposal matches the Forum theme;
- the proposal is coherent, understandable and comprehensive enough to provide a clear picture of the practice suggested for presentation;
- the proposal presents a practice deemed relevant for the Forum participants and lessons learnt from it are transferable to diverse contexts;

- the presented practice has the potential to sustain a lively discussion;
- no proposal for commercial purposes will be accepted.

[Practice presentation proposal form](#)

Submission

All proposals should be submitted using the forms linked to this call, in Word format and in one single file, to LTForum@eua.eu. All proposals must be accompanied by a short video message (1-3 min) summarising the proposal. Submitted proposals will be reviewed separately by two members of the EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee.

You will be informed in November/December 2023 if your proposal has been accepted. Selected proposals may receive comments on how they should be amended before the Forum. Please note that due to limited resources, no comments can be provided on unsuccessful proposals.

Unless the author indicates otherwise, all selected papers and presentations will be posted on the EUA website after the event and the papers will be assigned an ISSN number.

All correspondence will be by e-mail.

IMPORTANT: If you have submitted a paper or workshop proposal, please do not register for the Forum online until the results of the selection process have been announced. Authors of selected paper and workshop contributions will benefit from a fee reduction, which will be applied through a special registration process. Please note that a special registration fee will be awarded only to one author per paper or workshop contribution, and only to representatives of [EUA member institutions](#). NB, reduced Forum fees only apply to authors of selected papers or workshop proposals, but not to authors of practice presentation proposal, who may thus register for the event without waiting for the call results.

Deadline

The deadline to submit proposals is **2 October 2023, 23.59 CEST**. Submissions received after this time cannot be considered.

Calendar

June 2023	Launch of the call.
2 October 2023, 23.59 CEST	Full proposals must be submitted in Word format using the form linked to this call to LTForum@eua.eu .
November/December 2023	Notification of acceptance or rejection is sent by e-mail. Abstracts of accepted proposals are published on the Forum website.
December 2023	Information regarding the date and time of sessions at the Forum is provided.
January 2024	Preparatory videoconference for Forum contributors.
7 February 2024	A reception for Forum presenters is organised in the evening.
8-9 February 2024	2024 European Learning & Teaching Forum takes place at Ruhr University Bochum.

EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee members

- Anne Lequy, former Rector, Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences, Germany (chair)
- Romita Iucu, President of Board of Trustees, University of Bucharest, Romania
- Andrej Pirjevec, Executive Committee Member, European Students' Union
- Manel Jiménez-Morales, Vice President for Alliances, Community and Culture, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain
- Stephanie Marshall, Vice Principal for Education, Queen Mary University of London, United Kingdom
- Marja Sutela, Vice-President, Tampere University, Finland
- Manuel João Tavares Mendes Costa, Pro-Rector, University of Minho, Portugal
- Marta Žuvić, Vice-Rector for Quality Assurance and Enhancement, University of Rijeka, Croatia

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