

Deadline for contributions: postponed to 30 April 2020

Update (26/03/2020)

Considering the current coronavirus pandemic, EUA goes ahead with the preparations of its upcoming Funding Forum (24-25 September 2020, Belgrade) with some adaptations:

- The call for contributions has been extended to 30 April 2020, to allow university colleagues around Europe to not miss on the opportunity.
- The submission of contributions has been simplified, in full awareness that colleagues have large-scale transformation processes to manage now. Simply send us your idea & topic for the contribution (what you would like to share with European colleagues); the full outline of the contribution is no longer mandatory.
- The call now includes as a possible topic "experience with the coronavirus pandemic crisis management".

We are adapting the Funding Forum programme to make room for necessary exchanges among university colleagues on the management of the coronavirus pandemic and its consequences on higher education, as an unprecedented organisational and financial challenge. Several sessions will be dedicated to discussing the different aspects of the crisis for universities, take stock of the situation of the sector, exchange on experiences, impact and future implications – with the view to inform policymakers accordingly.

Do not hesitate to register your interest to contribute – should we not be able to offer the Forum in its usual format, we will make sure to gather the community to discuss the most pressing financial issues for universities across Europe.

The call for contributions to the **2020 EUA Funding Forum** is now open. The event will be hosted by the University of Belgrade on 24 and 25 September 2020 in Serbia.

The EUA Funding Forum is a unique, inclusive platform open to all higher education funding stakeholders – universities and students, public authorities, public and private funders and partners. It seeks to expose these stakeholders to the latest academic and policy research on higher education and research funding.

Researchers selected to take part in the Forum will have the opportunity to reach out to a diverse group of practitioners, leaders and policymakers.

The fifth edition of this biennial event will provide participants with an overview of the most recent trends in higher education and research funding, both at national and European level. The Forum will particularly explore models for *driving and funding institutional transformation in universities*. The event will also provide a space for structured dialogue and exchange of experience to enrich the perspectives of both institutional leaders and policymakers engaged in funding reforms and more broadly in change management.

In this context, contributions from researchers focusing on higher education and research funding will bring added value to the discussion and support the development of evidence-based institutional strategies and policies.

The call for contributions is open to the following profiles:

- Leaders and senior managers of higher education institutions
- Higher education researchers
- Sector representatives (national rectors' conferences, student associations...)
- Policymakers (regional, national, European public authorities)
- Representatives of funding bodies active in higher education and/or research
- Representatives of other types of organisations that are actively engaged in close partnership with higher education institutions

Requirements

- The contributions should focus on systems / institutions based in Europe. Global comparative research should include a significant European component.
- Contributions may address both public and/or private funding models.
- System- or institution-based case studies are both relevant in the framework of this call.

Presentation formats

Expert room presentation

- Selected presentations will receive a time slot of max. 15 minutes followed by a Q&A session.
- The presenter should provide questions for discussion with the audience at the conclusion of the presentation.
- Selected contributors are asked to submit full presentations one week before the event.
- Presentations may not exceed 15 PPT slides. Use of other types of visual support is encouraged.

Roundtable contribution

- Contributors are to engage with participants through short (max. 5 minutes), interactive presentations with or without visual aids.
- Visual support may include up to 2 PPT slides or a short video (max. 2 minutes)
- This format offers contributors the opportunity to address one specific aspect related to the Forum topics.

Researchers' session paper presentation

- The Forum will include dedicated session(s) for the presentation and discussions of academic papers connected to the topics outlined in the next section.
- Abstracts of both published and unpublished papers may be submitted. In both cases, the research presented must be recent.
- The presenter should provide questions for discussion with the audience at the conclusion of the presentation.
- Selected contributors are asked to submit full presentations one week before the event.
- Presentations may not exceed 10 PPT slides.

Topics

Contributions should be related to funding or to the connections between university governance, funding and management. Within this frame, topics may include:

Topic	Institutional perspective	Sector/system perspective
Institutional transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engineering sustainable change: adaptation to regulatory changes and/or proactive transformational processes connected to institutional profiling, with possible focus on leadership and people management; adaptation of processes; communication & branding - Post-merger experiences, with lessons learnt and a particular focus on the transition from “post-merger” to “further institutional development” 	Steering institutional transformation through funding models and/or through regulatory frameworks
Operationalising funding synergies	Strategies to work more efficiently with various funding streams, including national and European sources	Operationalising funding synergies at system level (national, European): case studies from policymakers are particularly welcome
Collaboration for greater efficiency	Asset sharing, pooling resources among institutions, outsourcing – added value and challenges met	Sector-level initiatives
Advocacy & experimentation	Case studies related to institutional initiatives making innovative use of existing regulatory/financial frameworks	Showcasing sector-wide campaigning for enhanced financial resources (by representatives of national rectors’ conferences)
National and EU funding reform processes & impact	Focus on the impact on the institutional management	Comparative perspective (cross-country), or system case study with focus on rationale for reform and implementation process, EU level funding processes and impact
Experience with coronavirus pandemic management at universities		
Any other topic related to university funding	Comparative analysis of funding models, latest developments in university funding, research funding concentration, cost-sharing, financial instruments, etc.	

Submission

To submit a contribution, **please complete the online proposal form**. The deadline to apply is postponed to **30 April 2020**. EUA will notify you about the outcome of your submission by mid-May 2020.

To help you prepare your contribution, please note that the online proposal form will ask you to provide to following information:

- Details of one presenter
- Details of an additional contact person and up to three co-authors (both optional)
- Keywords connected to the contribution (select from list)
- Contribution title
- Contribution summary (**max 100 words**)
- **Optional:** Contribution outline (max 500 words)

Selection

Contributions will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- The contribution has a clear focus that will be of interest to the meeting participants
- The contribution relates to the thematic programme of the conference
- The argument and structure of the contribution is logical, coherent and understandable
- The contribution has the potential to start a lively debate
- Contributions presenting examples of institutional practices are critical and self-reflective

The selection process also considers the diversity of institutional profiles, overall geographical distribution and gender balance across the programme.

Registration

Participants presenting their contribution in the Forum will benefit from one reduced registration fee per presentation but are responsible for bearing their own travel and accommodation costs. After submitting your contribution, please do not register for the Forum until the results have been announced. Participants entitled to a reduced registration fee will be invited to register through a separate registration process.

For more information please visit the event webpage or contact our team on funding@eua.eu.