

2023 EUA Annual Conference

We need to talk about impact

19-21 April 2023, Gdańsk University of Technology, 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 University of Technology, will tackle this heterogeneous concept by looking into how universities impact different communities and shape critical public policies at a time of great change and, in many cases, crisis.

Through a mix of traditional and interactive sessions, participants will explore the various facets of universities' impact. This event will shine a light on issues as diverse as rankings, excellence and the quest for quality, universities' contributions to greening and sustainability, their pivotal role in innovation and their proven track record in supporting endangered scholars and higher education systems. Finally, we will investigate the role of university leadership in delivering on these various forms of impact. Discussions will go beyond narrow definitions of economic impact, rather viewing impact as a measure of a university's responsibility to its own community and the world that surrounds it.

Moreover, with this year's conference EUA also intends to foster wider awareness and debate surrounding universities' different forms of impact and myriad roles within society. The conference will be of interest to institutional leaders (rectors, vice-rectors and heads of administration), higher education researchers and analysts, and representatives of other organisations active in the fields of higher education and research.

Draft programme

All times are CEST (Central European Summer Time).

Wednesday 19 April (pre-conference meetings)

- 10.00-12.30 **EUA Board Meeting**
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch for EUA Board, Council and Secretaries General
- 13.30-16.00 **EUA Council Meeting**
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee for EUA Board, Council and Secretaries General
- 16.30-18.30 **Leadership Roundtable**
Universities of the future: from vision to impact
- 16.30-18.30 **Secretaries General Meeting**
- 18.30-19.30 **Leadership Meet & Greet**

Thursday 20 April

- 08.30-09.30 Registration for General Assembly
- 08.30-17.45 Registration for Annual Conference
- 09.00-10.00 Welcome coffee
- 09.45-12.15 **General Assembly**
- 12.15-13.30 Lunch

- 13.30-13.45 **Official Opening**
- 13.45-14.45 **Plenary Session 1**
Who provides the best education? Towards a better understanding of rankings, quality and excellence
- 14.45-15.15 Coffee break
- 15.15-16.30 **Parallel Sessions 1**
- *Digital transformation: how to keep universities in the driving seat (interactive discussion groups)*
 - *Supporting universities in Ukraine: opportunities for enhanced interinstitutional collaboration*
- 16.30-16.45 Return to plenary room
- 16.45-17.45 **Plenary Session 2**
From transactional to transformational: rethinking innovation in times of crisis
- 19.00-22.00 Networking Reception and Dinner

Friday 21 April

- 09.30-10.45 **Parallel Sessions 2**
- *Will reforming career assessment strengthen universities' impact? (interactive discussion groups)*
 - *Delivering an impactful greening strategy beyond the crisis*
- 10.45-11.15 Coffee break
- 11.15-12.15 **Plenary Session 3**
The role of university leadership in delivering impact
- 12.15-13.00 **Conference Closing**
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch