

2025 European Learning & Teaching Forum 2030 and beyond: towards responsive and adaptable higher education Hosted by University College Cork, Ireland 27-28 February 2025

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Deadline for submission: 18 October 2024

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 2025 Forum '2030 and beyond: towards responsive and adaptable higher education', EUA invites proposals presenting practice, case studies and research in higher education learning and teaching at institutional, national or international level. Proposals may take the form of a workshop or presentation.

It has become an accepted fact, if not a truism, that we are undergoing a period of change and disruption that poses numerous challenges to higher education, as well as for society at large. Building agility for unknown challenges that may emerge is thus a key issue for higher education learning and teaching. How can we prepare our students, teachers and institutions for the path ahead? Participants in this future-gazing edition of the European Learning & Teaching. Key questions include how higher education can safeguard its relevance through capacity for adaptation and how graduates can be equipped with responsive and adaptable mindsets.

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 <u>2024 EUA Learning</u> <u>& Teaching Thematic Peer Groups</u>.

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 '2030 and beyond: towards responsive and adaptable higher education' 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), prompting discussions 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.

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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 <u>Forum webpage</u> 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 two 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 both 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. This video message will not be published, and is only intended to support the EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee in the evaluation of submitted proposals.

1) Workshops

Workshop sessions will take place during a time slot of 90 minutes each. Proposals for workshops should focus on providing participants (max. 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. Workshops should have tangible outcomes and facilitators are encouraged to share these outcomes after the session through the dedicated event app (e.g. in the form of a short executive summary of findings, photographic documentation of flipcharts). 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) and, in the case of several facilitators, who should benefit from the reduced presenter registration fee (max. one per successful proposal and only applicable to presenters from <u>EUA member institutions</u>);
- include the authors' short biographies (up to 150 words each);
- identify the target audience for the session;
- explain the main objectives and intended (learning) outcomes;
- explain the activity to be carried out during the session, including timing for each activity (up to 800 words);
- specify any practical requirements (materials, audio-visual, room layout, etc.);
- be accompanied by an abstract of a maximum of 150 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.

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

- 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.

Submit your workshop proposal via this form.

2) Presentation

Presentations are expected to share and discuss experiences with a particular practice, concept 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 should present activities which have been implemented already or explored beyond the theoretical level. Presentations should invite participants to reflect on whether lessons learnt from this concept, 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 20 minutes each and be followed by a discussion with the audience. Among the successful presentation proposals, up to three will be grouped together in sessions of 90 minutes.

The proposal should:

- identify the author(s), and, in the case of a co-authored proposal, indicate who would be responsible for presenting it at the Forum, and who should benefit from the reduced presenter registration fee (max. one per successful proposal and only applicable to presenters from <u>EUA member institutions</u>);
- include the authors' short biographies (up to 150 words each);
- be clearly and concisely written, and a maximum of 800 words; (excl. short biography/ies and abstract), 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;
- be accompanied by an abstract of a maximum of 150 words;
- include discussion questions for the audience;
- be written in English.

Submitted 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;

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- 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.

Submit your presentation proposal via this form.

Submission and selection

All proposals should be submitted using the online forms in this call and 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 December 2024 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 presentations will be posted on the EUA website after the event.

All correspondence will be by e-mail. For any questions about this call, please send an email to <u>LTForum@eua.eu</u>.

IMPORTANT: If you have submitted a proposal, please do not register for the Forum online until the results of the selection process have been announced. Authors of selected 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 successful contribution, and only to representatives of <u>EUA member institutions</u>.

Deadline

The deadline to submit proposals is **18 October 2024**. Submissions received after this time cannot be considered.

Calendar

Summer 2024	Launch of the call.
18 October 2024	Submission deadline.
December 2024	Notification of acceptance or rejection is sent by e-mail. Abstracts of accepted proposals are published on the Forum website. Information regarding the date and time of sessions at the Forum is provided.
February 2025	Preparatory videoconference for Forum contributors.
26 February 2025	A reception for Forum presenters is organised in the evening.



27-28 February 2025	2025 European Learning & Teaching Forum takes place at
	University College Cork.

EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee members

- Anne Lequy, former Rector, Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences, Germany (chair)
- Andrej Pirjevec, Executive Committee Member, European Students' Union
- Philippe Emplit, University Learning Council member, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
- Joanne Pagèze, Vice-President for Internationalisation, University of Bordeaux, France
- Christiane Jost, Vice-President of Academic and International Affairs, RheinMain University of Applied Sciences, Germany
- Manuel João Tavares Mendes Costa, Pro-Rector, University of Minho, Portugal
- Karin Axelsson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Linköping University, Sweden
- Stephanie Marshall, Vice Principal for Education, Queen Mary University of London, United Kingdom