



CONSULTATION WITH EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM OF INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITIES (ECIU)

Meeting Conclusions

Date: Monday 8th – Wednesday 10th October 2018,
Location: University of Stavanger, Norway

The TEFCE Expert Team held a meeting at the University of Stavanger (Norway) to brainstorm the development of a toolbox for community engagement in higher education and to present the initial TEFCE toolbox idea to one of the university networks that are partners of the TEFCE project: the European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU).

The TEFCE Expert Team was represented by Paul Benneworth (Center for Higher Education Policy Studies, University of Twente – Netherlands), Marco Seeber (Centre for Higher Education Governance Ghent, University of Ghent – Belgium) and Ninoslav Šćukanec Schmidt and Thomas Farnell (Institute for the Development of Education – Croatia). The Expert Team presented the TEFCE proposals to ECIU's Steering Committee for Entrepreneurship and Societal Impact of Research (ESIR) (for more information about ESIR, and the list of its members, please see [here](#)). The feedback from the ECIU ESIR-committee combined both supportive and critical views of the value of the toolbox:

- From a critical perspective, several committee members brought into question the value of applying yet another 'management/self-assessment tool', in a context of overburdened university administrations with other priorities, and in a context of the existence of other similar tools (e.g. HE Innovate; regional impact studies). The main question was: what concrete benefit would this bring to the university?
- From a supportive perspective, several committee members acknowledged that the timing of the toolbox was good, since there is increased debate on broader social engagement and impact of universities, and since many of the universities in the committee could already identify relevant activities that they carry out in this area

In conclusion, the Expert Team noted that the toolbox was in its early phase of development, and that the feedback of the ECIU ESIR-committee would be instrumental in the next stage of development of the tool (especially in addressing the concerns voiced by some members of the committee).

PROJECT FUNDING



PROJECT CO-FINANCING

