

TEFCE presentation and consultation at the XX Anniversary of the Bologna Declaration “Bologna beyond 2020: the fundamental values of the EHEA”

Date: 25 June 2019

Venue: University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy (Salone del Podestà, Palazzo Re Enzo, Piazza Nettuno 1, Bologna)

Presenter: Ninoslav Šćukanec Schmidt

Title of the presentation: Could We Create a European Framework for Community Engagement in Higher Education?

Goal of the presentation and consultation:

1. The goal of the above presentation was to present the project “TEFCE: Towards a European Framework for Community Engagement in Higher Education” and its goals, as well as the main outcome of the TEFCE project – the TEFCE Toolbox, which represents a European Framework for Community Engagement in Higher Education. The TEFCE Toolbox should help universities in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) structuring and developing their cooperation with wider communities in a mutually beneficial way.
2. Since the above conference was attended by more than 700 policy makers from the EHEA countries, the second goal of the participation at the conference was to advocate that the community engagement in higher education becomes one of the main priorities for the future development of the Bologna Process for the period 2020-2030.

Background related to the decision to attend the conference:

The 20th Anniversary of the Bologna Declaration was organized by the Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, jointly with the Italian Ministry for Education, Universities and Research, under the aegis of the Observatory of the Magna Charta Universitatum, the European University Association and the European Students' Union. The Conference was held in Bologna on 24-25 June 2019 and was intended as an analytical as well as an agenda-setting contribution to the design of the Bologna Process 2020-2030 and of the further developments of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) in the years to come. It aimed at identifying important future challenges for universities and their role in society. The outcomes of the Conference will be input for the next EHEA Ministerial Conference that will be held in Rome on 23-25 June 2020. More than 700 scholars, students, experts and policy makers gathered in Bologna to discuss the core values of the EHEA and develop a “vision” for the EHEA beyond 2020. The above reasons and the fact that the conference conclusions will inform the future strategy 2020-2030 for the Bologna Process and the EHEA influenced our decision to present the main TEFCE outcomes as future priorities of the EHEA.

Main conclusions and outcomes:

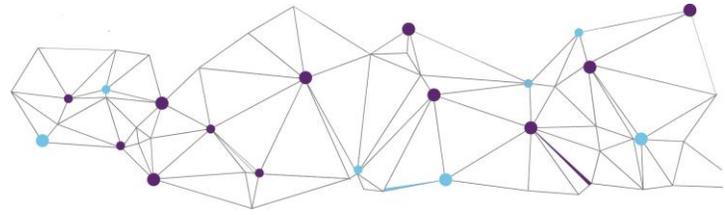
- The presentation was a part of the parallel session No. 4 “The Social Dimensions of Higher Education”. Schmidt was one of the four prominent speakers at the roundtable and delivered a

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successful presentation on the above topic. More information on the session and speakers are available at:

<http://bolognaprocess2019.it/programme/>

<http://bolognaprocess2019.it/sessions/>

- The discussion and the questions of the audience after the presentation proved that the future development of the Bologna Process should include a new component that will horizontally link all the structural reform tools developed in the last two decades through the Bologna Process. This new component could be community engagement in higher education, because it encompasses all main university functions (engaged teaching and learning, engaged research, engaged knowledge exchange and outreach, engaged management, engaged students and staff). Schmidt should continue being proactive through the advocacy work in the BFUG structures until the next EHEA Ministerial Conference (in Rome on 23-25 June 2020) in order to include community engagement among future priorities of the Bologna Process. Conclusions of the session and the round table are available at:
http://bolognaprocess2019.it/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/plenary_04-report-Brieuc_Delanghe.pdf
- The Schmidt's presentation and the roundtable were recorded in the form of a video, which could be further explored for promotional purposes of the TEFCE project. The video is available at:
 - YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaWVErSXgHQ#action=share>
 - At the conference website: <http://bolognaprocess2019.it/event-videos/>
- University representatives and representatives of ministries in the EHEA showed a considerable interest to further learn about the community engagement and the main outcomes of the TEFCE project. Schmidt distributed TEFCE policy brief 1 and TEFCE leaflets to all interested participants at the end of the session.
- The conference was an excellent network opportunity and Schmidt established a large network of policy makers who will be included in the TEFCE mailing list through which they will receive the TEFCE Newsletter. The photo gallery of the conference shows the networking activities of different stakeholders at the conference:
<http://bolognaprocess2019.it/event-photos/>
- Schmidt has successfully submitted an abstract for this conference, which was a precondition for having the presentation in the above session. The abstract has been accepted and proceeding together with manuscript submitted by Schmidt will be printed in an edited book in 2020. The manuscript submitted will be cited in the before mentioned book in the following way: Šćukanec Schmidt, N. and Farnell, T. (2020). Could We Create a European Framework for Community Engagement in Higher Education?

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