



[About EUA](#)

[EUA Membership & Services](#)

[EUA Work & Policy Area](#)

[EUA Projects](#)

[EUA Council for Doctoral Education](#)

[Institutional Evaluation Programme](#)

EUA Events

- ▶ [Experts Conference](#)
- ▶ [Presentation of the TRENDS 2010 Report](#)
- ▶ [Conventions](#)
 - [Past conventions](#)
- ▶ [EUA Conferences](#)

[Publications](#)

[Press Corner](#)

[Job Opportunities at EUA](#)

Past Conventions

[2005](#) - [2003](#) - [2001](#)

3rd EUA Convention - Strong Universities for Europe

Glasgow, Scotland, 31 March - 2 April 2005

Hosted by the University of Strathclyde, the University of Glasgow and Glasgow Caledonian University
Supported by the Scottish Executive, UK Department for Education and Skills and the European Commission

This 3rd Convention was an important event for the higher education community to discuss - at the halfway point to 2010 - the increasingly important role of institutions and students in implementing Bologna and in making the knowledge society a reality for Europe's citizens. The 630 university leaders and partners gathered in Glasgow called for greater recognition of the vital cultural, social and economic role of Europe's universities and underlined the importance of strong universities in responding to the growing and varied societal demands on them. This requires institutions to be responsible rather than merely responsive and makes the development of diversified institutional strategies - based on autonomy, accountability and adequate financing - essential in order to exploit their full potential.

EUA's objectives in Glasgow were to:

situate the Bologna reforms in the wider debate on the role of the university in society;

demonstrate the importance of strong universities if the Bologna reforms are to be implemented successfully (and identify the key preconditions for ensuring meaningful, long-term reform);

present and analyse the views of higher education institutions on the implementation of Bologna hitherto and identify key challenges for the next phase (Trends IV);

draw conclusions and make recommendations both to governments and higher education institutions for the next phase of the process to strengthen the European dimension of the Bologna Process.

One of the highlights of the Convention was the speech by European Commission President, José Manuel Barroso, who pledged support for the ongoing higher education reform process and called for increased dialogue between the Commission and Europe's universities. EUA welcomes this new emphasis on higher education institutions and looks forward to working with the Commission in securing the future of European universities which the President cited as "unquestionably one of Europe's top priorities." Linking universities and the reform process underway to the refocused Lisbon strategy, President Barroso stressed the key part universities have to play in the development of the knowledge society and urged university leaders to engage with other stakeholders to ensure the ambitious goals are achieved.

The next step for EUA to present the [Glasgow Declaration](#)  to Ministers of Education meeting in Bergen in May to discuss the future of the Bologna Process.

More background information on the Convention discussions can be found on the [EUA Convention Website](#) which features all relevant information about the Convention including thematic papers, articles and interviews. It has been an essential tool for Convention participants but is also of interest for all actors in higher education to have an overview of the current situation in Europe.

[Programme](#) 

[Keynote Speakers and Working Group Conclusions](#)


[Convention Reader](#) 

[Press Release](#)

[To top](#)


2nd EUA Convention - Strengthening the Role of Institutions




Graz, Austria, 29-31 May 2003

This 2nd Convention of European Higher Education Institutions brought together 570 institutional representatives to discuss the current and future status of European higher education and the universities' role in educational reforms. The conclusions of these discussions are outlined in the [Graz Declaration](#)  which underlines the importance of developing a long-term vision for 2010 and beyond. It is stressed that pushing the Bologna reforms forward will help consolidate the role of the universities as the motor of a Europe of knowledge. The contribution of the Graz discussions aimed at further clarification of the idea of what a 'European University' is and the added value of institutions working together at European level.

A key priority outlined in the Declaration is the need for an integral link between the higher education area and research area as it is central to European higher education and a defining feature of Europe's universities. It is for this reason that universities

requested the recognition of the doctoral level as the third “cycle” in the Bologna Process.


This link was recognised by the Education Ministers in the [Berlin Communiqué](#) , which highlights the essential role of higher education institutions and students in realising the EHEA and specifically the need for strong institutions. They also added a new objective (‘action line’) on "Doctoral studies and promotion of young researchers" which specifically mentions doctoral programmes as the third cycle in the Process.

EUA has taken this as a starting point for its 2003/2005 Bologna action that is based upon the conclusions and recommendations of [Trends III](#) , the [Graz Declaration](#)  and in its activities for the [last two years](#) .

[To top](#)

1st EUA Convention - Shaping our own future in the European Higher Education Area

Salamanca, Spain, 29-30 March 2001

The European University Association was created by the merger of two existing organisations at its first Convention in Salamanca, Spain in 2001. The Convention produced the [Salamanca Declaration](#)  which defined the values of EUA and the direction of the work the Association would undertake in its first years.

Over 300 European higher education institutions and their main representative organisations gathered in Salamanca and reaffirmed their support to the principles of the Bologna Declaration and their commitment to the creation of the European Higher Education Area by the end of the decade.

[To top](#)