

Criticize, do not decline

POLITICAL COMMUNIQUÉ

We, the European Democrat Students, the student organisation of the European People's Party declare our support towards the Bologna Process, the intergovernmental process that aims to create the European Higher Education Area. With this political communiqué we stress that the Bologna Process can lead the competitiveness of the European Higher Education Area.

With this political communiqué we call upon the student organisations from the European level, no matter of which political view, to join in the campaign for reaffirming the necessity of the Bologna Process and work together in improving the Bologna reform across Europe.

Despite the differences between our political background, goals, standpoints and priorities towards higher education, we agree that the continuous improvement of the European higher education, rooted in the basic idea of 'universitas', can be ensured by the declarations and communiqués of the Bologna Process. The main objectives of the Bologna Process, namely the easily readable and comparable degrees, the three-cycle system, the European Credit Transfer System, the promotion of mobility and social dimension, the European cooperation in quality assurance and the Promotion of the necessary European dimensions in higher education are of high value.

European Democrat Students and other student organisations might not agree with all objectives and implementation of the Bologna Process and we might be critical to the procedures and emphasizes of the intergovernmental negotiations. However, we agree that the Bologna Process is in the interest of the students, and can be the key to a European Higher Education Area of higher quality.

Taking this into consideration, we believe that student representatives must not oppose the Bologna Process. European higher education students must not choose the simple path of denial but support the creation of the European Higher Education Area with constructive criticism, proposals, smart lobbying and genuine interest representation.

We call upon all European youth and higher education student organisations to criticize, amend and develop the Bologna Process, but not passively deny it. Passive rejection is against the development our common higher education area and thus against our common future.

Adopted at the CM in Paris, 25/04/2009