

XX. EDS Winter University in Brussels - day after



Dear friends of EDS,

At this very moment I have just returned from the XX. Winter University of EDS, in Brussels. Hosting this event has been a priority for the current bureau. Where better to organise the largest event of EDS, than in the capital of united Europe? During the course of this event 150 young activists from across Europe were enabled to interact, not only politically

but also socially and intellectually. The bureau has worked hard in order to make this event possible, and many hours have been invested in making Winter University in Brussels possible! In addition we have received excellent help from our two Belgian member organizations.

Personally I believe this has been one of the most successful Winter Universities in EDS' history. We had a wide array of speakers, work shops, working groups and social events. Hopefully those of you who attended returned home from Brussels feeling more knowledgeable and inspired to continue working hard for a centre-right Europe. EDS has supplied the intellectual tools for our activists to further develop as individuals and politicians. Hopefully the knowledge gathered in Brussels will materialize into political activity in our respective member organisations.

I would also like to congratulate two of our member organisations with newly elected boards; HSF in Norway and RCDS in Germany. I look forward to getting to know the respective boards and hope that we can continue the fruitful cooperation we have had in the past.

Sincerely,

Bence Bauer
Chairman of EDS

EDS Winter University in Brussels!



The EDS Winter University in Brussels was a great success. With speakers such as Jerzy Buzek, Wilfried Martens, José Manuel Barroso, Othmar Karas and Antonio Lopez-Isturiz – the participants were greeted in Brussels by some of the most influential politicians on the European level. For in-depth day-to-day information about the events of the Winter University, read the daily reports here:

www.edsnet.eu/wudaily

EDS Alumni Dinner in Brussels!



EDS Winter University participants gathered at Cabinet DN and were welcomed by former EDS Chairman Jacob Lund Nielsen in the department. After that, the EDS Alumni dinner took place where five former EDS Chairmen were present, including greetings by former chairman Lars Eskerland, former chairman Gunther Fehlinger and former vice-chairman Frank Engel, MEP. All the alumni present (app. 40) congratulated EDS Bureau on this new initiative to host EDS Alumni each year.

You can read more on the EDS Alumni dinner here:

www.edsnet.eu/wudaily

EDS Chairman speaks at EPP political assembly!



The EDS delegation led by Chairman Bence Bauer and further consisting of Secretary General Maria Keris and Policy Director Juraj Antal participated in the EPP's first Political Assembly of this year.

The programme comprised of electing the two EPP Deputy Secretary Generals, the spokesperson, and the international secretary.

EDS, as one of the six affiliate organisations of EPP, presented its work and main messaging for this year in a 10 minute presentation delivered by Chairman Bauer to the Assembly. The presentation highlighted the history of EDS, current position in the EPP structure, our bureau since July 2009 and the projects we have done (20 years after) and will do in the second part of our term. Special attention was given to the XX. Winter University.

More information on this on the EDS website:

www.edsnet.eu/news/eds

EDS Delegation to Bologna Conference in Vienna!

EDS will be sending a delegation to the Bologna ministerial conference in Vienna 12-13 March. Chairman Bence Bauer and Vice-Chairman Jean-Baptiste Dabezies will be representing the Bureau. In addition Bernhard Krall, co-chairman of the permanent working group for higher education and research in EDS will be attending the conference. EDS has also decided to bring with us Christian Bjerke from HSF-Norway who is a member of the Academic Affairs Committee of the European Students Union (ESU). There is no doubt EDS is sending a strong delegation to Vienna in order to make the voice and opinion of 500 000 European centre-right students heard in Vienna.

EDS Adopts a new Basic Document!

On the Council Meeting in Brussels on the last day of the EDS Winter University EDS adopted a basic document, defining EDS' political positions in the fields; Higher Education & Research, Policies for Europe and Human Rights. Each of the respective working groups in EDS has worked for nearly a year in order to make this document possible. The basic document is an effective tool for the Bureau in order to exert influence by having a solid foundation to which to look when EDS' is asked for its opinion on a variety of issues.

Norwegian EDS member HSF elects new Bureau!



The Bureau wishes to congratulate Henrik Erevik Riise as new chairman of HSF. Henrik has been active in EDS in his past, and it is an honor for EDS that "one of our" people have

become chairman of a member organisation. With him in the bureau Henrik has a team of highly competent individuals; Therese Warud (Political Deputy Chairwoman) Alexander Leet (Organisational Deputy Chairman) and Ingrid Caroline Hopp and Charlotte Spurkeland as board members.

German EDS member RCDS elects

On 19. February 2010 EDS' German member organisation elected its new board. The new leadership consists of Chairman Stefan Holz (Baden-Württemberg) Vice-Chairman Sebastian Brewe (Bayern)



Vice-Chairman and Treasurer Stephan Convent (Sachsen). The EDS Bureau wishes to congratulate the three individuals with their new positions, and we look forward to cooperating with them in the year to come.

UNI students merge with 23 like-minded student associations



On January 28th and 29th, the Mouvement des étudiants (M-ét), whose president is Rémi Martail, held his founding congress in Paris. In a country where professional protesters organise regularly strikes, demonstrations and blockades, one of the first goal of the M-ét members is to forbid blockades at universities. Due to electoral and student political reasons (with the current reform, only three students sit in the administrative council of each University, but student involvement is more required than ever), this integration will strengthen our ideas. Student services (housing, jobs, mobility), quality studies, employability, freedom and democracy are the grounds of the M-ét programme. The congress lectures addressed different

challenges: Studies in France and abroad, more money or better money, employability... Valérie Pécresse, Minister of Higher Education and Research, delivered a speech at the end of the congress.

Upcoming events

- **12 - 13 March - Bologna Ministerial Conference in Vienna** – Read more [here](#).
- **05 - 09 May 4th Council Meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania** – More information will be available in the upcoming months on EDS website www.edsnet.eu