



UNIVERSITY OF  
**LEICESTER**

# University Autonomy in Europe: Trends, Benefits, Challenges and Threats

Venue: University of Leicester  
Monday 23 – Tuesday 24 April 2018



# DAY 1 - Monday 23 April

---

12.00 - 13.00 *Lunch*

## 13.00 - 13.15 Introduction to the meeting

Paul Boyle (President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Leicester)

Janet Beer (Vice-Chancellor, University of Liverpool and President of Universities UK)

## 13.15 - 14.00 What does the evidence show about university autonomy in Europe?

### 13.15 - 13.45 Keynotes

Thomas Estermann (Director for Governance, Funding and Public Policy Development, European University Association)

Rolf Tarrach (President, European University Association)

### 13.45 - 14.00 Open discussion

## 14.00 - 15.15 Challenges and success factors in improving autonomy

### 14.00 - 14.30 Keynotes

Carle Bonafous-Murat (President of the French Rector's Conference European Committee and President Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3)

Agneta Bladh (Professor, Former Rector, University of Kalmar, Sweden)

### 14.30 - 15.15 Panel discussion

Mari Sundli Tveit (Rector, Norwegian University of Life Sciences)

Michael Murphy (European University Association Board member, previously President of University College Cork, Ireland)

Mikuláš Bek (Rector, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic)

15.15 - 15.45 *Tea break*

## 15.45 - 17.00 Is university autonomy related to university performance?

### 15.45 - 16.15 Keynotes

Dieter Dohmen (Director of Forschungsinstitut für Bildungs- und Sozialökonomie (FIBS), Germany)

Simon Baker (Data Editor, Times Higher Education)

### 16.15 - 17.00 Panel

Steve Smith (Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive, Exeter University)

Stephen Hwang (Vice-Chancellor, Halmstad University, Sweden)

Marcin Palys (Rector, University of Warsaw, Poland)

## 17.00 - 18.30 Is university autonomy under threat in Europe?

### 17.00 - 17.30 Keynotes

Gulsin Saglam - TBC (European Women's Rectors Association)

Liviu Matei (Provost and Pro-Rector of Central European University and Professor of Higher Education Policy at the School of Public Policy, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary)

### 17.30 - 18.30 Open discussion

19.30 - 21.30 *Dinner*

## DAY 2 - Tuesday 24 April

---

### 9.00 - 10.45 **The UK situation, distinguishing England, Wales, Scotland**

#### 9.00 - 10.00 **Keynotes**

**Janet Beer** (Vice-Chancellor, University of Liverpool and President of Universities UK)

**Colin Riordan** (President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Cardiff)

**Ian Diamond** (Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Aberdeen)

**Alan Langlands** (Vice-Chancellor, University of Leeds)

#### 10.00 - 10.45 **Panel**

**Ferdinand von Prondzynski** (Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen)

**Chris Sayers** (Chair of Committee of University Chairs)

**Elizabeth Treasure** (Vice-Chancellor, Aberystwyth University)

### 10.45 - 11.15 *Tea break*

### 11.15 - 12.00 **How do policymakers shape autonomy?**

#### 11.15 - 12.00 **Keynotes**

**David Willetts** (Previously Minister of State for Universities and Science and Executive Chair, Resolution Foundation)

**Elmar Pichl** (Director General for Higher Education, Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, Vienna, Austria)

### 12.00 - 13.30 **Recommendations**

#### 12.00 - 13.00 **Keynotes**

**Nick Hillman** (Director, Higher Education Policy Institute)

**Liviu Matei** (Provost and Pro-Rector of Central European University and Professor of Higher Education Policy at the School of Public Policy, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary)

**Alistair Jarvis** (Chief Executive, Universities UK)

#### 13.00 - 13.30 **Round table discussion to reflect on recommendations**

*Chair:* **Paul Boyle** (President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Leicester)

### 13.30 - 14.30 *Lunch*