

Media Invitation

Brussels, 1 September 2016

3rd EUA Funding Forum - "Efficient universities: Value for society" 6 - 7 October 2016, Porto, Portugal

The European University Association (EUA) is pleased to invite you to its **3rd Funding Forum, "Efficient universities: Value for Society"**, hosted by the University of Porto in Portugal from 6 to 7 October 2016.

A biennial event, the Funding Forum is a unique, inclusive platform offering higher education funding stakeholders - university leaders, public authorities, researchers, students, public and private funders and partners - the chance to explore the sector's latest funding trends, opportunities and challenges.

This year's Funding Forum will focus on delivering value to society and efficient university management. As public finances are under increased pressure across Europe, university funding models are being revised with a view to rationalise expenditures, generate greater added value and increase efficiency in the sector. At the same time, it is becoming highly relevant for the university sector to show and quantify its contribution to society, in both social and economic terms.

The 3rd Funding Forum will also provide an occasion for the release of the 2016 [EUA Public Funding Observatory](#), which has been capturing public funding trends in Europe since 2008, and the results of the recent [EUA member consultation on Horizon 2020](#) in the context of the programme's mid-term review. Both analyses will offer useful insight into the current funding landscape and provide a solid basis for discussion of possible implications and strategies that can help universities improve efficiency and reinforce capacity to deliver on their core missions in uncertain financial environments.

Tapping into these latest EUA findings, participants at the 3rd Funding Forum will also discuss how to assess and communicate the university's added value, what to expect from public funders, where to look for new partnerships and how to diversify their funding streams. Several high-level university leaders will share their experience with organisational innovations inspired by the challenging funding context.

In particular, a high-level panel of three visionary university leaders from different parts of Europe – Jean Chambaz, President of University of Pierre and Marie Curie, Jukka Kola, Rector of the University of Helsinki and Antonio Manuel Bensabat Rendas, Rector of Universidad Nova de Lisboa - will share their views on the value of universities to society. Other confirmed speakers include national and European policy makers who will shed light on the future of public funding programmes and their expectations of the university's social and economic role at the system-level.

Please note that **EUA will waive conference fees for journalists**. Prior registration is necessary as the number of places is limited. Unfortunately EUA cannot pay accommodation or travel costs for this event.

To register and for more information please contact:

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For more information or to view the preliminary conference programme, [please click here](#). For more detailed information on the Funding Forum and its previous editions, [please click here](#).

The European University Association (EUA) is the representative organisation of more than 800 universities in 47 European countries and 36 national rectors' conferences (NRCs). The Council of EUA is comprised of the President, the members of the Board, and of the presidents of all of Europe's NRCs. EUA works closely with its members to ensure that the voice of European universities is heard.