Doctoral Education: Why it matters for Europe

By generating knowledge and scientific and technological breakthroughs, universities play a crucial role in advancing European societies.

Doctoral education is an essential contributor, shaping the link between education, research and innovation, and impacting Europe's economic, scientific, technological and social development.

At a time when the "European project" is under pressure, and digitalisation is transforming the way we work and live, doctoral education matters more than ever in safeguarding a progressive, inclusive society and making sure Europe is ready for a changing world.



Harnessing Digitalisation

Doctoral education is at the forefront of Europe's digital transformation, not only in mobilising, training and raising awareness among digitally-minded researchers, but in promoting crucial Open Science policies and practices that will revolutionise Europe's scientific potential.

Safeguarding Research Integrity

Doctoral education is at the centre of a global confrontation on ethical challenges that impact information, knowledge and research. Doctoral education preserves and develops a moral compass in Europe that is vital for strong research integrity in the Digital Age.

Connecting Innovation and Society

Doctoral education is highlighted in the "Renewed EU Agenda for Higher Education" as a place where higher education, innovative research and society meet. It trains researchers capable of engaging with society and contributing innovative solutions to Europe's industry and other economic sectors.

Fostering International Collaboration

Doctoral candidates connect universities and facilitate international collaboration. This talent pool is one of the foundations of Europe-driven inclusive cooperation within the European Higher Education and Research Areas, with the European Neighbourhood and the world.

"Doctoral education is at the forefront of ensuring that Europe has the necessary skills to face a changing labour market, an active citizenship participating in diverse, mobile, digital and global societies, and the frontier knowledge and discoveries necessary for the continent's overall progress."

Luke Georghiou
Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor,
University of Manchester
EUA-CDE Steering Committee Chair

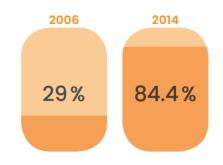


The EUA Council for Doctoral Education

The EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) is an integral part of the European University Association. It aims to strengthen the doctoral research capacity of European universities, allowing them to attract and shape talented early-stage researchers in a competitive and global environment. By promoting collaboration and exchange of good practices, it makes an important contribution to the development of doctoral education and research training in Europe.

Notably, EUA-CDE has guided a university-led reform process that has been marked by a Europe-wide exchange on policies and practices, fostering mutual learning and collaboration between higher education institutions from across the continent.

Doctoral schools on the rise Percentage of European universities with doctoral schools:



(Source: EUA data)

Key milestones in European doctoral education reform:

TODAY

Doctoral education is widely recognised as a key contributor to the knowledge society. EUA-CDE connects 239 universities in 36 countries.

June 2016

Taking Salzburg Forward

After surveying
200 universities from
39 countries, EUA
publishes "Taking Salzburg
Forward", identifying new
challenges for doctoral
education.

June 2011

Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training

The European Commission issues a set of "Principles for Innovative Doctoral Training" based on and including key elements of the "Salzburg Principles".

October 2010

Salzburg Recommendations

EUA publishes the "<u>Salzburg</u> <u>Recommendations</u>", an updated set of common guidelines on doctoral education for universities.

September 2003

Berlin Communiqué

The Bologna Process refers to doctoral education as a potential meeting place between the European Higher Education and Research Areas.

February 2005

Salzburg Principles

After surveying
48 universities from
22 countries, EUA
establishes the "Salzburg
Principles" for doctoral
education reform.

May 2005 and 2007

Bergen and London Communiqués

The Bologna Process welcomes progress made and encourages EUA to further support the sharing of best practices in doctoral education.

June 2008

EUA-CDE

EUA-CDE is launched with academic leaders and doctoral education professionals from more than 100 universities in over 30 countries.



Engage with our community on





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