



Roundtable Discussion

University Policy Needs to Beef Up for Europe to Be More Innovative

26 February 2015, 17:00 – 20:00





The **EIB Institute** promotes European Union objectives by supporting European initiatives for the common good. Its work is divided into three strategic programmes: the Knowledge Programme; the Social Programme; and the Arts & Culture Programme. Under the framework of its Knowledge Programme the Institute organises regular seminars and conferences to encourage knowledge dissemination and innovative thinking about issues of particular concern to the EIB Group. These serve both to help staff in their work and inform the general public.



Empower European Universities is an NGO devoted to assess European Higher Education policies. It is based in Maastricht at UNU-MERIT, United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology.

Roundtable Discussion

University Policy Needs to Beef Up for Europe to Be More Innovative

Agenda

17:00 - 17:30 Opening Session

Welcome

Guy Clausee, Dean, EIB Institute

Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, European Commission

Keynote speaker:

Jo Ritzen, President, Foundation Empower European Universities, the Netherlands

17:30 - 19:00 Panel

Moderator:

Pieter Gerrit Kroeger, Editor, ScienceGuide, the Netherlands

Panel Members:

Philippe Aghion, Professor, Harvard University, USA

Baroness Blackstone, former Minister for Higher and Further Education, UK

José Mariano Gago, former Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education of Portugal, Portugal

Stijn Hoorens, Associate Director, RAND Europe

Jürgen Rüttgers, former Federal- and Prime Minister, North Rhineland Westphalia, Germany

Luc Soete, Rector, Maastricht University, the Netherlands

18:50 - 19:00 Concluding remarks

Jo Ritzen, President, Foundation Empower European Universities, the Netherlands

19:00 - 20:00 Networking Cocktail

 [Facebook.com/EIBInstitute](https://www.facebook.com/EIBInstitute)

 [@EIBInstitute](https://twitter.com/EIBInstitute) [#InnovationandUniversity](https://twitter.com/EIBInstitute)



University Policy Needs To Beef Up For Europe To Be More Innovative

Conclusions

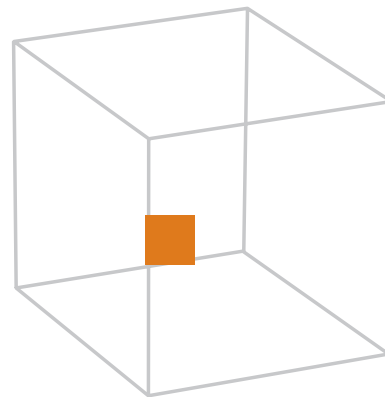
- The study included 32 European countries, with substantial differences in university policies. Generally speaking, Northern European countries seem to be far more effective in promoting economic innovation and economic growth than those in the South and East.
- Europe's 'top' education systems in terms of university policy are Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, the Netherlands, Finland and the UK.
- Good policy starts by making substantial funds per student available for higher education. Policies to increase university enrolment with insufficient funding per student undercut the innovative potential of the country.
- Employer satisfaction with graduates, graduate skills and economic innovation are higher when the research is of higher quality.

Recommendations

- European countries should focus on economic innovation as a key element of their education policies without jeopardising the personal development aspect.
- National governments should invest substantially more financial resources in higher education, while reforming university systems along the lines of best practice in empowerment. Private contributions (tuition fees) can play a more substantial role, provided they are embedded in social loan systems.
- University expenditure for education and research in EU Member States above an agreed level should be exempted from the European Stability Pact criteria for budget deficits.
- Structural and cohesion funds could improve the performance of higher education in less developed regions.
- Governments need to concentrate on promoting skills acquisition (rather than just enrolment and attainment levels) for universities to be innovative on the labour market.
- Education policies need a longer perspective than the usual electoral cycle: the implementation of new legislation for universities takes at least 5-10 years.
- Education and economic affairs ministers should seek closer cooperation to promote economic innovation.
- There is still inadequate measurement, including trends over time, of graduate quality and university autonomy. The EU should develop these statistics to improve the understanding of key factors, such as the impact of organisational characteristics and the relationship between policies and graduate skills.

To read the full report, go to the EEU's website: empowereu.org/publications





Guy Clause

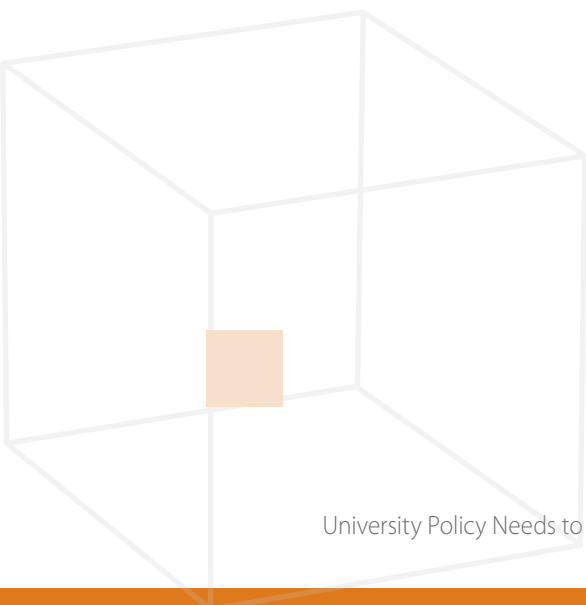
is the Dean of the EIB Institute. Prior to joining the Institute in 2014, he was Director and Special Advisor at the European Investment Bank. Having joined the EIB in 1985, he worked as a country economist for Southern Europe, on the appraisal of priority investment projects notably in Europe's less developed regions, on environmental coordination issues, in the coordination of the Bank's lending operations and, often in cooperation with other EU institutions, in the preparation and implementation of the Bank's strategy in such fields as regional policy, SME finance, innovation finance and urban infrastructure funding.

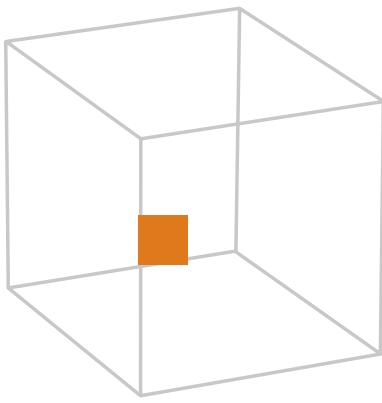
Before joining EIB Guy Clause was lecturing at Cologne University and directed a research institute in Portugal. He has studied economics and business administration and holds a doctorate from the University of Cologne.



Carlos Moedas

has been the European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science since November 2014. Born in Beja (Portugal) in 1970, he received a degree in Civil Engineering from the Instituto Superior Técnico of Lisbon University (1993) and an MBA from Harvard Business School (2000). Before joining the European Commission, he was Secretary of State to the Prime Minister of Portugal and a Member of the Portuguese Parliament (2011-14). He led the negotiations on Portugal's 2011 State Budget for the Social Democratic Party (PSD). He worked for Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Bank and Eurohypo Investment Bank before joining a real estate consultancy (Aguirre Newman) and establishing his own property investment company (Crimson Investment Management) in 2008.





Keynote Speaker

Jo Ritzen

is Professor of International Economics of Science, Technology and Higher Education at Maastricht University, UNU-MERIT. Until February 2011 he served as President of Maastricht University. He previously held various posts at the World Bank, including Vice President of the Development Economics Department and of the Human Development Network. Prior to joining the World Bank, he was Minister of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands (1989-1994; 1994-1998). During his term, he enacted a series of major reforms throughout the Dutch education system. Prof Ritzen has also made significant contributions to agencies such as UNESCO and the OECD. Prior to his appointment as Minister, he held academic positions with Nijmegen University and Erasmus University in the Netherlands, the University of California-Berkeley and the Robert M. LaFollette Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the United States. Prof Ritzen obtained a Master's degree in physics engineering in 1970 from the University of Technology in Delft, and a PhD in economics in 1977 from Erasmus University in Rotterdam. He has written or co-authored 11 books and several articles in the fields of education, economics, public finance and development economics.



Moderator

Pieter Gerrit Kroeger

is Editor-in-Chief of ScienceGuide, the online medium for knowledge-sharing, R&D and higher education. He was formerly an advisor to Dutch education ministers, the European Commission and the community of Arts Schools in the Netherlands. He has written various publications on the history of Christian Democratic parties and is a regular political analyst in the media



Panellists



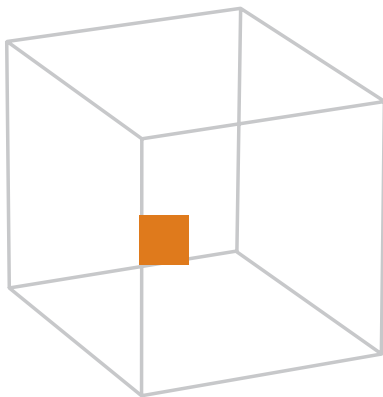
Philippe Aghion

is a Professor of Economics at Harvard University and a fellow of the Econometric Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His research focuses on the economics of growth. With Peter Howitt, he pioneered the so-called Schumpeterian growth paradigm, which was subsequently used to analyse the design of growth policies and the role of the State in the growth process. Much of this work is summarised in their joint books *Endogenous Growth Theory* (MIT Press, 1998) and *The Economics of Growth* (MIT Press, 2009), in his book with Rachel Griffith *Competition and Growth* (MIT Press, 2006), and in his survey “What Do We Learn from Schumpeterian Growth Theory” (jointly with U. Akcigit and P. Howitt). In 2001, Philippe Aghion received the Yrjö Jahnsson Award for the best European economist under the age of 45, and in 2009 he received the John Von Neumann Award.



Tessa Blackstone

is Chairman of the Board of the British Library and of the Great Ormond Street Hospital Foundation Trust. She was appointed Minister of State for Education and Employment in 1997 and Minister of State for the Arts in 2001. Between 2004 and 2011 she was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Greenwich. She was educated at Ware Grammar School and the London School of Economics. She became a Life Peer in 1987 and was opposition Spokeswoman in the House of Lords for Education and Science (1988-92); Treasury (1990-91); and Foreign Affairs (1992-97). Between 1966 and 1975 Tessa Blackstone was a lecturer at the LSE. During the Wilson and Callaghan Governments she worked on the Central Policy Review Staff in the Cabinet Office. She was subsequently Professor of Educational Administration at the Institute of Education and then the Deputy Education Officer at the ILEA. In 1987, she was appointed Master of Birkbeck College. From 1987 to 1991 she was Chairman of the BBC's General Advisory Council. She helped set up the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) and was its Founder Chairman for nine years. Her political interests are wide ranging – from social policy, education and foreign affairs to the Arts.



Panellists

José Mariano Gago

is a former Portuguese Minister of Science and Technology, Information Society and Higher Education (1995-2002; 2005-2011). He trained as an electrical engineer at Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, Portugal, and as an experimental high energy physicist at the École Polytechnique in Paris. He was responsible for the reform of higher education and for the policies promoting the rapid development of science and technology in Portugal. During the Portuguese EU Presidency (2000), he prepared, along with the European Commission, the Lisbon Strategy for the European Research Area and for the Information Society in Europe. He launched the Eureka-Asia Initiative, responsible for setting up new large-scale collaborative programmes with US universities (MIT-Portugal, as well as with CMU, UTA and Harvard). Professor Gago also prepared, with UNESCO and CPLP, a new initiative for the advanced training of scientists from developing countries, Ciência Global. He chaired the Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE) and campaigned for the creation of the European Research Council. Professor Gago was the first President of the International Risk Governance Council (IRGC) in Geneva and is a member of the IRGC's Board and of the Academia Europaea.



Stijn Hoorens

is an Associate Director of RAND Europe and the Head of RAND's Brussels Office. He has extensive experience in designing, conducting and managing policy analysis research for a range of international clients in the private and public sectors. His research interests range from reproductive behaviour and population ageing to innovation policy and technology foresight. Prior to joining RAND ten years ago, Mr Hoorens held research positions at Delft University of Technology and at the Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO). He received his M.Sc. and B.Sc. in systems engineering, policy analysis and management from Delft University of Technology.



Panellists



Jürgen Rüttgers

is currently working as an attorney and lecturing in political science at Bonn University. Born in Cologne in 1951, he received an LL.D. from Cologne University. He was a Member of the German Federal Parliament (Deutscher Bundestag) from 1987 to 2000, and served as the Federal Minister of Education, Science, Research and Technology in the cabinet of Chancellor Helmut Kohl from 1994 to 1998. In that capacity, he co-initiated the so-called "Bologna process", aimed at creating a single European Higher Education Area. From 2000 to 2012, Jürgen Rüttgers was a Member of the State Parliament (Landtag) of North Rhine-Westphalia. From 2000 to 2005 he led the opposition, and from 2005 to 2010 he was the Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia. Jürgen Rüttgers holds honorary doctorates from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI), Paris Sorbonne, the Università degli Studi Roma Tre, Rome, and Waseda University, Tokyo. He is also an Honorary Professor of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, of the Maastricht School of Management and of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität of Bonn.



Luc Soete

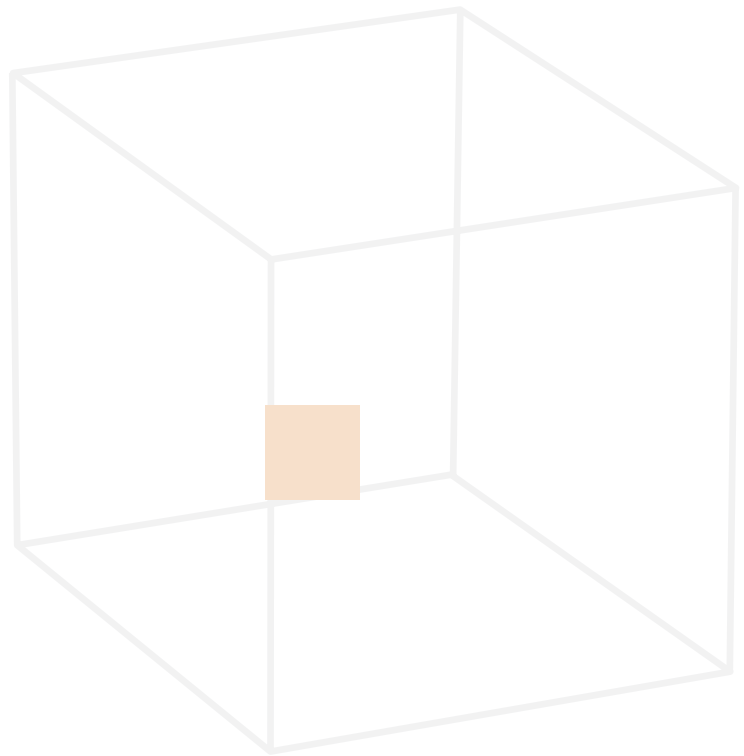
is Rector Magnificus of Maastricht University. Before that he was Director of the United Nations University research and training institute UNU-MERIT and Professor of International Economic Relations and Director-Dean of the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance. He is a member of the Advisory Council for Science and Technology Policy and the Royal Dutch Academy of Science. He graduated in economics from Ghent University and obtained a DPhil in economics from Sussex University, where he worked as senior research fellow at the Science Policy Research Unit in the late 70s and 80s. From 1984 to 1985 he was visiting associate professor at the Department of Economics at Stanford University, USA. In 1986 he joined the new Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at Maastricht University as professor of International Economic Relations. In 1988 he set up the research institute MERIT (Maastricht Economic Research Centre on Innovation and Technology), which merged under his direction in 2005 with UNU-INTECH to become UNU-MERIT. He is a member of the Board of the Maastricht School of Management and the Belgian media company Concentra. Over the last 30 years, Luc Soete has contributed as (co-)author and (co-)editor to some 11 books, 50 refereed articles and around 100 chapters of books.



University Policy Needs To Beef Up For Europe To Be More Innovative

Jo Ritzen, Gabriele Marconi, Simone Sasso
in collaboration with
Cecile Hoareau





European Investment Bank - Institute

98-100, boulevard Konrad Adenauer

L-2950 Luxembourg

☎ +352 4379-75000

☎ +352 437704

info.eibinstitute@eib.org

<http://institute.eib.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/EibInstitute>

