

EC²U Students Program

Sub Topics

1. Creating Strong Universities

Universities are an integral part of society and not just a place of higher education, research, and student parties. “Creating Strong Universities” focuses on innovative strategies and initiatives designed to add to the universities’ overall quality, infrastructure, direction, and capabilities. These strategies and initiatives include, for instance, advancements in technology, modifying the curricula, and pursuing national and international partnerships with external stakeholders, such as industrial institutions, the government, educational institutions, NGO’s, etc. in an effort to prepare institutions for future challenges.

2. Integrating Refugees and Internationals Successfully

Universities are embracing internationalization, supporting student and employee mobility, as well as by implementing internationalization-friendly policies at home. This sub-topic focuses on best practices and policies to promote an inclusive and supportive environment for refugees and international students. Potential topics might include cultural integration programs, language support services, and community-building activities to provide a warm welcome, a smooth transition, and a successful academic experience.

3. How Do You Create a Narrative of Peace in a Polarized World?

This sub-topic addresses how to create successful and solution-oriented dialogue between opposing sides in an effort to foster a greater acceptance and understanding of diverse worldviews and perspectives. The goal is to hone the participants’ proactive skills and devise broader social strategies to establish peaceful dialogue and successfully navigate debates while simultaneously acknowledging various perspectives and promoting action-oriented and evidence-based discussions.

4. Students at Risk

Global conflicts are severely disrupting many university students’ educational experience, denying many of them their basic right to education. This sub-topic explores strategies that could be put into place to ensure students can continue their education despite adverse circumstances. Discussions will also focus on the actions needed to create and maintain a safe environment at universities.

5. Challenges and Opportunities for Universities in a Growing Digital World

New technologies - such as AI and Blended Learning - are transforming education. This sub-topic will address the issue of whether or not these types of innovative technologies pose a threat to traditional models of higher education, and whether or not there is still a demand for universities in the future. The goal is also to explore options in the use of new digital tools in an effort to improve learning and educational methods at institutions of higher education.