

Report: Board meeting London, 6 | 7 February 2016

Dear Member, Candidate and
Affiliate Organisations,

2015 was a very exciting year, thanks to all of you and your organisations commitment to make OBESSU a great platform for cooperation, as well as for advocacy for better education systems all over Europe.

To kick of 2016 in an informative and way we are sending you this email as a follow-up to the board meeting in London (for which you will soon find minutes on our website), to give an overview of what 2016 is going to look like and what is happening in OBESSUland at the moment.



The email is going to be full of information because 2016 is going to be a very busy year, especially, the first half of it. Read this email very carefully, mark the dates in your calendars for upcoming events and forward the information to your colleagues and be sure that you and your organisation would not miss the chance to contribute to this amazing upcoming year in OBESSUland!

WHAT IS GOING ON?

1. THE NEW SECRETARY GENERAL – ELA JAKUBEK

In December OBESSU opened a call for the new SG to be hired and after a long process of selection the board is happy to announce the new, very active, fun and professional SG ELA JAKUBEK! You can meet her on the [article](#) and always reach her at ela@obessu.org. We are sure that Ela will do a great job and we thank Rasmus for his commitment and contributions to OBESSU for a past two and a half years.

2. THE BOARD MEETING

This time OBESSU board met in London to meet the new SG to discuss the planning of the year as well as upcoming global cooperation plans. We went through policy development, post 2015 process and a lot of other interesting upcoming plans that you will be able to find in the minutes.

3. EUROPEAN COMMISSION WORKING GROUPS

The EC opened up the applications for their working groups. OBESSU identified two topics as the key ones and decided to apply:

- School policy 2020, for which Brendan from the board applied
- VET working group, for which Bicca (FSS) from OBESSU VET WG applied

Sadly, we have not been chosen to contribute to any of the two. We are now trying to get more detailed feedback.

4. WGs

Currently the OBESSU has a

- Monitoring Group on Educational reforms in Europe
- Working Group on Vocational Education and Training
- Working Group on Student Welfare

5. EVENTS PREPARATIONS IN FULL SWING

- Study session on “Bringing Human Rights Education to Schools”. The Study Session will take place in the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe in Budapest, from the 24th April to the 1st May 2016 and aims at increasing the knowledge and awareness of Human Rights in schools and at exploring the role of school student unions in developing human rights education and education for democratic citizenship in schools.
- 11th European School Student Convention: Education and Work - The aim of this project is to critically explore the relation between education and the labour market and to make young people’s voices heard on this topic. The process of the convention will be divided into 3 general phases.
 - Online phase from Mid-April until May
 - Convention on Education and Work (Brussels) - 23d-29th May (including travel days)
 - Local phase June and July

WHAT WILL HAPPEN SOON:

1. WORKING GROUPS

Soon we will be circulating new calls for WGs 2016 - keep your eyes on your mailboxes!

Curricula 2.0 - this group will work towards planning and implementing the Curricula 2.0 campaign, as described in our Work Plan.

Political platform - the group will work on revising our current Political Platform, updating it, but also finding tools and methods to have it in constant revision from now on.

Ad-hoc Task Force on MOs Forum, starting from your feedback wanting to be more involved to be a part of creating the MOs forum the Board is looking for 3 people to work hands on the MOS forum.

2. POLICY PAPERS

After your inputs during COMEM the board has agreed that the board will be drafting policy papers, we will send them out for the consultation with you and then we will have a month of gathering your feedback and inputs.

The board will consider into finalizing the policy papers which will later be sent out for official amendments and then be approved or rejected at the General Assembly. Together with these policy papers you’ll receive a policy paper proposal from the WG on welfare which is the outcome of the last year of work, study case and of the conclusions of convention on Welfare. If you have any questions on the process contact us at board@obessu.org

3. GLOBAL COOPERATION

During the meeting London the board met with our fellow activist from the USA “Student Voice” Zak an Eric. To discuss needs and possibilities to network on a global level In order to establish a strong global school student movement which will better defend the rights of students, the process just starting but we’re really excited to go ahead and give you more details as soon as possible.

4. CROWDFUNDING AND LAUNCH OF THE MANUAL

The working group on the revision of the manual for school students has finalized their work and will soon launch it officially, but in order to do so, we need your help in spreading the crowd funding campaign to bring hard copies of this amazing empowerment tool for school students. The crowd funding campaign is on now! [Take a look!](#) Please share it on social media sites with your friends, colleagues, alumni or any other fellow current or former student activist and people who care about school student rights. ALSO this is your moment if you're willing to translate the manual, also in parts, please contact us at manual@obessu.org.

5. EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT 2016

The European Youth Event (EYE) will take place in the European Parliament seat in Strasbourg from 20-21 May 2016. It is a unique opportunity for thousands of young Europeans to make their voices heard. During the event, they will exchange ideas and perspectives on youth-related issues, develop innovative solutions to crucial questions for the future and meet with European decision-makers and speakers with a wide range of professional experience.

OBESSU will be there, with 15 people who will make sure, that students are seen and heard. We will run two sessions on VET, as well as hold a special event to launch our renewed Manual!

If you would like any further information or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at board@obessu.org