



The President

303914 21.02.2014

Mr Fernando Galán
Vice-Chairperson
European Students' Union
Rue de la Sablonnière, 20
BE – 1000 Brussels

Dear Mr Galán,

Thank you for your application of 17 January 2014 seeking the patronage of the European Parliament for the 'European Students' Convention 27' that will be held on 19-21 March 2014 in Brussels.

The purpose of your initiative, which is to bring together national representatives of students from all over Europe to debate and exchange views on European policy developments related to higher education and youth and on the 2014 European elections, is very much appreciated.

The European Parliament strongly believes that the quality and relevance of higher education are a core condition for taking full advantage of Europe's intellectual capital¹. Higher education is a public good that fosters culture, diversity, democratic values and personal development, and prepares students to become active citizens who will support European cohesion. In its resolution of 11 September 2012², Parliament called on universities to widen access to learning and modernise their curricula to address new challenges, in order to improve the competences of the European population and promote the acquisition by students of knowledge and skills to facilitate their entry into the labour market.

Furthermore, our institution welcomes and supports educational projects that encourage younger generations to become actively involved in European policies and boost their interest in and enthusiasm for Europe, particularly in the run-up to the 2014 European elections³.

¹ European parliament resolution of 20 April 2012 on modernising Europe's higher education systems. (2011/2294(INI)).

² European Parliament resolution of 11 September 2012 on Education, Training and Europe 2020 (2012/2045(INI)).

³ For more information about the 2014 European elections, see <http://www.elections2014.eu/en>

Given the clear European dimension of your project, it is with great pleasure that I grant the European Parliament's high patronage¹ to this initiative.

May I take this opportunity to wish you every success with what should be an excellent event.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Schulz

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