

# BM67 – BAKU

## 8c-i



Internal motion

Resolution

Title: Academic freedom in Denmark

Point of the agenda: 8c

Proposed by: DSF

Seconded by: SAMOK

Text:

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1 ESU looks with concern on the recent developments regarding the  
2 academic freedom of Higher Education institutions and students in  
3 Denmark. For a minister to dictate the cut of a specific amount of study  
4 places in specific academic fields without any dialogue with students or  
5 staff at universities is very harmful for the academic freedom in the  
6 country. What kind of knowledge should be available for who should not be  
7 for a minister to decide. ESU believes in free and equal access to education,  
8 and such a measure as is currently being proposed in Denmark is going in  
9 the opposite direction of that goal, with great potential costs to academic  
10 standards, academic freedom and the social dimension. Furthermore, when  
11 drastic measures are proposed to be implemented without any dialogue, it  
12 should be a right for students to protest and demand to be heard. It is  
13 shameful for the universities that have in these cases chosen to threaten  
14 students with expelling them from the university and involve the police in  
15 order to silence the students' protests. Students should have the right to  
16 engage themselves critically in the debate regarding their own education  
17 and to make peaceful protests without fear of being expelled from their  
18 university, facing legal charges or other severe personal consequences. To  
19 deny students this right is an attack on both their academic freedom and  
20 basic democratic principles of dialogue. ESU condemns both the ministerial  
21 detailed regulation of knowledge availability and the undemocratic  
22 response to the student protests that arose as a consequence.

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Passed:      **YES**                      **NO**

(For use of board meeting chair only!)