



**BM74 - BLED**

**Resolution on Students rights to partake in decision-making and to speak up**

In multiple European countries students are facing the threat of losing their rights of participation and decision making within Higher Education.

Students are an equal part of the academic community and their voices have to be heard throughout all decision-making processes.

More and more national education systems at all levels face the danger of becoming less democratic due to students being pushed out of decision making processes and having to deal with a limitation of their rights to full representation. In Denmark it has been proposed to remove the decision-making power from the study boards, where both students and teaching staff are equally represented. Meanwhile in Latvia the possible implementation of university boards threatens to diminish currently existing full student participation.

In Austria student unions are under the threat of being silenced in the public debate through a proposed change in the underlying law constituting the structure of the Students Union.

It is crucial that student unions remain independent to be able to represent all students in the best way possible. Therefore, we cannot watch student unions being forced into a relationship of dependence towards governments, Higher Education institutions or other stakeholders.

Students are everyday experts on the lives of students. It is therefore essential that students partake in decision making on equal terms with staff and that they can freely and without fear voice their opinion in all discussions and debates regarding their education, ensuring meaningful participation and co-creation of higher education.

**Proposed by:** DSF, ÖH, LSA

**Seconded by:** SYL, SAMOK, FEF, UNEL, VVS, NUIS, UDU, LIS, UAS, ISO, LSS, USI, UNEF, FZS, VSS-UNES-USU