

## **Call for candidates for seven Executive Committee members of the European Students' Union (ESU)**

Brussels, 11th September 2020

The Executive Committee (EC) hereby issues **the call for seven positions within the Executive Committee (EC) of ESU**. According to ESU's standing orders, *a gender balance of at least 40% of men and 40% of women in the ESU Executive Committee excluding the members of the Presidency must be assured*. In addition to that, the EC and the Presidency should represent the diversity of ESU and their members.

According to [the Standing Orders](#), point 8.1, the EC consists of eight to ten people elected by the Board Meeting, a number that includes the Presidency. The number of people in the EC, excluding the Presidency, is decided by a motion, which has to pass through the Board meeting with an absolute majority and this decision will stay in force unless decided otherwise. It is important, that before deciding on the number of people in the EC, the Board takes into account the workload estimated for that period of time and financial capacity of an organisation to support the structure. It is possible that the acting EC can propose the motion to the Board defining the number of elected representatives for the electoral Board meeting.

**The mandate of the Executive committee will last for 6 months from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021.** The elected members will be required to virtually attend a handover after the Board Meeting. The elections will be **held online during ESU's 79<sup>th</sup> Board meeting from 28<sup>th</sup> until 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2020. The platform for elections will be explained by the EC and the Head of Secretariat over the next weeks.**

According to the point 5.2.2 of ESU Statutes and 8.2 of ESU Standing Orders, the Executive Committee is responsible for the execution of the decisions of the Board Meeting, political affairs and the overall finances of ESU. The Executive Committee has the right to speak and to put forward motions in Board Meetings.

Among other tasks and duties, the Executive Committee is responsible for:

- Drawing up the agenda for Board Meetings and deciding on proposed decisions for BM approval,
- Implementing the decisions, resolutions and policies of the BM,
- Being responsible for external representation and advocating for ESU policy,
- Developing ESU positions and working on policy content,
- Defining the political strategy of ESU,

- Taking policy related decisions within the remit of the policy decided by the BM,
- Selecting coordinators and appointing internal task forces and the Secretariat
- Establishing, and if necessary implementing, a procedure for setting up steering committees of any expert pools,
- Ensuring that all ESU institutions and bodies are informed about the decisions of the EC which are of relevance to the work of those institutions, and serving as the contact point for coordinators as well as the steering committees of the expert pools,
- Drawing up a portfolio of competencies for all ESU institutions and elected representatives, according to the ESU plan of Work and the three-year strategic framework.

The EC may delegate certain competencies and responsibilities, related to daily management of an Organisation to the Presidency, which has to report the EC on its progress regularly during the EC meetings. However, decisions regarding defining the political strategy of an Organisation, selecting coordinators, appointing internal task forces or steering committees of expert pools; and the overall financial well-being and development of the organization.

Candidates are expected to have a genuine interest in contributing to the development of the European Students' Union and have the capacity to perform the activities listed above in one of ESU activity areas. Among others, they cover:

- Social dimension;
- Public responsibility, governance and financing of higher education;
- Mobility and internationalisation;
- Quality of higher education;
- Organisational development and capacity building.

For more information on the working areas, candidates are welcome to take a reference of [the ESU Strategic priorities 2018-20](#).

Taking into account the nature of an Organisation and its working culture, it is important that the candidates are aware of the competencies, required to perform successfully in this position, such as:

- ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines,
- ability to work as an active, reliable team-member on multiple tasks,
- ability to work effectively as part of a multicultural team,
- ability to deliver oral and written presentations on various policy areas, covered by ESU,
- good spoken and written English language skills.

Being a member of an Executive Committee entails a considerable commitment, both in terms of time and workload, the EC members are required to dedicate at least 20 to 25 hours a week on ESU related work and respond to online communication regularly.

It is recommended that the written motivation submitted by a candidate reflects the experience in response to the above-mentioned criteria and describes the particular ESU activity area(s), which s/he intends to contribute within the mandate.

Work of the Executive committee will be supported by a Secretariat, based in Brussels and three coordinators. Newly elected EC members will receive a handover from their predecessors in the hacks team.

We invite every student with a genuine interest in ESU and its work to apply.

### **Application procedure**

*According to point 8.9 of the Standing Orders candidates are required to send:*

- Nomination Letter from a full member organisation**
- Curriculum Vitae, in Europass format**
- Motivation Letter**

According to point 8.9b of the Standing Orders, **Nominations for President, Vice-Presidents or EC must be submitted in writing to the ESU secretariat and copied to the members of the EC not less than thirty (30) days in advance of a BM.** The ESU Secretariat shall distribute all the information relating to the nominations of candidates to all members within ten days of receiving the nominations. Therefore, candidates shall send their full application (as attachments, links are not acceptable) by e-mail to [elections@esu-online.org](mailto:elections@esu-online.org) and CC [ec@esu-online.org](mailto:ec@esu-online.org) or hand it personally to the ESU Secretariat (Mundo-Madou, Avenue des Arts 7/8, 1210, Brussels). **The deadline for submitting applications is 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2020, 23:59 CET.**

All application documents will be shared with all members of the Board through the Google Drive. ESU will remove such documents from the drive once the election process is over. However, ESU has no control over the transfer of such information once it leaves ESU's domains.

Should any explanation or further details be needed, please feel free to contact Beatriz Soler, head of the secretariat, responsible for the election procedure at [beatriz.soler@esu-online.org](mailto:beatriz.soler@esu-online.org).

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