EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Audiovisual Services

Extracts from the joint press conference by Mary McAleese, Chair of the High Level Group on the Modernisation of Higher Education, and Androulla Vassiliou on the improvement of teaching quality and learning in higher education

Type: Summary of press conference Référence: I079381 Durée: 03:09 Lieu: Brussels - EC/Berlaymont

On 18 June 2013, Androulla Vassiliou, Member of the EC in charge of Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, and Mary McAlseese, Chair of the High Level Group on the Modernisation of Higher Education, gave a press conference on the improvement of teaching quality and learning in higher education, at the European Commission in Brussels. On the same date, the EU High-Level Group on Modernisation of Higher Education published its first report and made 16 recommendations which include a call for mandatory certified training for professors and other higher education teaching staff, more focus on helping students to develop entrepreneurial and innovative skills, and the creation of a European Academy of Teaching and Learning.

HEURE	DESCRIPTION	DUREE
00:00:00	Title	00:00:05
00:00:05	Exterior view of the Berlaymont building in Brussels, Belgium	00:00:05
00:00:10	General atmosphere before the beginning of the press conference in presence of Androulla Vassiliou, Member of the EC in charge of Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, and Mary McAlseese, Chair of the High Level Group on the Modernisation of Higher Education	00:00:06
00:00:16	Soundbite by Androulla Vassiliou (in ENGLISH): Last September, I appointed this High Level group on higher education and it is presenting its first report on an important issue for the modernisation of our higher education systems in Europe. That is improving the quality of teaching and learning in Europe's higher education institutions.	00:00:23
00:00:39	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:05

00:00:44	Soundbite by Androulla Vassiliou (in ENGLISH): My goal in setting up the group was to encourage new thinking and ideas. The Commission's agenda for the modernisation of higher education aims to increase both the quality and relevance of our higher education and training systems to ensure that our young people are equipped with the right blend of skills for their future personal and professional development. The group has consulted widely with stakeholders as part of its work. It found that many higher education institutions do not place enough emphasis on teaching in comparison to research, even though both are very important missions of higher education. So, this needs rebalancing.	00:00:56
00:01:40	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:05
00:01:45	Soundbite by Androulla Vassiliou (in ENGLISH): The future Erasmus for All programme will be a solid basis at European level on which we can support the implementation of the Group's recommendations. This report is a call to action to policy-makers and the leaders of higher education institutions. I intend to initiate a political debate on this issue in all relevant fora in the coming months.	00:00:28
00:02:13	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:05
00:02:17	Soundbite by Mary McAleese, Chair of the High Level Group on the Modernisation of Higher Education, (in ENGLISH): Our shared future in Europe depends so much in our collective work and collective efforts to improve the quality of our education systems. Quality of higher education is a key component of that and that is why we have directed our attention in this report.	00:00:19
00:02:36	Cutaway of a photographer	00:00:05
00:02:41	Soundbite by Mary McAleese (in ENGLISH): Our group tried to identify what works best, where, under what circumstances and context. We wanted to get the message across that improving the quality of teaching and learning is not magic. It doesn't require a huge amount of funding. What it does need and what it needs to be underpinned by in order to get momentum behind it, is a change of culture.	00:00:29

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