

Topic for discussion EUR University Council	
Title	Ideological neutrality of the EUR
Expected to be included in the cycle of	3 th cycle
Date submitted	04-11-2022
Subject	Ideological neutrality of the EUR (Right of Information)
Submitted by	Nawin Ramcharan (Liberi Erasmi)
Explanation	<p>This topic concerns the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The accessibility of Erasmus University to students and staff with different ideological preferences (and therefore political statements on behalf of the EUR such as a rainbow crosswalk, or politically colored social media posts through EUR accounts). 2. The legitimacy, fairness, inclusiveness and diversity of the strategy, and the related policies at EUR. There are now policies that actively allow (positive) discrimination, conduct implicit bias trainings, and have gender quotas. Not to forget related documents such as the toolkits for student associations and HR, and the institutionalization of self-identification by pronouns. 3. Political indoctrination in classes at ESSB. I received examples from fellow students last year about a lecturer walking around with a "F*ck FVD" sticker, lecture slides that testosterone would have no connection to masculinity, reading lists selectively promoting feminism, and one-sided criticism on "right-wing populism" and related politicians (no mention of left-wing populism), ridicule of Trump, yet more lecture slides labeling the parties belonging to the "new right" as violent, "anti-facts" and "anti-politics" and much more. 4. The blockade of the website of Liberi Erasmi.
If applicable reason for urgency or emergency	<p>The urgency for this topic concerns the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minister Yeşilgöz-Zegerius gave a speech few weeks ago on the HJ-Schoo reading about the 'woke' developments within the higher education, ringing the bell for this. There also does not appear to be the same shared opinion between the Yeşilgöz-Zegerius and UNL, while as a student representative I receive the same signals described by the Minister. This would mean that there is a piece of representation missing in the UNL from the EUR. We have to look at how we can lose this information/representation-gap, especially with regard to our EB since they are also (indirectly) a part of the UNL. <p>Source: https://www.ad.nl/politiek/yesilgoz-opent-in-speech-aanval-op-woke-en-complotten~ae80270f/</p>

2. Wincey and I have appeared in the media (telegraph article) stating (on personal title) how these 'woke' developments are reflected at EUR. For this, a (press) response will probably be requested in the future from the EB and also clarity from the Minister OCW since different political parties picked up our article as inspiration for parliamentary questions. Therefore it is important that we know what the standpoints of the EB are on this topic.

Source: <https://www.telegraaf.nl/nieuws/1640828216/studenten-erasmus-in-actie-we-willen-dat-de-universiteit-een-neutrale-instelling-is>

Source:

<https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/kamervragen/detail?id=2022Z17161&did=2022D36175>

3. 'The State of Education' report 2022 indicates that 31% of students cannot say a comfortable yes to the question of whether they feel free to speak out their opinions; and likewise only 49% of students feel that teachers feel comfortable to discuss current social issues that cause tension. This has enormous effect on the quality and safety of education, the people that we attract on the university, and also the societal impact we have. Insights into how the EB wants to deal with this is needed to tackle this issue on the EUR.

Source:

<https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2022/04/13/de-staat-van-het-onderwijs-2022>

4. The Ombudsperson is currently investigating the topic regarding the blockage of our student party's website. Since this seems as an attempt to cancel out democratically elected voices, we want clarity on the EB's positions about this phenomenon.

Source:

https://www.erasmusmagazine.nl/en/2022/10/20/website-student-party-liberi-erasmi-blocked-on-eur-network-for-a-month/?noredirect=en_US

Other sources:

<https://www.erasmusmagazine.nl/2022/10/12/regenboogpad-officieel-geopend-het-is-een-symbool-van-verbinding-en-acceptatie/>

<https://www.erasmusmagazine.nl/2022/10/11/studenten-kunnen-nu-voornaamwoorden-aanpassen-in-canvas/>

Specific Questions

(See document attached)

Accompanying documents	(See document attached)
-------------------------------	-------------------------