



The International Consortium for Higher Education Civic Responsibility and Democracy

*A Global Research Network to Support Development of
Democratic Societies Through Education*

Mission and Structure

Formed in 1999, the International Consortium for Higher Education, Civic Responsibility and Democracy (IC) seeks to explain and advance the contributions of higher education to democracy on college and university campuses, their local communities and the wider society. The International Consortium works in collaboration with the Council of Europe (CoE) through its Steering Committee on Educational Policy and Practice with 50 member countries and is comprised of the United States (represented by a Steering Committee from the American Council on Education, Association of American Colleges and Universities, American Association of State Colleges and Universities, NASPA, Campus Compact and the Democracy Commitment), and representatives from other countries throughout the world. The University of Pennsylvania houses the executive offices of the International Consortium. For information on the IC, please see: www.internationalconsortium.org.

Research

- *Universities as Sites of Citizenship and Civic Responsibility Project* is a research program that explores the activities of institutions of higher education that support democratic values and practices; assesses their dispositions and capabilities to promote democracy; and examines how university resources can be used to improve the contributions of higher education to democracy. Fifteen higher educational institutions from across Europe and 15 colleges and universities in the United States comprised the pilot study. Subsequently 5 South African, 10 Korean, and 8 Australian universities conducted studies based on the “Universities as Sites” protocols. *Universities as Res Publica* (Council of Europe) (The U.S. pilot study was funded by the National Science Foundation. The Democracy Project was also developed as a longitudinal study of the impact of undergraduate education on the development of democratic values, competencies and skills..

Publications Related to the IC and Council of Europe (CoE) Collaboration

“Creating Civil Societies: The University’s Role.” *The Presidency*. (Spring 2003) Author: Michael Daxner.

The University as res publica - higher education governance, student participation and the university as a site of citizenship. Editor: Sjur Bergan. (2004) Publisher: CoE

Beyond Rhetoric: University-Community Engagement in Victoria (Australia). Authors: Alexandra Winter, John Wiseman and Bruce Muirhead. (2005) Publisher: EIDOS

Higher Education and Democratic Culture: Citizenship, Human Rights, and Civic Responsibility. Editors: Josef Huber and Ira Harkavy. (2008) Publisher: CoE

Video on the International Consortium released at the Global Forum at the Council of Europe (2008). Available on the IC website.

Advancing democratic practice: A self-assessment guide for higher education. Authors: Douglas Barrera and Virgilio Meira Soares (2010) Publisher: CoE

School-Community-university partnerships for a sustainable democracy: Education for democratic citizenship in Europe and the United States of America. Authors: Matt Hartley and Ted Huddleston. (2010) Publisher: CoE

Higher education for modern societies: competences and values. Editors: Sjur Bergan and Radu Damian. (2010) Publisher: CoE

Reimagining democratic societies: a new era of personal and social responsibility (2013). Editors: Sjur Bergan, Ira Harkavy and Hilligje van't Land Publisher: CoE

"Cooperating across the Atlantic: Helping Realize Higher Education's Democratic Mission.", *Diversity and Democracy*, 16:1 (winter 2013) Authors: Ira Harkavy and Sjur Bergan

Conferences and Joint Presentations by the IC and the Council of Europe

2005: Universities as Sites for Citizenship: Citizenship Through Education: Trans-Atlantic and Global Perspectives at University of Pennsylvania

Ira Harkavy, Senior Fulbright Scholar. "University Civic Responsibility in the 21st Century," Fulbright lecture or seminar presented to eleven Australian universities.

Presentation at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Moderated by Henry Teune (Penn) and panelists included Krzysztof Ostrowski (CoE), Frank Plantan and Ira Harkavy (Penn).

2006: Global Forum on Higher Education and Democratic Culture held in Strasbourg at the Council of Europe

2007 Symposium: Universities, Democratic Culture & Human Rights held at the University of Pennsylvania

Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Council of Europe's Steering Committee on Higher Education and Research, included presentation on the Symposium held at University of Pennsylvania.

"The Council of Europe's Transnational Project: A Leverage Point for Educating for Social Responsibility" Speakers: Sjur Bergan, and two presidents who attended the 2006 Global Forum, Pamela Fox (Mary Baldwin College) and David Pollick (Birmingham-Southern University). AAC&U Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

- Conference on the University Between Humanism and Market: Redefining Its Values and Functions in the 21st Century. Caryn McTighe Musil, (Association of American Colleges and Universities and member of the IC U.S. Steering Committee), made a presentation. Strasbourg, FR.

Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Annual Meeting 2007: "The Real Test: Liberal Education and Democracy's Big Questions."

Students for Human Rights and Democratic Education: A Student Conference to Commemorate International Human Rights Day held at Penn. The conference was student organized and run.

Connecting the Local and Global Agendas through University Partnerships"
Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA)
Annual Conference 2007: [The Global University: Challenges and Opportunities](#)

Conference on the "University Between Humanism and Market: Redefining Its Values in the 21st Century" November 20-21, 2007, Council of Europe, Strasbourg.

- 2008** Global Forum on "Converging Competences: Diversity, Higher Education and Sustainable Democracy" held at the Council of Europe, Strasbourg
- 2009** Council of Europe and the US Steering Committee of the IC presented at the AAC&U conference on Educating for Personal and Social Responsibility: Deepening Student and Campus Commitments.
- 2010** "Academic Freedom & Institutional Autonomy in the United States: Balancing Rights and Responsibilities." Molly Corbett Broad, President, American Council on Education. Council of Europe Conference on academic freedom and institutional autonomy, Council of Europe, Strasbourg
- 2011** The Global Forum on "Reimagining Democratic Societies: A New Era of Personal and Social Responsibility?" in Oslo in collaboration with the European Wergeland Centre, the University of Oslo, the International Association of Universities and the Norwegian authorities.
- 2012** "International Perspectives on Higher Education-School-Community Partnerships" panel at the Netter Center's 20th Anniversary International Conference on "The Role of Higher Education-Community-School Partnerships in Creating Democratic Communities Locally, Nationally & Globally. Panel included IC/CoE collaborators Sjur Bergan (CoE),

Bruce Muirhead (EIDOS, Australia), and Tony Gallagher (Queen's University-Belfast), and was moderated by Matt Hartley (Penn)..

2014 Global Forum on “Higher Education for Democratic Innovation” to be held in June at Queen's University Belfast with the collaboration of the European Wergeland Centre, the Talloires Network and the European Students Union.