

# **Preliminary Programme of the Prague Summit on Higher Education**

**Date: May 18-19, 2001**

**Venue: Prague Castle**

***Languages: English, French, German, Czech; language of discussion groups :  
English***

## **May 18, 2001**

### **16.00 . 18.30 Plenary session**

Chair: Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

16.00 . 16.30 Welcoming addresses

Eduard Zeman, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports

Václav Havel, President of the Czech Republic

16.30 . 17.45

- Report to the Ministers of the Follow- up group, prepared by Mr. Pedro Lourtie;
- Comments of Ministers;
- Recommendations of the Convention of European Higher Education Institutions (Salamanca) presented by the President of European University Association;
- Comments of Ministers;

17.45 . 18.30

- Recommendations of the Convention of European Students (Göteborg) presented by the chair person of ESIB;
- Comments of Ministers;
- Contribution of the Minister of Education and Science of Sweden

**19.00 . 19.30 Concert given by the students of the Faculty of Music, Academy of Performing Arts**

**19.45 . 22.00 Welcome drink. Reception hosted by His Excellency Mr. Eduard Zeman**

**May 19, 2001**

**9.00 . 12.15 Concurrent sessions**

**A. Ministers. meeting**

Participants: heads of government delegations and their assistants

Chair: Minister of Education and Science of Sweden

- Future priorities
- Adoption of the Communiqué of the Ministers - . Prague Communiqué. (including the structure after Prague).

**B. Discussion group meetings: The latest development in the system of higher education in Europe: Contribution to Salamanca Discussion** presented by the representatives of the Czech and Swedish Rectors. Conferences.

**Participants:**

1. higher education representatives,
2. representatives of the government not involved in Ministers. meeting,
3. other participants

**3 discussion groups**

1. **Curricular content based on the articulation of studies into two main cycles**

*key words: looking for convergence by keeping diversity - compatible qualifications - relevant higher education and professional networks at the European level - specifications of core constituents of qualifications and enhancement of their mutual acceptance - openness and transferability.*

2. **Networking of higher education institutions . facilitating mobility**

*key words: exploiting advantages of existing European and national legislation in order to facilitate mutual recognition of study programme units , degrees and qualifications throughout Europe . credit accumulation and transfer scheme . credits obtained at institutions and in programmes outside higher education (seen from the perspective of lifelong learning).*

### **3. Quality assessment, accreditation**

*key words: internal and external evaluation ( types of responsible bodies) - accreditation (responsible bodies, role of the state) - recognition of national processes in Bologna signatory countries (procedures, mechanisms etc.) - quality assurance mechanisms - European dimension - meta-accreditation on the European level ?*

Each group session will be opened with a presentation of either a Swedish or Czech participants on the relevant topic, followed by a paper given by a European expert on the same issue. After the discussion rapporteurs will sum up the work in each group.

**12.15 . 12.45 Coffee break**

**12.45 . 13.45 Plenary session**

Chair: Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

12.45 . 13.15

Overview of the group sessions provided by rapporteurs

13.15 . 13.30

Communiqué of the Ministers . . Prague Communiqué. presented by the Minister of Education and Science of Sweden

13.30-13.45

Closing of the Summit - Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

**13.45 - 14.15 Press Conference**

**14.15 Closing lunch**