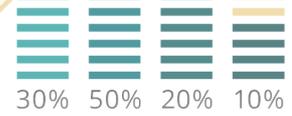


YERUN Statement on Employability





As a network of young, dynamic and research-driven universities, YERUN members share a strong commitment to strengthen the **employability** of their students and researchers who are the employees, knowledge workers, entrepreneurs and citizens of tomorrow. By equipping students with the necessary skills to succeed in their careers and to become the **authors of their own story**, employability supports the mission of YERUN members and speaks to the values of liberal learning, individual autonomy, personal growth and social responsibility.

In order to pursue this engagement, YERUN members are committed to a critical evaluation and continuous **reflection** on their practices; to the development and **improvement** of their innovative teaching, HR policy and research environment involving a wide range of stakeholders; and to a contribution to **evidence-based policy making**.

YERUN's vision on employability goes beyond promoting employment. Rather than responding to immediate and changing labour market demands, universities promote employability over a longer period that is shaped through interactions with a wide range of **stakeholders - including students themselves**. In order to enhance such employability, YERUN members make a deliberate investment in the future careers of their graduates at Bachelors, Masters, PhD and postdoc level through curricular and extracurricular activities. They do so by deepening **academic skills and knowledge** in every cycle of education, by fostering a **mindset of life-long learning** and by promoting **the awareness and the transferability of skills** from the lecture hall, the lab or the student society into a wide range of employment sectors. In this way, YERUN members prepare their students and graduates to become **confident, agile and innovative global citizens**.

In order to achieve this ambition, YERUN members are keen to **experiment** with new methods in our educational approaches, for instance by developing policies for internships, facilitating student exchanges and connecting with other sectors. In addition, we will **share** our approaches and insights and learn from one another. We are also **critical** in assessing the impact of our activities while respecting the unique identity of each member institution.

As a way of ensuring quality in everything we undertake, YERUN members **welcome research** in the area of employability and support evidence-based insights in the policy development surrounding this area. YERUN strongly believes that **collaboration** amongst our members accelerates our own level of expertise and increases our opportunities to offer the right ecosystem to our students, researchers and staff. As such, YERUN institutions maximise the potential of our graduates to contribute to a European, knowledge-driven society.



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