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Ambassadors and Living Values meeting in Stockholm

Current and new MCO Ambassadors and universities newly participating in the Living Values project met at Stockholm University in June. They interacted with leading international speakers on academic freedom and university autonomy and studied how the project had brought benefits in previous phases. They learned from the experience of Stockholm University and started forming into a global group that will bring benefits to MCO signatories for years to come.

[2 minutes to read]

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Registration now open: MCU Anniversary and Conference

Join your colleagues in the global higher education community at the signing ceremony of the Magna Charta Universitatum 2020 (MCU 2020) and annual conference taking place 14-16 September, 2022 in beautiful Bologna, Italy.

This theme of this year's conference is **Universities engaging with society in turbulent times**. Internationally renowned speakers will provide valuable insight and perspectives relevant to universities today. They will also lead small-group discussions with conference participants on a wide range of topics critical to helping universities uphold fundamental values and principles to best serve society.

Visit the event website for complete details and to register. Don't miss this opportunity.

Visit event website



Observatory team at the Global Forum on Higher Education Leadership

The Magna Charta Observatory was well represented at the recent [Global Forum on Higher Education Leadership for Democracy, Sustainability, and Social Justice](#), that was held in Dublin from 15-17 June 2022.

The Global Cooperation Forum for the Democratic Mission of Higher Education comprises the Council of Europe, the International Association of Universities, the International Consortium for Higher Education, Civic Responsibility and Democracy and the Organization of American States. The Magna Charta Observatory is represented on its steering Committee by its Secretary General, David Lock.

David was a rapporteur at the forum and Council member Marcelo Knobel was a panellist in the session which focussed on what international practices help sustain and engage the most at-risk students, while ensuring that all students are educated to be ethical, empathetic, justice-seeking democratic citizens.

[2 minutes to read]

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WEBINAR REPORT: Exploring academic freedom, its roots and realities

The webinar was one of a series designed to explore aspects of the new Magna Charta 2020 and was the first to be organized in association with the Global Observatory on Academic Freedom.

In a time of extreme polarization where 'cancel culture' is an increasing occurrence, the principle of academic freedom is increasingly discussed and debated among those working in higher education. Universities serving society with academic members defending various political and ideological points of views can cause a tension that is sometimes difficult to navigate.

In this webinar, hosted by the Magna Charta Observatory (MCO) in May 2022, panelists Milica Popovic, Julius Weinberg and Maria Kronfeldner discussed academic freedom in the current context.

Continue reading and watch the recording

Remembering Narend Bajjnath

It is with much sadness to report that Narend Bajjnath, member of the Magna Charta Observatory (MCO) Governing Council, died on 1 May, 2022. His untimely passing is a terrible loss to the entire global higher education community.

Narend joined the MCO Governing Council in November 2020 providing wise counsel and guidance at every opportunity. He was working on the planning committee for the 2022 anniversary conference, leading one of the plenary sessions. Prior to joining the Council, Narend was a member of the group responsible for drafting the Magna Charta Universitatum 2020.

Colleagues from the University of Johannesburg, University of South Africa and the Council on Higher Education are planning an online **memorial service for Narend on 1 July 2022, 11:00 - 12:30 SAST.**

To attend:
Zoom ID: 85184188153
Pass code: 814959



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MCU 2020 - now available in Turkish

The [Magna Charta Universitatum 2020](#) is now available in Turkish. We are grateful to Erol Koroğlu, of Boğaziçi University's Department of Turkish Language and Literature who has very kindly and thoughtfully translated this important document in Turkish from English. This is of great benefit to MCU signatory universities in Turkey and to those who have not yet signed the MCU2020 to get a proper translation of this document in the Turkish language.

The [MCU2020](#) is currently available in nine languages. If you are interested in helping the MCO expand its library of translated versions, please contact us.



Sign the MCU2020 ...

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