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**SAVE THE DATE: 18-19 APRIL 2024**

## **CONFERENCE**

### ***The end of the massification of Higher Education?***

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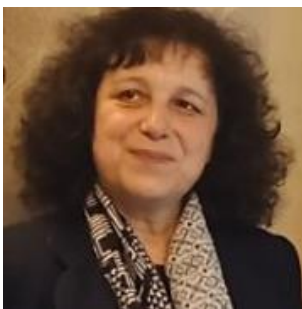


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## **BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS**

**Reneta Bozhankova**, Vice-rector of International Affairs, Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski



Reneta Bozhankova is Professor at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". She is Vice-Rector of International Affairs (from 2023) and she was Vice-Rector for Education (2015-2019).

Her publications include the following books: "Horizons of Digital Literature" (2013), "Digital Humanities and the Study of Literature" (2018). She is Editor-in-Chief of "Annual of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" (Faculty of Slavic Studies). Reneta Bozhankova

has participated in national and European educational and research projects, she has specialized in Oxford Internet Institute - University of Oxford, UK, University of Saarland, Germany, the University of Kansas, USA. Her research is focused on contemporary literature, digital transformation of higher education, new methods and interdisciplinary approaches in the Humanities.

**Frédéric Forest**, Inspecteur Général de l'Éducation, du Sport et de la Recherche (IGESR), Republic of France

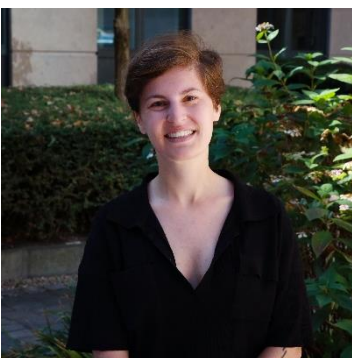


Frédéric Forest is a general inspector for education, sports and research (IGESR) attached to the minister of higher education and research in France. He has led a number of public policy evaluation missions in the field of higher education. He participates in several strategic orientation committees for French universities. He represents France at the working group on higher education of the European Commission. Prior to that, he held different positions in the ministry of higher education and research in France. He has been in charge of the funding of universities and in 2017 the

acting general director for higher education and employment. Formerly, he was the head of administration of the university of Rouen Normandy, rapporteur for a national commission on human resources in higher education, and also worked at the ministry of budget.

He graduated in finance, then management, and psychology. He has also a PhD in political science (Sorbonne University). He is associate researcher at the Université Paris Cité and he teaches psychology at the university of Rouen Normandy. He is the author of two books on the epistemology of psychoanalysis and of several publications on higher education. He edited a book on "[Universities in France](#)", gathering some thirty leading players, taking stock of the current situation and the issues at stake.

**Iris Kimizoglu**, Vice President, European Students' Union



Iris Kimizoglu is currently serving as the Vice President of the European Students' Union (ESU).

Her main areas of work encompass student social policy as well as public responsibility, financing and governance of higher education. She is a student of the M.A. "Political Management, Public Policy and Public Administration" at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany.

**Romiță Iucu**, President of the Board of Trustees, University of Bucharest, Coordinator of the UNICA EduLAB



Romita is *the President of the Board of Trustees* at the University of Bucharest and a professor of higher education and Pedagogy at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences.

With an important experience in international cooperation in the field of education, professor Iucu is, currently, *the Coordinator of UNICA EduLAB Group, the Co-Chair of the FOREU European Degree subgroup* of European Universities, and a *former member of the European University Association (EUA) Learning & Teaching (L&T) Steering Committee*. He has been appointed as a *Magna Charta Observatory Ambassador* from April 2022 and broadened rewarded as a *member of The International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame (IACEHOF)*. Professor Iucu held several university-management positions (former Acting Rector of the University of Bucharest, and Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs for more than 16 years), with an important role on designing, managing, and validating higher education and adult education policies at different level. He is a former President of ENTEP (European Network on Teacher Education Policies) and was the national's representative in the BFUG (Bologna Follow-up Group). Professor Iucu had worked for many years at the European Network of Country Experts in Education (ENCEE), and as a member of the Expert Group on Improving the Education of Teachers & Trainers. He also worked for the European Commission, Eurydice, World Bank, and UNICEF in several educational programmes. As a recognition of his professional activity, he was inducted as a member of The International Adult and Continuing Education (IACE) Hall of Fame (UO-OCCE). His main fields of scientific interest are educational policies in the higher education area, higher education pedagogy and teacher education policies

**Catherine Léglu**, Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, University of Luxembourg



**Roberta Malee Bassett**, Global Lead for Tertiary Education and Senior Education Specialist, The World Bank



Roberta is Global Lead for Tertiary Education and Senior Education Specialist at the World Bank, where she provides coordinated oversight to the World Bank's \$7b lending and analytical efforts supporting post-secondary education reforms around the world. She leads operational teams implementing projects across a variety of tertiary and higher education projects, addressing issues such as finance and quality assurance reform, internationalization of higher education, equity and access, research and competitiveness, and skills development.

Prior to joining the World Bank, she held positions in both academia and higher education administration, in the US and UK. She has published numerous books and articles on international higher education issues and, most recently, is co-author of the World Bank's 2021 tertiary education policy advisory report: STEERING Tertiary Education: Toward Resilient Systems that Deliver for All.

**Simon Marginson**, Director of the Global Centre for Higher Education, University of Oxford



Simon is Professor of Higher Education at the University of Oxford, Joint Editor-in-Chief of Higher Education, and a Professorial Associate of the Melbourne Centre for Study of Higher Education at the University of Melbourne.

He is a Fellow of the British Academy, a Fellow Academy of Social Sciences in UK and of the Society for Research into Higher Education, and a member of Academia Europaea. Until 30 April 2024 he is also director of the ESRC Centre for Global Higher Education. Simon's research is focused primarily on global and international higher education, higher education in East Asia, student mobility, global science, the purposes and contributions of higher education, and higher education and the public/common good. His most recent books are *Changing higher education in East Asia*, edited with Xin Xu (Bloomsbury, 2022), and *Assessing the contributions of higher education*, edited with Brendan Cantwell, Daria Platonova and Anna Smolentseva (Edward Elgar, 2023).

**Liviu Matei**, Professor of Higher Education and Public Policy, Head of the School of Education, Communication, and Society at King's College London



Liviu is a Professor of Higher Education and Public Policy, and Head of the School of Education, Communication and Society at King's College London.

He served as Provost of Central European University (CEU), including during the time when this university was forced out of Hungary and relocated to Austria. Liviu Matei taught at universities from Europe, the U.S. and Asia, consulted extensively in higher education policy and conducted research and policy projects for the World Bank, UNESCO, OSCE, Council of Europe, European Commission, Nordic Council of Ministers, other intergovernmental and international non-governmental organisations, national authorities and universities from Europe and Asia. He was a founding Vice-Chancellor of Open Society University Network and a founding member of the Steering Committee of CIVICA- the European University of Social Sciences. He is a Trustee of American University of Central Asia and a member of the Governing Council of Magna Charta Universitatum. He serves on the editorial boards of Internationalisation of Higher Education Journal: Policy and Practice and the European Journal of Higher Education. Currently, he leads the team developing a proposal for a monitoring mechanism for the fundamental values of higher education in the European Higher Education Area.

**Rachel A. Mills**, Senior Vice-President (Academic), King's College London



Rachel is the Senior Vice President (Academic) at King's, leading on academic strategy and delivery while maximizing impact and effectiveness across education and research efforts.

With extensive leadership experience in the university sector, including roles as Provost at the University of Sussex and various leadership positions at the University of Southampton, she shapes the academic vision and future plans for King's. Rachel's research focuses on deep-sea oceanography, investigating the chemistry of the seafloor and its impact on marine life, leading expeditions to remote oceanic regions and changing understanding of ocean processes. She is a Visiting Professor at the University of Southampton, a past President of the Challenger Society for Marine Science, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Royal Society of Biology. Passionate about education and ocean literacy, she developed the online course 'Exploring our Ocean' and advocates for mentorship to transform lives. Rachel also provides advice to international and UK organizations, influencing government policies on sustainable oceans.

Beyond academia, she engages with the public through documentaries, radio interviews, journalism, and social media. A dedicated runner, she fundraises for various charities and causes.

**Jan Polák**, Vice-rector for Quality Assurance and Accreditations, Charles University, Prague



Graduated in medicine and Ph.D. studies at the Third Faculty of Medicine of Charles University.

He completed his postdoctoral fellowship in the USA at Johns Hopkins University on a Fulbright scholarship and was later appointed Associate Professor of Internal Medicine. Since 2017, he has been the Head of the Department of Pathophysiology at the Third Faculty of Medicine of Charles University, where he served as Vice-Dean for Development from 2018 to 2022. In 2022 JP was appointed the Vice-Rector for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of the Charles University.

Among other tasks, he led a national project preparing medical schools in the Czech Republic for WFME (World Federation for Medical Education) accreditation and is actively involved in development of quality assurance framework for micro-credentials.

**Fritz Sager**, Vice-Rector for Teaching, University of Bern



Fritz Sager is Vice-Rector for teaching at the University of Bern, Switzerland. Originally, he is a professor of political science at the KPM Center for Public Management.

From 2014-16, he was vice-dean, and from 2016-18, he was dean of the Faculty of Business, Economics, and Social Sciences. His research focuses broadly on public policy and public administration. Recent publications regarded evidence-based policy during the pandemic, the politics of blame avoidance, the use of scientific evidence in direct democracy, urban governance and policies, policy mix design, the history of administrative ideas, and multilevel implementation. His research has won several awards. Besides basic research, he engages in policy advice to government.

He has done policy-relevant research in various public policy sectors. He is a firm believer in the practical relevance of social research.

**Colin Scott**, Deputy President, Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Registrar, University College Dublin



Professor Colin Scott is Registrar, Deputy President and Vice President for Academic Affairs at University College Dublin.

Professor Scott was originally appointed to UCD as Professor of EU Regulation and Governance in 2006 and subsequently has served in a number of leadership roles including Dean of Law (2011-2014), Principal of UCD College of Social Sciences and Law (2014-2023), Dean of Social Sciences (2017-2023) and Vice President for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (2017-2024).

Professor Scott has previously held academic posts at the London School of Economics (where he completed his undergraduate education in law followed by graduate study at Osoode Hall Law School of York University, Toronto), the University of Warwick, the Australian National University and the College of Europe Bruges. The main focus of Professor Scott's research and teaching has been on themes of fragmentation and accountability in regulatory governance across domains as diverse as regulation of business, regulation of the public sector, EU, international, transnational and private regulation. Professor Scott has held editorial responsibilities with a wide range of legal and interdisciplinary journals including *The Modern Law Review*, *Law and Policy*, and *Legal Studies* and served on the Editorial Board of *The Conversation UK* from 2017-2023. He has been a member of the Irish Research Council since 2021 and a Taoiseach's independent member of the National Economic and Social Council since 2022.

**Peter Scott**, Emeritus Professor of Higher Education Studies, IOE - Faculty of Education and Society, University College London

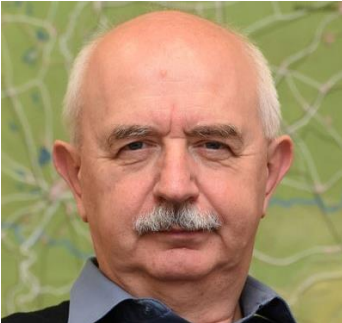


Peter is emeritus Professor of Higher Education Studies at the UCL Institute of Education.

From 2016 to 2022 he was Scotland's first Commissioner for Fair Access, and from 2011 to 2015 he was Chair of the Council of the University of Gloucestershire. Previously he was Vice-Chancellor of Kingston University (1998-2010) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Education at the University of Leeds.

Before moving into universities he was a journalist, as Editor of *The Times Higher Education [Supplement]* and a reporter and leader writer at *The Times*. He is a member of the Academy of Social Sciences and *Academia Europaea*. His most recent book was 'Retreat or Resolution: Tackling the Crisis of Mass Higher Education'.

**László Zentai**, Vice-Rector for Education, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest



László Zentai is a Professor of Cartography, Director of the Institute of Cartography and Geoinformatics, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary.

From 2003 he was serving in different leading positions in his university. He was Vice Dean of Scientific affairs between 2003 and 2007, 2011 and 2016. He was (is) serving as a Vice Rector responsible for Educational Affairs between 2007 and 2010; and from 2017 to 2025.

He was the Secretary General of the International Cartographic Association between 2011 and 2019. He is member of the Council of the International Orienteering Federation since 2006.