



Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

IESALC

Instituto Internacional para  
la Educación Superior  
en América Latina y el Caribe

## BULLETIN

# UNESCO-IESALC Projections

Number 227 | May 2017

### Strengthening academic requirements of 3rd Regional Meeting on Higher Education - CRES 2018 By Pedro Henríquez Guajardo

UNESCO-IESALC agenda has focused its efforts on the planning process of the 3rd Regional Meeting on Higher Education -CRES- to be held from June 11th to 15th, 2018 in Cordoba, Argentina. In this respect, this month has served to consolidate academic requirements related to CRES 2018.

The 3rd technical meeting and the 1st working session with the experts on the field took place on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> in the National University of Córdoba (UNC). This opportunity served to introduce each thematic team and to present the methodological and publishing guidelines that will shape and guide the first stage of the conferences.

The seven core topic will count on a virtual forum for scholars, students, researchers, consultants and followers of Higher Education (HE). These forums are a linking tool to debate problems that still prevail but also progress in the

Latin American institutions and systems of HE. These spaces of exchange will be available on CRES 2018 web site [www.cres2018.org](http://www.cres2018.org) until September 30th, 2017 and the registration is already open.

Another important action to be taken to our internal functioning is the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the UNESCO-IESALC Executive Board (EB) which was held in Panama City, Panama, on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. In this regard, we have defined main aspects as our operational plans and particularly CRES 2018 preparations that will be discussed during this meeting.

Finally, we wish to reiterate our invitation to register in the seven virtual forums so you can contribute to the Higher Education debate and participate in the final documents that will be discussed during CRES 2018.

#### Towards CRES 2018: 1st working session with the experts on the field

In the framework of the preparatory activities to next CRES to be held on June 2018 in

Argentina, the National University of Córdoba (Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, UNC) received on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> the academic team from UNESCO-IESALC and the experts on the field in charge of defining the core topics on which will be based the next Regional Conference in 2018. This working team was led by Pedro Henríquez Guajardo, the UNESCO-IESALC Director and Francisco Tamarit, the Managing Director of CRES 2018.

During this meeting, the thematic coordinators were ratified. They are: María José Lemaitre, Chief executive of the Inter-university Development Center of Chile (in Spanish Centro Interuniversitario de Desarrollo); Daniel Mato, researcher of CONICET-UNTREF (Argentina), Jocelyne Gacel-Ávila, Coordinator of the Regional Observatory in Internationalization and Tertiary Education in Latin America and the Caribbean Network (OBIRET) of UNESCO-IESALC, in Mexico; Humberto Grimaldo, Coordinator of the Regional Observatory of social Responsibility in Latin America and the Caribbean (ORSALC) of UNESCO-IESALC in Colombia and René Ramírez, Secretary of Higher Education, Science and Technology and Innovation of the Ecuadorian Government.



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The researcher team is in charge of debating and reflecting about the Higher Education System in the region but also of producing preliminary documents that will serve for the next CRES 2018.



Representatives of the expert meeting

### 11th Ordinary Meeting of the UNESCO-IESALC Executive Board (EB)

The 11th Ordinary Meeting of the UNESCO-IESALC Executive Board (EB) was held in Panama City, Panama, on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Members of the EB along with authorities of the Higher Education sector assembled with the purpose of updating the advancements of UNESCO-IESALC operational plans and, particularly, of the 3rd Regional Meeting on Higher Education - CRES 2018 preparations.

The official opening counted on the presence of Dr. Carlos Staff, Vice-Minister of Education in Panama and Dr. Peter Wells, Chief of Section of Higher Education for UNESCO. The presence and the support of the Association of Private Universities of Panama (in Spanish, Asociación de Universidades Privadas de Panamá) through its president, Dr. Oscar León; of the Dean Council of Panama (in Spanish, Consejo de Rectores de Panamá) through its president, Dr. José Barrios, and of the ISAE University's Dean (in Spanish, Institución Superior de Administración y Educación) Dr. Xiomara de Arrocha were crucial for its development. The meeting focused on the modification of the IESALC statutes, the advancements of CRES 2018 and several issues as the recognition of higher education studies, titles and diplomas and the need of a most targeted orientation about the Caribbean region.

On the side of the EB, its President Mr. Luis Bonilla-Molina; UNESCO-IESALC Director and EB Secretary, Dr. Pedro Henríquez; and several EB Members as Mr. Francisco Antonio Romero from Costa Rica; Mrs. Ligia Amada Melo de

Cardona from the Dominican Republic; Dr. Roberto Moreno Godoy, Dean of the Valley University of Guatemala (in Spanish, Universidad del Valle) applied by the Dean Forum of Guatemala and Dr. Rossana Valéria de Souza e Silva, representative of the COIMBRA Group, both elected by the Director-General of UNESCO, Dra. Irina Bokova, have also taken part of this ordinary meeting.

At the same time, Hon. Floyd Green, Minister of Education, Youth and Information of Jamaica and Mrs. Morine Williams, Permanent Secretary of the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' Ministry of Education have also attended the meeting. From UNESCO-IESALC, the Academic Consultant, Débora Ramos and the Official for Member states, Mr. José Antonio Quintero were also present.

To conclude, it was decided to assemble the next Meeting of the UNESCO-IESALC Executive Board (EB) during the second semester of 2017 in Antigua, Guatemala.