

EUniverCities Decision Makers Meeting



7 – 8 May 2018, Ghent, Belgium



Introduction EUniverCities

EUniverCities is a European network, officially launched in 2012, in which medium-sized cities and their universities work together (in so called tandems) to improve cooperation.

The network brings together mainly cities and universities with an economic, social and technological profile. It embodies the recognition of the importance of technology, innovation and knowledge for society. Furthermore the network enhances the visibility of knowledge cities within Europe.

The network's aim is to exchange and spread the knowledge, expertise and experience with regard to city-university cooperation across urban Europe.

More information can be found on the [EUniverCities website](#).

Aims of the decision makers meeting

A decision-makers meeting is held once every two years on average. At this meeting political leaders and decision-makers from city and university administrations (i.e. Mayors, Vice Mayors, Rectors, Vice Rectors, Deans) gather to discuss strategic issues relating to city-university cooperation, governance and future developments. The decision-makers meeting takes place to:

- create a meeting place and environment to conduct strategic thinking and talks at the highest decision-making levels;
- stimulate the exchange of knowledge and learning;
- enhance political involvement with regard to European institutions.

Registration

We kindly ask the EUniverCities coordinators to register the participants until the **15 April 2018** latest. We send the link to the registration form for the decision makers and for the coordinators via e-mail.

Programme

Monday, 7 May 2018 – Brussels

Participation in launch event EUROCIITIES-campaign ‘Cities4Europe, Europe for citizens’:

A year ahead of the European Parliament elections, we need to seize the opportunity to change the way politics is done in Europe. 'Cities4Europe - Europe for citizens' gives cities and policy makers a unique opportunity to engage with the citizens in a dialogue about our future, and to create societies where people come first. On 7 May 2018, EUROCIITIES will organise the campaign's European launch in Brussels, where we will welcome European, national and local political leaders, as well as cultural personalities for a high level public debate. This event is the start of an inspiring process that will contribute in shaping the future of Europe. 'Cities4Europe - Europe for citizens' will continue throughout May 2018 with a series of events taking place in the EUROCIITIES network. For more information see <http://cities4europe.eurocities.eu/>.

Location: BOZAR, Centre for Fine Arts Brussels, Ravensteinstraat 23, 1000 Brussel

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Location</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Registration and gathering in room Rotonde Bertouille		BOZAR, level 1
16:00 – 16:20	Opening and welcome	Mayor Mr Daniël Termont Vice-rector Mrs Mieke Van Herreweghe	BOZAR
16:20 – 16:30	Welcome by EUniverCities secretariat	Mr Klaus Puchta, EUniverCities secretariat	BOZAR
16:30 – 17:00	Introduction to the Eurocities network	Mrs Dorthe Nielsen, general policy director Eurocities	BOZAR
17:00 – 17:20	Networking and gathering before the public debate		BOZAR
17:20 – 17:30	Move to room for public debate		
17:30 – 19:00	Public debate Public debate involving high level speakers, including European, national and local policy makers, as well as cultural personalities and civil society organisers	Confirmed speakers: Daniël Termont, president of EUROCIITIES and mayor of Ghent; Philippe Close, mayor of Brussels; Ada Colau, mayor of Barcelona; Karmenu Vella, European commissioner for the environment; Saskia Sassen,	BOZAR

	More information about the event is available here	sociologist; Philippe Van Leeuw, Belgian film director; Philippe Van Parijs, Belgian philosopher and economist	
19:00 – 19:30	Walk to restaurant		
19:30 – 22:00	Dinner in restaurant with EUniverCities delegation	Hosted by vice-mayor Mrs Elke Decruynaere and Ghent Vice-rector Mrs Mieke Van Herreweghe	Ristorante BoCConi, Vrungstraat 1, 1000 Brussel
22:00 – 23:00	Bus trip from Brussels to Ghent City Hall (close to the hotels)		

Tuesday, 8 May 2018

On the second day the participants will first come together for a plenary session. After the coffee break the group will be divided into the decision makers group and the coordinators group.

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Location</i>
Before 8:30	Check-out hotels (leave luggage in hotel)		
08:30 – 08:45	Welcome coffee		City hall, Botermarkt 1, Council room
08:45 – 09:00	Opening and welcome	Vice-mayor Mrs Elke Decruynaere and Ghent University rector Mr Rik Van De Walle and vice-rector Mrs Mieke Van Herreweghe (tbc)	City hall, Council room
09:00 – 09:40	Keynote 'City of People' with Q&A	Mr Karl-Filip Coenegrachts, Chief Strategy Officer City of Ghent	
09:40 – 10:00	Looking back at 5 years EUniverCities network (strategy until 2019)	Mr Willem van Winden, Lead Expert EUniverCities Mr Klaus Puchta, EUniverCities secretariat	
10:00 – 10:15	Coffee break		
	After coffee break we will work in 2 groups: group with decision makers and group with coordinators		

10:15 – 11:30	Decision makers meeting: good examples of collaboration, main challenges city-university collaboration, expectations for the future	Moderator: Mr Willem van Winden, Lead Expert EUniverCities	City Hall, Austrian salon
10:15 – 11:30	Coordinators meeting	Moderator: Mr Klaus Puchta, EUniverCities secretariat	City Hall, Council room
11:30 – 11:40	Walk to restaurant 'De Abt'		
11:40 – 13:20	Lunch	Hosted by Vice-rector Mrs Mieke Van Herreweghe and Mr Karl-Filip Coenegrachts, Chief Strategy Officer City of Ghent	Restaurant 'De Abt, Lange Kruisstraat 4
13:20 – 13:30	Walk from restaurant to 'De Krook'		
13:30 – 14:30	Visit 'De Krook', the culture hub of the City of Ghent and the Ghent University	Guided visit by Ms Nathalie De Neve, De Krook (tbc)	Miriam Makebaplein 1

Practical Information

Contact information coordinators Ghent meeting:

- Ms Inge Willemsen, Inge.Willemsen@stad.gent, +32(0)477 47 12 94
- Mr Gijs Coucke, Gijs.Coucke@UGent.be, +32(0)486 28 68 29

Information about the hotels:

There are 3 recommended hotels with negotiated discounted prices for the EUniverCities meetings. The participants should make their reservations directly to the hotels. For other hotels in Ghent please check <http://www.visitgent.be/en/accommodation>

1. Ghent River Hotel ****

Waaistraat 5, 9000 Ghent, Tel: +32 9 266 10 10, Fax: +32 9 266 10 15
For more information see: <http://www.ghent-river-hotel.be/index.asp?taal=en>

- Single standard room at 117 EUR per night
- Double standard room at 127 EUR per night
- Single executive room at 132 EUR per night
- Double executive room at 142 EUR per night

Including breakfast, services, VAT and city tax

Mail booking code “**EUniverCities**” and hotel booking form (see annex) to reservations@historic-hotels-ghent.com (Mr Hermelijn Daem, Groep & Seminarie Coordinator)

Please note that bookings received after 07-04-2018 are subject to availability.

2. Hotel Ibis Sint Baafs Kathedraal **

Limburgstraat 2, 9000 Ghent, Tel: +32 9 233 00 00, Fax: +32 9 233 10 00
For more information see <http://www.ibis.com/gb/hotel-0961-ibis-gent-centrum-st-baafs-kathedraal/index.shtml>

- Single room at 107 euro per night,
- Double room at 125 euro per night

Including breakfast, services, VAT and city tax

Mail booking code “**EUniverCities**” to H0961-re@accor.com (Mr Sveinhildur Torfadottir, Group Reservation department IBIS Gent Hotels)

Please note that bookings received after 30-03-2018 are subject to availability.

3. Hotel NH Gent Belfort ****

Hoogpoort 63, 9000 Ghent, Tel: +32 9 233 33 31, Fax: +32 9 223 78 21

For more information see: <https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-gent-belfort>

- Single room at 148 euro per night
- Double room at 164 euro per night

Including breakfast, services, VAT and city tax

Use hotel booking link: <https://www.nh-hotels.com/event/eunivercities>
c.meulemeester@nh-hotels.com (Mrs Charlotte Meulemeester)

Please note that bookings received after 10-04-2018 are subject to availability.

How to reach BOZAR from Brussels Airport?

Address: BOZAR, Centre for Fine Arts Brussels, Ravensteinstraat 23, 1000 Brussel

By train from 'Brussel-Nat-Luchthaven' to 'Brussel-Centraal':

- The railway station is situated at level -1 in the airport
- Check train schedules via <http://www.belgianrail.be/en/Default.aspx>
- Trains about every 10 minutes direction 'Brussel Centraal'
- Stop at railway station 'Brussel Centraal'.
- Short walk of 300 meter to BOZAR

Exploring Ghent:

Visit the Visit Gent website for more information on the city of Ghent:

<https://visit.gent.be/en/HOME>

Visit the International students website for more information on the student life in Ghent:

<https://stad.gent/international-students>

Speakers

	<p>Mr Daniël Termont, Mayor, City of Ghent daniel.termont@stad.gent Daniël Termont was active in local politics with the Socialist Party from the age of 15 on, before becoming a professional politician in Ghent in 1995. He was elected in the city council in 1976, at the age of 23, and has been a member ever since. After the 1994 local elections, he became a full time politician: he was appointed Deputy-Mayor of the Port, Economic Development and Utilities of the City of Ghent. He was re-elected at the end of the year 2000 and became Deputy-Mayor of the Port, Economy and Festivities, before running for Mayor in 2006. He was elected and re-elected in 2012, and has been Mayor since the end of 2006.</p>
	<p>Ms Elke Decruynaere, Deputy Mayor responsible for education, training and youth, City of Ghent schepen.decruynaere@stad.gent For more information see: https://elkedecruynaere.be/about_me</p>
	<p>Professor Mieke Van Herreweghe, vice-rector Ghent University Mieke.VanHerreweghe@UGent.be In 1987 she obtained a master's degree in Germanic Philology at Ghent University and one year later a M.A. in Linguistics at University College Dublin (Ireland). After a PhD fellowship at the Research Foundation - Flanders, she obtained a PhD at Ghent University in 1996 as Doctor in linguistics and literature: Germanic languages. In 2012, Mieke Van Herreweghe became a full professor of English linguistics. Her research field encompasses English linguistics and Flemish Sign Language. From 2012 to 2017 she was a member of the Ghent University Research Council. She was chairperson of the Linguistics and Literature study programme from 2012 to 2016 and research director of the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy from 2016 to 2017. She was also a laureate of the UGent Minerva award for education. Since 1 October 2017 she is vice-rector of the Ghent University</p>

	<p>Ms Dorthe Nielsen, Policy Director EUROCIITIES-network dorthe.nielsen@eurocities.eu</p> <p>Responsibilities: general policy coordination, urban agenda, smarter, green and free-flowing cities, EU presidencies Languages: Danish, English, French</p>
	<p>Mr Karl-Filip Coenegrachts, Chief Strategy Officer, City of Ghent KarlFilip.Coenegrachts@stad.gent</p> <p>Karl-Filip Coenegrachts is Master of Laws, specialised in European Law (Ghent University, 1996). He currently is the Chief Strategy Officer of the City of Ghent. He is responsible for the city's long-term strategy including the implementation of horizontal policies, smart city strategy, data and information management, policy participation, international relations and European funding programmes. His work is focused on the development of the City of People concept, open governance, citizen participation, urban commons and new forms of democracy.</p>
	<p>Prof. Dr. Willem van Winden, Lead Expert EUniverCities w.van.winden@urbanIQ.nl</p> <p>He is professor of Urban Knowledge Economy & Strategy at Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. He is one of the founders and academic leader of the Center of Urban Management. Also, he is strategic advisor to Urbact, Europe's largest exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development, and Lead Expert of EUniverCities. He has published widely on urban knowledge based development and related topics, in books and international peer-reviews scientific articles, and he works as advisor for a number of large cities. He is founder and owner of consulting firm Urban IQ.</p>
	<p>Dr. Klaus Puchta, City of Magdeburg, EUniverCities secretariat network.eunivercities@ob.magdeburg.de</p> <p>He is leading a team which is responsible for all questions of cooperation between the City of Magdeburg and the Otto-von-Guericke-University, the University of Applied Sciences Magdeburg-Stendal and all non-university research institutes. Since 2017 this team has taken over the function of the secretariat for the EUniverCities network.</p>