

**High-level meeting of G7+ national higher education promotion agencies:
“Shaping the Future of International Higher Education: Opportunities and Challenges for the
decade ahead”**

Paris, 23rd-24th March 2026

The Paris Declaration of higher education promotion agencies

We, the undersigned organisations responsible for international student mobility and higher education cooperation in G7 Member States and invited partner countries, met in Paris on 23rd–24th March 2026 to address the evolving landscape of international education and to strengthen our collective response to shared global challenges within the G7+ framework. In a context marked by geopolitical tensions, demographic change and rapid technological transformation, we reaffirm our shared commitment to the fundamental value of international education and cross-border student and researcher mobility.

International academic exchange has long been a cornerstone of peaceful cooperation, mutual understanding and scientific progress. Together with our partner institutions worldwide, our organisations have collectively enabled millions of students, researchers and scholars to learn, teach and innovate across borders. These exchanges enrich societies, strengthen higher education institutions and increase academic excellence, support intercultural dialogue, broaden individuals’ horizons and contribute to shared prosperity and greater global stability.

We recognize that the decade ahead will bring complex challenges, as well as new opportunities. Geopolitical instability risks fragmenting academic collaboration and restricting the free circulation of knowledge. Demographic shifts - declining student populations in some regions and rapidly growing numbers of young people in others - will reshape global mobility patterns and impact the worldwide competition for talent. At the same time, technological advances, particularly in artificial intelligence, are transforming teaching, research and the very nature of skills required in the labour market. Addressing these transformations requires inclusive cooperation between G7 members and partners and a strengthened capacity for strategic coordination within our G7+ framework.

In the current global context of continuing conflicts and greater political interference, we uphold the belief that academic freedom, democracy and the protection of students and researchers at risk must remain unwavering principles. Within the G7+ community, we share a collective responsibility to safeguard these values and to promote them globally. We will continue to advocate for collective response mechanisms to support students and academics in danger, seek means to maintain scientific collaborations and institutional partnerships in politically sensitive contexts and promote academic integrity.

We are equally committed to advancing inclusion, equity and sustainability in global higher education. This includes supporting balanced and circular academic mobility, engaging responsibly with the opportunities offered by new technologies and identifying greener mobility practices. The G7+ format strengthens dialogue, mutual learning and policy coordination among diverse systems. We therefore agree to pursue structured and regular exchanges within this framework in order to monitor emerging trends and share experience when appropriate. Looking forward, we will strive together towards more resilient and sustainable mobility frameworks.

Above all, our organisations defend the principle that international academic mobility and institutional scientific cooperation are not optional luxuries but strategic necessities for the G7+ community and for the wider international academic ecosystem. They are essential to addressing global challenges - from climate change and public health to technological governance and social cohesion. Through strengthened

cooperation within this expanded framework, we aim to reinforce trust and contribute actively to a stable and open international academic environment. Over the years to come, we will pursue and reinforce our cooperation to support safe, reciprocal and values-based exchange.

Together, we affirm our shared conviction that international higher education and academic exchange are essential to building bridges, strengthening open and democratic societies and equipping future generations with the relevant skills, open-mindedness and shared commitment in order to shape a more stable, just and cooperative world.

British Council

Campus France

CBIE - Canadian Bureau for International Education

DAAD - German Academic Exchange Service

DZS - Czech National Agency for International Education and Research

EDUFI - Finnish National Agency for Education

FAUBAI – Brazilian Association for International Education

Nuffic

SEPIE - Spanish Service for the Internationalisation of Education

Uni-Italia

