

## THE EUCU.NET DECLARATION ON COMBATING POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

Our society needs the talents, abilities and skills of children from poor and socially excluded backgrounds. Their presence in our universities and democracies as adults, adds diversity and wealth to our society, and in doing so, destroy stereotypes.

Children's Universities uniquely give young people the knowledge to make informed choices enabling them to combat their self-censorship and to take up their basic right to educational opportunities.

The vision of EUCU.NET is to share ideas and information between practitioners and other stakeholders. Promoting the availability of university to young people from all backgrounds, through engagement with children as decision makers in their own future. Lobbying and motivating universities to engage with young people from the earliest age, and to learn from them for the benefit of all society.

To this end:

- \* Children's Universities need to involve young people from all backgrounds in an actively inclusive manner.
- \* Children's Universities need to focus on breaking down barriers in order to also reach underrepresented groups.
- \* Children's Universities need to encourage curiosity, emotional and intellectual discovery, self-development, critical thinking, mutual learning, tolerance and diversity.

**With these keynotes Children's Universities aim to contribute to combating poverty and social exclusion.**

*adopted by EUCU.NET and its valuable Network Partners  
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