



WORK PLAN 2022-2025

Forum for Educational Change - FECH

The Work-plan is a document through which FECH commits to working on a number of topics and domains for a four-year period, namely between 2022 and 2025. The Work-plan represents the guiding document for the Membership, the Board, and the Advisory Board in the conceptualization and implementation of specific activities. The document is intentionally broad in its scope and does not explore direct activities and structures to be put in place, as these are foreseen by a yearly implementation plan proposed by the Board in consultation with the Steering Committee and in agreement with policy priorities on the national level.

The 2022-2025 Work-plan does not indicate overarching topics and yearly priorities, rather it indicates the strategic objectives from #**DEVSTRA2025**, allowing for a more long-term orientation and a better focus on the current challenges of education in Macedonia and internationally. Moreover, the work plan is interconnected with:

- The **FECH Development Strategy 2021-2025**, and is informed by the strategic priorities to implement them.
- The political environment we operate in, as the Work-plan is not definite and should be flexible and adaptable to the new developments we will witness in the upcoming years.

For the period of 2022-2025, we will:

- Establish the Anti-plagiarism & Anti-corruption TASKFORCE that will work on monitoring the professors who illegally got advanced academically in their respective universities. In the scope of this FECH will come up with a "metric" that can measure the "academic honesty" of higher education institutions. If the metric is designed carefully, FECH can establish itself as a watchdog authority that can perform such evaluations.
- Organize the **WB6 STUDENT FORUM** - to connect, inspire and empower the students in the region through solidarity, democracy, representation, and the practice of radical change.
- Establish the **POOL of EXPERTS** - that will explore, suggest and draft policy papers on improving the quality of higher education.
- Establish the **Advisory Council** within FECH - with experts from different fields that will help the organization grow and provide their expertise in different projects.
- Work closely with student representatives to foster their advocacy capacities as structures.



- Establish the Digital Education Hub with other NGOs to support the digital transformation plans at all levels of education, training, and administrative work of the universities.
- Publishing the blacklist of Predatory Journals and individuals who tend to publish their research/thesis in those predatory journals. ¹
- Advocate towards universities to establish policy where professors must publish their research paper or thesis in relevant journals recognized by Scopus and Web of Science.
- To advocate and pressure institutions for livestreaming the Senate meetings of the Universities - for the purpose of enhancing the transparency of the higher education institutions in North Macedonia.
- Jointly with institutions, to establish the national database where the PhD thesis will be published with the purpose of “**sharing national knowledge**”.
- Advocating to establish an independent national commission that will investigate all PhD theses that were used to get advanced academically in the last 20 years.
- Cooperation with the media for a wider visibility of our activities that are in the interest of public good.
- Organize roundtable discussions on different topics related to higher education, youth engagement etc.
- Implement at least two projects annually.
- Implementing international projects with European colleagues starting from the Q3 of 2022.
- Apply to various foundations for funds such as National Endowment for Democracy (NED); European Endowment for Democracy (EED); European Commission; National Agency of Erasmus in North Macedonia; Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO); ect.
- In the period **2022-2025** to open the offices of FECH and the **Youth Activism Center (YAC)** in Tetovo for youngsters to have a space where they can implement activities.
- Conduct several research on students problems, transparency of the public universities, and other thematics that include youth (students), democracy in universities, quality of education and so on.
- Prepare a *Shadow Report (Chapter 26 - Education and Culture)* for the Progressive Report from the European Commission (EC) and send it to the EC and European Parliament.
- Constantly organize capacity-building training for the members of the organization to improve their efficiency in project-managing, researching skills, communications skills and so further.

¹ <https://predatoryjournals.com/journals/>



- Establishing the “volunteering corner” for youngsters to become volunteers in FECH and help implement activities.
- Organize activities for the important dates in a year calendar (i.e. International Youth day - 12 August, International day of Education - 24 January; International Students Day - 17 November; Intellectual Property Day - 26 April)
- Develop a strategy for social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram) on how to engage with the followers on our pages.

The Working plan will be evaluated and monitored during General Assemblies (GA) at the beginning of every year (2023, 2024, 2025). Thus, the Gov Board is obliged to present a report of their work at the beginning of the GA.

Governing Board members: Blendi Hodaj, Leutrim Bilali, Blagica Eftimova, Ivana Atanasoska, Era Aliu, Vesa Sherifi, Ardit Ramadani.

Advisory Board members: Agon Memedi, Petar Atanasov, Emir Hasanovic, Vlora Recica.