



35TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Agenda



EURASHE



Amsterdam University
of Applied Sciences

Impact, Industry, Society

Demand-driven research and innovation for a competitive Europe

EURASHE and host Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (AUAS) are delighted to invite you to the **35th EURASHE Annual Conference**, taking place on **17-18 June 2026** in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Every year, EURASHE gathers the Higher Education community to discuss and draft a shared path on relevant topics for the present and the future of education. This year's edition focuses on **research and innovation** and the impact that applied sciences universities generate onto the regions and cities where they are located. The 200+ participants are policymakers, academics, university rectors and vice-rectors, students and practitioners from the applied higher education sector in Europe and beyond.

Venue: [Amstelcampus, Wibautstraat 3b, 1091 GH Amsterdam](#)

Unless otherwise stated, the conference is taking place at the main campus building of AUAS.

For more information and updates, keep an eye on our social media channels and [website](#).

PRE-CONFERENCE - 16 JUNE 2026

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16:00 - 18:00	EURASHE General Assembly (members only)
18:00 - 20:00	Pre-conference reception (open to all) <i>Finger food and drinks included</i>

DAY 1 - 17 JUNE 2026

Welcome coffee & registrations (8:45 - 9:15)

9:15 - 9:45	<p>WORDS OF WELCOME</p> <p>Hannes Raffaseder, EURASHE President, CEO of St. Pölten UAS Geleyn Meijer, Amsterdam UAS Executive Board Sofya Mbarki, Deputy Mayor of Amsterdam (TBC) Ekaterina Zaharieva, European Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation (video message)</p>
9:45 - 10:15	<p>KEYNOTE SPEECH</p> <p>Robbert Dijkgraaf, Professor for Science and Society, University of Amsterdam, former Minister of Education, Culture & Science in the Netherlands</p>
10:15 - 11:00	<p>PLENARY SESSION: APPLIED UNIVERSITIES AS DRIVERS OF EUROPEAN COMPETITIVENESS</p> <p><i>Moderated by Geleyn Meijer, Amsterdam UAS Executive Board</i></p> <p>Robbert Dijkgraaf, Professor for Science and Society, University of Amsterdam, former Minister of Education, Culture & Science in the Netherlands Hannes Raffaseder, EURASHE President, CEO St. Pölten UAS</p>
Coffee break (11:00 - 11:30)	
11:30 - 12:15	BREAKOUT SESSIONS
12:15 - 13:00	BREAKOUT SESSIONS
Lunch (13:00 - 14:15)	

14:15 - 15:00	<p>SPOTLIGHT ON APPLIED EXEL</p> <p>Mark Butler, Vice President Corporate Development, Applied Research, and International, Southern Alberta Institute of Technology</p> <p>Pascal Krupka, UNESCO Chair on Strategic Foresight and Higher Education, Higher Colleges of Technology</p> <p>Alan Kin-tak Lau, President, Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong</p>
15:00 - 15:45	<p>PARALLEL SESSION: HOT TOPICS BY EURASHE COMMUNITY</p>
<p>Coffee break (15:45 - 16:00)</p>	
16:00 - 17:00	<p>PLENARY SESSION: APPLIED UNIVERSITIES AND THE CITY</p>
<p>Conference Gala Dinner (19:00 - 23:00) (optional, self-paid) Hotel Arena, 's-Gravesandestraat 55, 1092 AA Amsterdam <i>Includes: 3-course dinner, welcome drink, open bar, coat check</i></p>	

DAY 2 - 18 JUNE 2026

Welcome coffee & registrations (8:45 - 9:00)

9:00 - 9:45

KEYNOTE SPEECH

9:45 - 10:45

SPOTLIGHT ON THE NETHERLANDS

Coffee break (10:45 - 11:15)

11:15 - 12:00

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

12:00 - 12:45

**PLENARY SESSION: APPLIED RESEARCH IN EUROPEAN
UNIVERSITY ALLIANCES**

12:45 - 13:00

Conclusions and announcement of 36th conference host

Lunch (13:00 - 14:00)

Social programme (14:30 - 16:30) (optional, self-paid)

Historic boat tour of the Amsterdam canals

Includes: two-hour boat tour, finger food and drinks