



### Event details

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**Date:** Monday 14 February 2021 and Tuesday 15 February 2022

**Time:** 09.00 – 11.00 Caracas (UTC -4) / 16.00 – 18.00 Moscow (UTC +3)

**Format:** Zoom webinar. Prior registration is required.

Day 1 - February 14

[https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Laogb9rrS\\_2cYXvynV0XVw](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Laogb9rrS_2cYXvynV0XVw)

Day 2 - February 15

[https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_d4-XAA\\_qToi9SDzQibrT8w](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d4-XAA_qToi9SDzQibrT8w)

**Target audience:** Researchers, students, policymakers, educational organizations and NGOs

**Language:** English (Q&A will be available in English and Russian)

### Background

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This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. The existence and subsequent dissolution of the Soviet Union have had wide-ranging effects across economic, social, and political spheres in the 15 countries of the former USSR – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan – as well as in the international arena. Higher education systems in the ex-Soviet countries were profoundly impacted during and after this period.

At the same time, today's ex-Soviet higher education institutions and systems have been shaped by an array of new ideas, altered funding arrangements, different governance

arrangements, and international partnerships. Trends such as university rankings, privatization, and an emphasis on quality assurance are also proving influential.

As we turn to the next 30 years, this could be a period of continuing convergence with globally circulating ideas and practices or one in which the hallmarks of the past remain strong. Equally, the 2050 horizon may also present opportunities for these countries to take different paths towards their future higher education.

## Conference objectives

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This conference is being held to mark the 30th anniversary of the collapse of the Soviet Union and to reflect on developments, trends, and future prospects in the higher education systems of the ex-Soviet space. Co-hosted by UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education (UNESCO IESALC) and HSE University (National Research University Higher School of Economics), the conference brings together researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and other participants with an interest in higher education to reflect on developments, trends, and future prospects in the higher education systems of the ex-Soviet space.

## Agenda

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### Monday 14 February 2022

*Times shown are UTC -4 (Caracas) and UTC +3 (Moscow); please check your local time zone*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 09.00 – 09.15 (UTC-4)<br>16.00 – 16.15 (UTC+3)  | <b>Conference opening</b><br>UNESCO IESALC and HSE University   |
| 09.15 – 10.20 (UTC-4)<br>16.15 – 17.20 (UTC+3)  | <b>Roundtable: Institutional transformations in higher education</b><br>Moderator: Isak Froumin, Head of the Institute of Education, HSE University, Russia |
| 10.20 – 11.00 (UTC -4)<br>17.20 – 18.00 (UTC+3) | <b>Closing remarks</b> at the end of Day 1  |

### Tuesday 15 February 2022

*Times shown are UTC -4 (Caracas) and UTC +3 (Moscow); please check your local time zone*

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|--|---|
| 09.00 – 09.10 (UTC-4)<br>16.00 – 16.10 (UTC+3) | <b>Welcome to Day 2</b>   |
| 09.10 – 10.15 (UTC-4)<br>16.10 – 17.15 (UTC+3) | <b>Roundtable: The social responsibilities of higher education</b><br>Moderator: Francesc Pedró, Director, UNESCO IESALC, Venezuela |

10.15 – 11.00 (UTC -4)

17.15 – 18.00 (UTC+3)

**Closing of conference; Participant photo**

UNESCO IESALC and HSE University

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## Outcomes

The conference will contribute to increased interactions and networks among researchers, students, policymakers, and others in the higher education community, both within and beyond the ex-Soviet space.

Through the international reach of the hosts UNESCO IESALC and HSE University, the conference will also play an important role in bringing knowledge and sharing expertise among colleagues who typically occupy different epistemological and linguistic spaces.

To support engagement and knowledge sharing during and after the conference, the conference will be recorded and made available on UNESCO IESALC's website and YouTube channel. A conference publication is also planned.

A certificate of participation will be offered to those who participate in the whole conference.

For any questions, please contact Dana Abdrasheva, [d.abdrasheva@unesco.org](mailto:d.abdrasheva@unesco.org) or Darya Platonova, [dplatonova@hse.ru](mailto:dplatonova@hse.ru).