

First CRES+5 preparatory meeting

Cordoba, Argentina, March 22 and 23, 2023

Background

The Third Regional Conference on Higher Education (CRES) held in June 2018 in Córdoba, Argentina, concluded with a plan of action and a commitment to review the progress made five years later. With those years having passed, the UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC), the National University of Córdoba, the National Interuniversity Council, the Ministry of Education of Argentina, and ENLACES, are now convening a first meeting with the objective of contributing to the preparation of CRES+5.

This preparatory meeting towards CRES+5 (October 25 and 26, 2023, to be confirmed) is a necessary instance of dialogue and interlocution among regional higher education stakeholders that seeks an incidental participation in the agenda of CRES+5 and its organizational dynamics, as well as a collective reflection on the conclusions of the Third World Conference on Higher Education (Barcelona, 2022) that allow reconfiguring the CRES Action Plan 2018-2028 in new terms, particularly in light of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in higher education.

Objectives

This first preparatory meeting of CRES+5 will be a privileged opportunity to assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the CRES 2018 Declaration and the 2018-2028 Action Plan, both at the national and regional levels, and to reconfigure scenarios and actions for an effective approach, rethinking and strengthening the mechanisms of necessary articulation between governments and higher education stakeholders.

The specific objective of this preparatory meeting is to approve the CRES+5 agenda, its thematic axes and the questions to be asked, as well as a methodology that ensures the participation of all stakeholders in the region in its progressive configuration, in particular, in the follow-up reports that should contribute to analyzing the progress made in relation to the 2018-2028 Action Plan.

Methodology

To facilitate the debate, UNESCO IESALC has prepared a first draft of both the agenda and the methodology to be used in the preparatory process for CRES+5. This draft will be extensively discussed at the preparatory meeting and, with the amendments and improvements that are agreed upon, will be definitively approved to begin the work leading to CRES+5.

Participants

This preparatory meeting is open to representatives of the following organizations:

- University networks in the region (2 representatives per network)
- Governments' representatives (2 per country)
- National Councils of Rectors (1 per Council)
- Quality assurance agencies (1 per agency)
- Teaching and non-teaching personnel unions (1 per union)
- Student organizations (1 per organization)
- Regional and international organizations (OEI, SEGIB, CELAC, FLACSO, CLACSO, among others, as observers).

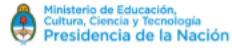
Agenda

March 22nd

Schedule	Session	Type
9.30 - 10.30	Opening speeches by the representatives of the convening entities.	Plenary
10.30 - 11.15	Conference of Dr. Hugo O. Juri - UNC: From the Grito de Córdoba to the Future of Higher Education in the region.	Plenary
11.15 - 11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.30 - 12.15	Presentation of the CRES+5 draft agenda and proposed methodology (UNESCO IESALC)	
12.15 - 14.00	Discussion and amendments to the draft agenda and proposed methodology	Plenary
14.00 - 15.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
15.00 - 16.00	Continuation of discussion and amendments to the draft agenda and proposed methodology	Plenary
16.00 - 16.15	Coffee break	
16.15 - 17.00	Reformulation of the agenda and new proposal, for approval by acclamation	Plenary
17.00	<i>End of the day</i>	

March 23rd

Schedule	Session	Type
9.30 - 11.15	Work in groups to suggest priorities to be discussed at CRES+5 under each thematic axis and/or areas within each of them that should be reviewed or included.	Work in parallel rooms



11.15 - 11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.30 - 13.00	Sharing of each group's proposals and discussion	Plenary
13.00 - 14.00	Adjournment of the meeting and announcements on next steps	Plenary
14.00 - 15.00	<i>Lunch</i>	