

***More cuts to English-medium education?  
What is the future of international higher education in Denmark?***

**Online Seminar**

The Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science recently announced that ‘interventions are necessary to limit spending on SU [student grants] for EU students’. In 2018, such an intervention resulted in cuts to study programmes with ‘English-speaking’ students. Does this herald further cuts to English-medium higher education? The Higher Education Policy and Practice (HEPP) section of DUN is convening this discussion with the aim of understanding the situation from various perspectives and to see if we can find common ground.

**Date:** 4 December 2020, 10-12 CET (on Zoom)

**Register in advance:**

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5AvcumvrT0oGNLKyZkpqIEdbjFaEVy5yXbl>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. The registration has no deadline.

The reason for the Minister’s concern is a projected rise in the number of European students receiving financial student support (SU). The political parties have agreed a ceiling of DKK 449 million (2019 prices) for SU expenditure on Non-Danish students from the European Union. Currently, the expenditure is DKK 619 million and the ministry forecasts that the amount may increase to DKK 650 million by 2023. This would be DKK 201 million above the politically agreed maximum. However, it seems that this would still only be 3% of the total Danish SU expenditure (which was DKK 21,059 million in 2019).

The questions we will address include:

- What would further cuts to English-language courses mean for the **higher education landscape and the economy** in Denmark and for the opportunities available to Danish, let alone international, students?
- How do courses differ in terms of their **understanding and practice of ‘internationalisation’**? How to engage policy-makers in the discussions of the ‘what, why and how’ of internationalization, rather than blanket numbers?
- Is there a threat of hastily closing more well-established international programmes? What can we do to ensure **least damage**?

Members of the panel include Jesper Langergaard, the director of Danske Universiteter, Sandi Rizvić an international officer of Danske Studerendes Fællesråd and Hanne Tange, a researcher of international and intercultural education. We welcome participation from people with experience from the first round of cuts to English-speaking student places.

The session will be hosted by members of the Higher Education Policy and Practice (HEPP) section of Dansk Universitetspædagogisk Netværk (DUN) Professor Susan Wright and Matej Zitnansky.

More information on the issue from the press (in Danish):

- [Regeringen efter ny SU-prognose: Indgreb nødvendigt for at begrænse SU-udgifter til EU-studerende — Uddannelses- og Forskningsministeriet](#)
- [SU til EU-studerende står over for markant stigning](#)
- [Podcast om stigende udgifter til SU: Skal Danmark tage kampen op med EU-domstolen?](#)

## Programme

**10.00-10.05: Welcome**

**10:05-10.10: Introduction to the situation (Susan Wright)**

**10.10-10.30: National perspectives**

- Jesper Langergaard, director of Danske Universiteter
- Nibras Aziz, research and higher education consultant at Dansk Industri

**10.30-10.40: Questions and answers**

**10.40-10.45: QUICK BREAK**

**10.45-11.00: Student perspectives**

- Sandi Rizvic, international officer at Danske Studerendes Fællesråd
- Matej Zitnansky, student of Anthropology of Education and Globalisation at Aarhus University and a former delegate to the European Students' Union

**11.00-11.10: Questions and answers**

**11.10-11.30: Perspectives from Humanities and Sciences**

- Hanne Tange, researcher of international education and intercultural communication at Aalborg University
- Morten Overgaard, head of international education at Danmarks Tekniske Universitet

**11.30-11.40: Questions and answers**

**11.40-12.00: Plenary Discussion and Next Steps**