

Strategy Groups

2012: Towards the future



European
Student
Think Tank

- **What is the future of fiscal and monetary policy coordination in the EU?**
- **Chinese investments in Africa – how to compete with the dragon?**
- **The Roma: European states & stateless minorities - frontiers to human rights?**
- **The future of academics in the EU's knowledge based society?**
- **The labor market in an ageing continent**

All of these questions have one common underlying aspect - they look towards the future: what will the EU look like internally in twenty years, how will it compete in a quickly developing world and how will it maintain itself in the face of emerging developing countries? Since the policies proposed by EST are essentially policies prepared by youth, we believe that a future-oriented Strategy Group meeting is ideal for several reasons: the youth are the ones that will be shaping the European Union soon, and it is important to hear their views. Moreover, because as the youth of Europe, they can provide a fresh perspective on the issues, especially such future-oriented ones. On the basis of the group's problem analysis, all the members of the group will present a position paper for future European policy.

What is an EST strategy group?

An EST strategy group will analyse a pressing European issue and come up with possible solutions. The strategy group will consist of 15 motivated students that will thoroughly analyse a political, economic or social issue in the European Union. Two of the members of the Strategy Group will function as chairpersons.

So, what is in it for you?

- Relevant experience in your field of study;
- Opportunity to go 'in depth' in a particular field of knowledge;
- Work in an international environment, in an interdisciplinary manner;
- Dialogue with leading scientists, politicians and other public officials.

The function of chairperson is a unique opportunity to acquire and develop leadership skills. Also, the chairpersons will be in contact with interesting and leading officials in their field of study, which yields a world of networking opportunities. Finally, the chairpersons will be responsible for the outcome of a Strategy Group. The chairpersons of each Strategy Group will be appointed by the EST board, and they will be selected on a number of qualities: expertise, experience and leadership skills. As the chairpersons will also be the face of their Strategy Group in the media and thereby of EST at large, it is important that they are representative.

Strategy Groups 2012

When: The 9th till the 12th of March;

Where: Hotel Veter, Ruše, Slovenia

Costs: € 175,-

How to reach the destination: Ruše is only a 20 minute train ride from Mari-bor, the second largest city in Slovenia, close to Ljubljana, Vienna, Graz, Zagreb, Venice and Budapest. If you are interested in applying, let us know and we will help you find the best travel option.

How much does participation cost?

The participation fee for the entire strategy group will cost 175 euros. This covers your stay in the hotel in Ruše (incl. breakfast, lunch, coffee and linen), the seminar location. Travelling costs, dinner on Saturday and Sunday are to be arranged independently.

Who is eligible?

All interested participants currently enrolled in an academic institution (bachelor, master or doctoral studies) in any member of the European Union and official EU candidate countries are eligible for participation.

How can I apply?

Would you like to apply for a position in one of EST strategy groups? Please send your CV, motivation and essay to strategygroups@studentthinktank.eu. In the subject of the email state the Strategy Group you are applying for, and elaborate in your motivation letter on why you are a perfect addition to the group in terms of experience, motivation and knowledge background. The essay should be up to 600 words on the topic of the Strategy Group you have chosen. The essay should include a brief outline of the problem you see and the way you would approach the solution. The essay should reflect your critical thinking and analytical skills and be in English.

Would you like to apply for the position of chairperson? Please send you CV, essay and motivation letter to strategygroups@studentthinktank.eu. You will be invited for a Skype meeting if we consider you for the position.

Deadline for application is January 20th.

What is the European Student Think Tank?

The European Student Think Tank is a student-based platform project that aims at engaging students in the political and policy-making process of the European Union. EST aims to come up with policy advice about how EU policy makers and politicians should address EU issues. This advice is not hindered by considerations such as contemporary political climate, particular national interests or other kinds of impediments, which should not influence the formulating of policies that will direct the EU for several decades.

EST was established in Summer 2010, and consists of an international board, ambassadors, an editorial team and an international group of bloggers. In late Winter 2012, we will organise our second round of Strategy Groups.



European
Student
Think Tank

www.studentthinktank.eu

