



5TH ASEM | RECTORS' CONFERENCE
& STUDENTS' FORUM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

ARC5 Students' Forum

1. ESSENTIALS

1.1. How can I apply?

Please fill in the online application form [here](#). Once you have submitted your application, we will send a confirmation email to you. Please ensure that your application forms are fully completed to be considered. This includes the uploading of relevant documents.

1.2 When is the deadline?

We accept applications until Friday, 22 January 2016, GMT 23:59 hours.

1.3 Who can apply?

- Citizens (passport holders) of any of the 51 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) member countries
- University students from all levels (undergraduate, graduate and doctoral) between 18-30 years old
- Strong command in verbal and written English
- Ready to participate in the online-preparatory phase prior to the ARC5 Students' Forum

1.4 Can I apply if I am an ASEM country national studying in a non-ASEM country?

Yes. If you are an ASEM country national, you may apply regardless of your country of residence.

1.5 Can I apply if I am a non-ASEM country national studying in an ASEM country?

No, only nationals of the 51 ASEM member countries are eligible to apply.

1.6 What are the 51 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) member countries?

ASEM brings together 51 member countries:

Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, the Lao PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and Viet Nam.

For further information, please visit www.aseminfoboard.org.

1.7 I am a student younger than 18 years/older than 30 years. Am I still eligible to apply?

If you believe that you meet all other criteria and have a suitable profile, you may still apply and your application might be considered on an exceptional basis. However, those who fulfil all application requirements will be prioritised.

1.8 I am currently taking a gap year from studying. Am I still eligible to apply?

If you are taking a gap year from studying by for example doing an internship between your bachelor's and master's degree you can still apply to the ARC5 Students' Forum.

1.9 I have not been directly involved in Employability issues. Can I still apply?

Everyone and all disciplines are relevant for the topic! A direct connection to the field is an asset but not a strict requirement.

1.10 What is the selection process?

The independent screening committee consists out of ASEF and its partners. The committee follows the principles of equality, non-discrimination and equal opportunity and look for a good balance of participants. All applicants will be screened fairly regardless of sex, race, marital status, and disability.

The selection follows a two-step approach. The first selection of shortlisted candidates will be made based on individual merits. The second selection ensures the diversity of the group of participants, through e.g. gender balance, a representation of various academic disciplines and other relevant experiences.

Once selected, we ask you to register and show us a copy of your student id card, or for proof that you're only taking a gap year.

1.11 When do you release the final results?

We intend to notify all the applicants about their application status at the end of January. Results may come out per country and will be also posted on the [ASEFEdu Facebook page](#).

2. PROGRAMME

2.1 Pre-Event Phase

Do I need to make any preparations prior to the event in Prague, Czech Republic?

The ARC5 Students' Forum includes an online preparatory phase, which kick-starts the discussions and reflections prior to the on-site gathering.

2.2 Post-Event Phase

Are there any commitments after the project?

We are keen to know how you experienced and what you gained through our project. Therefore, please participate in our impact assessment after the project.

In addition, by joining an ASEF project you become a part of the ASEF Youth Network: a door to a rich Asia-Europe network.

3. FEES

3.1 Is there an application or participation fee for the ARC5 Students' Forum?

Application to and participation in the ARC5 Students' Forum is free.

4. LODGING & MEALS

4.1 Are accommodation and food provided during the event?

The co-organisers will provide accommodation for the selected participants travelling from abroad during the Conference programme.

Food is catered for during and as stated in the Conference programme.

For participants who have special dietary requirements, meals will be adjusted accordingly within the given possibilities.

5. TRAVEL, VISA & INSURANCE

5.1. Will travel costs be reimbursed?

ASEF supports the students based abroad with a travel subsidy for the most direct connection (return economy flight and/or train/bus ride).

The amount will be announced to the selected pool of participants.

The travel subsidy includes local transportation (home – airport - home), return flight costs (home country – Prague – home country), and local transportation in the Czech Republic.

The costs of the travel will be reimbursed to the participants after the Conference upon ASEF receiving the required travel claims.

5.2 How about visa fees and insurance?

Yes, insurance and visa fee (if applicable) will be covered within the capped subsidy.

5.3 Can ASEF give me a support letter for the visa?

Together with Charles University, we will issue a visa support letter.

6. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

6.1 What is the ARC5 Students' Forum?

The ARC5 Students' Forum is held in conjunction with the 5th ASEM Rectors' Conference (ARC). The Students' Forum is a platform for students from all [51 ASEM member countries](#) to develop innovative solutions to higher education challenges in Asia and Europe. ARC provides a unique opportunity to bring in the students' voice into the [ASEM Education Process](#), through policy recommendations and direct connections with university, business and ASEM government leaders.

6.2 What is the ASEM Rectors' Conference (ARC)?

The ASEM Rectors' Conference (ARC) is recognised as the Official Dialogue Partner of the ASEM Education Ministers' Meeting (ASEM ME). The 5th ASEM Rectors' Conference (ARC5) delivers policy recommendations directly to the 6th ASEM Education Ministers' Meeting (ASEM ME5) to be held in 2017 in Korea.

6.3 What is the ASEM Education Ministers' Meeting (ASEM ME)?

The Conference of Ministers responsible for Education (ASEM ME) is held biannually. Its main role is to facilitate political commitment, set the policy agenda and steer the activities of the ASEM Education dialogue process. Each ASEM Ministerial Conference is prepared during 2 Senior Officials' Meetings, which are chaired by the host country of the respective Ministerial Conference and supported by the ASEM Education Secretariat (AES).

Get an overview of past [ASEM Education Ministers' Meetings \(ASEMMEs\)](#).

6.4 What is the ASEM Education Process?

The ASEM Education Process is a process based on the cooperation and partnership between Asia and Europe in the field of higher education and lifelong learning. You can find out more about the ASEM Education Process, by visiting the website of the [ASEM Education Secretariat](#).

Disclaimer: We consider this to be a dynamic document and are open to include further clarifications, if needed and based on questions received.

Co-organised by



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