



## **CALL FOR PARTICIPATION**

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Europe Students' Forum** ***Are you Fit for the Future?***

Groningen, The Netherlands | 24 September 2012

As part of the efforts to integrate student participation within the ASEM education process, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEM Rectors' Conference (ARC3) Partners-Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), University of Groningen (RUG) and the ASEAN University Network (AUN) – are launching the 1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Europe Students Forum themed ***Are you Fit for the Future?***

#### **Objectives**

- to identify institutional measures within the university education that help students to learn the skills for life and for employment;
- to discuss how such measures can be improved and adjusted to respond to workplace contexts; and
- to analyse if and how community engagement and volunteering/youth work can contribute to (soft) skills development.

#### **Selection Procedure**

Student leaders (undergraduate or postgraduate) from 46 ASEM countries will have the opportunity to contribute to the *ASEM education process* through their participation in the 1-day Students' Forum. They will be selected based on the following criteria:

- balanced participation of ASEM countries (target: 1 student per country);
- potential contributions to the development of the Students' Forum within the ASEM education process;
- prospective inputs to the discussions at the Forum and the Main Conference; and
- previous and current involvement in education cooperation fora, projects and initiatives.

8 of the most outstanding applicants will be chosen to take part in the 2-day ASEM Rectors' Conference on 25-26 September 2012.

#### **Arrangements**

Successful participants will be provided accommodation and meals for the duration of the Forum. Flight costs will be borne by the participants or their universities. For expressions of interest, please fill in the online [registration form](#) available on [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org).

<sup>1</sup> The ASEM process is based on an equal partnership and its activities are grouped into three pillars: political, economic and socio-cultural. ASEM now brings together 46 member states (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam) plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. [www.aseminfoboard.org](http://www.aseminfoboard.org)

## ABOUT THE ORGANISERS



The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since implemented over 500 projects, engaging over 15,000 direct participants as well as reaching out to a much wider audience in Asia and Europe. [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)



Founded in 1614, the **University of Groningen (RUG)** enjoys an international reputation as one of the oldest and leading research universities in Europe with around 28,000 BA, MA and PhD students and more than 5,000 staff members. More than 10% of the student population is international, whereas 20% of the academic staff comes from abroad. RUG is an active member of the Coïmbra Group and has built partnerships with universities in all continents. [www.rug.nl](http://www.rug.nl)



The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established in 1967. The main objective of the **ASEAN University Network (AUN)** is to strengthen the existing network of co-operation among leading universities in ASEAN, by promoting co-operation and solidarity among ASEAN scholars and academicians, developing academic and professional human resource, and promoting information dissemination among the ASEAN academic community. [www.aun-sec.org](http://www.aun-sec.org)