

EducationUSA EUR Regional Forum

Lisbon, Portugal

September 15-17, 2026



2026 EducationUSA Europe and Eurasia Regional Forum: **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

The U.S. Department of State's EducationUSA network invites the U.S. higher education community and EducationUSA advisers to submit proposals for the Europe and Eurasia (EUR) Regional Forum to be held in Lisbon, Portugal September 15-17, 2026. The Regional Forum will provide opportunities for U.S. higher education professionals to learn the latest regional and sub-regional mobility trends and market intelligence from EducationUSA advisers, strategic recruitment and partnership building opportunities in key fields such as AI, STEM, and sports and others, and to discuss critical issues in higher education. The Regional Forum will also provide opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange with U.S. Embassy/Consulate personnel, host country officials, university administrators, and EducationUSA advisers.

Potential topics and sample sessions are available here. All session proposals should be submitted through the [EUR Regional Forum Session Proposal Submission Form](#).

Timeline:

June 12, 2026

Proposal Submission Deadline

July 13, 2026

Email notification of proposal selection; accepted session POC will need to reply to this email confirming their acceptance within 1 week.

September 1, 2026

Deadline to submit presentation in electronic format

High-priority session proposal topics include:

Topics	Sample Sessions
Building Partnerships with Local Institutions	Academic exchanges, dual degree programs, development of curricula, and faculty collaborations: • Identifying and working with institutional partners in academia and industry in key fields AI, STEM, and other priority fields • Innovative models for student and scholar exchanges and joint degree programs • Role of interregional cooperation among HEIs to drive strategic collaboration, partnership building, and sustainable student mobility pipeline
Graduate Recruitment in the EUR Region	Trends, Tactics, and Tomorrow's Talent with particular emphasis on AI and AI-adjacent fields, STEM/technology/innovation: • The best recruitment models for success (in-person, virtual, etc.) • Strategic approaches with limited resources
Community College and Alt. Pathways in EUR	• What EducationUSA advisers can do to help students present strong graduate applications + Exploring and understanding interest in Non-Degree Programs



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Leveraging AI, Data, and Technology	Smarter Advising: Enhancing Performance and Efficiency with AI: • Best practices to streamline outreach, advising, recruitment, and/or data management
Successful Advising for the EUR Region	• Smarter advising: enhancing performance and efficiency with AI tools • Standardized testing in admissions and merit aid • Early action and early decision in a shifting admissions landscape • Understanding educational systems, transcripts, and credentials • Advising Dual-National Students • Understanding today's financial aid opportunities for international students in a rapidly evolving U.S. admissions environment • Future-Ready: Preparing students for careers that don't exist yet
Recruiting in the EUR Region	Why this market belongs on your recruitment map: • Regional challenges, risks, and opportunities for U.S. higher education • Opportunities for U.S.-EUR education partnerships • Emerging EUR markets and competition • Understanding target countries in the larger regional context • Picking the right region for your campus • Counselor Networks • Roles of community colleges and technical / vocational institutions for EUR students • STEM and interdisciplinary education for established and emerging industries, including Artificial Intelligence • Professional schools and fields of study, e.g., law, business, medicine, engineering • Career development opportunities before, during, and after the course of study • Anticipating and adapting to changing job markets
Tools of the Trade; Enhancing Your Recruitment Utility Belt	• Leveraging AI, data, and technology • From feed to first advising conversation: U.S. university social media as a prospect-building tool • Designing smarter advising and marketing programs with CRM tools • Leveraging your alumni to strengthen recruitment



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Format

- Sessions will be 60 minutes, including time for questions and answers.
- Sessions and workshops may be held in concurrent blocks.
- Sessions should be interactive, and workshops should include activities to engage participants in the practical application of skills.

Proposal Guidelines

- Proposals should indicate whether the primary audience is EducationUSA advisers, U.S. higher education professionals, or both.
- No more than four panelists (including a Chairperson) in any given session.
- Interactive and creative methods of learning are encouraged.

Presentation Terms and Conditions

- Presentations must be targeted to the professional educational advising community and/or U.S. higher education international recruitment/student services professionals. Presentations are accepted based on the originality, quality, and timeliness of content, and the presenters' qualifications and level of expertise on the proposed subject matter.
- A submission does not mean acceptance. If a proposal is accepted, the EducationUSA EUR Regional Forum Program Committee will contact the session chair and request confirmation of the proposal. Selections will be finalized in July 2026.
- Once confirmed, the speaker's name, title, and institution will be listed in the Forum program and website. By confirming the presentation session, the session chair makes a commitment to Forum participants to register and attend the Forum and deliver what is published, including the topic and the speaker(s).
- The session chair is required to submit the presentation and handouts to the program committee in electronic format by September 1, 2026.
- Presenters are responsible for supplying copies of session handouts, if applicable.
- No presenter may use a session for commercial or institutional promotion or unfair criticism of another institution or competitor. If this impartiality requirement is violated, that institution and presenter will be subject to exclusion from future EducationUSA events.
- Presentations and handouts may be electronically reproduced and distributed to the EducationUSA advising network, REAC: Regional Managers, and the Educational Information and Resources Branch of the U.S. Department of State (ECA/A/S/A).
- Speaker substitutions are not permitted except in the case of an emergency and are subject to the Program Committee's approval. If a speaker is forced to cancel, his or her institution is not guaranteed a session for an alternative speaker. The Program Committee reserves the right to refuse to accept an alternative speaker.
- A projector, laptop computer, and sound equipment will be in the presentation room.
- Presenters are responsible for conference registration fees and all travel-related expenses (except EducationUSA advisers whose participation is funded by ECA/A/S/A).

