



*Under the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic
Under the Patronage of Ms Androulla Vassiliou, Member of the European Commission*

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A new European University starts with Unica

The Rectors' opening

More than 200 students arrived today in Rome to participate to the Unica Conference, which opened with the speech of the Rectors of the four universities of Rome.

Luigi Frati, Rector of Sapienza University, underlined the importance of younger generations to build a better Europe and the fundamental role that universities have in order to achieve this goal.

Renato Lauro from Tor Vergata University pointed out that knowledge is the most important way to reach a more economically and politically united Europe.

According to Guido Fabiani, Rector of Roma Tre University, the academic world has to contribute to the wealth and prosperity of our society. The Rector of Foro Italico University, Paolo Parisi, is sure that in this time of crisis we, the students, represent the future, and that our creativity is needed to improve our environment. Overall, the main concern was the lack of public funding to universities.



Mr Zenius, President of the Unica Network's, opened his speech underlying that being part of Unica is an important opportunity. Relating to the ecological problems and the economical crisis, Mr Zenius mentioned words by John Kennedy: "if problems are man made, they can be solved by man". "I think" he said "that students' eyes should be critical eyes". In his opinion, the students' role is to show new paths for the future.

The Keynote speech was held by Pavel Zgaga, director of the Centre for Educational Policy Studies in the Faculty of Education of University of Ljubljana. He briefly presented the history of internationalization and then focused on the present situation. He pointed out the need for a common philosophy to face the internationalism at universities' challenge.

Daily report by Lorenzo Grande, Chiara Grillo, Michela Pellegrino e Carlotta Rossi

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