



European Students, Sustainability Auditing

Certificate in University Social Responsibility Auditing



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH



KEY FACTS

Project Leader

National Union of Students of the United Kingdom - NUSUK

Partners

The National Unions of Students in Europe
The University of Edinburgh
Kaunas University of Technology
Universidade Do Porto
Edinburgh University Students' Association
Kaunas University of Technology Students Union
Student Association of Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences University of Porto
University of Porto

Duration

September 2016 - September 2019



www.essaproject.eu
[#essa_usr](https://twitter.com/essa_usr)



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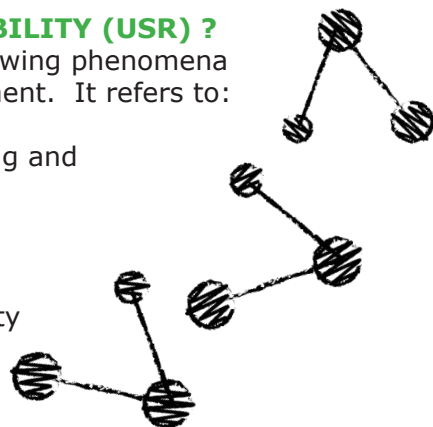
CONTEXT

Students are increasingly interested in university social responsibility when choosing the universities they want to study in. They want to have a positive impact on their communities, instead of replicating old models that don't work.

WHAT IS UNIVERSITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (USR) ?

University Social Responsibility (USR) is an growing phenomena that promotes responsible everyday management. It refers to:

- ✓ Research, Teaching, Support for Learning and Public Engagement
- ✓ Governance
- ✓ Environmental and Societal Sustainability
- ✓ Fair Practices



HOW IS THE ESSA PROJECT ADDRESSING THIS ISSUE?

By using a group of trained facilitators, a cohort of **60 students** drawn from the **3 participating universities** will be trained as Social Responsibility Auditors in a student-centred programme, delivered in blended mode. This will culminate in **4 Cross-National Student Audits** of different European higher education institutions.

*All approved accommodation, subsistence and travel costs incurred by Student Auditors through the role will be covered by the project, at the relevant official EU rates.

EXPECTED IMPACT

- A more flexible approach to student learning, assessment and certification
- Allowing students to engage with real world issues
- Enhancing of the use of student/learner centred approaches
- More effective integration of practical training and learning in and from real-world situations

OBJECTIVES

- Creating an innovative approach to the recognition and validation of knowledge, skills (including soft skills) and competences
- Producing a significant Open Educational Resource (OER) for a ECTS 5 Credit Certificate in Social Responsibility Auditing (EQF Level 6)
- Contribute to the wider process of developing alternative models of curriculum development

ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Facilitator training
- ▶ Student auditor training
- ▶ Audits
- ▶ Learning, assessment and certification

” A socially responsible University would understand its impact on the world. It would consider issues of justice and accountability, locally and globally, in creating a community that contributes to society.
Professor Mary Bownes
Senior Vice Principal 2013/14
University of Edinburgh
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Facilitator Trainings

Student Auditor Trainings

Audits

September 2016

January 2017

January 2018