

# Instructions for session proposals, Spring Forum 2023

## Propose a session or a network meeting

- Propose a session on this form latest on 31 January 2023:  
<https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/7D07B7B3DDAF3E4D>
- Inform us of your network meeting on this form latest on 31 January 2023:  
<https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/2FC18C47E06EB533>

## Topics for session proposals

We welcome session proposals related to the forum's main topic, Internationalisation in transition, as well as topics that are connected to the themes of the new Vision for strengthening the international dimension of Finnish higher education and research by 2035. Please read more about the vision here:

<https://okm.fi/en/vision-for-the-international-dimension-2035>

We encourage exploring the topics of the vision with thought. The themes can be understood in a broad manner and can cover sessions with a variety of content. For example, session proposals related to student mobility fall easily under several topics of the vision. We also encourage you to consider whether including the Team Finland Knowledge specialists or stakeholders of higher education institutions would add value to your session. You may propose these types of speakers even without confirming them beforehand and the organisers will help with identifying and/or contacting suitable speakers.

The topics of the Vision for strengthening the international dimension of Finnish higher education and research by 2035 are:

### 1. Finland, a society guided by values and principles

- The European and Nordic community forms a solid foundation for all of Finland's international cooperation.
- Finland upholds the freedom of science, research and teaching, the autonomy of actors, indivisible and inalienable human rights, non-discrimination and solidarity.
- Finland's country image is rooted in responsible collaboration of high quality in higher education, research and innovation. Goal-oriented science diplomacy advances international cooperation in line with our values.
- Finland's collaborative activities are based on non-discrimination and reciprocity, having regard for the different guiding principles and objectives of our partners.

### 2. Finland, a competitive economy that attracts talent

- Finland promotes attractive clusters of excellence that create new knowledge and competence to respond to global challenges and boost Finland's competitiveness.
- Finland is progressively profiling itself as a global leader in developing research infrastructures and RDI ecosystems. Open and advanced science and high quality international education further the global societal impact of our activities.
- Researchbased knowledge, active mobility, close academic cooperation as well as interaction with the world of work lay the foundation for international cooperation across all sectors of society.

### 3. Finland, a responsible and receptive nation

- Finland welcomes international talent and their families at every stage of their studies, career and life. Entering Finland and staying in the country is smooth and easy. Finland offers seamless career paths and interesting visiting opportunities.

- Our diverse international student population and staff pave the way for high-quality research and higher education and respond to the changing demand for expertise throughout the country.
  - Higher education institutions, scientific institutions and other bodies in the sector take the lead in creating an open-minded and receptive society that is culturally and linguistically diverse.
- 4. Finland, an agent in resolving sustainable development challenges**
- In the context of international cooperation, higher education, research and innovation communities are finding new and innovative solutions to increasingly complex challenges related to sustainable development and global societal challenges.
  - To enrich their international cooperation, our higher education institutions, research institutes and other bodies broaden their cooperation with advanced research organisations and with actors in developing countries.
- 5. Finland, a country that builds on cooperation**
- Finland advocates strong national cooperation, which is a prerequisite for impactful international activities. Finnish actors have clearly expressed priorities for participation and interest that guide their international advocacy work.
  - National bodies have welldefined roles and collaborative structures are well coordinated. At the national level, Finnish stakeholders collaborate actively in order to identify common interests and prepare communications on Finland’s higher education and science policies.

## Session types and duration

Duration of the sessions is linked to session types and cannot be changed.

- 1. Session 60 min**
  - Lecture-type or panel discussion, suitable for a wide audience.
- 2. Round table discussion 60 min**
  - Discussion on a specific topic for a targeted group and limited number of participants with 1-2 short presentation as discussion starters.
- 3. Workshop 90 min**
  - Group discussions, working on specific topics for developing and sharing ideas.
- 4. Poster session at the meeting place**
  - There will be a chance to present posters at the meeting place, time to be confirmed.
  - Posters can be an example of a good project or mode of operation that you want to share with your colleagues.

## Reasoning for the session

Please specify why the session proposal is important to include in the programme and how it is related to the relevant topic of the Vision 2035.

## Short description for the session

Please note that descriptions of chosen sessions will be published on the event web page. Descriptions should be concise and as finalised as possible. They can, however, be updated at a later stage if necessary. See programmes and session descriptions from earlier Spring Forums:

<https://www.oph.fi/fi/ohjelmat/korkeakoulujen-kansainvalisten-asioiden-kevatpaivat>

## Session chairs and speakers

You should name at least the session chair in your proposal. If speakers are known, please also include them. The session chair will be the contact point regarding all communication from the organizers.

## Who can propose sessions

Representatives of higher education institutions and other actors in the field of higher education. Proposals solely by commercial actors are not accepted, but they can participate in organising a joint session with other actors.

## Network meetings

During the beginning of the forum, you can arrange a meeting for your network. If you wish to organise a meeting for your network jointly with the Spring Forum, you can inform us and request a space on the form for network meetings. You will be responsible for the meeting and of inviting and informing your network. Spring Forum will offer the space and schedule for the meeting.