

# ASEM Education in a digital world Bridging the Continents - Connecting the People?

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# *ASEM Education in a Digital World: Bridging the Continents - Connecting the People?*

- November 2018 in Cologne, Germany
- 65 participants from 15 different ASEM states
- Presentation of results from the Call for Papers



Michael Jordan/ DAAD



Michael Jordan/ DAAD

# Call for Papers

- published in August 2018
- addressed educational cooperation of ASEM countries in the era of digitalization
- ca. 200 abstracts representing scholars from 25 different ASEM partner countries were submitted
- the selected papers were presented at the conference in Cologne and published in a conference booklet:

[https://cdn.aseminfoboard.org/documents/DAAD\\_Asem\\_Publication\\_March2019.pdf](https://cdn.aseminfoboard.org/documents/DAAD_Asem_Publication_March2019.pdf)

# Call for Papers – Topics

1. Boosting exchange: balancing mobility between Asia and Europe through digital formats?
2. ASEM's diversity: fostering intercultural connectivity and understanding in a digital way
3. Educational cooperation through virtual learning and blended formats: how to assure its quality?
4. Industry 4.0: new challenges for skills and competences of young students and graduates

# What is the Potential of Virtual Mobility within the AEP?

## Outcomes of the Conference



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# Virtual Mobility...

- serves as a great tool to support mobility programmes, e.g. through online preparatory classes, and hence to make these programmes more flexible and tailored to personal needs
- makes mobility programmes more accessible, because it removes some of the barriers to mobility (e.g. financial issues, personal restrictions)
- enables non-mobile students to gather international and intercultural experience and hence to develop their personal intercultural and soft skills

# Example: FRIENDS project

*Furthering International Relations Capacities and Intercultural Engagement to Nurture Campus Diversity and to Support Internationalisation at home*

- launched by 5 European and 12 Asian HEIs
- built around the concept of internationalisation at home (IaH)
- virtual mobility and on-campus intercultural engagement shall promote intercultural competences and understanding of non-mobile students
- non-mobile students have the opportunity to improve their global skills and cooperate with students from Europe/ Asia



# Concluding Remarks

- Virtual mobility has the potential to make mobility more accessible, to tailor it to individual needs and hence to increase overall mobility.
- Nevertheless, virtual mobility is not an end in itself. It does not replace the need for physical mobility of people
- virtual mobility requires thorough preparation and commitment of all participating sides/ institutions
- It is important to keep in mind that the technological resources needed for virtual mobility are not yet accessible to everyone.
- **We strongly support the introduction of ‘digitalisation’ as a transversal theme into the AEP**



# Thank you for your kind attention!

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