Task Force on Working Conditions in Neoliberal Academia

Mission Statement

ECREA hereby declares its utmost interest in establishing the Task Force on Working Conditions in Neoliberal Academia.

Social, political and economic changes of the recent decades imbued academic institutions with the values entrenched in academic capitalism and neoliberalism. Universities are ever more managed as performance-oriented corporations which has far-reaching consequences for working conditions in academia – starting from the detrimental impact on social security of its workers and going to disruption of its intellectual ambience. The academics are often facing teaching overload, precarious work conditions such as work on short-term/part-time contracts or underpaid jobs leading to cumulation of contracts, appeals to self-exploitation and self-marketing or pressures to publish unrealistic quantity of research outputs in a short period of time.

The measures sketched above have deleterious effects especially on the categories of academic workers who are disprivileged or disadvantaged, such as junior scholars, academic parents, people in frail health condition, etc.

ECREA wishes to initiate and conduct the efforts leading to monitoring of working conditions in academia and produce documents which could serve as a starting point for policy transformations. To this end, ECREA will establish its Working Conditions in Neoliberal Academia Task Force.

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