The following is the list of signatories of the present DECLARATION:

1. Agricultural University of Tirana  
   Location: Albania
2. University of Elbasan  
   Location: Albania
3. Graz University of Technology  
   Location: Austria
4. University of Banja Luka  
   Location: Bosnia and Herzegovina
5. University ‘Džemal Bijedić’ Mostar  
   Location: Bosnia and Herzegovina
6. University of Mostar  
   Location: Bosnia and Herzegovina
7. University of Split  
   Location: Croatia
8. University of Zadar  
   Location: Croatia
9. Juraj Dobrila University of Pula  
   Location: Croatia
10. Technological Educational Institute of Epirus  
    Location: Greece
11. University of Ioannina  
    Location: Greece
12. Ionian University  
    Location: Greece
13. University of Patras  
    Location: Greece
14. University of Bologna  
    Location: Italy
15. University of Camerino  
    Location: Italy
16. Technical University of Marche  
    Location: Italy
17. University of Trieste  
    Location: Italy
18. University of Udine  
    Location: Italy
19. University of Urbino  
    Location: Italy
20. University of Campania  
    Location: Italy
21. University of Genoa  
    Location: Italy
22. University of Foggia  
    Location: Italy
23. University of Insbruck  
    Location: Italy
24. University of Modena and Reggio Emilia  
    Location: Italy
25. University of Naples  
    Location: Italy
26. University of Piemonte Orientale  
    Location: Italy
27. University of Teramo  
    Location: Italy
28. University of Palermo  
    Location: Italy
29. University of Milano-Bicocca  
    Location: Italy
30. University of Tuscia  
    Location: Italy
31. University of Venice Ca’ Foscari  
    Location: Italy
32. International School for Advanced Studies  
    Location: Italy
33. L’Orientale University of Naples  
    Location: Italy
34. IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca  
    Location: Italy
35. University of Montenegro  
    Location: Montenegro
36. University of Oradea  
    Location: Romania
37. University Politehnica of Bucharest  
    Location: Romania
38. West University of Timisoara  
    Location: Romania
39. University of Arts in Belgrade  
    Location: Serbia
40. University of Belgrade  
    Location: Serbia
41. University of Niš  
    Location: Serbia
42. University of Novi Sad  
    Location: Serbia
43. Alexander Dubček University of Trenčín  
    Location: Slovakia
44. Comenius University in Bratislava  
    Location: Slovakia
45. University of Maribor  
    Location: Slovenia
46. University of Primorska  
    Location: Slovenia
47. University of Nova Gorica  
    Location: Slovenia

Youth Forum 11-12 July, Trieste, ITALY
The undersigned share the belief in the importance of their role as bridges of transnational dialogue, cooperation and peace by promoting higher education, research and wider social engagement.

The signatories believe:

- they are powerful leverage for advancing and enhancing the process of democratization, the culture of deliberation and tolerance. They foster European Integration in the interest of South East Europe, as well as of the EU;
- they play a key role in support of civil society. With their broader educational activities, they encourage young generations to produce innovation, develop critical thinking, acquire transversal skills as global citizens and competences in democratic practice;
- they strongly contribute to impacting on personal and public welfare, as well as on the job market, whether it be public, private or nongovernmental.

Moreover, the signatories recognize:

- they promote regional cooperation in a variety of forms, through the mobility of students, lecturers and staff; through joint programs; summer and winter schools; through the transfer of know-how and best practices;
- the relevance of an EU inclusive strategy.

Consequently, the signatories advocate for two specific actions expressly designed for South East Europe, based on positive discrimination and a more intense focus on non-EU countries.

1. An Erasmus+ program specifically designed for this region:

- The governments of the Berlin process should fully endorse, in addition to existing financial tools and the Erasmus+ program, the establishment of specific funds aimed at stimulating inter-regional cooperation in PhD courses, higher education and joint research.
- The establishment of an SEE Erasmus program for inter-regional mobility is vitally important to facilitate not only the predominant current mobility along the East-West axis, but also within the SEE region. This double dimension of cooperation will be valuable for improving mutual interaction, knowledge and empathy; at the same time, it will be helpful to introduce new methodologies to the benefit of high quality doctoral programs with internationally recognized professors and appropriate infrastructures.
- Double mobility at EU and regional levels will have additional positive effects where mutual recognition of diplomas and sequences (semesters) of HE is implemented. Whenever this is not (yet) the case, these processes will be pushed forward to open mutual diploma recognition.

2. Programs that assist multidirectional networking of the Universities:

- Consistent with the previous approach, investments in programs that assist networking between Universities will reinforce opportunities for cooperation within the SEE. This is equally true of cooperation within Uniadrion (which refers to the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region), the DRC (which refers to the HE institutions of the Danubian macro-region), and the Universities of the Berlin Process countries.
- The aim is also to strengthen cohesion between University networks and the networks with both cities and enterprises. This would enhance joint actions for long-distance LLL and a more intense interdisciplinary effectiveness between the hard sciences, social sciences, and humanities.
- These activities might become the core of a successful HE contribution to the development of social and cultural dialogue, social inclusion and cohesion. This would be perfectly in keeping with the ideas of the EU founding fathers and would foster the education of modern, democratic and socially responsible new generations.

In conclusion, the signatories call for:

- an intensive regional collaboration strategy involving universities
- the establishment of a specific Erasmus program specifically designed for the Berlin process countries
- support to programs assisting multidirectional networking of the Universities in the region.