



Wednesday 22 April 2015

For Immediate Release

### **Universities unite in one minute silence against violence**

The European University Association (EUA) has called on all European universities to unite in solidarity for the victims of Garissa University College in Kenya and all those affected by other attacks on universities and in support of university values around the world.

Universities across Europe are invited to observe

#### **a one minute's silence on Monday, 27 April 2015 (12:00 CET)**

in remembrance of the 147 students killed at Garissa on 2 April 2015.

In keeping with its endorsement of the principles of the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, EUA calls on universities across Europe and beyond to condemn all forms of violence against education.

EUA further appeals to the international community to take action to protect universities from attacks and prevent them from happening in the future.

Lesley Wilson, Secretary General of EUA said:

"While the events in Garissa stand out in their barbarity, we draw attention to the appalling reality that attacks continue to happen every day.

"Attacks on universities, their students and scholars weaken or obliterate academic freedom; have a devastating impact on research, teaching and access to education; and impair society's long-term development. Safeguarding the freedom and safety of universities and university communities is therefore vital in ensuring the advancement of knowledge and the cultural and scientific development of humankind."

ENDS

**What:** One minute's silence in remembrance of victims of attack on education

**Where:** Universities across Europe and EUA HQ in Brussels, Avenue de l'Yser 24

**When:** 27 April, 12:00 (CET)

**Who:** European Universities, students and all staff **and** EUA staff in front of the EUA Secretariat in Brussels, Avenue de l'Yser 24

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*The European University Association, as the representative organisation of both the European universities and the national rectors' conferences, is the main voice of the higher education community in Europe. EUA's mission is to promote the development of a coherent system of European higher education and research.*