



Organisasjon for
Norske Fagskolestudenter



The role of student unions in the development of higher vocational education

Workshop, Chain 5 Annual Conference 2020

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Agenda

- About ONF
- Higher vocational education in Norway
- Political work and alliance building
- Results
- Discussion



Student unions in Norway



1936

2012



About ONF

- National students union for higher vocational education students
- Established in 2012
- 33 member colleges, 13 000 members.
- Purpose: Promote HVE student's interests and student's rights





Organization building

- Recruiting members
- Offices
- Funding
- Statutes
- Political platform



"It's a big misconception. Everyone thinks hell is all fire. Actually, it's all paperwork."



What does ONF do?

- Political work:
 - Public hearings
 - Meetings with members of parliament and government
 - Media
- Resource for HVE students
 - Advise on students' rights



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Alliance building



Labour market
organisations



NHO



Political parties



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Political results





Political results

- Student representation in school boards
- Degree titles
- Credits
- New diplomas



Student welfare

- Lawful right to join student welfare organisations
 - Access to housing
 - Access to student health services
 - Student canteens
 - Day care for children
- Paid parental leave



Group discussion

- How are HVE students interests represented in decision-making at a national level in your home countries?
- What is the state of local student democracy in higher vocational colleges?
- Is it possible to establish a network of HVE student unions in Europe, similar to the European Students Union for other higher education students?