Magna Charta Universitatum was established in 1988 and now its signatories are almost a thousand universities from all over the world. The Observatory is a non-profit organization led by the University of Bologna that acts together with the European University Association (EUA) as an administrator of the agreement and oversees institutional autonomy and academic freedom. In cooperation with member universities, the organization holds joint seminars, workshops or summer schools focused on topics related to current social problems. The grouping also serves as a mediator between university management and political representatives at national and international levels.