ELTE | EDÖK
DOKTORANDUSZ ÖNKORMÁNYZAT

University Doctoral Students Union of Eötvös Loránd University
Report of EDÖK President András Gombás

1 October - 31 October, 2026

Event Calendar

Date	Activity	Participants
2026. 10. 01.	Consultation	Student forum organizers
2026. 10. 02.	Scientific Council	SC members
2026. 10. 05.	Consultation	Zsófia Bányi, President of the EDÖK Supervisory Committee
2026. 10. 05.	Consultation	Student forum organizers
2026. 10. 06.	Consultation	Levente Szemerédi, Presidential Commissioner
2026. 10. 06.	Consultation	InSINC, EHÖK, ISAC, ESN, EDÖK
2026. 10. 07.	Consultation	Zsófia Bányi, President of the EDÖK Supervisory Committee
2026. 10. 07.	What's Next, Higher Education? I.	Student forum organizers and participants
2026. 10. 07.	Quality Assurance Committee	QAC members
2026. 10. 08-09.	HÖOK Electoral General Assembly	HÖOK GA members, DOSZ representatives
2026. 10. 12.	Consultation	Zsófia Bányi, President of the EDÖK Supervisory Committee
2026. 10. 14.	Consultation	Áron Badinszky, Rector's Commissioner
2026. 10. 14.	Educational Organization and Student Affairs Committee	EOSAC members
2026. 10. 14.	PPK DÖK Meeting	PPK DÖK representative candidates
2026. 10. 19.	Consultation	Zsófia Bányi, President of the EDÖK Supervisory Committee
2026. 10. 19.	University Student Social and Scholarship Committee	USSSC members
2026. 10. 19.	University Leadership Meeting	University leaders
2026. 10. 19.	Senate	Senate members
2026. 10. 19.	Consultation	Student forum organizers
2026. 10. 19.	EHÖK Presidency Meeting	EHÖK Presidency members

Date	Activity	Participants
2026. 10. 21.	GTK DÖK Meeting	GTK DÖK representative candidates
2026. 10. 22.	Consultation	ISAC, EDÖK
2026. 10. 29.	Consultation	Lénárd Darázs, Rector
2026. 10. 29.	Doctoral OHV Working Group	MÜI, faculty delegates
2026. 10. 30.	Consultation	Péter Vámosi, DOSZ President
2026. 10. 30.	Consultation	Attila Csomos, DOSZ Presidency member

Detailed Report

National Advocacy

In October, at the invitation of ELTE EHÖK, I attended the Electoral General Assembly of the National Union of Students in Hungary (HÖOK) as a guest, which was hosted at the University of Debrecen. At the HÖOK Board meeting preceding the General Assembly, a decision was made to launch a petition to double the normative student funding as an initiative to support advocacy efforts. The petition received nearly 40,000 signatures in just under a month, so, complemented by the Dokháló petition on increasing doctoral stipends, it can provide sufficient backing for the national advocacy work aimed at raising normative funding. I also shared the petition with ELTE doctoral students, as the student normative funding serves as the source for numerous university and faculty scholarships and grants that doctoral students can apply for on a social or professional basis, meaning that expanding this funding would indirectly increase the resources available to doctoral students as well.

The General Assembly elected the President of the University of Debrecen EHÖK, Kevin Németh, and his cabinet to lead HÖOK with a two-thirds majority; the President of ELTE EHÖK, Anna Dorottya Nagy, and her cabinet fell short with nearly one-third of the votes in the two-candidate election. Following Kevin's election, I suggested to him a closer cooperation with doctoral representations, to which he showed openness.

After the General Assembly, I had the opportunity to consult personally with DOSZ President Péter Vámosi, among others, regarding strategic questions and developments affecting national doctoral advocacy, the upcoming Milestone (Mérföldkő) and Cooperative conferences, and the DOSZ leadership elections.

University Advocacy

Cooperative Doctoral Education, Cooperative Doctoral Program

Through the mandate of the Ministry of Science and Technology, the ELTE Rector's Coordination Center, and the Association of Hungarian PhD and DLA Candidates (DOSZ), I also took on organizational duties on behalf of ELTE EDÖK in realizing the III. Cooperative Doctoral Conference, which is expected to take place at our university on December 1st. Partly due to my indirect initiative, the event's program will include a decision-makers' roundtable where, with the participation of the relevant state secretaries and national decision-makers, there will be an opportunity to directly consult with the sectoral administration about the experiences and new directions of the phased-out cooperative doctoral program and the newly introduced cooperative doctoral education, and to represent our proposals and institutional perspectives to them.

Rector's Directive on AI in Doctoral Studies

The finalization of the Rector's Directive regarding AI usage in doctoral training is still ongoing. In connection with this, I consulted with Rector's Commissioner Áron Badinszky, and we agreed to hold another coordination meeting before the directive takes effect, where we will have the opportunity to review and comment on the finalized draft again.

What's Next, Higher Education? I.

At the joint initiative of ELTE EHÖK and EDÖK, we successfully organized the first session of the university-level, open student forum series on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 7th, in the Aula Magna. I performed the main organizational duties together with Presidential Commissioner Levente Szemerédi. At our initiative, the format of the forum became an interactive panel discussion to create a framework suitable for genuine collective thinking even with a large audience, for which small-group workshop methods would no longer be appropriate. Although only a small number of students attended the event, we were pleased to see a remarkably high proportion of doctoral students among the participants, from whom we received valuable feedback following the event.

Drawing on our experiences, we started organizing the second session of the forum series for November 13th, for which Sándor Katz, State Secretary for Higher Education, has already accepted our invitation. During the organization, I am also handling the liaison tasks with the ministry alongside Anita Kaderják, Head of the Department for Participation. Through this, we are gradually managing to establish direct communication channels for EDÖK with the new sectoral administration, which can be useful during future advocacy and interest representation work.

MAB Accreditation of Doctoral Schools

This month, the Hungarian Accreditation Committee (MAB) Board adopted the accreditation decisions and cluster-based reports for ELTE's doctoral schools. All our doctoral schools were accredited until 2031, but with a few exceptions, the majority of our doctoral schools must participate in a monitoring procedure until 2028 due to the establishment and necessary correction of partial compliance with accreditation criteria. I had the opportunity to consult personally with Rector Lénárd Darázs regarding the report and the university's strategic and quality management goals and tools, and I also initiated a joint reflection with the faculty DÖK representations on the role of the MAB reports, the substantive processing of which is expected to be the main task of the next student union cycle. Both the decisions and the reports are publicly available on the MAB website.

Faculty-Level Advocacy

Regular Representative Elections

Following the closure of the exceptionally successful nomination period, we published the candidates' photos and introductions, and then the voting period for the faculty DÖK representative elections also successfully started in the second half of October. During the introduction period between nomination and voting, and thereafter, I attended faculty DÖK meetings at two faculties. Overall, however, there has been little personal interaction with the candidates so far, so we need to focus on this more prominently at the university level going forward. The Supervisory Committee sends a weekly reminder circular to doctoral students regarding the voting, but it is foreseeable that the voting period will need to be extended at several faculties to ensure we surpass the 25% validity threshold at every faculty. I regularly consulted with Zsófia Bányi, President of the Supervisory Committee, regarding the operational tasks related to the elections.

Information Dissemination

Faculty DÖK Mailing Lists

Through the newly created faculty DÖK mailing lists established at the beginning of the semester, I was able to directly communicate the news of the student forums, the representative applications, an NKFIH gender equality survey, and the HÖOK petition to all doctoral students in October. In the next student union cycle, I also see it as necessary to place the order and practice of the central and faculty use of the mailing lists on a jointly determined, strategic foundation, so that alongside ad hoc usage possibilities, we ensure a predictable, regular, and appropriately formatted flow of information to the students.

Community

Faculty DÖK Meetings

In addition to the student forums, I had the opportunity to attend faculty DÖK meetings during this period, where I was able to join valuable personal conversations, even if only with a small number of people. Together with Presidential Commissioner Levente Szemerédi, we have started planning a post-election EDÖK meeting, which can provide support for the community-

building activities of the faculty DÖKs and EDÖK, and offer an opportunity to get to know each other, brainstorm together, and share experiences and best practices.

Thank you for reading my report. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or remarks you may have!

Budapest, 4 November, 2026

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