



THOMAS FARNELL

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Thomas Farnell is an analyst, manager and leader with over 20 years of experience in education policy in an international context. His main area of interest is how education can better respond to societal needs through enhanced equity, modernised curricula and engagement with society.

He currently works as a Higher Education Policy Expert at the Institute for the Development of Education, a think-tank based in Zagreb, Croatia. He has recently been coordinating the Croatian Lifelong Learning for All Network, a national network gathering researchers and civil society organisations to develop policy proposals to tackle educational inequality in early childhood, primary, secondary and higher education, as well as adult education. He is also the lead author of a recent report published by the European Commission entitled 'The Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education: A Review of Emerging Evidence' (2021), which includes a chapter on the impact on the social dimension of higher education.

Previously, he coordinated the EUROSTUDENT survey in Croatia, coordinated the development of national policies for students with disabilities and worked on the pan-European project PL4SD – Peer-learning for the social dimension of higher education (2012-2014), which included a country review for Armenia.

He is a member of the European Commission's Network of Experts on the Social Dimension of Education and Training (NESET) a member of the editorial board of the journal Policy Reviews in Higher Education and was previously a member of the Bologna Follow-up Working Group on the Social Dimension of Higher Education (2011-2012).