



NEW YORK COLLEGE
EUROPEAN & AMERICAN EDUCATION

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

2017 - 2019

PART I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive

August 26th, 2019

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to reaffirm that New York College supports the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. Being a member of the UN Global Compact since 2014 and a founding member of the UN Global Compact Network in Greece, our Institution is continuously committed to the enhancement of these principles and takes all necessary actions to ensure that the principles are fully embraced in the education curriculum, the extra-curricular activities and events, as well as in internal operations and procedures.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe into detail the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and promote its Principles for the period 2017 - 2019. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Elias Foutsis

President

PART II. Description of Actions

New York College (NYC) takes continuous action to support and promote the ten principles of the UN Global Compact through two key pylons as specified by the nature of our Institution:

- A. Deliver Education on Topics Related to the UN Global Compact Principles
- B. Incorporate the UN Global Compact principles into Internal Operations

A. Deliver Education on Topics Related to the UN Global Compact Principles

A1. Courses

New York College offers a variety of courses across its study programs that entail and deliver important elements of UN GC principles. Some indicative courses are provided in the table below.

Undergraduate Courses		Graduate Courses
Psychology of Adjustment	Legal environment of Business	Environmental Management
Social & Economic Development	Environmental economics	Foundations of Positive Psychology
Communication among Cultures	International Cross-cultural Management	Critical Positive Psychology
Ethics for a Global Economy	Work & Employment Relationships	Environmental Engineering
European Institutions	Advanced Company Law	Responsible Leadership & Development
International Institutions	Commercial Law	Sustainability in Business Operations
Business Law	Employee Relations & Reward	
Interpersonal Communication	International Business Management	
Social Psychology	Language, Communication & Society	
Conflict and Negotiation	Theories of Human Communication	
Emerging Markets	Western Civilization	
International Political Economy	Other World Civilizations	
Regional Area Studies	Ethnic Conflicts and World Politics	
International Law & Diplomacy	Cultural Differences & the Impact on IRs	
Globalization and World Politics	Africa & Its People*	
Cultural Psychology	Reading Modern Society	
Public Health Nutrition	Nutrition Epidemiology & Health Promotion	
Tourism Development & Public Policy	Sustainable Tourism Management	
Social Law	Doing Business in Emerging Economies	
People & Performance	International Human Resource Management	

* Other electives cover other countries and areas such as Latin America, China, Russia, and the Balkans

In addition, we have introduced two new postgraduate courses that entail important elements of UN GC values and goals:

1. MSc in Crisis Management in Health Sector (in collaboration with the University of Bolton)

The MSc in Crisis Management in the Health Sector program, designed in cooperation with the Hellenic Association of Crisis Management (HACM) provides a solid grounding in the major issues of crisis and security in the health sector in today's complex and globalized world. The combination of theory, practical insights and analytical skills prepares students for work in public or private organizations. Some key aspects that are covered by the program course schedule include: strategic management of crisis and disaster in the health sector, management of public health emergencies, armed conflicts and terrorism, health crises in schools, tourism sector and pharmaceutical industries, communication crisis management in the health sector.

2. MSc in International Economic Law (in collaboration with Toulouse University)

The key aim of the program is to develop focused knowledge and understanding of the principles, techniques and methods of International Economic Law based on the rules of law, case law analysis and practical examples. Enrolled students will be able to enhance their knowledge, experience and skills and to pursue further study in PhD and professional development in the field of International Economic Law and the specific topics involved in the program. The course focuses heavily on important aspects such as business compliance with regulation, corporate social responsibility, corporate ethics and reputation risk, property rights, Law of the European Convention and Human Rights, Law of International Human Rights Protection, Labour law and employees' rights.

A2. Research

Our College offers MPhil and PhD Degrees in collaboration with the University of Bolton. The research topics that we can support include UN GC - related subjects such as: community studies, health & well-being, renewable energy and environmental technology.

A3. Events

Each academic year, NYC organizes or participates in various events and activities that promote UN GC values and principles. These events are free of charge and staff, students and alumni are encouraged to participate, but often the events are open to the public as well. Important aspects such as social inclusion, cultural understanding, human rights, well-being and environmental responsibility are communicated during these events. An indicative list is provided below.

Event Type & Date	Event Topic and Brief Summary
Workshop, NYC Campus, October 2017	<p>Strategies and Interventions to Support Students with Learning Difficulties</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Kostas Ntinis, Special Educator, PhD Supervisor, University of Bolton & NYC</p> <p><i>The aim of this staff development workshop was to highlight strategies and interventions to support students with learning difficulties, help participants get a deeper understanding of their needs, and examine the impact of learning difficulties on their self-esteem and emotional stability.</i></p>
Workshop, NYC Campus, January 2018	<p>Psychology and Aviation Psychology: Bridging the Gap through Risk Perception</p> <p>Speaker: Dimitris Chionis, PhD candidate (University of Bolton)</p> <p><i>Participants were introduced to the basic concepts of Aviation Psychology and Human Factors, and they reflected on everyday decision-making and special hazards through scenarios demonstrated via a flight simulator.</i></p>
Visit, May 2018	<p>Students Visit to the Center for the Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind, Thessaloniki, Greece</p> <p><i>The key objective of the visit was to increase awareness on education for special needs in an inclusive environment, and fully understand issues and problems of people with visual impairments.</i></p>
Participation in Conference, September 2018	<p>1st International HAPA Conference, Hellenic American Psychiatric Association, Athens</p> <p><i>NYC Psychology Department Staff participated in the conference and had the chance to get informed on a variety of issues regarding the mental health professions. Among others, the conference focused on the growing international migration crisis, discussed on the importance of training for those working with humanitarian organizations, as well as on recent research findings concerning the mental needs of the refugees.</i></p>
Participation in Conference, November 2018	<p>BALEAP PIM Conference on Intercultural Communication & English for Academic Purposes (EAP), Nottingham Trent University</p> <p>Lecture Topic: Intercultural Competencies for Teaching in an Internationalised Higher Education Environment</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Kyriaki Kouraki, Lecturer of EAP, Academic Writing & Translation Studies, NYC</p> <p><i>The rapid change in the profile of higher education within an increasingly globalized and internationalized world constitutes new challenges both for teachers and learners. This is the case especially when working on English for Academic Purposes (EAP) university courses with students and colleagues from all over the world who bring a broad range of cultural perspectives. Within this context, it is rather important for EAP professionals to become aware of intercultural differences even within concepts of teaching and learning and subsequently (further) develop those competencies which will help to overcome the possible obstacles erected by intercultural differences. Concepts like ‘culture’, ‘stereotyping’, and ‘intercultural communication skills’ were discussed, while raising the awareness of the importance for these skills.</i></p>

<p>Lecture, NYC campus, December 2018</p>	<p>Ameresco: A World Leader in Energy Saving</p> <p>Speaker: Panagiotis – Peter Kontis, Country Manager, Ameresco</p> <p><i>The country manager of Ameresco in Greece informed attendants about important aspect such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, green infrastructure and sustainable solutions.</i></p>
<p>Participation in Conference, March 2019</p>	<p>Campaign against Bullying in the School Environment, Thessaloniki Bar Association (under the Auspice of the President of the Hellenic Democracy)</p> <p>Lecture topic: Bullying in schools, affected and involved parties.</p> <p>Speakers: Kyriaki Chranta, MSc in Clinical Psychology, Lecturer of Psychology NYC, and NYC students</p> <p>Ms. Chranta and several NYC students (Thessaloniki campus) provided several facts about bullying in schools, and highlighted the severity of the consequences, as well as the responsibilities of the bystanders.</p>
<p>Lecture, NYC campus, March 2019</p>	<p>Mahatma Gandhi: The Global Citizen by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna, Chief Functionary, Gandhian Forum for Ethical Corporate Governance, Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE), India</p> <p><i>The lecture focused on the figure of Mahatma Gandhi, his leadership paradigm and the characteristics that constituted him a citizen of the world.</i></p>
<p>Presentation, NYC campus, April 2019</p>	<p>Prince’s Trust International Enterprise Programme in Greece, Implemented by Corallia Research Institute and Action Finance Initiative in Greece</p> <p>Speakers: Prof. Vassilis Makios, Head of Corallia, Dr. Jorge Sanchez, Strategy and Finance Director of Corallia, Prince’ Trust International Entrepreneurship Program Coordinator in Greece, Thanos Modanos, Responsible for the Development of Business Activities and Micro-Finance Credit in Action Finance Initiative (AFI)</p> <p><i>NYC students received information about opportunities for supervision, consulting and funding opportunities for starting their own company. The key aims of the program are promotion of creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship, access to funding (micro-finance), and reduction of unemployment.</i></p>

B. Internal Operations

NYC offers transnational education through its partner universities in the USA (State University of New York, Empire State College) and Europe (University of Bolton, University of Greenwich and Université Toulouse 1 Capitole). Thus, important concepts such as cross-cultural understanding, openness, familiarity with international and European standards and practices in education constitute integral parts of our operation. As stated in our strategic plan, *“Offering well-rounded education accessible to everyone regardless of their background”* in a core value of the College. According to the latest statistics (academic year 2018-19), international students comprise 17% of the total student body. These characteristics create an environment that embraces and welcomes different cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, respects differences and promotes social inclusion and equal opportunities.

In our recently revised strategic plan, the promotion of community engagement values and social responsibility has become one of the top commitments:

Commitment: *“Enhance students’ community feeling and well-being and cultivate social values.”*

Actions: *(i) establish social and environment clubs, (ii) promote extra-curricular and sports activities, (iii) encourage faculty to organize and supervise relevant activities, (iv) inform and encourage our alumni to participate in various activities.*

NYC’s participation and commitment to respect and promote UN GC principles is evident, explicitly or implicitly, within all documents that define internal operations: strategic plan, operations manual, instructors’ manual, HR policies, general student handbook and quality assurance manual. Regulations and procedures are aligned with the Greek and the European Law, protect the rights of staff and students, and ensure equal opportunities, social inclusion, transparency and integrity. A detailed disciplinary policy is available for cases where rights and good practices are violated (academic ethics misconduct for example).

PART III: MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

1. UN Global Compact principles and values are constantly reflected on the provided undergraduate and graduate courses of study offered by NYC and the partner universities, as well as on the organized events and activities. It is estimated that about 80% of the enrolled students have received (or will be receiving) UN GC principles-related education through their course of study. The College constantly adds new courses and revises the existing ones in order to achieve 100% coverage soon.

2. Constant effort is made to communicate NYC participation in UN Global Compact initiative, and disseminate its principles to internal and external stakeholders:

a. NYC added the UN Global Compact logo with a link to its website on the College's website, whereas various announcements are posted through our social media network. Internal operational documents clearly highlight NYC's alignment with core values and business practices with regards to human and labor rights, environmentally responsible behavior, and financial sustainability and transparency.

b. In January 2019, The President of New York College, Dr. Elias Foutsis, attended and signed the founding agreement of Global Compact Network Hellas as an independent legal entity. New York College became a founding member of Global Compact Network in Greece.

3. Extra-curricular activities such as bazaars and donations have been organized to enhance students' feelings of contribution to the society and awareness. NYC has declared its support and respect to the "Ark of the World" and it has developed a scholarship program to students with financial or family issues. In May 2018, NYC received an award by Equal Society, an NGO in Greece promoting equal opportunities, access to education, reduction of social exclusion and poverty, for College's socially responsible behavior and commitment to ensure accessible education.