

Statement of the OBESSU Board in support of American students' protests

The Organising Bureau of European School Student Union's (OBESSU) commends the students of the USA taking part in #NationalSchoolWalkout for their bravery and dedication to enact change in their society. OBESSU fully supports this student-led movement and American students' right to assemble and be a part of decision-making in American legislation.

OBESSU represents millions of school students across 24 European countries. Acting as the umbrella body for European national student unions, OBESSU has fought for the rights of school students for over 40 years. The ["Declaration of School Student Rights"](#), a fundamental document of OBESSU, states that "civil rights must apply to all school students", including the right to learn and to safety ([Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)). The right to participation, and to be involved in the decision making processes in all matters concerning education, must be guaranteed by legislation. As this is not the case, OBESSU wishes to show its solidarity to American students in the fight for this.

At 10a.m. on Friday 20th April students across the USA walked out of their classes in over 2,600 locations to protest the lack of action taken by legislators after repeated gun violence in US schools. This followed the "March for Our Lives" protests on March 24th, where 1.4 million people marched in 800 locations for change in legislation. The students of Europe stand with American students in their fight to be recognised and included in decision making, and for a safer school environment for all.

OBESSU Board