

**24 April 2015**

**Universities in Europe commemorate the terror victims in Kenya**

On 2 April 2015, 147 students were killed and at least 78 people injured in a terrorist attack on Garissa University College in Kenya. To commemorate the victims of this attack, the European University Association (EUA) has called upon European universities to hold a minute's silence next Monday, 27 April, at 12 noon.

In Berlin, Professor Dr. Horst Hippler, the President of the German Rectors' Conference, appealed to the German universities to join in this commemoration.

The EUA **declared** that every attack on education was an attack on the fundamental values of free speech, tolerance and independence. "The terror attack in Kenya is shocking and an act of despicable barbarity," said Prof. Hippler, speaking in Berlin. "We wish to offer the families and friends of the victims our deepest sympathy."

Attacks on educational establishments such as universities have a particularly devastating effect on the climate and long-term development of society, he continued. "They can deter people from studying and learning in freedom and safety and thus helping their nation to flourish. The world and the international academic community especially must stand together against this."