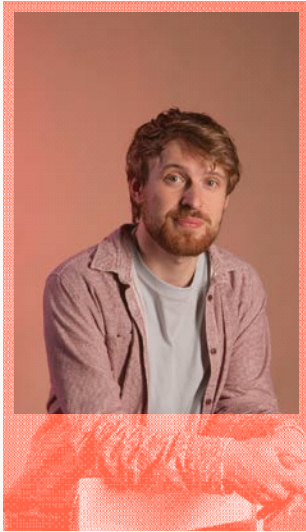




hoilá, seas, ciao, moikka, hej!

My name is Daniel Schiechl, a third year MA Contemporary Design student at the School of ARTS. This letter is for you, dear new RepCo members, to express my interest in applying for the Aalto University Student Union Board 2026. My focus lies on the portfolios of educational policy and communications.

Two years of volunteering at Aalto has been an adventure filled with joy, frustration, and reflection. I found a community dedicated to collaboration and cross-disciplinary learning. This sense of we, the belief that we build up Aalto together, lets me believe in an accessible, inclusive community that listens to concerns and works across disciplines to empowers students, researchers, and teachers alike.

At TOKYO, the Guild of the School of ARTS, I learned to lead through listening, uncovering sometimes hidden roots of issues, and supporting people in navigating challenges. Serving first as chairperson, and another year in advocacy, educational policy and advisor to the new board, deepened my commitment to empower others to carve their own paths and rethink the status quo, while respecting diverse perspectives.

Student culture changes and financial pressure increases while members feel increasingly disconnected from the student union. Both students and teachers face pressure to perform and see studies as a factory line. The current focus on KPIs and short-term fixes for old known problems the European promise of holistic education and weakening teaching quality.

I want to continue advocating for an educational policy and communication that strengthens Aalto's cross-disciplinary idea by hold the university by its words: a "radically creative" curriculum that prepares students for a future of political uncertainty, looming AI and climate change.

Believing that my experience gained in both ARTS and AYY as part of the Student Union Board of 2026 helps to shape our studies with head, heart, and hands in unison.

With warm regards,
Daniel Schiechl