

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN THE EHEA

ANNA GOVER, ENQA DIRECTOR

OCTOBER 2024

enqa.

GENERAL QA TRENDS IN THE EHEA

- Shift from programme to institutional level QA – most systems used a mixed approach
- Maturity of (many) internal and external QA systems
- Quality assurance of variety of educational approaches – online/blended provision, flexible learning pathways, micro-credentials
- Increased pressure on QA to cover many broader topics
- Renewed impetus for cross-border HE and cross-border QA
- Attention to links between QA and recognition – to make automatic recognition a reality

WHERE DO WE STAND?

- ESG as the EHEA framework for quality assurance
- QA in line with ESG is a key commitment of the Bologna Process
- Other QA commitments include:
 - Use of the European Approach for the Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes
 - Allowing HEIs to use an EQAR-registered agency for their external QA, while respecting national arrangements for decision-making on QA outcomes
- ESG authors have mandate to revise the ESG for approval by EHEA ministers in 2027

**ESG: Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA*

**EHEA: European Higher Education Area*

**EQAR: European Quality Assurance Register*

ESG: A SUCCESS STORY

- Strong stakeholder agreement that
 - The ESG are important and needed
 - The purposes and principles are important and still relevant
- Factors that underpin the success of the ESG
 - Stakeholder owned and driven
 - Applicability in diversity of contexts
 - Success breeds success

KEY ISSUES FOR THE ESG REVISION



- Evolution rather than revolution
- Maintain applicability in diverse contexts and explore areas of unclarity
- Ensure relevance in international contexts for IQA and EQA
- Situate learning and teaching in the broader context
- Future-proof: balance current issues with long term relevance
- Part 1: digitalisation, diversity of learners and staff, flexible learning pathways, links with other institutional missions, transversal topics (...)
- Part 2: flexibility in QA methodologies while maintaining sufficient accountability (...)

RESOURCES

Material from the [QA-FIT project](#) (Including papers mapping the state of play and perspectives for the future, a policy brief and webinar recordings)

Information about the [ESG revision](#)

ENQA [Briefing Note](#) on the Bologna Process

www.enqa.eu

www.enqa.eu
@ENQAtwt

THANK
YOU

enqa.