

Terms of Reference of the Advisory Group on Social Dimension (AG 1)

<p>Name of the Advisory Group Advisory Group on Social Dimension</p>
<p>Contact persons (Co-Chairs) Ninoslav Šćukanec Schmidt – Croatia (nscukanec@iro.hr) Robert Napier – ESU (robert.napier@esu-online.org)</p>
<p>Composition Austria, Belgium Flemish Community, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark – National Union of Students, EI-IE, ESU, EUA, European Commission, Eurostudent (technical expert), Germany, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom, United Kingdom (Scotland).</p>
<p>Overarching Aim The overarching aim is to develop proposed instruments and policies to fulfil the objective in the Paris Communiqué and to support national plans and strategies aimed at strengthening social dimension of higher education, as well as to improve access and completion by under-represented and vulnerable groups.</p>
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To develop a common understanding of the concept of social dimension within the BFUG. ➤ To develop proposed principles and guidelines for the social dimension of higher education within the EHEA and to submit these, through the BFUG, to the 2020 Ministerial conference for adoption. ➤ To gather and examine data on good practices in the field of social dimension, drawing on previously agreed commitments and existing data. ➤ To explore the scope for EHEA cooperation to strengthen the social dimension of higher education. ➤ To begin working on Peer Learning Activities within the Social Dimension sphere.
<p>Reference to the Paris Communiqué</p> <p><i>“We call on the BFUG to submit proposals in time for our 2020 meeting in order to enable higher education to fully play its role in meeting the challenges faced by our societies.”</i></p> <p><i>“We recognise that further effort is required to strengthen the social dimension of higher education. In order to meet our commitment that the student body entering and graduating from European higher education institutions should reflect the diversity of Europe’s populations, we will improve access and completion by under-represented and vulnerable groups. Therefore, we mandate the BFUG to take this issue forward by the next EHEA Ministerial conference.”</i></p>



Federal Ministry
Education, Science
and Research



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER

Reporting

Minutes of working group meetings will be made available online to the BFUG by the BFUG Secretariat. The BFUG Secretariat, at the request of the AG Chairs, may circulate relevant updates to the AG members by email.

The BFUG shall also receive regular reports and updates from the group. To ensure good communication with the BFUG as a whole and for the necessary consultations, progress reports shall be submitted at least two weeks before each BFUG meeting.

Draft meeting schedule:

The content and timeline of the meetings will be discussed amongst the co-chairs and the members of this Advisory Group, however, the following can be seen as a draft schedule:

1. Governance (setting up group) - February 2019
 - Outline what should be achieved under each objective
2. Collect data and map the way forward - April 2019
 - Gather and examine data
 - Outline how this can be converted into workable/feasible goals and concrete reference points
3. Draft - July 2019
 - Compose a first draft based on analysed data gathered during the previous meeting
4. Amendments - October 2019
 - Proposal of amendments of the draft which are in line with the objectives of the working group
5. Final document - February 2020
 - Agree on the finalisation of the document which will be presented to the BFUG before the next Ministerial Conference in Rome
 - Analyse the work of the group and make a recommendation on its future