



Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ministry of Civil Affairs

Task Force on Enhancing Knowledge Sharing in EHEA

Fifth meeting, Online*

16 February 2023

14.00-17.00 (CET)

Minutes of meeting

List of participants

Country	Name	Surname
Albania (Co-Chair)	Bizena	Bijo
CIMEA	Teresa Morales	De la Fuente
EI - ETUCE	Petri	Mantysaari
ENQA	Elena	Cirlan
ESU	Iris	Kimizoglu
EUA	Michael	Gaebel
EURASHE	Stéphane	Lauwick
European Commission	Pauline	Ravinet
Germany	Tim	Maschuw
Italy	Ann Katherine	Isaacs
Italy	Vera	Lucke
Malta	Adam	Liwak
The Netherlands	Robert	Wagenaar
Romania (Co-Chair)	Daniela Cristina	Ghițulică
United Kingdom	John	Reilly
Expert (Guest)	Andra	Diaconescu
BFUG Secretariat	Edlira	Subashi
BFUG Secretariat	Enis	Fita

Belgium Flemish Community did not attend the meeting.

1. Welcome by the Co-Chairs

The Co-Chairs welcomed participants to the fifth Task Force (TF) meeting. The new Albanian Co-Chair, Ms. Bizena Bijo, was introduced and emphasized her commitment to continuing with the program of work set out for the task force. A tour de table followed, during which all participants introduced themselves and explained their respective roles within the institutions/bodies they represented, as well as the two IN-Global experts, Ms. Elena Cirlan and Ms. Andra Diaconescu, who will support the work of TF, as mentioned in the Action Plan. Ms. Cirlan gave a brief introduction highlighting her future role as a Higher Education (HE) expert. Ms. Diaconescu informed that she will be the Communication expert, responsible for the visibility component. The agenda of the meeting was adopted without changes.

For more detailed information, please see [TF Enhancing Knowledge SE BA 5 Agenda](#)

2. Update from the IN-GLOBAL project

Vera Lucke (IN-GLOBAL) provided an update on the progress of the project, highlighting that the project website is in its final stages of development, with plans to include an agenda of BFUG and stakeholder events, along with other events outside the EHEA. The website will also feature project outcomes and will be linked from the EHEA and CIMEA websites. The visual identity of IN-GLOBAL has been presented, including the logo, and Ms. Lucke presented a current outline of the website, with plans to make it available as soon as possible. Feedback and comments from members were encouraged. Members were also introduced to the [SharePoint space](#), which will be used for document sharing and collaboration. Social media platforms will be utilized to promote BFUG and EHEA events.

Contact lists have been drafted for national and international HE stakeholders and agencies for promotion of HE systems. An expert on EHEA and data analysis, Mr. Colin Tück, has been subcontracted to create a questionnaire for stakeholders to gauge their perception of the Bologna Process. A questionnaire for stakeholders outside the EHEA will also be sent out. Mr. Tück will write a report on the stakeholders' perception, which is expected to be finalized in Autumn 2023.

Two experts will draft an EHEA Toolkit for Bologna events and how to facilitate the promotion at national and international level of the vision and actions of the EHEA, including ideas of topics and formats, as well as draft recommendations on a practical communication strategy for national and cross-border activities. Other project activities will include reports on mobility flows, focus group meetings to explore good practices, and involvement of different stakeholders in project activities.

During the meeting, a question was raised about the impact of mobility flows on promotion. It was explained that the mobility flow activity is part of the IN-GLOBAL project and may be used by the TF in its work if considered useful. It was also suggested to link EUA's Trends survey to contribute to the picture of how stakeholders perceive Bologna Process, as well as ESU's survey on this theme.

Finally, it was announced that the next TF meeting is planned to be held in Rome on 5 April, with travel and accommodation reimbursed by the IN-GLOBAL project according to the project's amount, with more information to be provided at a later stage through email.

For more detailed information, please see [IN-GLOBAL project: Overview and update](#)

3. Discussion of the action plan implementation

A revised version of the Action Plan was distributed to the members based on the comments received and discussions in the last meeting. The Action Plan specify who participate in addition to the TF members, by emphasizing the respective experts or project consortium. Some activities do not require the support of experts, so contributions from all members are required. Members were advised to specify which activities they will take part in, and it was suggested to assign a coordinator for each activity to oversee the status of implementation.

Daniela Cristina Ghitulica (Co-Chair) provided an outline of the activities.

3.1. Activity 1¹

The first activity will develop recommendations for BFUG members, including practical and hands-on guidance to encourage the academic community's active involvement in sharing

¹ Development of recommendations for BFUG members, including practical and hands-on guidance, destined to encourage active involvement of the academic community in the sharing of knowledge about the present and future goals of the EHEA and exploring collaborative ways to address them.

knowledge about the present and future goals of the EHEA and exploring collaborative ways to address them. Preliminary activities were described for drafting the recommendations.

On the analysis of stakeholders' perception survey, it was discussed whether it will be sent only to the BFUG consultative members or other external stakeholders too. Further, the TF could send a questionnaire to BFUG consultative members first and then think about different types of stakeholders to send it to, based on the desired survey response rate.

Additionally, it was suggested to get the pulse of the community outside the BFUG and stakeholders, as well as to discuss how to communicate Bologna and collaborate with stakeholders in the BFUG. It was also proposed to have a mapping of how it is organized in different countries. The HE expert and IN-GLOBAL project coordinator will provide assistance in analyzing existing good practices, tools, and projects related to EHEA.

A suggestion was made to break down the recommendations into more technical details so that members are more aware of how they will contribute.

Finally, it was decided contact the BFUG co-chairs in order to include a breakout session in the program of the next BFUG meeting in May 2023. This it would entail to develop a concept paper with questions to be discussed, collecting feedback, and producing a report. The aim is to collect best practices and what countries do to disseminate information. The report also suggests looking at CG activities for inspiration for future events and considering studying mobility flow as it may be informative.

3.2. Activity 2²

It was discussed that the communication expert will be drafting some scenarios based on input from the members. The group agreed to decide on different topics to be tackled and provide some text as a starting point for the communication expert to develop the scenarios. These scenarios will then be used by any country interested in developing similar materials. Additionally, the project consortium was tasked with assembling materials that are inspiring than just written scenarios.

3.3. Activity 3³

The Communication expert would create a concept that can serve as a blueprint for the development of materials by different countries. Additionally, it was informed that the project "[Bologna Hub Peer Support II](#)", coordinated by DAAD, held a kick-off meeting with the aim of disseminating information about the peer support procedure. The project consortium plans to produce three podcasts, with the first one being produced after the first counseling phase by the end of the year. It was suggested to arrange a meeting to discuss how the project's input can be utilized by the TF.

3.4. Activity 4⁴

The communication expert and the HE expert will work together to create a concept for an annex to the recommendations report for Activity 1. United Kingdom representative will be involved in this activity and Romanian Co-Chair will take the lead as the coordinator.

² Development of dissemination tools as videos and messages with EHEA visual identity, to be broadcasted at the national/regional level and used for awareness-raising Development of dissemination tools as videos and messages with EHEA visual identity, to be broadcasted at the national/regional level and used for awareness-raising.

³ Series of TV/radio reportages/podcasts on topics related to the Bologna process.

⁴ Development of guidelines for the BFUG members to organize events, at national, regional or international level, including ideas of topics and formats.

3.5. Activity 5⁵

It was stated that the TF members are responsible for developing a concept for events related to the Bologna Process, and no expert support will be received for this activity. The Co-Chairs mentioned that if the events are related to the BFUG meetings, they will have to communicate with the BFUG Chairs and organize the sessions accordingly. Albania was been designated as the coordinator for this activity, with the involvement of the BFUG Secretariat.

3.6. Activity 6⁶

The communication expert will develop a proposal to make such changes with regards to the EHEA website. Also, an idea was proposed to setup social media accounts.

Close cooperation with the Secretariat was highlighted, to see how big these changes can be. It was advised to check the website, for easier access to past papers and make them easily reachable or accessible. A better search engine was proposed, and it was advised to focus on improving the technical side. The Deputy Head of Secretariat informed that a request for a new call for the IT company has been made by the Secretariat and a company should be hired by end March.

Albania will coordinate this activity, and EI/ETUCE and ESU would join too.

3.7. Activity 7⁷

It was announced that Albania will be in charge of coordinating this activity. In addition, a member raised a question regarding potential regional organizations that could be involved, and an example was given that organizations in the Balkans could be considered.

3.8. Activity 8⁸

The members discussed the guidance for activating Bologna experts' networks and for starting national and local level Bologna hubs, as well as collaborating with existing Higher Education Reform Experts (HERE). One suggestion was using an online platform that can be more inclusive than networks. However, it was argued that training, informing people, and having discussions and meetings can be more useful, as proven by the HERE project and past Bologna experts. Receiving political and financial support at the EU level is crucial to reach stakeholders effectively. It was also added that committed and knowledgeable people to reach out and explain in the national and regional contexts are needed, as demonstrated by Bologna promoters and ECTS counsellors before.

To support HE reform experts, a scheme similar to the last HERE has been extended for another six years. This includes national HERE teams in over 20 countries of the Eastern and Southern neighborhood, an annual conference in both online and physical format, and an expert pool to share information and knowledge. It was mentioned that it is essential for students to understand the Bologna process, its purpose and direction. To achieve this, strategies need to be found to align those responsible for education to make reforms real. It was noted that having knowledge points on the benefits of the Bologna process can be helpful in getting political and financial support.

⁵ Developing the concept and organizing sessions and side events during the BFUG meetings, related to the dialogue about the Bologna Process.

⁶ Developing a section within the EHEA website or/and social media destined to specific information for students, teachers, staff, researchers or the general public, which might include a frequently asked questions section.

⁷ Collaborate with other organizations at national/regional level and/or organize common initiatives to promote the Bologna Process and the implementation of the key commitments at national/regional level.

⁸ Guidance for activating Bologna experts' networks and for starting national and local level Bologna hubs, as well as to collaborate with existing Higher Education Reform Experts.

3.9. Activity 9⁹

The creation of a newsletter was discussed, which was initially set to be coordinated by Belgium, although it is uncertain due to the possibility of Belgium representative being replaced. The content for the newsletter would be provided by the Task Force, and the Secretariat would be heavily involved in its creation for publication on the website. There were differing opinions on whether to incorporate the newsletter into existing ones or to have a separate one for increased visibility. It was agreed to wait for input from Belgium before making any adjustments to the plan. Albania was added as a member to provide input and potentially coordinate the activity if Belgium cannot.

Ms. Ghitulica emphasized the importance of the coordinators starting to work on their respective activities and to keep the Co-Chairs informed. She suggested organizing separate meetings for each activity. It was also requested that coordinators report on their progress at the next meeting.

Furthermore, it was revealed that the Drafting Committee solicited input from all the working groups of BFUG for the communique. The Task Force explored the prospect of integrating suggestions that acknowledge the importance of digital communication and requesting BFUG to create a communication strategy, in addition to highlighting the importance of comprehensive consultations.

4. Next meeting

The next meeting was decided to be held for a full day in Rome in 5 April 2023, and more practical information regarding the logistics would be provided by IN-GLOBAL coordinator at a later stage. It was also confirmed that the project would cover the cost of flight tickets and accommodation for the meeting according to the Erasmus+ rules.

No other business was brought forward, therefore, the Co-Chairs thanked everyone for their contribution and the fifth meeting of the TF was concluded.

⁹ Newsletter related to important events and developments within the Bologna process.