



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH



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UPDATE FROM EURASHE

Highlights from EURASHE since the latest meeting of the BFUG in Gozo on 24-25 May 2017

EURASHE is the European Association of Institutions in Higher Education that offer professionally orientated programmes and are engaged in applied research within the Bologna cycles. EURASHE represents universities of applied sciences (UAS) and university colleges; other members of EURASHE are national and sectorial associations of higher education institutions, and other individual institutions, such as universities. EURASHE is highly committed to the Bologna Process and takes part in the advisory groups on 'dealing with non-implementation' and the 'revision of Diploma Supplement', as well as in the working groups on 'implementation' and on 'new goals'. www.eurashe.eu

EURASHE Round Table on work based learning, June 15, 2017, Brussels

Work-based learning and its quality is one of the focus areas for EURASHE. The round table discussions gathered together European higher education experts from different countries and covered the overview of the state of Work-Based Learning in Europe – challenges, good practices and the future role of EURASHE in supporting development and quality assurance of work based learning.

Networking event on modernisation of higher education, June 16, 2017, Brussels

On 16 June 2017 EURASHE organised a 'Networking event on modernisation of higher education' for its members, representatives of European institutions and stakeholders in Brussels. The networking event was followed by EURASHE Summer cocktails. The aim of the networking event was to learn about and to discuss current trends and challenges in higher education at both European and national levels and how could higher education institutions respond to it. The European Commission's presentation updated on a reviewed EU agenda for higher education, followed by overviews of key policy issues for professional higher education in Belgium-Flanders, Ireland, Portugal and Central and South-Eastern European countries. Event [presentation materials](#).

EURASHE UAS Leadership Forum, October 11, 2017, Brussels

EURASHE facilitated its second UAS Leadership Forum, the format that was launched as a platform for mutual sharing of views and experience regarding key strategic issues between presidents, rectors, vice-rectors and general directors of European universities of applied sciences. The 2nd Forum focused on future skills and competences, digitalisation agenda, applied research challenges, their reflection in EC programmes and instruments and emerging priorities for the professional higher education. The discussion benefitted from an input by eminent speakers from DG EAC (Adam Tyson) and DG Research (prof. Maria da Graca Carvalho).

EURASHE Round Table on Teaching & Learning, October 12, 2017, Brussels

The roundtable discussed the teaching and learning issues and analysed the strengths and weaknesses of professional higher education in the area. It contributed to planning next steps on ensuring institutional adaptability to the trends of societal development and timely response. The event was seen as an internal kick-off of a series of further activities reflecting new EURASHE priorities including innovative teaching and learning. [Event website](#)

Workshop on policy towards the Paris Ministerial Conference, October 12, 2017, Brussels

The main objective of the EURASHE workshop on policy towards the Paris Ministerial Conference in Paris was to provide an opportunity for discussion and identification of relevant topics and messages for EURASHE future policy recommendations. The event was one of the first activities within the process geared towards the EURASHE overarching policy paper for the Ministerial conference.

Review of EURASHE's strategy and priority areas

EURASHE has been overviewing its priorities within 2017-2020 strategy development with an input from its internal bodies, the Committee for Strategic Advice with a strong stakeholders' representation and conclusions from various events and consultations. The EURASHE General Assembly approved in October 2017 the overall framework for the final strategy development. It focuses on a role and mission of professional higher education, various aspects of innovative teaching and learning including work-based learning and modern methods of delivery and assessment supporting competence as well as personal development, reflection of digitalisation. It highlights the potential of UAS and other providers of professional higher education in regional engagement, their strategic links to regional partners and stakeholders, as well as further focus on applied research and innovation agenda within the sector. Quality assurance and culture will be promoted by capacity building and peer learning activities. The final strategy is to be approved in spring 2018.

Position paper on the 9th Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP9)

On 17 September EURASHE has published jointly within the UAS4EUROPE network the position paper on the upcoming 9th Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP9), which includes recommendations for the European Commission in order to create an optimal successor programme of Horizon 2020 and accommodate a variety of applied research activities of UASs. [More information](#)

Upcoming events

In the coming months EURASHE will continue to provide support to its members in areas linked to the priorities of the EHEA. This will take the form of, amongst others, the following events:

- Seminar '**Smart solutions for the regions: UAS applied R&I increasing regional cooperation**' will address the applied research and regional cooperation issues, Porto (Portugal), 16-17 November 2017. More information at www.eurashe.eu/events/seminars/rdi-porto
- EURASHE Annual Conference '**Partnerships for a Digital Future – Strategic role of professional higher education for society**', Tallinn, Estonia, 19-20 April 2018 www.eurashe.eu/tallinn

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