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TERMS OF REFERENCE

THE BOLOGNA IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATION GROUP

Name of the Working Group Bologna Implementation Coordination Group (BICG)
Contact persons Members should be nominated before, and confirmed during, the Ministerial Conference. Therefore an invitation for countries/organisations to volunteer for membership has to be launched in time for the Ministerial Conference, and nominations discussed no later than during the last BFUG meeting prior to the Ministerial Conference.
Composition The group should include both representatives nominated by full members and consultative member organisations of the BFUG. Countries and organisations are requested to signal which (one or several) of the thematic peer-support groups they may wish to coordinate. The group should initially (prior to the first meeting of the peer groups) contain ca. 5 members, who will be joined by those chairs who are not already part of the BICG once the peer groups are operational. To aid impartiality, independence and transparency the BICG chair will not be a chair of a peer group. The choice of countries/organisations should aim to represent the geographical diversity of the EHEA and ensure a balance of expertise across all key commitments. To ensure continuity, members should commit themselves for more than one work-period. Ideally there should be a maximum overturn of 2/3 of its members between work-periods.
Purpose and/or outcome The main purpose of the group is to facilitate the support for the implementation of key Bologna commitments through ensuring that countries that are facing challenges in meeting the key commitments are fully supported in taking positive action to improve the situation. The supplementary report to the Bologna Implementation Report, addressing the level of implementation of agreed key commitments, will be used to determine priority issues. The group's work will be guided by the adopted procedure for Support for the implementation of key Bologna commitments. It will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• prepare invitations to join the peer groups, to be sent out by the BFUG Co-chairs;• facilitate the grouping of countries offering or seeking support to peer-groups;• follow-up peer support activities by keeping an overview of the composition and activities of the different groups• prepare regular reports to the BFUG on the progress and effectiveness of the support for the implementation of the key Bologna commitments. The group may also make recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to improve the support for the implementation of key Bologna commitments, including possible adjustment needed to the process between work periods.• to improve the support offered to a specific country.

If a country shows no or insufficient progress as a result of one cycle of the procedure, the group may advise the BFUG how to provide more specific support to address the issue.

If there is no progress after a second cycle, the KCIG prepares a specific report by the BFUG to the Ministerial conference, providing information that can form the basis for a decision on any further steps to be taken.

Reference to the Yerevan Communiqué

- "... implementation of the structural reforms is uneven and the tools are sometimes used incorrectly or in bureaucratic and superficial ways."
- "By 2020 we are determined to achieve an EHEA where our common goals are implemented in all member countries to ensure trust in each other's higher education systems;"
- "Implementing agreed structural reforms is a prerequisite for the consolidation of the EHEA and, in the long run, for its success. A common degree structure and credit system, common quality assurance standards and guidelines, cooperation for mobility and joint programmes and degrees are the foundations of the EHEA."
- "Non-implementation in some countries undermines the functioning and credibility of the whole EHEA. We need more precise measurement of performance as a basis for reporting from member countries."

Specific tasks

- Prepare letters for BFUG Co-chairs
- Facilitate the grouping of countries that offer support in implementation of key commitments with those who could benefit from such support for peer support, and maintain an overview of the composition and activities of the different peer support groups
- Receive and analyse updates and reports from peer-support groups
- Inform and advise the BFUG on implementation of Bologna commitments.
- Prepare recommendations for further action to improve implementation for consideration by the BFUG.
- Monitor, evaluate and review the procedure for supporting the implementation of key Bologna commitments, and proposing adjustments and innovation as appropriate.

Reporting

Minimum of one yearly report to the BFUG.

Minutes of coordination group meetings will be made available by the Bologna Secretariat.

Meeting schedule:

See attached timeline and guiding notes for peer groups

Liaison with other WGs' and/or advisory groups' activities

- WG 1 on "Monitoring" and any other relevant BFUG structures

Additional remarks