



TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A «EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK» FOR THE QA OF UNIVERSITY ALLIANCES

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INITIAL ACCREDITATION OF NEW UNIVERSITIES

The establishment of new Universities is **periodically allowed by the Ministry** within its three-year periodic programming.

Following conditions have to be met (verified by ANVUR):

- ongoing multi-year research activity
- proposed study programmes not already delivered at short distance or not well represented at national level
- financial, logistical and scientific sustainability of the project

In the last triennial programme the Ministry only allowed candidatures by private Universities offering at least a complete study cycle (BA+MA). According to a newly defined procedure, **8 applications were evaluated in 2020-2021** by panels of ANVUR evaluation experts (including student experts). All the proposals received a negative assessment; 2 other application are currently being assessed.

<https://www.anvur.it/attivita/ava/accreditamento-iniziale/nuove-sedi-universitarie/>

INITIAL ACCREDITATION OF NEW STUDY PROGRAMMES

Ex ante accreditation of new study programmes is granted by the Ministry after the assessment by ANVUR of:

- the overall quality of the project
- the number and qualification of the scientific staff (or the existence of a plan to achieve the required standards within a definite time)

The evaluation is carried out yearly by panels of ANVUR (disciplinary, telematic and student) experts, based on a recently updated protocol (2021). ANVUR may also be called to provide its evaluation of already operating study programmes, in case of substantial changes that may affect the initial accreditation judgement.

Ca. 200 study programmes are evaluated yearly. The teaching offer currently amounts to about 5.200 programmes.

PERIODIC ACCREDITATION OF UNIVERSITIES AND STUDY PROGRAMMES

Periodic accreditation of Universities (five-years duration) and their study programs (three-years duration) is **granted by the Ministry following ANVUR proposal**.

Quality requirements address a) the strategy of the University (in the fields of teaching, research, third mission and administration); b) the programming and management of resources; c) the structure of the QA system; d) the quality of teaching and the services offered to the students; d) the quality of the planning and management of research and third mission activities

Quality requirements are defined in compliance with the ESG, and verified by **a panel of ANVUR experts** (including student experts), based on a **documentary analysis** and an **on-site visit**.

A first cycle of periodic assessment ended in 2022; follow up of experts' recommendations, based on the reports of the Internal Evaluation Units reports, is undergoing.

The second round of assessment (2023 onwards), called **AVA3**, is based on thoroughly revised requirements and procedure, also including the publication of full reports.

<https://www.anvur.it/attivita/ava/accreditamento-periodico/>

Country	Number of Uni in Alliances
DE	43
FR	37
ES	31
IT	27
PL	18
NL	15
PT	15
RO	14
FI	14
SE	13
BE	13
AT	12
IE	11
HU	10
EL	8
NO	8

Country	Number of Uni in Alliances
BG	7
DK	6
LT	5
HR	5
UK	4
CZ	4
SK	3
TR	3
LV	3
EE	3
CY	3
SI	2
MT	2
RS	2
IS	2
LU	1

344 Universities

THE PRESENCE OF ITALIAN UNIVERSITIES IN EUROPEAN ALLIANCES

After the 2022 Erasmus+ call for proposals, there are now **44 European Universities** involving around 340 higher education institutions in both capital cities and remote regions of 31 countries, including all EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Serbia and Turkey.

At present, **27 Italian Universities** – equal to almost **one third of the entire University system** – participate in University Alliances, and the number is expected to grow further within the next year.

TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EUROPEAN APPROACH TO QA (1)

Current legislation does not explicitly allow ANVUR to recognize EQA activities or decisions of other agencies, to make decisions based on reviews carried out by other bodies or to evaluate, accredit or audit higher education institutions or programmes belonging to other countries.

Branches of Italian HEIs operating in other countries are accredited/evaluated according to the same rules and procedures applied to other Italian Institutions.

ANVUR is working to make the implementation of a European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes possible in Italy and more generally to facilitate the participation of the Italian Universities in the European Alliances, also in relation to the development of a shared QA framework.

TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EUROPEAN APPROACH TO QA (2)

In Spring 2023 an ANVUR officer will participate as an observer to the assessment procedure of an Erasmus+ master programme through the European Approach.

Starting with 2023, the initial accreditation of study programmes included in the teaching offer of the European Alliances will be directly followed by ANVUR Governing Board.

An exchange of views and information was initiated between ANVUR, the Rectors' Conference, the Ministry of University and Research and the national ENIC-NARIC centre (CIMEA) to monitor the activities of the Alliances and address issues related both to the evaluation and recognition of qualifications and to the assessment of teaching, research and third mission activities.

Exchanges are also ongoing with the Ministry to implement the regulatory changes needed to allow ANVUR to fully operate internationally.

THANK YOU!

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