

EUA'S ACTIVITIES – MAY 2023 TO DEC. 2023

This update provides a selection of EUA activities that might be of interest for you and your colleagues.

You are welcome to share this within your ministry, your organisation, with higher education institutions and other relevant organisations.

For more information, please check our website www.eua.eu or [sign up to the newsletter](#)

- [Publications & Expert voices](#)
- [Ongoing projects](#)
- [Events](#)

Upcoming events and initiatives

Dates	Event/initiative	Place	Targeted audience	Link
MAY 2023	DIGI-HE final publication “Future prospects for digitally enhanced learning and teaching”		Higher education policy makers and leadership	Available early May 2023
4 MAY 2023	SPHERE Virtual Seminar	Online	From EU neighbourhood countries: National Erasmus+ Offices (NEO), Higher Education Reform Experts (HERE), ministries and national agency officials, senior managers of institutions, student representatives, academic and administrative staff	For more information, please contact sphere@eua.eu
31 MAY 2023	EUA leadership roundtable “Institutional approaches to research ethics and integrity: let's talk about new technologies”	Online	Rectors and vice-rectors / Presidents and vice-presidents	https://www.eua.eu/events/268-institutional-approaches-to-research-ethics-and-integrity-let-s-talk-about-new-technologies.html
01 JUNE 2023	Erasmus+ midterm evaluation report/publication			
8 JUNE 2023	Inspireurope+ webinar “Career Assessment for Researchers at Risk)	Online		Available shortly
14-16 JUNE 2023	Leading together: Academic leaders and senior managers of professional services joining forces to address global societal challenges	Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona	University leaders, Heads of University Management and Administration	https://www.eua.eu/events/266-humane-2023-annual-conference-in-partnership-with-eua.html

14-16 JUNE 2023	EUA-CDE Annual Meeting “Engaged research - the role of communication in doctoral education”	Jointly hosted by Lappeenranta –Lahti University of Technology and University of Helsinki	academic leaders, senior academics, doctoral education professionals, postdoctoral researchers, doctoral candidates and other stakeholders working on doctoral education	https://eua.eu/events/243-2023-eua-cde-annual-meeting.html
27 JUNE 2023	E+ webinar			
23-25 NOVEMBER 2023	2023 European Quality Assurance Forum	University of Aveiro, Portugal	QA practitioners from HEIs and QA agencies, higher education authorities & policy makers	https://eua.eu/events/124-2023-european-quality-assurance-forum.html
3 ONSITE MEETINGS DURING 2023	EUA-CDE Thematic Peer Group on “Profiles and institutional support for postdoctoral researchers”	Meetings hosted by the universities part of this Thematic Peer Group	EUA-CDE member representatives selected through a call for participation	https://eua-cde.org/news/920:call-for-participation-2023-eua-cde-thematic-peer-group-on-%E2%80%9Cprofiles-and-institutional-support-for-postdoctoral-researchers%E2%80%9D.html

Recent events and publications

Event/publication	Description	Link
2023 EUA ANNUAL CONFERENCE (GDANSK, APRIL 2023)		https://eua.eu/events/237-2023-eua-annual-conference.html
INSPIREEUROPE+ SEMINAR “EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCHERS AT RISK”. 19 APRIL 2023		https://eua.eu/events/265-expanding-opportunities-for-researchers-at-risk.html
UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY IN EUROPE IV: THE SCORECARD 2023 (MARCH 2023)	<p>The Scorecard 2023 provides a full comparative analysis of the state of play of university autonomy in 35 higher education systems in Europe.</p> <p>With findings across four dimensions of university autonomy - organisational, financial, staffing, academic - the Scorecard supports an evidence-based dialogue on this crucial topic. This allows concrete benchmarking of national regulatory frameworks as well as the exchange of good practices. For the first time, this update also includes a chapter on provisions for academic freedom in national legislation.</p> <p>Building on this analysis, the report identifies several notable trends across the 35 systems considered. These include aspects related to changing governance models, consolidation of the higher education landscape, transnational university</p>	https://www.eua.eu/resources/publications/1061:university-autonomy-in-europe-iv-the-scorecard-2023.html

	collaboration, underfunding challenges, tensions around campus real estate, evolving academic careers, and issues related to internationalisation, to name but a few.	
NEEDS AND WELLBEING OF STAFF AND STUDENTS: A THEMATIC PEER GROUP REPORT (MARCH 2023)	<p>This report summarises the findings of the EUA Learning & Teaching Thematic Peer Group "Needs and wellbeing of students and staff", which was active throughout 2022.</p> <p>It outlines aspects of a higher education institution's activities which the group identified as having the most influence on individual wellbeing. The report outlines challenges, key considerations and recommendations, which institutions may find helpful for ensuring targeted and effective support for their students and staff.</p> <p>Like the two other Thematic Peer Group reports (see below), the group was organised in the context of the "Supporting European universities in their strategic approaches to digital learning" (DIGI-HE) project and EUA's Learning & Teaching activities.</p>	https://eua.eu/resources/publications/1064:needs-and-wellbeing-of-students-and-staff-thematic-peer-group-report.html
DIGITALLY COMPETENT TEACHERS: A THEMATIC PEER GROUP REPORT (MARCH 2023)	<p>This report summarises the findings of the EUA Learning & Teaching Thematic Peer Group "Digitally competent teachers in designing quality learning environments", which was active throughout 2022.</p> <p>This report explores how higher education institutions address the development of digital competences for teachers. The Thematic Peer Group identified common challenges and proposed a set of recommendations for institutions to develop digital competences with an ecosystem, holistic approach – integrating a vision for innovation, organisational culture(s), leadership roles, strategy, policy and implementation.</p>	https://eua.eu/resources/publications/1063:digitally-competent-teachers-thematic-peer-group-report.html
COLLABORATIVE TEACHING PRACTICE: A THEMATIC PEER GROUP REPORT (MARCH 2023)	<p>This report summarises the findings of the 2022 EUA Thematic Peer Group which explored collaborative teaching practice (CTP) in higher education in detail.</p> <p>The report identifies the various ways in which the group's members collaborate as part of their learning and teaching activities, highlights the key challenges that higher education institutions face in implementing collaborative teaching and suggests a set of recommendations for individuals, institutions and national and European-level bodies to overcome those challenges identified.</p>	https://eua.eu/resources/publications/1062:collaborative-teaching-practice-thematic-peer-group-report.html
BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS OF RESEARCH – A VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF DOCTORAL EDUCATION IN EUROPE	This document analyses intrinsic and extrinsic drivers that shape the future of doctoral education in Europe and suggests possible ways forward for universities to meet current and future challenges in this key area. It also serves as a source of reflection for universities that wish to keep their strategies and processes up to date in a fast-changing world.	https://eua-cde.org/reports-publications/1028:building-the-foundations-of-research.html
THE EUA INNOVATION AGENDA 2026	The first EUA Innovation Agenda outlines thematic priorities and key objectives for the university sector as a whole and for EUA specifically, taking into account the diversity of profiles and innovation activities among its membership and European universities at large. The document will help to ensure that the importance and value of university innovation for society are aptly recognised and strengthened by national and European policy makers, funding agencies, and universities themselves.	https://eua.eu/resources/publications/1055:eua-innovation-agenda-2026.html

EUA-CDE THEMATIC WORKSHOP "SUSTAINABILITY IN DOCTORAL EDUCATION: DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC APPROACH"	This event explored how universities can develop a strategic approach to sustainability in doctoral education, how doctoral education plays an important role in "greening" the activities of universities and how this connects to the Sustainable Development Goals as a comprehensive framework in this field.	https://eua.eu/events/240-2023-eua-cde-thematic-workshop.html
EUA INPUT TO THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH & INNOVATION FRAMEWORK PROGRAMMES 2014-2027	As part of a recent public consultation conducted by the European Commission on the past, present and future of the European research and innovation framework programmes, the European University Association has outlined a series of recommendations aiming to improve Horizon Europe and contribute to the design of the programme that will succeed it.	https://eua.eu/resources/news/1019-eua-recommends-improvements-to-eu-r-i-programmes.html

Other issues

Name	In short...	Description
MSCA4UKRAINE	The measure provides fellowships for researchers and doctoral candidates from Ukraine	The MSCA4Ukraine scheme , funded under the EU's Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions has been launched in September. Application can be submitted any time. Applicants are the hosting institutions (academic and non-academic organisations in EU member states and Horizon Europe associated countries) together with researchers from Ukraine. There is also a matchmaking instruments in place.
EUA'S ERASMUS+ MID-TERM REVIEW SURVEY	EUA collected feedback from its members on the Erasmus+ programme and its different actions.	EUA will publish the findings of this survey and use them as a contribution to the European Commission (EC) interim evaluation of Erasmus+ 2021-27 . The EC will undertake in-depth public and stakeholder consultations in spring/summer 2023. EUA's survey ran from end 2022 to beginning of 2023, and collected response from 500 higher education institutions in 51 countries.
2024 EUA TRENDS REPORT	The questionnaire for Trends 2024, assessment impact and expectations of the European higher education sectors towards the Bologna Process, will be launched end April/Beg. May 2023.	Since 1998, EUA's Trends reports have contributed the perspective of the higher education sector to the Bologna Process reform. It's most recent edition, Trends 2018, focussed on Learning and Teaching The Trends 2024 report will cover a broader range of topics that addressed in the Bologna Process. The report will be published in the first half of 2024, in time for the Tirana Ministerial Conference. It will be based on a questionnaire to higher education institutions in EHEA, which will be launched in Spring 2023, and the publication is expected to be issued by the first semester of 2024.
EUROPEAN COALITION FOR ADVANCING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT (COARA)	EUA is part of the coalition that support an agreement on the reform of research assessment . The	A major milestone in the European discussion and process on reforming research assessment has been reached in July 2022 with the publication of an Agreement, which sets the vision that "the assessment of research, researchers and research organisations recognises the diverse outputs, practices and activities that maximise the quality and impact of research". It sets a direction for changes in assessment practices for research, researchers and research performing organisations, while respecting organisations' autonomy. It outlines

	Agreement is open for signature of European research and higher education institutions.	<p>commitments for better recognition of the diverse practices and activities that maximise the quality of research as well as a move away from inappropriate uses of metrics (such as rankings).</p> <p>Since September 2022, the Agreement is open for signature, in order to join the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA), which will be formally launched on 1 December 2022.</p> <p>Reforming research assessment is a priority for EUA, as part of the wider strategic aim of reforming of academic careers outlined in Universities without walls – A vision for 2030. Since December 2021, EUA is actively involved in an initiative to create a coalition for advancing research assessment system.</p>
SPHERE – CENTRALISED SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM EXPERTS	OBREAL Global and the European University Association are implementing a new phase of the SPHERE project.	SPHERE supports the network of higher education reform experts (HEREs) in European neighbourhood countries (Southern Mediterranean, Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership, Central Asia). During current period of the Erasmus+ Programme, the SPHERE project will provide centralised support, training and services to the HERE, notably through training seminars and study visits, conferences, HERE networking events, Technical Assistance Missions, follow-up dissemination activities, publications and reports. The launch event of the project is planned for 3-4 May 2023, online. The first day of the event will be open for the HERE and NEO only, while the second day will also welcome ministries and national agency officials, senior managers of institutions, student representatives, academic and administrative staff. Please contact sphere@eua.eu should you wish to receive more information about the project or the event.
AUTONOMY SCORECARD COUNTRY PROFILES	Based on its methodology, the Autonomy Scorecard monitors, measures, and compares the autonomy of public universities across Europe	The Autonomy Scorecard report is complemented by a series of country profiles to be released throughout 2023. The profiles summarise the Autonomy Scorecard information per higher education system, complemented by contextual information and views from the sector.
SECTORAL REPRESENTATION IN THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA	EUA represents the university sector on the ERA Forum.	EUA successfully advocated for the inclusion of stakeholders in the European Research Area’s governance. The university sector is now represented on the ERA Forum, where the Commission, member states, associated countries and stakeholders co-design and implement the ERA Policy Agenda. The Association coordinates and leads the sector’s efforts, alongside ten fellow associations.
COALITION FOR ADVANCING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT (COARA)	EUA was at the heart of a major new initiative on reforming research assessment, resulting in the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment and the establishment of CoARA.	Research assessment reform is a strategic objective for EUA as part of the broader reform of academic careers –one of the priorities for action outlined in “Universities without walls”.
DIAMAS PROJECT	3-year project funded by Horizon Europe to foster the	Partners of the DIAMAS project are working together to deliver an aligned, high-quality, and sustainable institutional OA scholarly publication ecosystem for the ERA, setting a new shared and co-designed standard for Diamond OA publishing, a scholarly publication model in which journals and platforms are free for

	development of Diamond Open Access Publishing.	authors and readers. To achieve these objectives, the DIAMAS project recently launched a survey on Diamond Open Access and institutional publishing landscape . The consultation aims to map how the sector of scholarly communication is currently organised in order to understand existing challenges and begin to develop resources, tools, policies and strategies which support relevant stakeholders.
IRECS PROJECT	3-year project funded by Horizon Europe to improve the quality of ethics review processes through upskilling research ethics experts.	iRECS will develop and disseminate proposals for the adaptation of the ethics review process leading to greater European convergence, focusing on digital technologies (AI and XR) and biotechnologies (gene-editing and biobanking). It will create education, training, and awareness in research ethics and ethics review, with a long-term vision to sustainably implement and embed them at European and global level.

