Thematic Peer Group C Quality Assurance

Second meeting

Limassol, Cyprus

27-28 May 2019

Set up of Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

BPSG QA:

- Chaired by 3 co-chairs: Belgium/Flemish Community, Cyprus and Georgia
- 37 countries take part (Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium/Flemish Community, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, UK – Scotland)
- 8 stakeholder organisations (EI-IE, ENQA, EQAR, EURASHE, ESU, EUA, European Commission, UNESCO)
- Mix of participants: opportunity and challenge

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Working methods within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

- 3 overall meetings of full peer group (Georgia, Cyprus and Belgium)
- BFUG Secretariat provides the BPSG with a dedicated web-page under
  http://ehea.info/page-peer-group-C-QA
- First overall meeting:
  - Take into account the needs of the member countries as indicated in the implementation scorecard and the survey
  - Create work plan, including the topics the BPSG will work on, the working methods, timeline of activities and the expected outcomes to be achieved by each country by the end of the working period
  - Define the topic of the PLA back-to-back with 2nd meeting
- Second overall meeting:
  - Main aim: setup cooperation based on action plan
  - Matching for staff mobility project/small projects
  - Forward looking discussion on QA – basis for report
  - PLA on European Approach for QA of joint programmes

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Subthemes Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

- legislative framework in line with the ESG
- ensuring effectiveness of internal quality assurance arrangements, including the use of QA results in the decision-making process and quality culture as well as links to learning and teaching
- external quality assurance
- the role and engagement of stakeholders in QA (students, teachers, employers)
- cross-border QA
- European Approach to accreditation of joint programmes.

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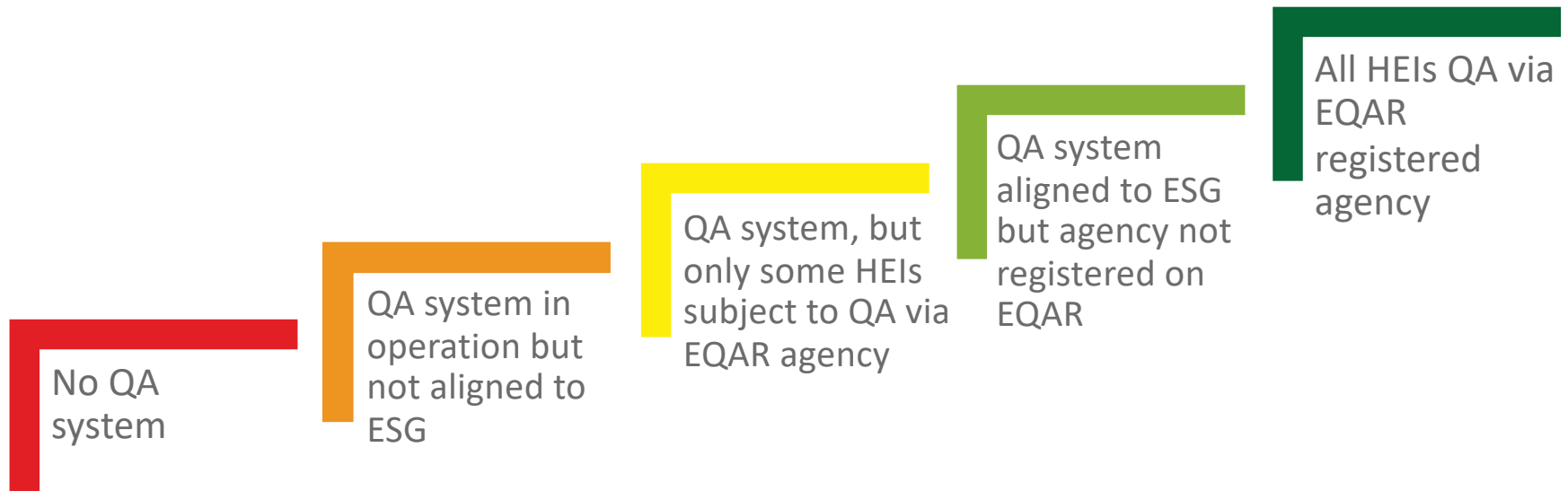# Timeline Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

Concrete dates:
- Country templates collected by 31 January 2019
- Action plan sent to BICG February 2019
- Interim report by October 2019
- Final report by February/March 2020?

- Time available until the next Ministerial Conference is short
- Progress can be made, awareness and networking can be enhanced

AIM: reach tangible results in a good number of cases => enable the BFUG to verify whether the peer support approach is an effective way of working to implement these and other EHEA commitments in the future.
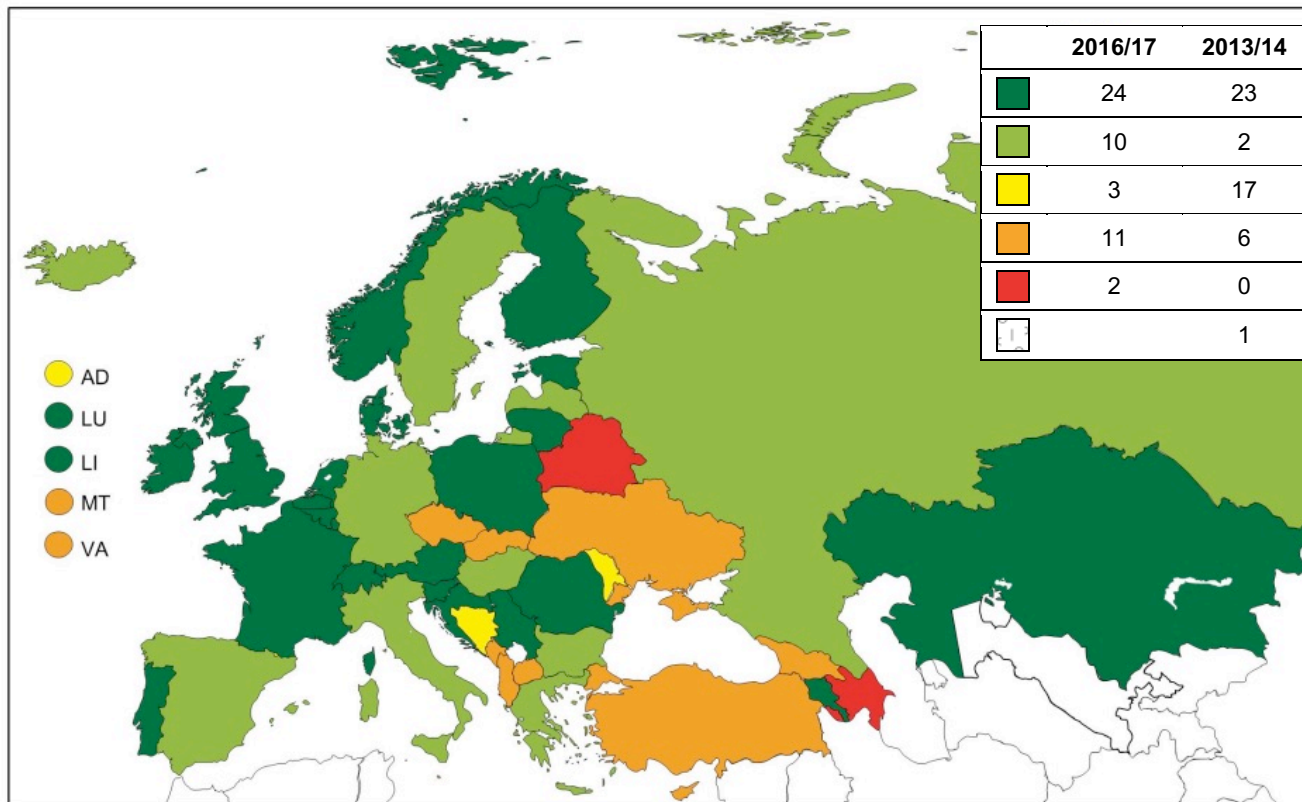
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The Bologna Process Implementation report 2020

May 2019 state of play

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Key indicator: stage of development of QA system (implementation report 2018)

No QA system

QA system in operation but not aligned to ESG

QA system, but only some HEIs subject to QA via EQAR agency

QA system aligned to ESG but agency not registered on EQAR

All HEIs QA via EQAR registered agency

European Commission

Education and Training

Eurydice

Stage of development of QA system

2020 Report: main features

- Focus on EHEA key topics (**not** everything)
- Consider EHEA long-term changes: achievements and challenges
- Make use of existing data as far as possible

Methodology

Combine several data sources:

Statistical data from 2000 – 2018: evolution
Qualitative data: current state of play in meeting policy commitments
Plus narrative text describing achievements and challenges

All indicators relating to Key Commitments will be included

State of play

- Qualitative indicators: data collection until June 11. Some countries – including CY - have already submitted ☺

- Statistical data collection ongoing: indicators expected in October

- Narrative texts: to be drafted until October

- First draft of the report expected by end of 2019

KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

- European funding to support the work of the BPSG
- KA3 for policy support for Bologna process
- Deadline 20 November 2018
- Start projects spring 2019 (May 2019)
- 2 year projects

Specific for BPSG on QA:
- 2 Overall projects
- 2 Projects on subthemes

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2 Overall projects to support the full peer group

1. **Bologna Peer Group on QA: organisation**

   - Project partners:
     - ✓ PP1: Ministry of Education and Training, Belgium/Flemish Com.
     - ✓ PP2: The National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, Georgia
     - ✓ PP3: Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus
   - Work packages:
     - ✓ 3 peer group meetings (Georgia - 2 days – Dec 2018, Cyprus – 3 days – May/June 2019, Belgium - 2 days – December 2019)
     - ✓ Second meeting combined with PLA
   - Funding:
     - ✓ 212 920 Euro of which EU grant requested: 170 336 Euro
     - ✓ Travel costs for participants: 360 euro/meeting
     - ✓ Accomodation costs for participants: 120 euro/day
     - ✓ Based on real costs, template for reimbursement will be sent

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

- Project partners:
  - ✓ PP1: Ministry of Education and Training, Belgium/Flemish Community
  - ✓ PP2: The National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, Georgia
  - ✓ PP3: Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus
- Work packages:
  - ✓ 2 Matchmaking committee meetings (Georgia - 3 days – Sept 2019, Cyprus – 3 days Sept 2020)
  - ✓ QA staff mobility (Oct 2019 - May 2020)
- Funding:
  - ✓ 292 965 Euro of which EU grant requested: 234 372 Euro
  - ✓ Travel costs for participants: 360 euro/meeting
  - ✓ Accomodation costs for participants: 120 euro/day with max of 14 days

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2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

Overall aim
- support the professional development of staff by offering a work placement at another QA agency/ministry/organisation
- each mobile peer will further develop its QA competencies through job shadowing, observation periods and/or training at a partner QA agency/ministry/organisation abroad.

Description
- all partners send and receive staff for a limited period of time. A receiving partner offers a mobile peer a Professional Development Programme. This programme includes the intended learning outcomes for the work period abroad and specifies the required professional activities.
- staff members write an observation report according to a fixed format detailing their experiences at another QA agency/ministry

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

Objectives of the project are to give QA staff the possibility to
- acquire knowledge and specific know-how from ESG compliant QA experiences and methodologies abroad
- identify good practice abroad as well as in the own QA agency or national policy on QA
- develop QA skills relevant to their professional development
- learn how to work in a different HE system with regard to   the ESG in order to broaden their professional perspective   on their own work, their own competences and their own   QA agency or national policy on QA
- build up a professional network of QA peers

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

Eligibility criteria & modalities:
- Every country/organization taking part in the BPSG QA can send maximum 2 members
- All staff members from a ministry, a quality assurance agency or a stakeholder organization working on quality assurance in Higher Education can be mobile
- The duration of the mobility is minimum 3 days. The financing of the mobility is limited to maximum two weeks (14 days).
- The travel costs will be limited to 360 euro per mobility and accommodation costs to 120 euro/night, both based on actual costs.
- Upon completion of the mobility all staff members are expected to submit an observation report, to be sent in one month after the end of the mobility at the latest.

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2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

Timing:
- Call launched: 21st May 2019
- Deadline: 31st August 2019
- Matchmaking: September 2019
- Announcement of results: 15th September 2019
- Staff mobility: October 1st, 2019 – May 31st, 2020
- Deadline observation report: 1 month after the end of the mobility at the latest
- Matchmaking committee meeting to review the observation reports: September 2020

Priority will be given to applications, where the needs and offers for peer support are attuned and agreed upon beforehand => enhance the chances of a customized and therefore successful learning experience.

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

Developing a European Approach for Comprehensive QA of (European) University Networks

Project partners:
- Roadmap group: NVAO (BE/FL), ANQA (Armenia), AAQ (Switzerland), SQAA (Slovenia), AIC (Latvia), UKÄ (Sweden), NEAQA (Serbia), ANVUR (Italy)
- Resonance group: Belgium/Flemish Community, Albania, Bulgaria, France, Georgia, Romania

Funding:
244 087 Euro of which EU grant requested: 195 269,6 Euro

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

Developing a European Approach for Comprehensive QA of (European) University Networks

Overall aim:

To support QA agencies in addressing evolving methodological challenges by developing supra-institutional QA procedures taking into account:

- the development of cross-border HE
- the policy integration of university networks
- the expanding offer of joint programmes
- the establishment of European Universities

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

Role and engagement of stakeholders in internal and external quality assurance

- Project partners:
  - ✓ Romanian Ministry of National Education
  - ✓ 3 European organizations: ENQA, EURASHE and ESU
  - ✓ 5 quality assurance agencies from Romania, France, Bulgaria, Denmark and R. of Moldova

- Activities:
  - ✓ Discussions with various categories of stakeholders
  - ✓ Sharing best practices
  - ✓ A study at EHEA member countries
  - ✓ Peer review activities with workshops
  - ✓ Peer learning activity
  - ✓ Development of a Guideline on involvement of stakeholders, with online PLA

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Creation of Action Plan

- **General part**
- **Country pages**
  - First version ready by end January
  - Ongoing process
  - Started during first meeting -> flipcharts - draft
  - Adjustments during the work in the PSG and projects
  - New challenges/actions
  - New countries joining the PSG

- **Setup country page**
  - How tackled within the country?
  - Cooperation between QA-agency and ministry?

- **Overview actions per country during 'Tour de table'**

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Thank you for your attention

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