

**Co-Chairs of the Bologna Follow-up Group
Vice-Chair of the Bologna Follow-up Group
c/o Françoise PROFIT, Bologna Follow-up Group Secretariat
Ministère de l'éducation nationale, de l'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche
Direction générale de l'enseignement supérieur et de l'insertion professionnelle
1 rue Descartes, 75231 Paris cedex 5
FRANCE**

Amsterdam, October 18, 2016

Dear Bologna Follow-Up Group Co-Chairs and Vice-Chair,

I write to you as President of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) to express formally our interest in being included as consultative members of the Bologna Follow-up Group (BFUG).

After being invited to participate as BFUG partners in the last three Ministerial conferences, we feel that as an Association we represent a body of people directly involved in the internationalisation of higher education whose voice is not otherwise heard as they are not represented through previously accepted consultative members. The EAIE has also been an active participant in the Advisory Group 1 (EHEA international cooperation) by attending all its meetings, most recently in Nizhny-Novgorod, Russia on October 14.

However, we feel that the EAIE can contribute more broadly to the work of the BFUG as a consultative member. After all, the Association has significant expertise in several topics related to the development of the European Higher Education Area. Among these are ECTS, Diploma Supplement, Employability, Mobility, Internationalisation and Recognition. Our current conference participants and membership cover all the EHEA countries, and with our new Strategy we are specifically aiming at increasing our reach in Central and Eastern Europe. The most recent EAIE conference gathered more than 5200 participants from close to 90 different countries making it the largest International Higher Education conference in Europe by far.

As an NGO (Association under Dutch Law) we have our Headquarters in Amsterdam and we would be delighted to provide you with any additional information, which might be needed.

Again, I would like to ask for your positive consideration for our becoming a Consultative Member, and I will look forward to hearing your decision. The EAIE is committed to playing an even more active role in the BFUG and its work.

Sincerely,



Markus Laitinen
President