

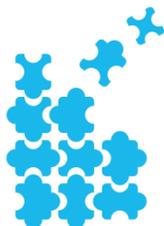


Italian Candidature to host the 2020 EHEA Ministerial Conference

BFUG Meeting – Gozo (Malta) 24 May 2017

Prof. Federico Cinquepalmi (Ph.D.)

*Head of unit for internationalization of Higher education (MIUR)
Italian representative in the Bologna follow-up group*





ITALY BECAUSE...

Italy shares with France, Germany and the United Kingdom the great honor and responsibility to have started in 1998, a key global process, not only enhancing higher education systems, but also contributing to human progress



The “Sorbonne Joint Declaration on harmonization of the architecture of the European higher education system” was a fundamental step for the successive Joint declaration of the European Ministers of Education

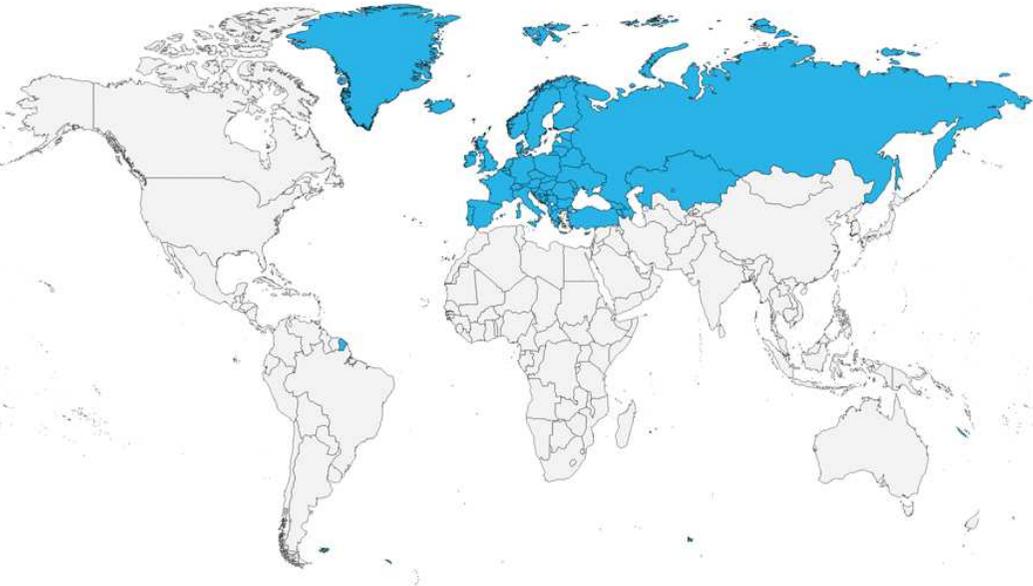
The Bologna Declaration of 19 June 1999.



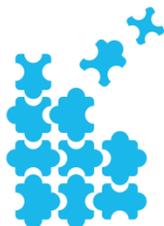


ITALY BECAUSE...

Since 1999 we have made amazing progress all together, harmonizing our systems in a true spirit of cooperation, with aim of creating agreed and common paths toward an open, connected, and inclusive student-centred approach to higher education .



The EHEA / BFUG members are today 48 countries and the European Commission.





ITALY BECAUSE...

As we approach a very significant date -- the twentieth anniversary of the Bologna Declaration – Italy, following France in 1998/1999, wishes to present its candidature to host the 2020 EHEA Ministerial Conference.



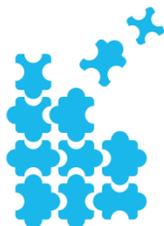


THE VENUE

If our candidature as the destination for the 2020 ministerial Meeting is accepted, the next logical question to be raised is “where” in Italy...

Bologna was the beginning of the process and now we will come together to decide the future path for the EHEA beyond 2020

The present proposals are either Rome or Naples, but internal evaluation is still in process, for both practical and substantial reasons.

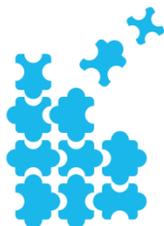




THE VENUE

We believe that the choice of Naples could be very evocative, giving the sense that the EHEA is moving towards the Mediterranean basin, connecting Europe, Asia and Africa, and extending its vision to the wider world

Emperor Frederic II of Swabia, known as “*stupor mundi*”, was an enlightened figure, a northern man in love with the south, who in 1224 established the first public non-religious university in western history in Naples

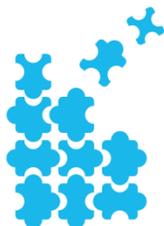




THE ORGANIZATION

For the 2018/2020 Secretariat we intend, if our candidature is successful, to set up a multilingual team of 7 people with international skills and competencies based in the MIUR premises in Rome. Beside the main structure of the office, we also foresee to involve a group of international experts (probably 6 or 7) with competencies and skills on the Bologna Process and international HE matters, possibly coming from different countries of EHEA

The details for the involvement of such expert group in support to the Secretariat will be agreed with the Bologna Follow-Up Group, taking into account the views of European Commission and Council of Europe





PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE SECRETARIAT

N°	Function	Tasks
1	Secretary General	Organisation and management of the Secretariat; relations with governments and international organisations and management of relations with the Italian Government.
1	Personal assistant	Support to organisational activities of the office and to the Secretary General
1	Responsible for communication activities	Dissemination of BFUG activities, relations with the media and implementation of the social media strategy and instruments.
1	Responsible for the web communication	Content management of the existing website and of new web initiatives from the Italian side.
1	Responsible for event management	Management of different events and meetings and coordination of the Ministerial Conference.
2	HE junior experts	Support to senior experts in drafting and preparation of supporting documents for the Secretariat; management of technical and institutional processes and outcomes; follow activities of the different advisory and working groups.

N°	Function	Tasks
6/7	National/International senior Bologna Experts	High level technical support to strategic decisions and to directions in order to implement all the activities of the Secretariat.





PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE SECRETARIAT



The supporting structure within the Ministry will include also a liaison officer with the Government/host country and at least two highly skilled persons from MIUR, in charge of facilitating the work of the Secretariat; however it is clear that the Secretariat will be an independent entity and its activities will be guided and influenced by the BFUG.

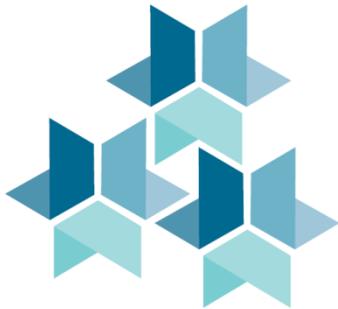


The Secretariat will be placed in Rome, supported by the Department of Higher Education and Research - General Directorate for Students, Development and Internationalization of the Higher Education of the Italian Ministry, in collaboration with the Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI), the conferences of the Directors of the Higher arts and music education institutions and in strong connection with the Italian ENIC-NARIC centre (CIMEA). We will pay particular attention to the involvement of different EHEA members and stakeholders during the time of the activities of the Italian Secretariat, also in order to facilitate the dissemination of the activities, outcomes and results.





PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE SECRETARIAT

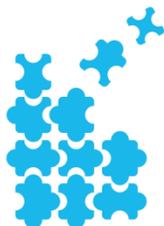


CHEER

A fundamental asset for the support of the Italian Secretariat will be the experience coming from the projects CHEER I and II (Consolidating Higher Education Experience of Reform: norms, networks and good practice in Italy), co-financed to the MIUR by the European Commission under Erasmus+ KA3 and managed by the CRUI.

Both projects were intended to:

- integrate in Italy the various aspects of the reform process into one consistent and well-functioning learner-centered system at the institutional, national and international level;
- maintain adequate synergies with international bodies concerned with HE, in order to link national and European policies;
- enhance the quality of the international dimension in HEIs (Universities + Art&Music Institutions) also promoting the widespread use of the European transparency tools.

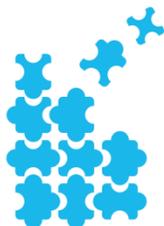




Details concerning the 2020 Ministerial Conference

Concerning the final venue of the Ministerial Conference: we wish to compare the two possibilities of Rome and Naples in order to select the most fitting and reachable one. Priority will be given to all important aspects relating to security and logistics; when these have been thoroughly elucidated and checked, we will provide further details on the final choice of venue.

It is the intention of the Italian Government to host the Bologna Policy Forum as well. We think this will be a great opportunity in order to involve all relevant stakeholders from EHEA Countries and from Countries that are not part of the European Cultural Convention, also with the aim to increase policy dialogue on key topics and to raise the attention on Higher Education reforms beyond the Bologna area.

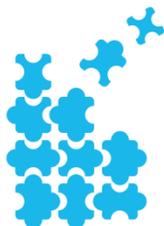




The future of the Bologna Process beyond 2020: the Italian vision

Starting from the contents and reflections provided in the 2014 document entitled: “The Bologna Process revisited: The future of the European Higher Education Area” and recognizing the high quality work already done since now, we think that more efforts could be done to follow the directions provided.

We propose a group of topics to be discussed during the Conference that are crucial for the Italian vision for the higher education sector at global level, and that **can** be summarized as follows:





Topics crucial for the Italian vision for the higher education sector at global level that could be summarized as follows:

- ❑ migrants and refugees crisis and related challenges towards the EHEA (i.e. recognition of qualifications and competences, equality of rights and inclusivity to access HE, etc.)
- ❑ possibly a special focus on the 3rd cycle and on research sector, with a special attention on the reconciliation at international/national level between Higher education and Research developed in Public Research Institutions, a more direct connection between research and learning/teaching , and a better understanding of the role of higher education towards society in light of the principles of the third mission, as in the Yerevan communiqué
- ❑ the contribution of the EHEA to the global society in order to contribute to relevant Sustainable Development Goals of UN general Assembly, as approved in 2015 and in particular to:
 - societies and communities;
 - other countries and Regions out of EHEA with a special focus to Africa and the Mediterranean basin,
 - other sectors (i.e. VET, research, professional skills and capacities, etc.) and
 - other relevant international processes (OECD, UNESCO);





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Thank you

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