

ENQA report to the BFUG 9-10 March 2026, Nicosia

Highlights of ENQA's activities since December 2025

ENQA (the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) is the designated stakeholder organisation for quality assurance in the EHEA. ENQA represents quality assurance agencies internationally, supports them nationally and provides them with comprehensive services and networking opportunities. Under ENQA's umbrella, the community of agencies drives innovation in quality assurance and refines quality assurance processes. ENQA is a consultative member of the Bologna Process, a co-author of the ESG, and contributes to policy making at the EU level and internationally, for example in dialogue with the OECD, UNESCO, ASEM, and other quality assurance networks around the world.

1. ENQA MEMBERSHIP

ENQA's full membership currently stands at 62 agencies in 33 countries in the EHEA, as well as 42 affiliates in 26 countries worldwide. Members are agencies that have demonstrated compliance with the ESG through an independent peer review. There are ENQA members and/or affiliates in 44 out of the 47 EHEA countries (excluding Russia and Belarus where members and affiliates are currently suspended).

2. LATEST ENQA ACTIVITIES

Thematic analysis on stakeholder involvement in external QA

ENQA has published a new thematic analysis on the topic of stakeholder involvement in quality assurance. The analysis, available [here](#), concentrates on quality assurance agencies' approaches to stakeholder involvement in their governance and work, including the design and improvement of methodologies. The evidence shows that stakeholder involvement in quality assurance is firmly established. Almost all agencies analysed engage various stakeholder groups in their governance and work, most commonly academics, students and professionals. Stakeholder groups typically contribute through a variety of bodies, including supervisory, decision-making, technical, and auxiliary structures. These arrangements are complemented with other approaches such as working groups, consultations or pilot initiatives, particularly to engage stakeholders in the design and improvement of methodologies.

Project reports from ENQA Leadership Development Programme

ENQA has published a [collection of reports](#) resulting from the project work done by participants of the 2025 ENQA Leadership Development Programme. The Programme is designed to provide an intensive European peer-learning experience for high-potential professional staff in quality assurance agencies. It is a unique opportunity for agencies to offer their staff targeted training in an international environment. The Programme consists of three seminars and mentored group work, designed to support the development of professional competencies as well as knowledge of European higher education and quality assurance. The project reports cover topics including transnational cooperation, agile QA, stakeholder involvement, and navigating the societal, green and digital transitions.

Working group on cross-border quality assurance

ENQA is coordinating a new working group on cross-border quality assurance (CBQA). The group is for members of the Bologna Process TPG C on quality assurance, and is supported by the SIQA

project. The aim of the group is to update the [Key Considerations for CBQA](#) (published by the E4 and EQAR in 2017) and to develop a code of conduct for quality assurance agencies engaging in CBQA. The launch meeting took place in Brussels on 27-28 January and was attended by 20 representatives of countries and stakeholder organisations. The group exchanged on latest developments and challenges in meeting the Bologna Process commitment on CBQA, and conducted a first brainstorming on content for the two documents. The working group will continue throughout 2026 and publish the outcomes in 2027.

Surveys on QA of TNE

ENQA has conducted two surveys (to QA agencies and to ministries) on frameworks and policies for the quality assurance of transnational education (TNE). The surveys are conducted within the [ROQA-TNE](#) project, which aims to support the commitment made in the Tirana Communiqué for robust and ESG-aligned external quality assurance of TNE. The results will be published in a report later in the year, and relevant data will also feed into the next Bologna Process Implementation Report. Other activities planned for 2026 include peer learning events for ministries (15-16 June in Italy) and for QA agencies (6-7 July in Germany).

3. ENQA AGENCY REVIEWS

In 2026, ENQA will coordinate a record number of 21 external reviews of QA agencies, including three agencies that are not currently ENQA members or registered on EQAR. The review process assesses the compliance of agencies with the ESG, in line with the Bologna Process key commitment on quality assurance, and also provides recommendations to the agencies for their further development.

Looking ahead to the ESG 2027, to ensure a smooth transition and allow agencies to plan, the ENQA Board has adopted an [ESG Transition Policy](#) for timelines of agency reviews and ENQA membership renewal. The policy applies to agencies that are due to sign a contract for an external review in 2027 and, in particular, provides the option for agencies to postpone their review and membership renewal by up to one year in order to make any necessary changes to align with the ESG 2027. The policy has been developed in close cooperation with EQAR, and is fully compatible with their own transition arrangements for EQAR listing.

ENQA has also published updated [Guidelines for Agency Reviews](#). The changes reflect the recommendations of the 2024 [external review of ENQA Agency Reviews](#), insights from the annual analyses of agency reviews, and new provisions introduced in ENQA's [Statutes](#) and [Rules of Procedure](#) approved in October 2025. Further details about the changes are available [here](#).

4. UPCOMING EVENTS

ENQA Members' Forum 2026 will take place on 23-25 April in Budapest, Hungary.

ROQA-TNE peer-learning activity on QA of TNE for ministries will take place on 15-16 June in Rome, Italy.

ENQA workshop on strategic communication will take place on 4-5 June in Oslo, Norway.

ROQA-TNE peer-learning activity on QA of TNE for QA agencies will take place on 6-7 July in Germany.



European Association for
Quality Assurance in Higher Education

ENQA networking reception will take place on 9 September in Brussels, Belgium

ENQA seminar on the European Dimension of Quality Assurance will take place on 10 September in Brussels, Belgium

ENQA General Assembly 2026 will take place on 22-23 October in Gran Canaria, Spain.

European Quality Assurance Forum (EQAF) 2026 will take place on 18-20 November in Yerevan, Armenia (co-organised by ENQA, EUA, EURASHE and ESU)

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