

## Updates on the organisation of the Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum

Iași – Chișinău, 26 – 27 May 2027

For the XCIX BFUG meeting in Cyprus

### Background

The 2027 Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum is organised by the Ministries of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova and Romania, with the support of the EHEA Secretariat. The organisation of the conference and forum is also supported through Erasmus+ Programme funds, within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and National Academic Recognition Information Centres (NARIC) (ERASMUS-EDU-2024-EHEA-NARIC) call, through the following projects:

- Support for the 2024-2027 Moldovan-Romanian EHEA Secretariat: *Delivering together for a renewed Bologna Process*” (EHEA-SEC-4-BP)
- Support for the Coordination Group on Global Policy Dialogue (GLOBAL 2030)

At the XCV Bologna Follow-Up Group (BFUG) meeting, hosted by Poland in Warsaw, between 24th-25th of February 2025, the BFUG **approved the dates** for the ministerial conference, as well as the **roadmap** for the organisation of the conference:

- BFUG XCVII meeting (15 – 16 December 2025, Denmark): Discuss the **save-the-dates text** and the proposed **list** of invited countries and organisations from outside EHEA
- BFUG XCIX meeting (9 – 10 March 2026, Cyprus): Discuss the **invitation** and the draft **agenda** (only with timings)
- BFUG CI meeting (November 2026, Ireland): Discuss the **Practical Information Note** and the **draft agenda**
- BFUG CIII meeting (early Spring 2027, Lithuania): Discuss the **final agenda**

### Save the date

At the XCVII BFUG meeting, hosted by Denmark in Copenhagen between the 15th and 16th of December, the BFUG approved the save-the-date announcement and the list of non-EHEA countries and organisations to be invited, including Papua New Guinea and East Timor, proposed in writing by Poland.

**Sending the save-the-date announcement is in progress.** Delegations are encouraged to confirm receipt of the message, and, for non-EHEA invitees, to express their interest in participating beforehand.

### Invitation and draft agenda

The **invitation** is annexed to this document. It also includes the next steps, so that those invited would know what to expect in terms of further information. The proposed size of the delegations is **6 members for EHEA** members, consultative members, and BFUG partners, and **4 members for non-EHEA** countries and organisations.

The **draft agenda** describes how the Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum work is distributed over the two days of the conference, as well as dinners, cultural events, and the social program.

After the XCIX BFUG meeting in Cyprus, the EHEA Secretariat will send the invitation to the EHEA members, consultative members, and partners no later than one year before the Ministerial Conference and GPF. For the non-EHEA members, the Moldovan and Romanian authorities will send the invitations through diplomatic channels, via the embassies, for the countries included in the list.

Following the suggestions of the BFUG Board in Oslo (February 2026), the Romanian and Moldovan hosts will engage with the BFUG as a whole and individual BFUG delegations in designing the proposed draft agenda to be submitted for the upcoming BFUG meeting in Ireland. It is expected that BFUG delegations would indicate, at a later stage, the manner through which their ministers would like to be engaged in the programme of the Ministerial Conference and GPF, ensuring the attractiveness and interactivity of the event and their active participation.

The BFUG representatives are asked to keep their cabinets informed about the event and its political importance. The BFUG members and their working structures are also invited to consider organising side events on the margins of the event, either in Iași or in Chișinău.

**The BFUG members are invited to discuss the invitation text and the draft agenda of the 2027 Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum.**