

Advancing Fundamental Values in the EHEA: Progress on FV WG and related activities

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Selection of National Operators

- National Operators (NOs) were selected by the NewFAV2 project following an extensive consultation process with the BFUG members and FV WG members
- Where members expressed strong opposition, NO were replaced with other experts (recommended by members when the proposal fitted the criteria or by other experts selected by the project team—to clarify the revalidation).
- Role of NOs: Assist in data collection, validation, and promotion of fundamental values at national levels



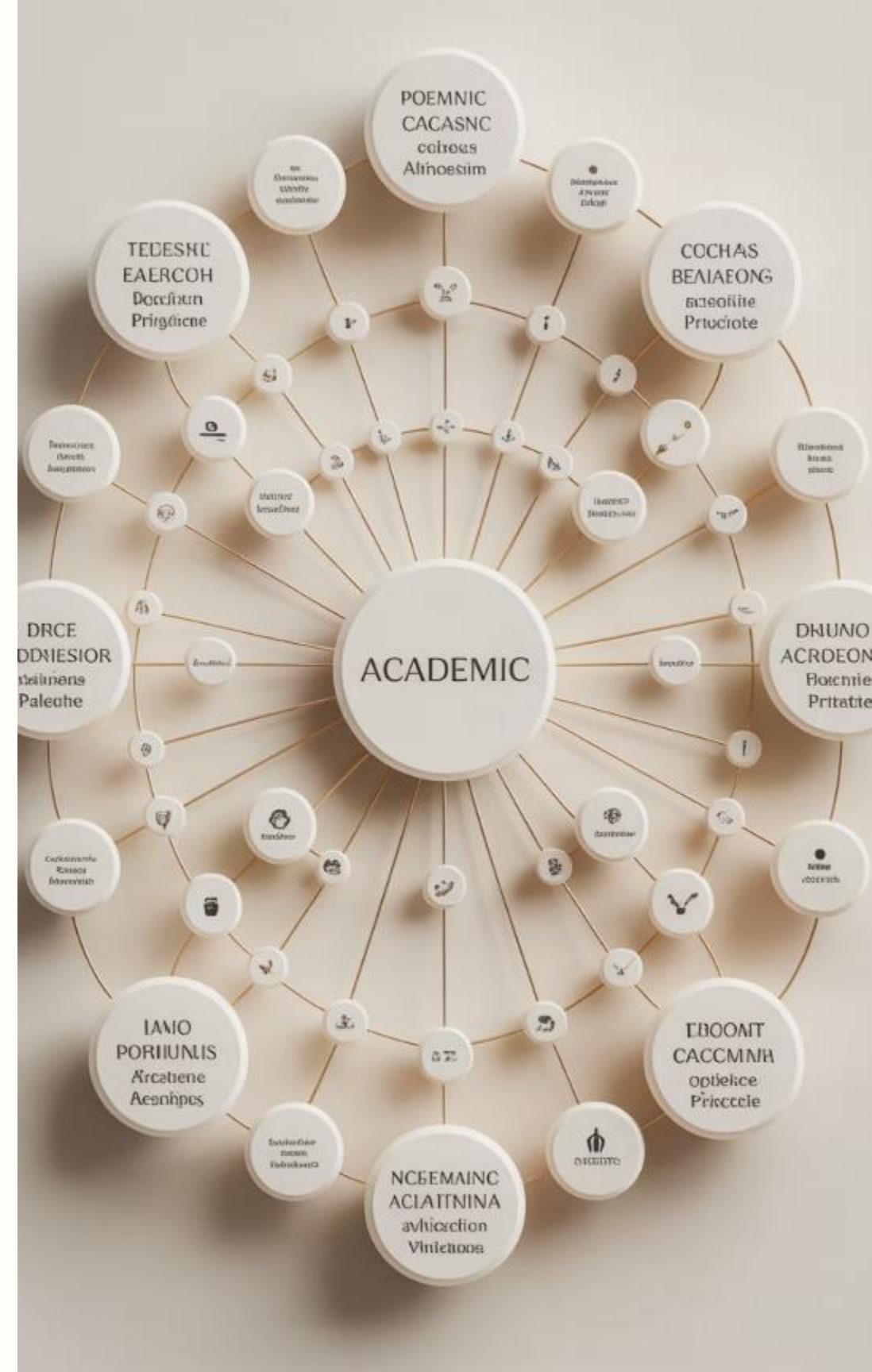
Training of National Operators

- The training of National Operators has started.
- Training focuses on:
 - Understanding fundamental values definitions,
 - indicator application,
 - ethical data handling
 - using the UForm instrument
- Sessions include practical guidance on prefilling questionnaires and collaborating with Eurydice;
- Goal: Build capacity for accurate, consistent implementation across EHEA systems



Timeline for the monitoring process

- **End of February** – National Operators finish pre-filling the questionnaires
- **1-8 March** – the surveys will be sent to public authorities and national stakeholders
- **10th of March** – update the BFUG
- **End of March** – first deadline for public authorities to validate the survey
- **Beginning of April** – final worksheet ready for analysis
- **Next BFUG Meeting** – first draft of the Monitoring report to be sent to the BFUG for feedback



Fundamental Values Monitoring Tool

Academic community consultation: interval to be decided

- [Lymesurvey form on fundamentalvalues.info](#)



Academic freedom

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Q1.3. If the concept of academic freedom mentioned is defined in different legal instruments in the

Select all that apply

- Yes, they are fully or mostly consistent.
- No, there is a contradiction between constitution and laws.

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Q1.4. To what groups do academic freedom protections apply?

Select all that apply

- Tenured staff (permanent contract)
- Non-tenured staff (fixed term contract)
- Students
- Unspecified in the legislation

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Q1.7. Are there non-legal system-level guidelines to support the exercise of academic freedom?

Choose one of the following answers

- Yes
- No

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Q1.9. Are there non-legal system-level guidelines to support the exercise of academic freedom

Select all that apply

- Yes, specific initiatives
- Yes, policies
- Yes, dedicated funding
- No

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Fundamental Values

↑ Growing network

EHEA countries and the European Commission.

Implementing fundamental values

The fundamental values of the EHEA

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Academic freedom

freedom of academic staff and students to engage in research, teaching, learning and communication in and with society without interference nor fear of reprisal

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Academic integrity

a set of behaviours and attitudes in the academic community internalising and furthering compliance with ethical and professional principles and standards in learning, teaching, research, governance, outreach, and any other tasks related to the missions of higher education.

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Institutional autonomy

the will and ability of higher education institutions to fulfil their missions without undue interference and to set and implement their own priorities and policies concerning organisation, finance, staffing and academic affairs

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Understanding academic freedom (AF)

Academic freedom is a foundational concept necessary for quality higher education and a vital element of democracy. It is considered a distinct, fundamental democratic right, rooted universally in the pursuit of knowledge and truth.

Academic freedom denotes the freedom of the academic community - including academic staff and students - in respect of research, teaching and learning and, more broadly, the dissemination of research and teaching outcomes both within and outside the higher education sector. In essence the concept ensures that the academic community may engage in research, teaching, learning and communication in society without fear of reprisal.

What does academic freedom protect?



Freedom of research

This includes the right to determine what shall (or shall not) be researched, how it shall be researched, and the methods and avenues through which the findings will be disseminated.



Freedom of teaching

Academic staff must have the liberty to define the curriculum and teaching methods, an exercise that includes strong public and social responsibility.



Freedom of learning

This value is closely linked to equitable access to higher education

Each of these freedoms entails the overarching freedom **to think, to question, and to share ideas**, both inside and outside the higher education sector. This protection applies to the dissemination of research and teaching outcomes both within and outside the higher education sector.

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FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

Academic freedom

Academic integrity

Student and staff participation

Public responsibility for HE

Q&A / Next Steps

Open for questions!

Thank you!

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