BPIR 2027

Preliminary findings and next steps

BFUG Dublin, 5-6 November 2026

Anna Horvath, EACEA

Co-chair of the WG on Monitoring

European Commission

Structure of the report

EUROPEAN
Higher Education Area

bologna process

Degree structures and qualification frameworks

Recognition

Quality assurance

Fundamental values

Social dimension

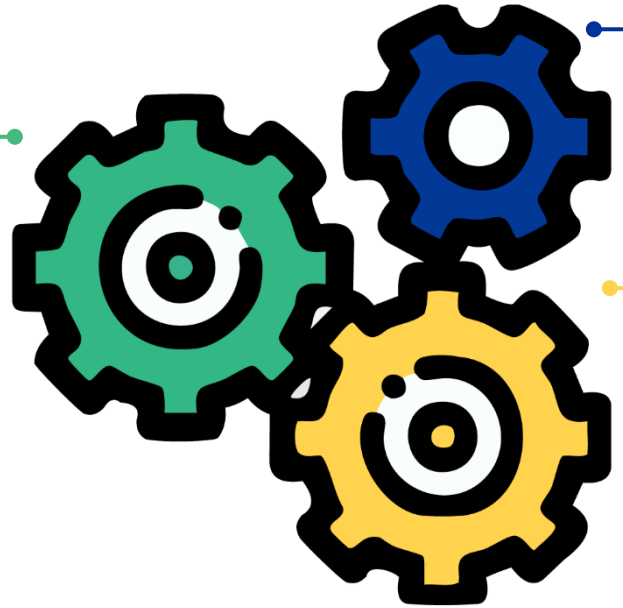
Internationalisation and mobility

Sources of information

EUROPEAN
Higher Education Area

bologna process

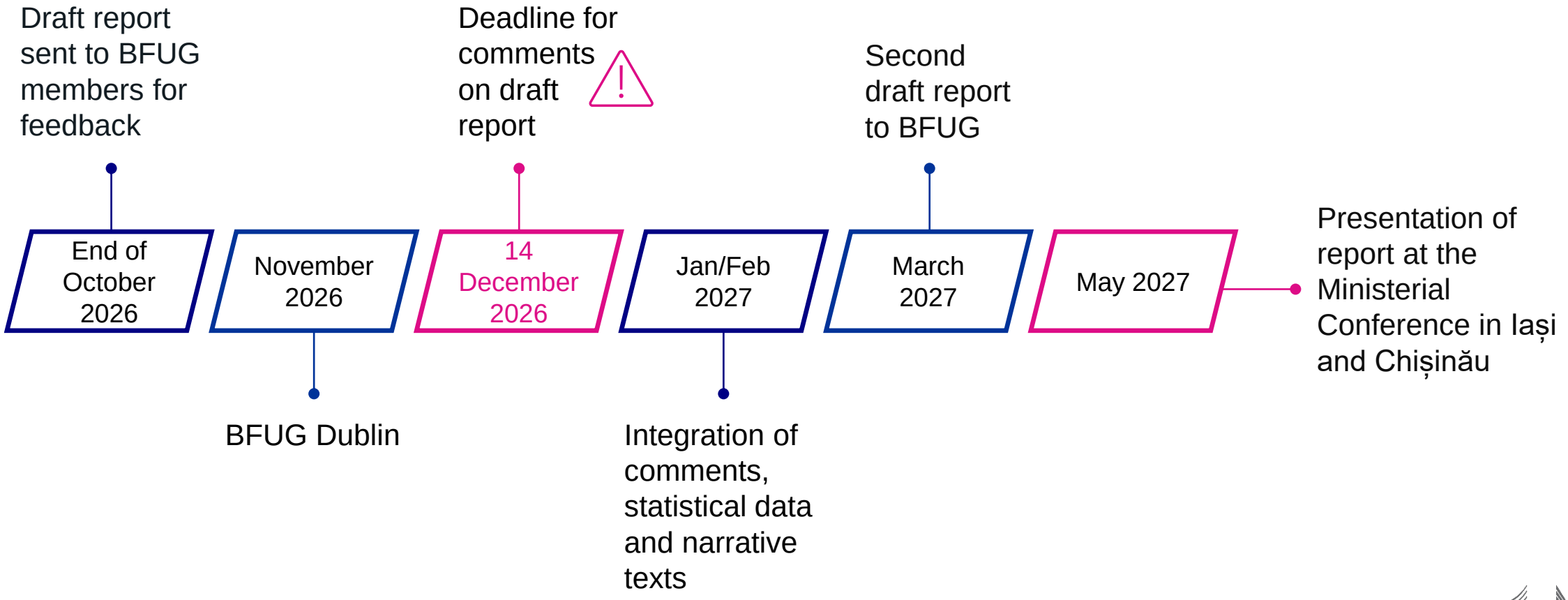
Qualitative indicators
(BFUG data collection and EQAR)



Statistical data
(EHESO - learning mobility)

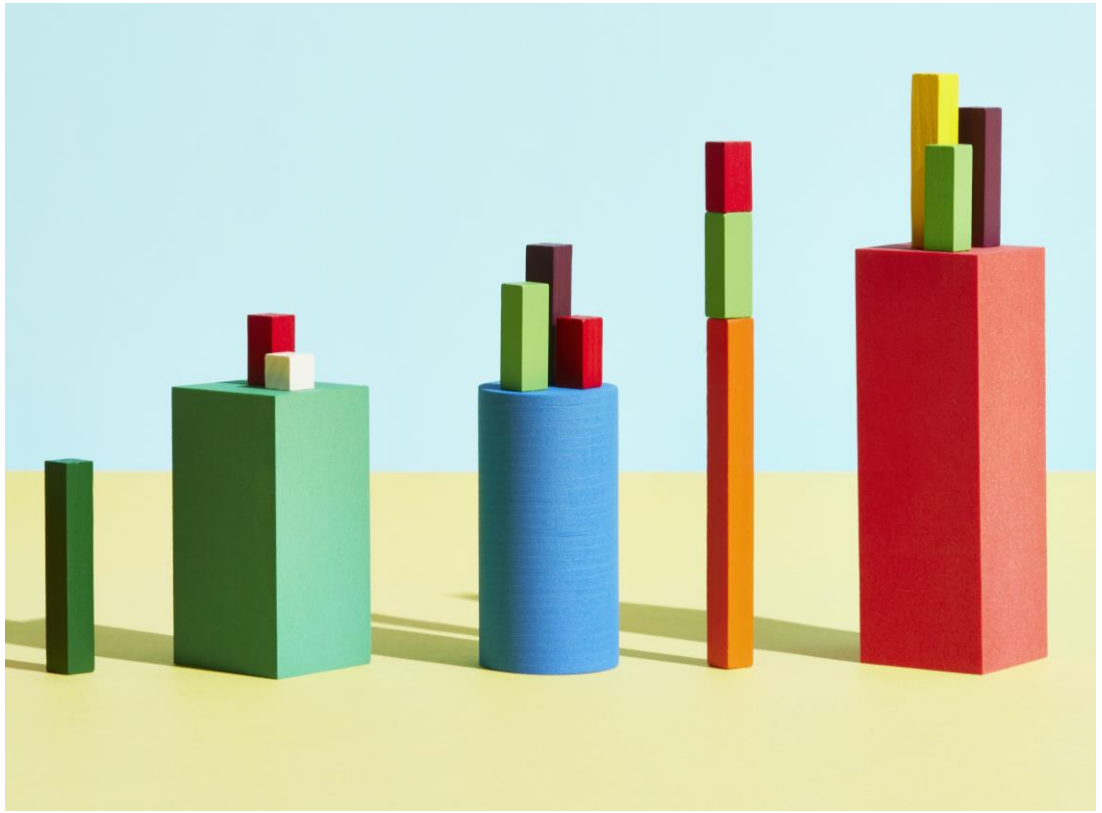
Narrative texts
(Bologna working structures)

Timeline


Draft report sent to BFUG members for feedback
End of October 2026
November 2026
BFUG Dublin
Deadline for comments on draft report
14 December 2026
Jan/Feb 2027
Integration of comments, statistical data and narrative texts
Second draft report to BFUG
March 2027
May 2027
Presentation of report at the Ministerial Conference in Iași and Chișinău

Degree structures and qualification frameworks

- **Most notable development**: microcredentials – broader provision and stronger integration into NQFs.
- **Further progress**: NQFs – continued consolidation and self-certification.
- **Broadly stable**: degree structures, ECTS and the Diploma Supplement – already firmly established, with only limited differences in implementation.



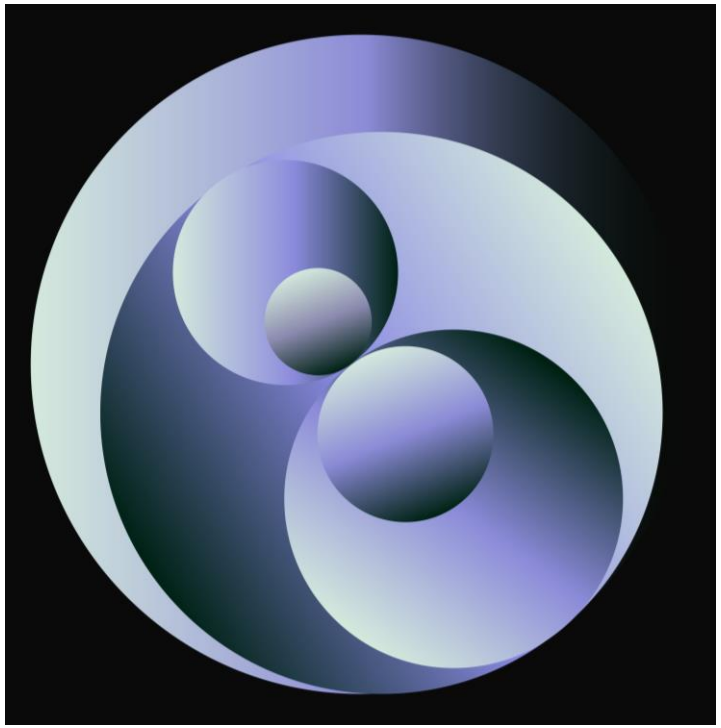
Recognition

- **Most progress:** LRC principles and Article VII – stronger legislative and procedural implementation across the EHEA.
- **Recognition tools:** broader use, though patterns of use differ across countries.
- **Limited progress:** automatic recognition of qualifications and especially RPL.

Quality assurance

- **Continued trend** of widening alignment with the ESG and **strong growth** in coverage of higher education institutions by external QA.
- **Strong growth** in reported level of student involvement in QA (to be further corroborated).
- **Stable** (mainly unchanged) situation with reported level of international involvement in QA and regulatory openness to cross-border QA.
- **Moderate increase** in the number of systems allowing for use of the European Approach, with a **very strong growth** in the number of conducted European Approach evaluations.

Fundamental values



- **Formal mention:** widespread for academic freedom and institutional autonomy, less common for academic integrity.
- **Legal definitions:** a specific mention does not always entail a definition, and coverage of dimensions varies.
- **Oversight:** integrity provisions emphasise codes of ethics and QA. External evaluation of autonomy is required in a minority of systems.
- **Participation:** provisions are widespread within institutions, with differences across governance levels and specific rights.

Social dimension

- **A mixed picture across the EHEA:** implementation varies across systems and across the selected Principles and Guidelines.
- **Most progress:** initial teacher training, monitoring, and linking institutional funding to access, participation or completion objectives
- **More systems** combine measures supporting inclusive learning environments and institutional cultures.
- **Limited progress** in coordination across education levels and related policy areas, and national policy dialogue.

Internationalisation & mobility

- Focused **internationalisation / mobility strategies** in less than half of the countries
- **Strategic objectives** typically address outgoing/incoming mobility broadly; very few are linked to concepts such as sustainable mobility or balanced mobility
- **Increasing attention** on inclusion, targeted measures and blended mobility
- **No progress**: target-setting and financial support, including portability

Thank you

© European Union 2026

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the CC BY 4.0 license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

Sources of pictures: Slide 8: Illustration by Andrei Castanha on Unsplash, Slide 10: Photo by Andrew Butler on Unsplash