5th TPG B on LRC meeting

7th October 2026, online from 9:30 to 12:15 CEST

Preparatory note

The fifth meeting of the Thematic Peer Group B on Key Commitment 2: National legislation and procedures compliant with the Lisbon Recognition Convention (LRC) is aimed at stimulating reflection on recognition of **transnational education qualifications**.

The meeting will provide an opportunity to present more in depth the Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education adopted by the Committee of the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (Lisbon Recognition Convention) on 22 October 2025 at its Tenth meeting in Paris, France.

The first part of the meeting will be also dedicated to share evidence from data analysis on TNE, such as to present experiences at national level – drawing on contributions from TPG B member countries – and at the international level.

The second part of the meeting will focus on presenting open questions and future approaches to TNE under the lens of the Bologna Key Commitments.

An open discussion will follow, focusing on the challenges and opportunities associated with the recognition of TNE institutions and programmes. Participants will be invited to contribute to two rounds of discussion, each lasting **15 minutes** and addressing one specific question. Participants will be divided into breakout rooms and digital tools will be used to facilitate and streamline the exchange of views among members.

In preparation for this session, and with reference to **Section III. "Quality Assurance and Recognition"** (point 1 and 2) of the Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education (22 October 2025), the following questions will guide the discussion:

1. What are the main challenges and opportunities at national level in implementing the recommendations of the Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education regarding the recognition of qualifications awarded through transnational agreements?
2. What suggestions would you offer to further promote the implementation of the Code of Good Practice recommendations by competent recognition authorities at national level?

The meeting will conclude with further updates in relation to the TPG-LRC Plus project activities and initiatives. In particular, the upcoming publication on TNE developed within the project and in conjunction with TPG A and TPG C will be presented.

This meeting is the fifth organised under the BFUG mandate and the fourth supported by the umbrella project TPG-LRC Plus – Fostering LRC implementation in the EHEA, co-funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ programme.

Policy context

- Tirana Communiqué (2024)

"We commit to supporting transnational cooperation, including for joint programmes and joint degrees, through better implementation of the key commitments and by removing undue administrative and legal barriers. In this regard, we welcome the **deepening and institutionalising of transnational cooperation**, supported by the Erasmus+ programme, underpinned by and with respect for the Bologna tools and commitments. Initiatives on various levels, including the European Universities alliances, create new opportunities for our academic communities, and should include participation of students and staff in all decision-making processes. We take note of the European Commission's Communication on a blueprint for a European Degree and look forward to exploring synergies with the EHEA."

Evidence from implementation

- Monitoring the implementation of the Lisbon recognition Convention: monitoring report, Paris/Strasbourg 2022

"Based on the analysis conducted and in line with the main conclusions, it is recommended that:

- an update of the "Revised Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education", published in 2007, should be undertaken to address new challenges in the TNE sector;
- the main element to be taken into account during evaluation procedures of TNE qualifications is related to quality assurance aspects of programmes and institutions, considering both the awarding body and the institution administering studies;
- during any TNE activity, it is important that higher education institutions and/or national authorities clearly provide information related to quality assurance aspects and all the other elements of the TNE qualification that may differ from the national qualification;
- national authorities are invited to adopt every possible measure to eradicate all forms of mispractice within the TNE sector, such as Diploma Mills and fraudulent qualifications;
- national information centres should provide clear and transparent information on the TNE sector, considering both their evaluation practices in this regard and elements concerning their TNE institutions operating abroad;
- during assessment procedures, the status of the institution that issued the final credential (awarding institution) and the institution where the studies were actually undertaken or which organised them (institution administering studies) should be taken into account;
- higher education institutions, in the case of TNE qualifications, should provide clear and transparent details regarding the nature and status of both the awarding institution and the institution administering studies, as foreseen in the format of the Diploma Supplement (Points 2.3 and 2.4).".

Draft agenda

9:15	Online platform is open for everyone to connect
9:30	**Welcome remarks and introduction to the meeting by TPG B Co-Chairs** *TPG B Co-Chairs*
9:40	**Conceptual definition and policy framework of TNE in the Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education** Allan Bruun Pedersen – *Lisbon Recognition Convention Committee Bureau*
9:55	**Evidence from quantitative data analysis on TNE** Elena Cîrlan – *European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA)*
10:05	**Sharing practices and data on TNE: experiences at national level** ○ Hannah Pesek – *Austria* ○ Sara Thornton – *France* ○ Emanuela Gitto – *Italy*
10:30	Q&A session
10:35	*Coffee break*
10:50	**Open questions on TNE in the light of Bologna Key Commitments** • TPG A on Qualifications Framework – Baiba Ramiņa, *Latvia* • TPG C on Quality Assurance – Varduhi Gyulazyan, *Armenia*
11:10	**Introduction to breakout sessions** Introduced by Chiara Finocchietti, *Italy* Indications for the activity: • two rounds of discussion, 15 minutes each; • one specific question per each round; • division into breakout rooms; • 1 rapporteur per each group appointed; • digital tools used to facilitate discussions and collect responses.

11:15	**Discussion on challenges and opportunities associated with TNE** *TPG B Members* Questions for discussion: 1. What are the main challenges and opportunities at national level in implementing the recommendations of the Code of Good Practice in the Provision of Transnational Education regarding the recognition of qualifications awarded through transnational agreements? 2. What suggestions would you offer to further promote the implementation of the Code of Good Practice recommendations by competent recognition authorities at national level?
11:45	**Reporting in plenary** Chaired by Chiara Finocchietti, *Italy*
12:00	**Updates from the TPG-LRC Plus project and upcoming publication on TNE** Marianna Tardioli – *CIMEA, Italy*
12:05	**Insights about the organisation of the 4th TPG B on LRC meeting** Irina Duma – *EHEA Secretariat*
12:10	**Wrap up and conclusions** *TPG B Co-Chairs*
12:15	*End of the meeting*