



MINISTRY OF CULTURE
AND INNOVATION



Government of Iceland
Ministry of Higher Education,
Science and Innovation

PRIORITIES 2024-2027 ACTION PLAN

1st TPG C MEETING

28– 29 November 2024

Ghent



With the support of the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



2021-2024 WORKING PERIOD PRIORITIES

- ✓ Legislative framework in line with the ESG
- ✓ The European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes
- ✓ Cross-border Quality Assurance
- ✓ Quality assurance of micro-credentials
- ✓ Quality Assurance of TNE
- ✓ Quality assurance of European Universities
- ✓ Digitalisation of quality assurance processes

Composition of TPG C on QA

- **Chaired by 3 co-chairs:** Armenia, France and Romania
- **45 members: 38 countries** (Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium – Flemish Community, Belgium-French Community, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom – Scotland) + **7 consultative members** (EUA, Business Europe, Education International – ETUCE, ENQA, EQAR, EURASHE, ESU)

TOTAL	45
Countries	38
QAA	19
Ministries	12
QAA and ministries	4
QAA and HEI/HEI	3
Consultative members	7

TIRANA COMMUNIQUÉ

As in Paris in 2018, we today reaffirm our three key commitments to be preconditions for the successful development and innovation of the EHEA, that is to:

- implement a three-cycle system of programmes and degrees, based on learning outcomes and the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), compatible with the overarching qualifications framework of the EHEA (QF-EHEA);
- support the recognition of qualifications throughout the EHEA by implementing the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (Lisbon Recognition Convention) and its principles, while working towards automatic recognition in the EHEA; and
- promote a **quality culture** in higher education, fostered **by fit-for-purpose quality assurance processes** in line with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).

TIRANA COMMUNIQUÉ

The 2024 Bologna Process Implementation Report confirms and illustrates the still incomplete and uneven implementation of these key commitments, but also the **important contribution of the Thematic Peer Groups** under the guidance of the Bologna Implementation Coordination Group in improving the situation.

Therefore, we commit to ensuring that we have, or will devise, and will publish appropriate **action plans** to address any remaining implementation gaps, and to promoting knowledge-sharing activities related to the EHEA.

As the **Bologna Process tools** have developed throughout the last decade, we mandate the BFUG to work on their **future-proof development, dissemination and possible expansion**. To support the implementation of the ECTS, including learning outcomes, we invite the BFUG to review the ECTS Users' Guide 2015 by 2027, to strengthen its key features and adapt it to current developments, including micro credentials.

TIRANA COMMUNIQUÉ

The application of the ESG promotes trust and transparency within and between higher education systems and facilitates accountability and enhancement. To keep them in line with ongoing developments, challenges and expectations, we invite the authors of the **ESG** to propose a **revised version** by 2026 to the BFUG, to be adopted by us at our 2027 Ministerial conference, as well as an adjustment, where required, of the **European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes**. We will also promote **more robust and transparent quality assurance of transnational education delivered worldwide, in line with the ESG**, to protect the interests of students.

The primary authors are ENQA, ESU, EUA and EURASHE - the E4 Group, in cooperation with Business Europe, EI and EQAR.

TIRANA COMMUNIQUÉ

Furthermore, we are committed to countering diploma and **accreditation mills**, fraudulent qualifications and academic cheating services, made more accessible through developments in the digital field. We ask the BFUG to make good use of the work of the ETINED platform and the ENIC-NARIC networks to address these challenges and protect academic integrity.

PRIORITIES (23 answers)

- ✓ European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes
- ✓ Online education, QA of TNE, Institutional accreditation, QA of European Universities Alliances
- ✓ Academic integrity
- ✓ ESG compliance
- ✓ Artificial intelligence
- ✓ Life long learning
- ✓ QA of MC
- ✓ Thematic analysis

TODAY'S PRESENTATIONS

- ✓ Revision of current QA systems/procedures
 - Compliance with the ESGs or consolidation of the current QA framework
 - Move towards institutional evaluation
 - Reduce burden, simplification
 - Enhancement, relevance
 - Stakeholders' involvement (students, employers)
 - Risk-based monitoring
- ✓ Digitalisation, AI, integrated data systems
- ✓ Internal QA and quality culture
- ✓ Microcredentials, life-long learning
- ✓ Joint degrees
- ✓ EA, CBQA
- ✓ European alliances, European Degree label

TODAY'S DISCUSSIONS

- ✓ Service to society, Research – connection with QA
- ✓ Academic integrity, academic freedom
- ✓ Thematic analysis – part of ESG standards/general

WORKING METHODS

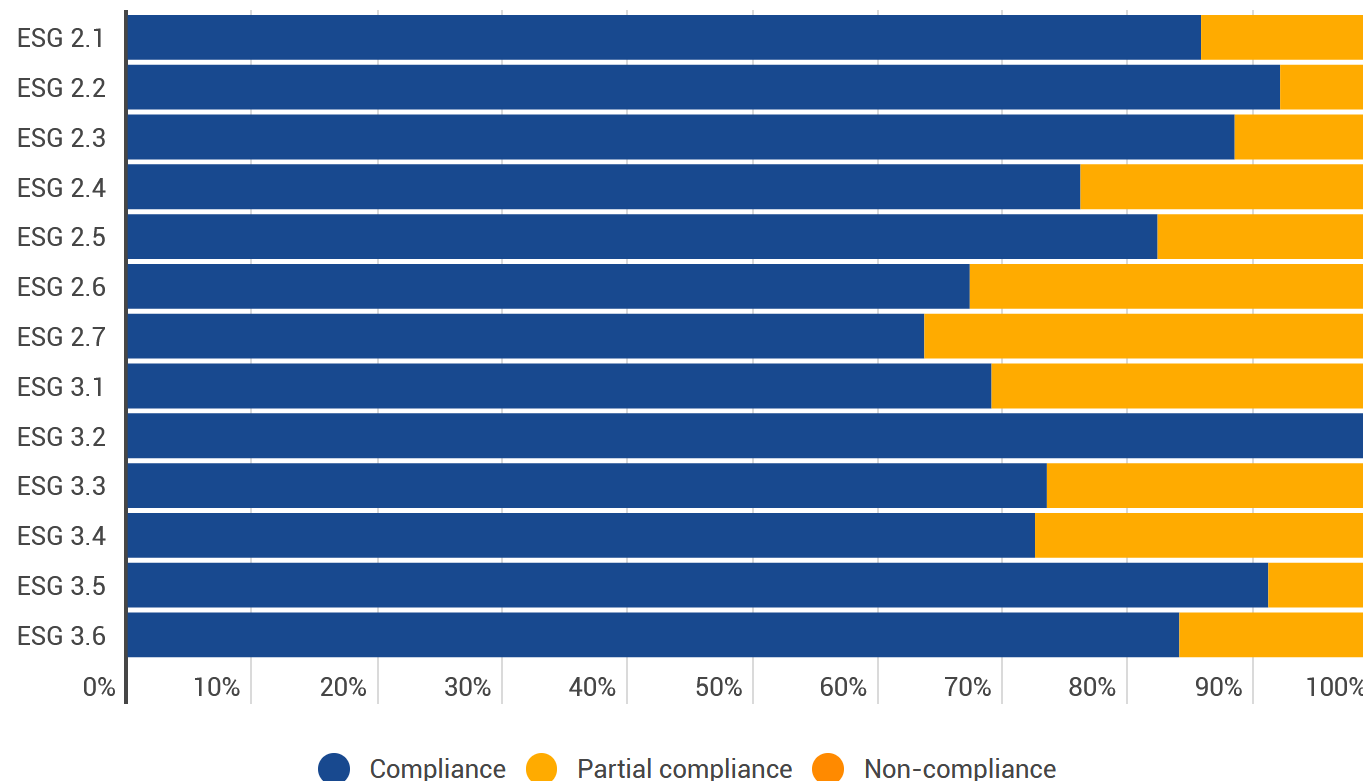
- ✓ Working groups
- ✓ TPG-C in person meetings
- ✓ Staff-exchange
- ✓ Peer-learning activities
- ✓ Parallel-sessions discussions
- ✓ Webinars
- ✓ Plenary sessions
- ✓ Reports on different topics
- ✓ TPG-C online meetings
- ✓ Action plans

2024-2027 WORKING PERIOD PRIORITIES

✓ Implementation of the ESGs

- Thematic analysis for specific standards
- Best practice
- Peer-learning activities

➤ enhancement of EQAR
Knowledge Base



2024-2027 WORKING PERIOD PRIORITIES

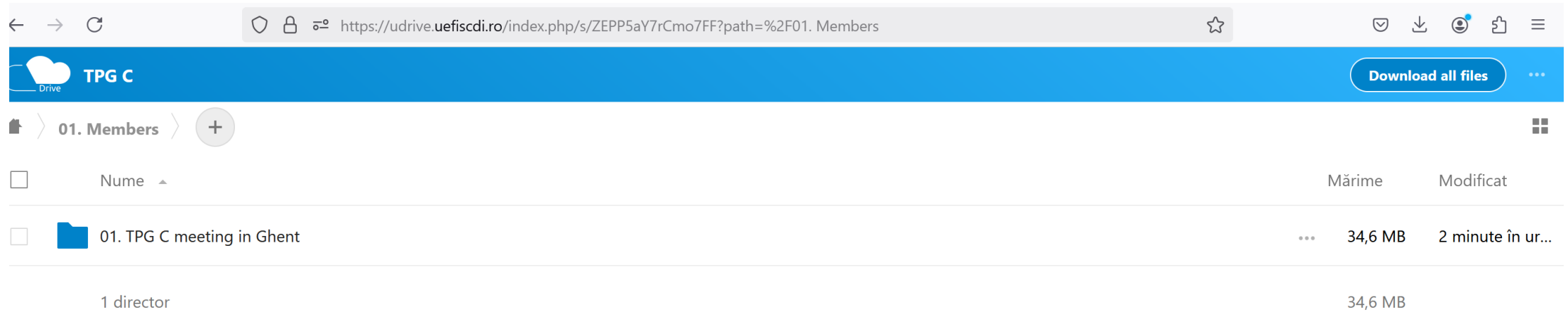
- ✓ **European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes**
 - Conduct an analysis of European Approach to QA of Joint Programmes implementation
 - Conduct PLAs and webinars on the implementation of European Approach
- ✓ **Cross-border quality assurance**
 - PLA
 - working group to be composed of members of the E4 and EQAR and members of TPG-C on QA in charge of producing a Code of Conduct for CBQA and an updated version of the Key Considerations for CBQA in the EHEA
- ✓ **QA of TNE** ➤ synergies TPG A, TPG B
 - seminar/PLA to explore a common understanding of definition of TNE, responsibilities and approaches to QA of TNE, and strengthening use of existing tools
 - mapping and collecting case examples
 - develop a self-assessment tool for agencies

2024-2027 WORKING PERIOD PRIORITIES

- ✓ **Mapping EQA of flexible learning pathways/life long learning** ➡ synergies TPG A, TPG B
 - Seminar
 - Questionnaire
 - Policy brief
- ✓ **Reflecting on QA of European Universities alliances**
 - Seminar
 - Questionnaire
 - Mapping
- ✓ **A renewed quality culture**
 - Seminar
 - Questionnaire
 - Policy brief



https://udrive.uefiscdi.ro/index.php/s/ZEPP5aY7rCmo7FF?path
=%2F01.%20Members



Thank you!

v.gyulazyan@anqa.am
sophie.guillet@hceres.fr, solange.pisarz@cti-commission.fr
cristina.ghitulica@aracis.ro
petrisor.tuca@ehea.info

I'MINQA