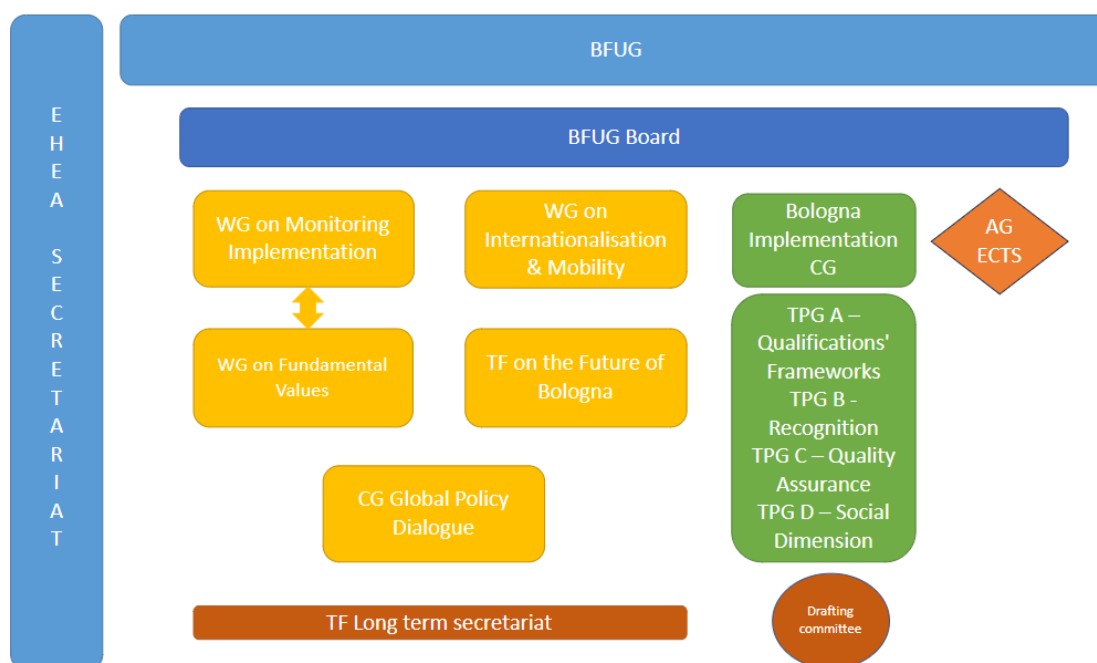


Bologna Follow-Up Group Work Programme 2024-2027

I. Introduction

For the implementation of the Tirana Communiqué, at the meeting in Budapest, the BFUG adopted the Work Programme for the 2024-2027 period, which includes the list of working structures, their contribution to the commitments of the Tirana Communiqué and the list of co-chairs. The co-chairs will prepare the Terms of Reference for their working structures, which will then be adopted by the BFUG in November 2024.

II. Working structures established by the BFUG



The Advisory Group on ECTS shall be composed by a small group of experts and it is chaired by the European Commission.

Nr.	Working Structure	Co-chairs	Tirana Communiqué	Outcomes/Comments
1.	Working Group on Monitoring (implementation)	Austria Eurydice Malta	<i>'We mandate the BFUG to ensure that policy commitments aiming at creating by 2030 an inclusive, innovative, and interconnected EHEA, mindful of the fundamental values, are properly monitored, including through a Bologna Process Implementation Report that assesses key developments.'</i> and <i>'We commit to measuring progress in the implementation of the Principles and Guidelines to Strengthen the Social Dimension of Higher Education in the EHEA and ask the BFUG to report back on this in 2027.'</i>	The WG would produce the 2027 BPIR Monitoring report. A decision regarding the monitoring approach should be made based on the discussion initiated in the previous semester.
2.	Task Force on Future of Bologna	Belgium – Flemish Community, Germany, Ireland, Ukraine	<i>'We also ask the BFUG to submit to us in 2027 proposals for the main priorities for the next decade, in close cooperation with higher education institutions, staff and students.'</i>	The Task Force would ensure outreach towards stakeholders as established by the Communiqué. The main purpose of the group is to prepare and organise debates in the BFUG on themes relevant to the future of the Bologna Process, in order to ensure BFUG ownership and bringing back more content discussions within the BFUG.

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				<p>The TF could also work on preparing debates regarding other relevant topics after the consultation with the BFUG, such as the synergies with the European Education Area and European Research Area the commitment related to the future-proof development, dissemination and possible expansion of key commitments.</p> <p>The TF would have links with the BICG and other working structures.</p>
3.	Working Group on Fundamental Values	Romania Malta	<i>'We welcome the work on creating a technical monitoring framework, and we ask the BFUG to report back to us at our 2027 Ministerial Conference.'</i>	Finalisation of the technical monitoring framework, through developing indicators to cover the dimensions included in the fundamental values statements, and finalising the first monitoring of based on the framework. Raising awareness, dissemination and support activities in what it concerns upholding the fundamental values at the national level would also be organised. The group should be linked with the WG on Monitoring.
4.	Working Group on Internationalisation and Mobility	Germany, Moldova, Netherlands, Ukraine	<i>'We mandate the BFUG to prepare an action plan to stimulate mobility'</i>	A WG on Mobility was included in the 2007-2015 Action Plan, which developed an

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			<p>and internationalisation of higher education and to support measures for achieving a greener, more inclusive, and more balanced mobility’, ‘We will support higher education institutions in their exploration of practices and benefits of blended mobility and virtual exchanges, and in fostering the internationalisation of the curricula. 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’ and ‘We reaffirm our commitment to enabling all learners to acquire international and intercultural competencies, and we will reinforce our efforts to identify and remove barriers and promote physical mobility, also in order to achieve the</p>	<p>Action plan on mobility in 2012.</p> <p>The headline would be how to attain the mobility target across EHEA and support internationalisation of higher education in general.</p> <p>The WG should have links with all working structures, collecting information on various elements that can impact access to mobility. Moreover, all working structures should have as one of the aims to outline how their work can foster mobility.</p>

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			<i>benchmark of at least 20% of mobile students'</i>	
5.	CG on Global Policy Dialogue	Italy Moldova UNESCO	<p><i>We ask the BFUG and its working structures to continue to develop and strengthen dialogue and collaboration with macro regions on various levels and with appropriate interlocutors.</i></p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p><i>' This includes reciprocal referencing of qualifications frameworks and credit systems, ratification and implementation of the UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education, as well as the second generation regional recognition conventions, and alignment and mutual understanding of quality assurance principles'.</i></p> <p><i>and from the Statement</i></p> <p><i>'We invite all participants in the EHEA Global Policy Forum to continue to engage in global policy dialogue and to identify the themes where</i></p>	<p>The CG GPD would continue the engagement with other parts of the world and prepare the statement for the Iași & Chișinău Bologna Policy Forum.</p> <p>The CG GPD can also take up other relevant topics after the consultation with the BFUG, such as, work on a better coordination with regional or interregional instruments dealing with HE policies.</p>

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			<i>synergies can be found between regions, and with global organizations such as UNESCO and OECD, be it at the intergovernmental level, or in transnational exchange and collaboration between higher education institutions and organisations.'</i>	
6.	Bologna Implementation Coordination Group and the Thematic Peer Groups	<p>BICG: Bulgaria, Finland, EUA</p> <p>TPG A: France, Georgia, Latvia,</p> <p>TPG B: France, Italy, Ukraine</p> <p>TPG C: Armenia, France, Romania</p> <p>TPG D: ESU, Latvia, Malta</p>	<p><i>'(acknowledging) 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 (...). 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'</i></p> <p>On Social Dimension:</p>	<p>The continuation of BICG and the three TPGs on QF (A), Recognition (B) and QA (C), plus an additional TPG on Social Dimension. The new TPG would work on promoting the Principles and Guidelines on Strengthening the Social Dimension of EHEA, also covering aspects related to student-centred learning.</p> <p>The BICG will work on creating a template for the action plan on implementing key commitments and promoting knowledge sharing activities.</p>

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			<i>'We, together with stakeholders and communities, commit to tackling the socio-economic challenges, such as the rising cost of living and difficulty to access student housing, that have impacted access to higher education and student life as a whole. We will intensify our efforts to ensure the recognition of qualifications held by refugees and to remove barriers to their enrolment in higher education.'</i>	
7.	TF on long-term secretariat	Czech Republic EUA	<i>We mandate the BFUG to continue working on the possibility of establishing a long-term, independent, internationally staffed Secretariat to create effective support for the BFUG, and to evaluate the feasibility and sustainability of the related proposals, models, and terms of reference in Spring 2026, to be presented for adoption and implementation at our 2027 Ministerial Conference</i>	Working based on the Roadmap developed by the Task Force on Rules and Regulations, with the possible support of the Secretariat in relation to assessing regulations and conditions, drafting procedures. The TF should be relatively small in terms of members for a more effective and concise process.
8.	Drafting Committee for the Iași – Chișinău Communiqué	TBD later		Prepare the Ministerial Communiqué, to be set up in January 2026.