

# **An overview of ENQA**

## **– aims, activities, and policies**

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3 October 2018

# What is ENQA?

- The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (EHEA)
- **A membership and representative organisation** of QA agencies in the EHEA (founded by agencies (in 2000); governed by agencies)

## STRUCTURE:

- Secretariat of 6 in Brussels
- Board of 9 elected members (rotation) → all from member agencies
- Appeals committee
- General assembly of all members

## MISSION:

- to drive the development of quality assurance
- represent agencies internationally, supporting them nationally
- promote the enhancement of quality and the development of a quality culture in higher education

# ENQA - organisation of QAAs

- Founded by agencies (in 2000); Governed by agencies
  - 53 members from 29 EHEA countries
  - 55 affiliates from a further 15 European countries
  - ENQA is representative of 44 of the 48 countries of the EHEA
  - Affiliates in the USA, Ecuador, Hong Kong, Israel and Jordan, and many operating internationally
- The criteria for membership is that an agency undergoes a successful **external review** against the 2015 **European Standards and Guidelines** (ESG) every five years
- Affiliates not yet members, or not agencies, or not within the EHEA

## 53 Members in 29 countries



## 55 Affiliates in 30 countries



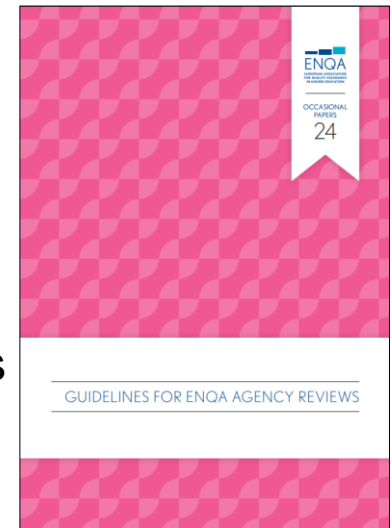
# ENQA's main activities

- **Representation of members** and their interests in policy making (Bologna Process)
- **European and international projects** to support further development of QA globally (work based learning, QA frameworks in ASEAN and Africa, elearning...)
- Workshops, seminars, conferences, and networking **events** for members and other stakeholders
- Together with other E4 organisations, **management of EQAR**
- **Reviews of member or applicant agencies** against the ESG 2015, including training of reviewers, management of reviewer database, coordination of review processes (10-15/year)
- **Sharing of good practice and mutual learning** among members (working groups etc.) and developing policies → elearning, recognition, SCL...
- Source of **information** on QA



# Activities: ENQA Agency Reviews

- Average of 12-15 reviews/year (5-year cycle)
- For membership and other purposes
- Membership criteria: the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG)
- Process of 12-15 months: SAR, 2,5 days site visit, ERR
- 4 panel members including an academic and a student
- Support from ENQA coordinator
- In 2018-19: external evaluation of ENQA Agency Reviews



# Activities: Communication



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Promoting the  
EUROPEAN  
DIMENSION  
OF QUALITY  
ASSURANCE  
IN HIGHER  
EDUCATION

The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) is an umbrella organisation which represents quality assurance organisations from the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) member states. ENQA promotes European co-operation in the field of quality assurance in higher education and disseminates information and expertise among its members and towards stakeholders in order to develop and share good practice and to foster the European dimension of quality assurance.



FIND ENQA AGENCIES IN THE EHEA

**LATEST NEWS**

28 March 2017  
» EQUIP focus groups attempt to address implementation challenges with the ESG 2015

28 March 2017  
» EQAF 2017 call for contributions is now open

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

12-13 October 2017 | The Hague, Netherlands  
» ENQA Agency Reviews: Seminar for Recently Reviewed Agencies

26-27 October 2017 | Sévres, France  
» 8th ENQA General Assembly, 26-27 October 2017, Sévres, France


**LATEST PUBLICATIONS**

2016-09-13  
» Guidelines for ENQA Agency Reviews

2016-11-30  
» Handbook for Internal Quality Management in Competence-Based Higher Education

2017-02-23  
» Key Considerations for Cross-Border Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area


**CURRENT PROJECTS**




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**PUBLICATIONS**

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
- » Occasional Papers
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**TRANSPARENCY OF EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION THROUGH PUBLIC QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORTS (EQAREP)**  
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# Activities: Communication and events

<https://twitter.com/ENQAAtwt>

<https://www.facebook.com/ENQAsecretariat/>

Quality Assurance in European Higher Education LinkedIn group:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8591746>

## **Events:**

ENQA Networking event

Quality Assurance in the European Context seminar

## **Contact:**

Avenue de Tervuren, 36-38 – bte 4

1040 Brussels, Belgium

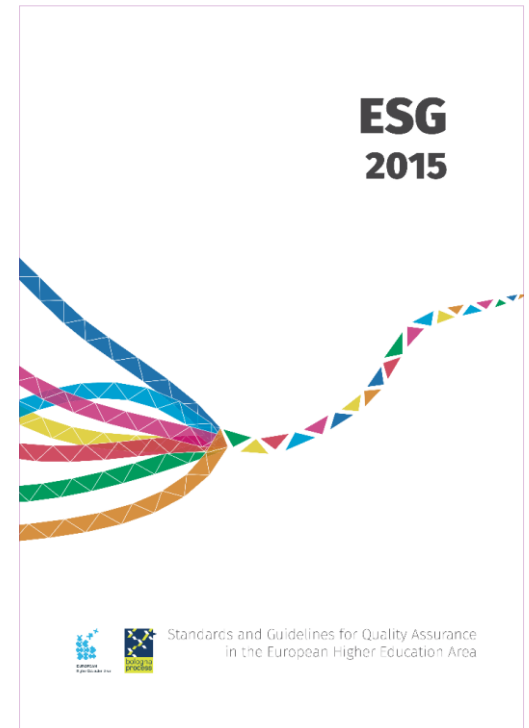
Tel: +32 2 735 56 59

Fax: +32 2 736 98 50

E-mail: [secretariat@enqa.eu](mailto:secretariat@enqa.eu)

# Policies – promoting the ESG

- First priority: support, encourage and ensure use and implementation of the ESG:
  - Agency reviews
  - Discussions on interpretation and practical implementation (generic principles!) → WG on SCL
  - Support agencies to meet the criteria → Independence!
  - Work with the E4 stakeholder group to ensure all levels are on board
  - Encourage ministries to create framework conditions that allow for ESG compliance (the Bologna Process)
  - Support EQAR



# Policies – specific areas of interest

- Work on specific areas of relevance to agencies, the ESG and generally QA in Europe, such as:
  - QA of joint programmes
  - QA of elearning
  - QA of work-based learning
  - Appropriate approaches to cross-border QA (agencies operating in foreign countries)



# Policies – ENQA messages to ministers

- ENQA asked the ministers in Paris in May 2018 to:
  - Create and safeguard the necessary conditions that **enable agencies to work with appropriate levels of independence and autonomy**
  - Ensure that national regulations do not hinder the **comprehensive use of the European Approach for QA of joint programmes**
  - Clarify legislative frameworks in order to **support a responsible development of cross-border QA** across the EHEA
  - Allow and encourage **student participation** in QA
  - Ensure that regulations and practices allow for the **full publication of review reports**





Thank you!

