An overview of ENQA
– aims, activities, and policies

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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

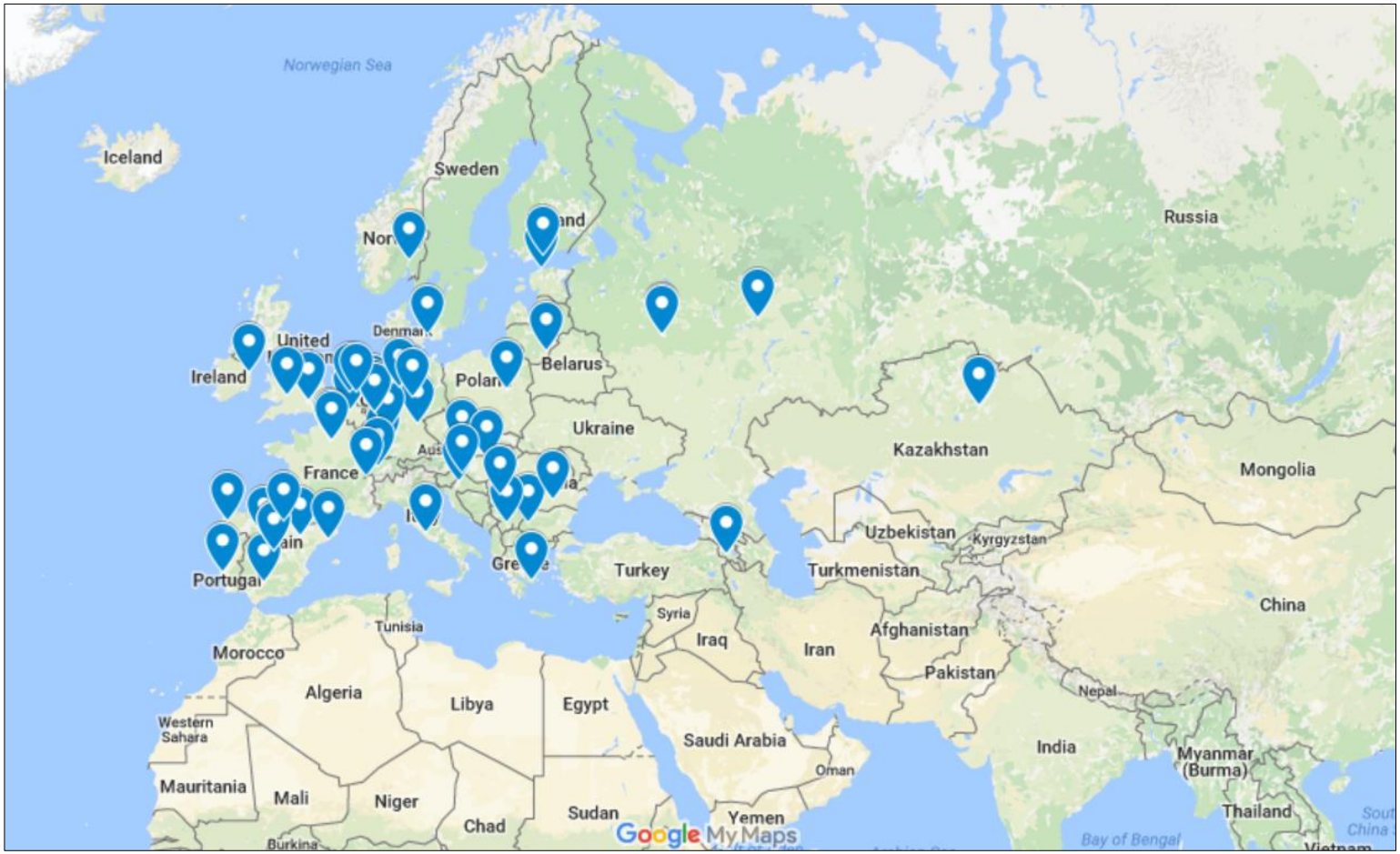
MISSION:

- 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

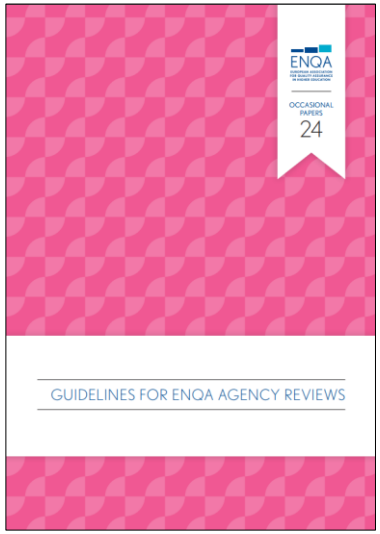
ENQA's main activities

- **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

Activities: Communication and events

https://twitter.com/ENQAtwt
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

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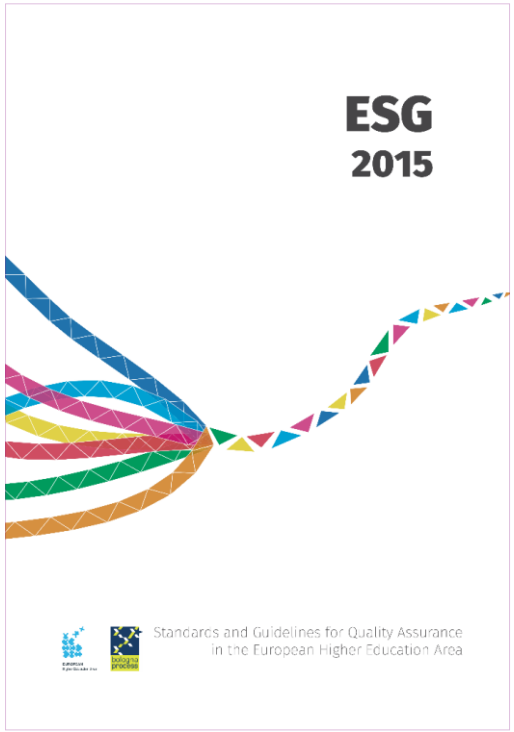
Fax: +32 2 736 98 50
E-mail: secretariat@enqa.eu

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 responsibile 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!