



Preview of the 2020 Rome Ministerial Communiqué

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WEBINAR: UPDATE ON THE BOLOGNA PROCESS
WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2020

Ministerial Declarations and Communiqués



□ A Communiqué is adopted at each Ministerial Conference and outlines decisions taken by the Ministers – 11 so far.

□ The BFUG is overseeing the implementation of the Ministerial Communiqués.

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the EHEA website. The browser's address bar shows 'www.ehea.info/page-ministerial-declarations-and-communiqués'. The website has a blue header with navigation tabs for 'EHEA', 'TOPICS', and 'EVENTS'. Below the header is a blue banner with a white navigation bar containing 'HOME', 'HOW DOES THE BOLOGNA PROCESS WORK?', and 'MINISTERIAL DECLARATIONS AND COMMUNIQUÉS'. The main content area is titled 'MINISTERIAL DECLARATIONS AND COMMUNIQUÉS' and contains text about Ministerial Conferences, a list of past conferences (Paris 2018, Yerevan 2015, Bucharest 2012), and a section for the 'Last Communiqué' with links to various documents. The bottom of the screenshot shows a Windows taskbar with the date '14/10/2020' and time '15:10'.

Elaboration - The Drafting Committee

- Composed by the Co-chairs chairing in the first semester of 2020 (Croatia, Ukraine), the two outgoing Co-chairs of that period (Finland, Turkey), the former Co-chairs (**Romania**, North Macedonia), the **Vice-chair (Italy)** and the BFUG Secretariat

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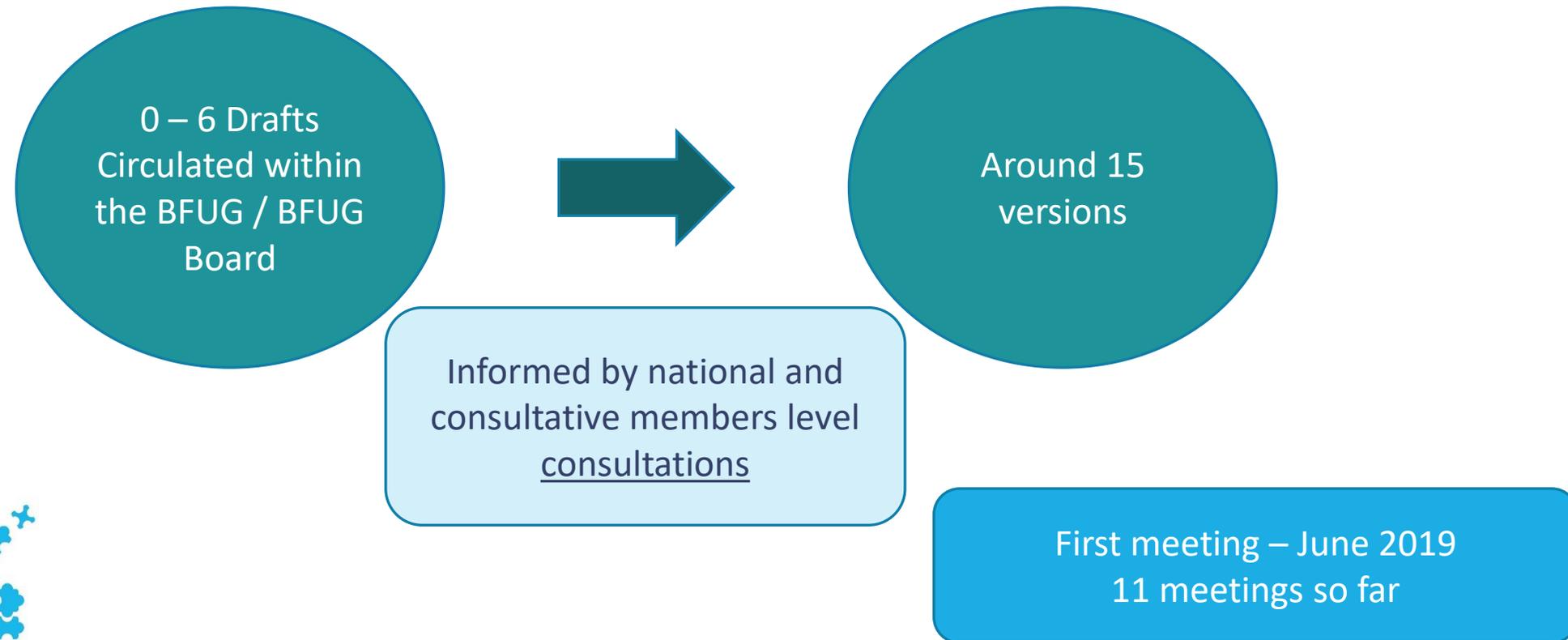
- **ESU** as representative of the consultative partners (including **ENQA**)

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- Co-chairs of the semester in which the Ministerial Conference will take place (Germany, United Kingdom and UK Scotland)

First meeting – June 2019
11 meetings so far

Elaboration - The Drafting Committee



Introduction

Our vision

Fundamental Values

Building the Future

- An **Inclusive** EHEA
- An **Innovative** EHEA
- An **Interconnected** EHEA

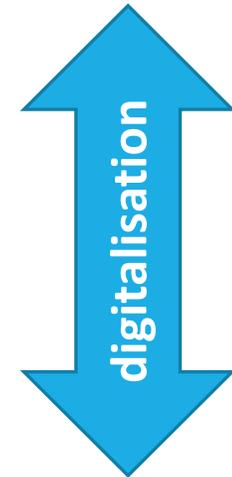
Implementation

The EHEA in a Global Setting

Conclusion

Annexes

3I



Structure

Our vision

The EHEA in 2030 will:

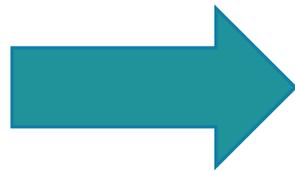
- be an area where students, staff and graduates can **move freely** to study, teach and do research
- fully respect the **fundamental values** of higher education and democracy and the rule of law
- encourage **creativity** and **critical thinking**
- expand the opportunities offered by **technological development** for research-based learning and teaching
- offer all learners **equitability of opportunities** in accordance with their potential and aspirations
- offer up-skilling and reskilling opportunities in a **lifelong learning** perspective
- be a key actor in meeting the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (**SDGs**) by 2030



Quality education will continue to be the hallmark of the EHEA.

Fundamental values

- Commitment to promoting and protecting **our shared fundamental values** - institutional autonomy, academic freedom and integrity, participation of students and staff in higher education governance, and public responsibility for and of higher education - **in the entire EHEA through intensified political dialogue and cooperation** as the necessary basis for **quality** learning, teaching and research as well as for democratic societies.

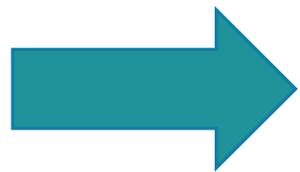


framework for the **enhancement** of the fundamental values of the EHEA that will foster self-reflection, constructive dialogue and peer-learning across national authorities, higher education institutions and organisations, while also making it possible to **assess** the degree to which these are honored and implemented in our systems.

Academic freedom = freedom of academic staff and students to engage in research, teaching, learning and communication in and with society without interference nor fear of reprisal (*Annex 1*)

Building the Future – Inclusive EHEA

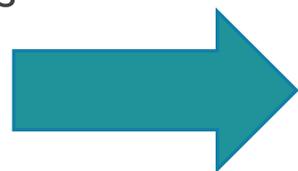
- Learners with diverse socio-economic, professional, cultural and educational backgrounds must have the possibility and the tools to seek out and avail themselves, at any time of life, of the educational options most useful for them.



- ❖ We ask the BFUG to report back to us in 2024 on the steps taken and the related monitoring measures to assure evidence-based follow-up.
- ❖ Safeguarding student rights through legislation ☒ student ombudspersons.

Building the Future – Innovative EHEA

- ❑ **solutions to the challenges our societies face** and community engagement
- ❑ swift **up-dating** of knowledge, skills and competences
- ❑ diversified learning offer and **innovate** in contents and modes of delivery in order to respond to growing needs for innovative and critical thinking, emotional intelligence, leadership, teamwork and problem solving abilities, as well as enterprising attitudes
- ❑ **flexible and open** learning paths
- ❑ **smaller** units of learning



We ask the BFUG to explore how and to what extent these smaller, flexible units, including those leading to micro-credentials, can be defined, developed, implemented and recognised by our institutions using EHEA tools.

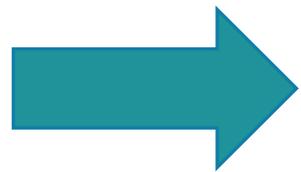
Recommendations for national/governmental support/action for the enhancement of Higher Education Learning and Teaching in the EHEA (Annex 3)

Building the Future – Interconnected EHEA

- ❑ cooperation and mobility **connect** our systems and foster the development of intercultural and linguistic competences
- ❑ mobility of staff and students contribute to the **excellence** and **relevance** of higher education in the EHEA
- ❑ deeper, larger scale systemic cooperation is explored  **European Universities Initiative**
- ❑ joint digital approaches to enhance recognition, **quality assurance** and mobility



Building the Future – Interconnected EHEA



- ❖ At least 20% of those graduating in the EHEA should have experienced a study or training period abroad.
- ❖ Enabling all learners to acquire international and intercultural competences through internationalization of the curricula or participation in innovative international environments in their home institutions, and to experience some form of mobility, whether in physical, digitally enhanced (virtual) or blended formats.
- ❖ Eliminate obstacles to cooperation at national levels;
- ❖ BFUG should map existing and find new solutions to enhance the interoperability of digital systems and the exchange of student and institutional data, in full respect of privacy and security.

Key Commitments fully implemented 
peer support method

Implementation

- Completing and further developing the **National Qualifications Frameworks** compatible with the Overarching Framework of Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area (QF-EHEA)
 - ⊗ update the criteria for self-certification to include a stronger element of peer review of national reports
 - ⊗ Network of QF correspondents to continue its work

Key Commitments fully implemented 
peer support method

Implementation

- ❑ Implementation of the Council of Europe/UNESCO **Lisbon Recognition Convention**  apply its principles to qualifications and periods of study outside the EHEA, using common assessment criteria and reports
- ❑ **Automatic recognition** of academic qualifications and periods of study within the EHEA
 -  necessary legislative changes in EHEA countries where **quality assurance** operates in compliance with the ESG and where a fully operational national qualifications framework has been established
 -  agreed and secure systems of digital certification and communication and further development of the Database of External Quality Assurance Results (DEQAR)
- ❑ Ensure fair **recognition of qualifications** held by refugees, displaced persons and persons in refugee-like situations
 -  support further broadening use of the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees

Key Commitments fully implemented 
peer support method

Implementation

- ❑ We acknowledge the progress made in the development of **quality assurance systems** aligned with the ESG, and we commit to removing the remaining obstacles.
 - ☒ those related to the **cross-border** operation of EQAR-registered agencies and the application of the European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes
 - ☒ ensuring that our external quality assurance arrangements cover transnational higher education in the EHEA with **equal standards** as for domestic provision.

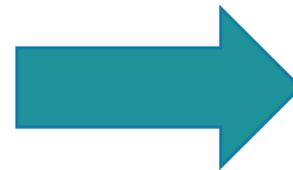
- ❑ Need for increased flexibility and openness of learning paths, smaller units of learning and greater synergies among higher education institutions ☒ an **enhancement-oriented use of the ESG** to support innovation in higher education and its quality assurance.

Implementation

- Strengthening cooperation with the **European Research Area**
 - ⊗ foster synergies and better alignment between education and research and innovation policies
 - ⊗ research-based learning
 - ⊗ enhancing academic and scientific freedom
 - ⊗ contributing to meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Implementation

We commit to **building a more closely connected and sustainable higher education community**, which fosters inclusion, communication, cooperation, and solidarity, essential for the **relevance and excellence of the future EHEA.**



We commit to keeping our national higher education sectors informed about and involved in EHEA developments, and to working closely with student and higher education associations and networks on the development and implementation of national reforms.



Search ...



EHEA

TOPICS

EVENTS

HOME **EHEA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ROME 2020**



19/11/2020



online, hosted by Italy

Category: [Ministerial Conference](#)

EHEA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ROME 2020

The next EHEA Ministerial Conference will be held online, hosted by Italy on 19 November 2020.

More information will be uploaded soon.

