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EQAR Members' Dialogue & EQUIP Focus Group

19/20 October 2017

Prague

Hosted by the
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
of the Czech Republic

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Objectives

The Members' Dialogue (MD) brings together EQAR Governmental Members, stakeholder organisations, permanent observers and statutory bodies to discuss current policy developments in quality assurance as well as EQAR's current and future activities. It also serves as a forum for exchange and networking among governments on issues related to quality assurance. A main topic of this year's MD will be EQAR's strategy for 2018 – 2022.

In addition, this year's MD is also part of the EQUIP (Enhancing Quality through Innovative Policy & Practice) project. It will serve as an opportunity to discuss first findings of the EQUIP study examining the challenges that arise in the implementation of the ESG 2015.

Participants

Approximately 75 participants, including representatives of:

- Governmental Members (39 ministries) and non-member EHEA countries (10 ministries)
- Stakeholder Members (ENQA, ESU, EUA, EURASHE, BUSINESSEUROPE, Education International)
- Permanent observers (Council of Europe, UNESCO, European Commission, Bologna Secretariat)
- EQAR statutory bodies (Executive Board, Register Committee, Appeals Committee, Secretariat)
- EQUIP partner organisations

Agenda

Thursday 19 October 2017

- 9:30** **Opening and Introduction**
Karl Dittrich, EQAR President
Stanislav Štech, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport.
 Czech Republic
- 9:45** **Keynote Presentations: Main Challenges in Assuring and Improving Quality in Europe**
Adam Tyson, Directorate-General Education and Culture,
 Head of Unit – European Commission Initiatives in Quality Assurance and Presentation of the Progress Report
Michael Lehmann, Head of Department Higher Education,
 Ministry of Economy, Science and Digitalisation of Sachsen-Anhalt – Changes in the Framework for Accreditation in Germany
Bartłomiej Banaszak – The New Policy Framework for External QA in light of the New Draft Law on Higher Education and Science in Poland
 Chair: **Maria Kelo**, EQAR Executive Board, ENQA Director
- 11:15** **Coffee break**
- 11:45** **Plenary Session: Presentation of the EQUIP Study Results**
 Input: **Tia Loukkola**, EQAR Executive Board, EUA
- 12:30** **Lunch**
- 14:00** **World Café on QA Challenges and How to Overcome Them**
 Explore some of the challenges in QA related to meeting the expectations of the ESG identified within the EQUIP project.
1. **Institutional Responsibility for QA**
 Facilitator: **Tia Loukkola**, EUA
 2. **Complying with the ESG in Different Legal Frameworks**
 Facilitator: **Melinda Szabó**, EQAR
 3. **Division of Responsibilities in External QA**
 Facilitator: **Fernando Galan Palomares**, EURASHE
 4. **External QA of Joint Programmes**
 Facilitator: **Colin Tück**, EQAR
 5. **Communication about QA and Quality of Educational Provision**
 Facilitator: **Anna Gover**, EUA

- 16:00** **Coffee break**
- 16:30** **Plenary Session: Presentation and Discussion on Approach to External QA and Other Activities by Registered Agencies**
 Input: **Colin Tück**, EQAR Director
 Chair: **Blazhe Todorovski**, EQAR Executive Board, ESU
- 17:30** **Day ends**

Friday 20 October 2017

- 9:30** **Plenary Session: Lessons Learnt from the EQUIP Project and Key Recommendations**
 Summarising lessons learned from the World Café followed by an open discussion on recommendations for developing the quality of higher education through the use of the ESG.
 Input: **Anna Gover**, EUA
 Chair: **Michal Karpíšek**, EQAR Executive Board, EURASHE
- 10:00** **Introduction: Discussion on the EQAR Strategy 2018 – 2022**
Karl Dittrich, EQAR President
- 10:30** **Coffee break**
- 11:00** **Parallel Sessions: Discussion on EQAR Strategy 2018 – 2022**
Format: three parallel session
Key questions: What has EQAR achieved in its first decade of existence with regards to transparency and information, trust and recognition? What are the key elements to be taken forward by EQAR in the next 5 years with regards to its mission?
Chairs:
- **Dirk Haen**, Policy Advisor, The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the Netherlands
 - **Pamela Wilkinson**, Head of the European Education Policy Department for Education, United Kingdom
 - **Erika Rustja**, Head of Department of Higher Education, Directorate of Higher Education, Slovenia
- Rapporteurs:**
- **Daniel Miescher**, Head of Upper Secondary and Higher Education Division, Liechtenstein

- **Hélène Lagier**, Chargée de mission, Ministry of Higher Education, Innovation and Research, France
- **Linda Upīte**, Legal advisor, Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia

12:00 **Round-up, Conclusions and Next steps**

Input: **rapporteurs of parallel sessions**

Chair: **Karl Dittrich**, EQAR President

13:00 **Lunch**

14:00 **Internal debriefing meeting (for EQUIP project partners)**