

EQAR: Future Developments, Potential New roles and Challenges

Kosovo
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EHEA Key Commitments



- 1) A Three-Cycle System compatible with the QF-EHEA and
- 2) Scaled by ECTS
- 3) Compliance with the Lisbon Recognition Convention (LRC)
- 4) Quality Assurance in conformity with European Standards and Guidelines (ESG)

***Quality Assurance
conforming to the European Standards and Guidelines
(ESG)***

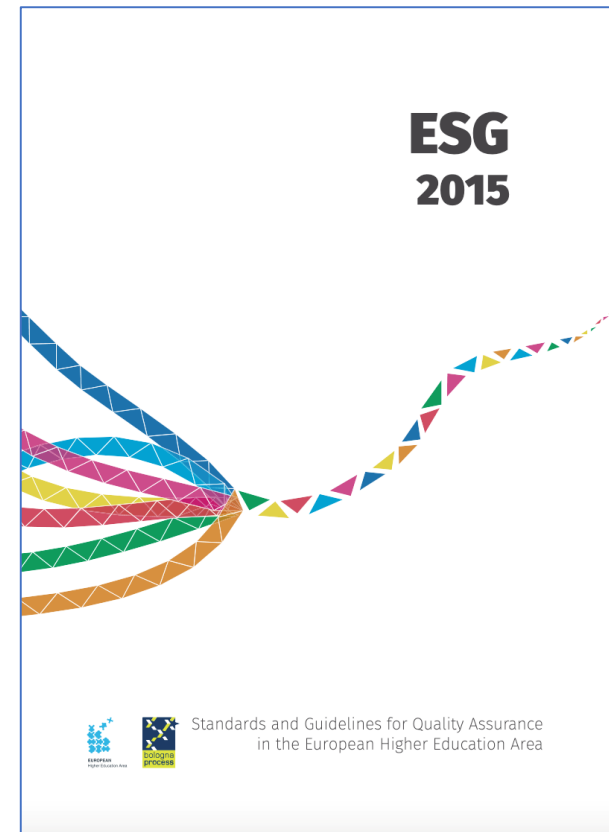
- 1) Role of institutions
- 2) Role of QA agencies
- 3) EQAR

INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
THE EUROPEAN REGISTER

Scope and concepts of the ESG



- Set of standards and guidelines for internal and external QA in HE
- Not prescriptions for quality, but provide guidance
- ESG are imbedded in broader context incl. QF's, ECTS, DS
- Focus on learning and teaching
 - QA activities: twin purpose of accountability and enhancement
 - Trust & quality culture
 - A QA EHEA framework



EQAR: Register Facts



- Created in 2008
- Established by the E4 (ENQA, ESU, EUA, EURASHE)
 - Governed by the E4
 - Ministries of higher education
 - Social partners (Education International, Business Europe)
- Administers DEQAR
- Members (47) ≠ Registered agencies (55)



EQAR: Mission and Role



- The EHEA's register of quality assurance agencies that comply with the ESGs
- Enhance transparency and trust, promote international recognition
- Responds to the needs of many stakeholders (e.g. ENIC-NARICs, admission offices)
- Non-profit and independent
- Acting in the public interest

A screenshot of the EQAR website's profile page for "AI - The Danish Accreditation Institution". The page is titled "AI - The Danish Accreditation Institution" and "Danmarks Akkrediteringsinstitution". It features a navigation menu on the left with options like "Register", "Registered agencies", "AI", "Suspended entries", "Former entries", "Current applications", "Decisions", "Analysis of Decisions", "Complaints", "Guide for Agencies", "Explaining the Register", and "COVID-19 consequences". The main content area shows the agency's registration details, including "Registration valid until 30/06/2026 (listed since 01/07/2010)", "Website: http://www.akkr.dk", and "Reports by the agency: http://akkrediteringsraadet.dk/database/". A section titled "EQAR registration decisions and reports on the agency" lists several reports with dates and titles, such as "15/10/2021 Renewal of Registration" and "15/10/2021 External Review Report". A "Permalink" is provided as "https://data.deqar.eu/agency/10". At the bottom, there is a section titled "Information on the agency's work" which describes the institution's role as an independent agency founded by the Ministry of Higher Education, responsible for accrediting HEIs and producing summary reports.

EQAR: Mission and Role



What does it mean concretely?

- Members (47 governmental agencies)
- ≠ Registered QA agencies (55)
- We speak to a diversity of actors:
 - Adaptability
 - Limit red tape and delays in the interest of all
- We are a voice in and support the QA framework

DEQAR

Database of External Quality Assurance Results



- Launched in 2018
- 28 EHEA countries with comprehensive coverage ($\geq 50\%$ of HEIs)
- Public access to the assessments made by the QA agencies
- Integrated with
 - ENIC-NARICs,
 - European Digital Credentials for learning (EDC)
 - European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI)

EQAR: Future Developments (1)



EQAR must and will:

1. Reach out

- to more members (47 in the EHEA)
- to more agencies (55)

→ Speak to governments

→ Listen - Explain challenges

→ Increase collaboration with the E4 and partners

EQAR: Future Developments (2)



EQAR must and will:

2. Support and open DEQAR

- Complete DEQAR, « digitalise better » from project *Microbol*
- For the general public

	September 2022	September 2023
Reports	77,432	90,718
Institutions	3,303	3843
Agencies	44	47
Coverage	24	28

EQAR: Future Developments (3)



EQAR must and will:

3. Contribute to the advancement of QA in the EHEA: the ESGs

Project *QAFit* assesses the need to revise the ESGs

- Short term
- No major revision needed
- No drastic reduction in scope

EQAR: Future Developments (4)



EQAR must and will:

4. Contribute to the advancement of QA in the EHEA:

Project IMINQA addresses the issue of the QA of European University Alliances

TPG LRC CoRE

- Strong demand by all stakeholders
- Paving the way for the future: contributing to a European QA framework
 - Support student mobility
 - Facilitates international coopération between institutions
- A note on the internationalisation of EUAlliances:

EQAR: Future Developments (5)



EQAR must and will:

5. Contribute to the opening of DEQAR to new forms of HE delivery:

Project IMINQA addresses the issue of the QA of European University Alliances

- Strong demand by all stakeholders
- Paving the way for the future
- A note on the internationalisation of EUAlliances

ESG Compliance: typical challenges



Students on review panels

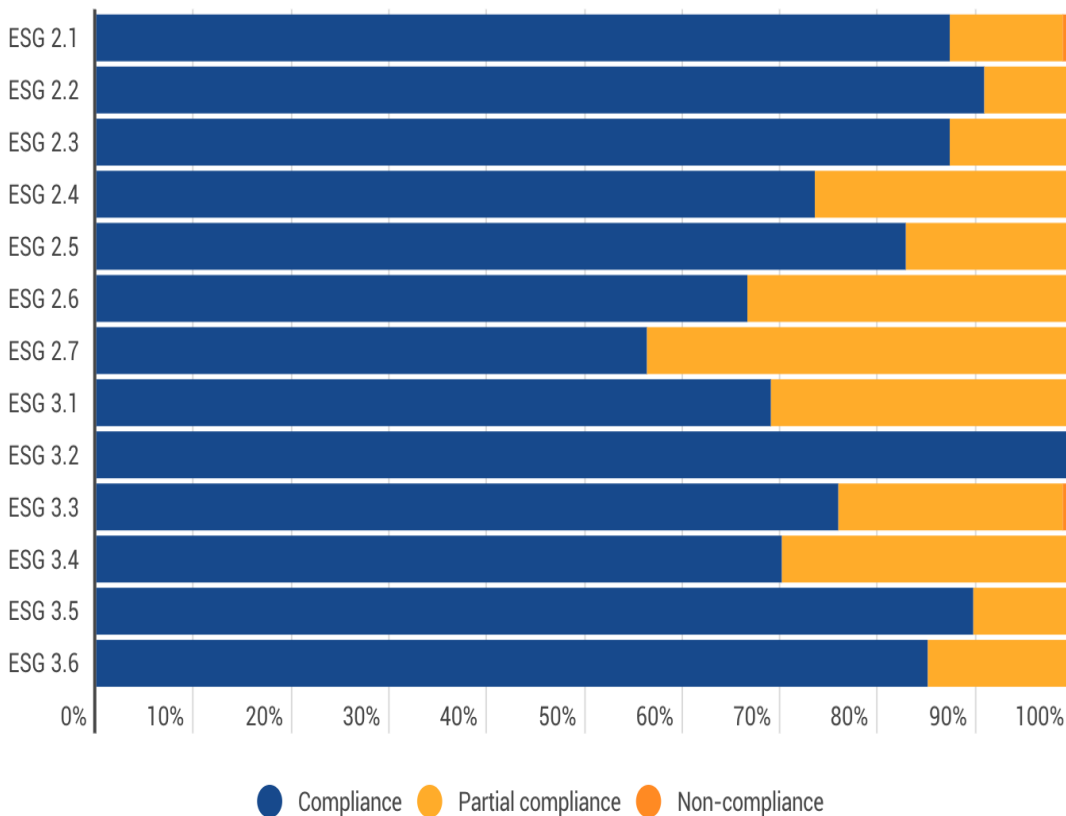
Publication of reports

Appeals & complaints

Stakeholders involvement, separation of activities

Independence

Thematic analyses



Source: 87 RC decisions based on ESG 2015, Nov 2015- June 2023

Thank you!

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