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ANNUAL REPORT 2014

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Dear members and partners,

Completing another productive, successful and exciting year, it is with pleasure that we present to you the EQAR Annual Report 2014, featuring the highlights of the year.

By the end of 2014, the Register included 37 quality assurance agencies that demonstrated their substantial compliance with the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG). With the addition of Austria, Norway, Portugal and Serbia, there are now agencies from 18 European countries on the Register.

The United Kingdom became the 33rd Governmental Member of EQAR. While this consolidates further the support and involvement of European governments, it remains EQAR's vision that all 47 European Higher Education Area (EHEA) countries support and participate in the governance of EQAR. To this end, a special invitation letter was sent to the Ministers of those countries that are not governmental members yet, and we are hopeful that there will be new governmental members in 2015.
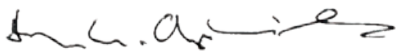
The endorsement by the Bologna Follow-Up Group of the revised ESG marked an important milestone for EQAR. At the same time, a good part of the work for EQAR still lies ahead: after having published a Policy on Transition to the Revised ESG for registered agencies, the EQAR Register Committee began its discussions on the use and interpretation of the revised ESG. This will result in a public policy document, to be launched in 2015 in order to create ex ante full transparency of EQAR's expectations towards agencies.

Following the ministerial recommendations, it was a priority for EQAR in 2014 to analyse and discuss developments in cross-border external quality assurance, as part of the RIQAA project. The final conference gathered nearly 100 practitioners and policy makers, who discussed the project's findings and policy recommendations. While cross-border quality assurance is a reality across the EHEA, national regulatory frameworks for recognising such reviews lag behind and lead to unproductive duplication of efforts.

These conclusions and recommendations will also be fed into the preparations for the Yerevan Ministerial Conference, in May 2015.

We wish to thank all members and partners for the excellent cooperation we had throughout the year. With the expected adoption of the revised ESG, we look forward to continuing our common journey towards a coherent quality assurance framework in the EHEA.

Andres G. Orphanides
President, Executive Board

Eric Froment
Chair, Register Committee

//// Report of the Register Committee

This section of the Annual Report relates to the work of the EQAR Register Committee; it provides an overview of the two application rounds in 2014, and observations resulting from them. The EQAR Register Committee independently considers and decides upon applications by quality assurance agencies for inclusion on the Register.

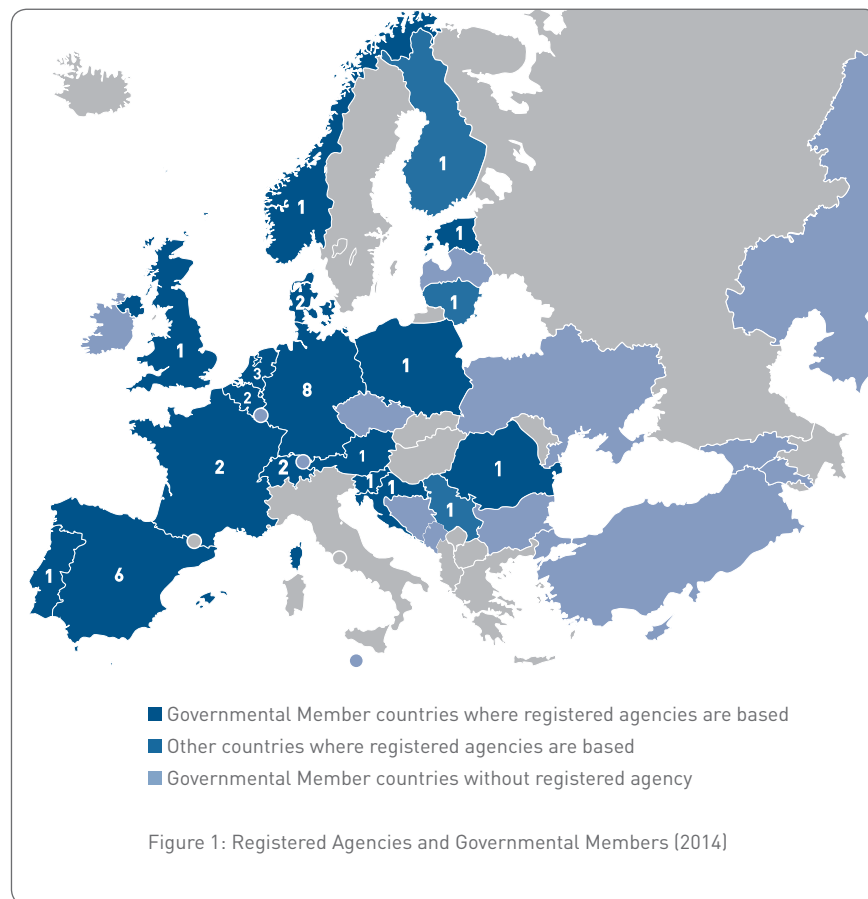## 1.1 Decisions on Inclusion and Renewal of Registration

The Register Committee has continued to use its established process, including two main rapporteurs and a third rapporteur, assigned from amongst Committee members, to assess applications as preparation for decision-making.

For a full description of the process used to consider applications for inclusion on the Register please refer to the Guide for Applicants www.eqar.eu/application.html) and the EQAR Self-Evaluation Report (March 2011), available at: www.eqar.eu/publications/reports.html

In 2014, the Register Committee considered and approved six applications for inclusion on the Register additionally, registration was renewed for six quality assurance agencies (see Table 1).

At the end of 2014, the Register included 37 quality assurance agencies from 18 European countries (see List of Registered Agencies), including four countries from which no agencies had been on the Register before: Austria, Norway, Portugal and Serbia.

The Register Committee has had a practice to "flag" issues for future attention in cases where the Committee was of the view that an applicant needed to pay particular attention to its compliance with specific aspects of the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG).

■ Governmental Member countries where registered agencies are based
■ Other countries where registered agencies are based
■ Governmental Member countries without registered agency

Figure 1: Registered Agencies and Governmental Members (2014)

Table 1: Overview Applications in 2014	
A Initial Applications	9
B Approved	6
C Withdrawn	0
D Rejected	1
E Pending 2nd consideration (to take place in 2015)	2
F Renewal Applications (every 5 years)	7
G Approved	6
H Pending 2nd consideration (to take place in 2015)	1
K Registration ended or expired (see www.eqar.eu/register/former-entries.html)	1

EQAR Register Committee meeting in Kaunas (LT)

Table 2 provides an overview of the number of times issues relating to a particular standard were flagged in the Committee's decisions on applications for inclusion and for renewal of registration in 2014. Full details of the flags are available in the Register Committee's decisions, which are publicly available.

It should be noted that there are differences in the types and levels of concern around ESG compliance in cases where issues were flagged for attention. The figures, therefore, only provide a general indication of the areas of concern.

Annex 7 provides a statistical overview of all applications and the decisions taken on them since 2008, broken down by initial applications for inclusion on the register and applications for renewal of registration.

Further information:
www.eqar.eu/register/
www.eqar.eu/decisions/

1.2 Coverage of External Review Reports

In two cases considered in 2014 the Register Committee found that the report on the external review of the applicant agency against the ESG did not cover all external quality assurance activities of the agency within the scope of the ESG.

EQAR Register Committee meeting in Kaunas (LT)

In both cases, the external review panel did not consider the ESG applicable to some types of voluntary reviews with a purely enhancement-led objective. The Register Committee clarified that all activities that are in principle an ESG-type activity (i.e. they involve an external review of a higher education institution, a part thereof or a study programme) have to be carried out in substantial compliance with the ESG and have to be analysed in the external review of the agency. This explicitly includes voluntary and enhancement-oriented or developmental activities (see par. 15, 16, 17 of the Practices and Interpretations).

In one case, the external review report did not fully analyse those reviews carried out by the agency outside its home country. The Register Committee clarified that agencies are expected to work in substantial compliance with the ESG wherever they operate, within and outside the EHEA (see par. 17 of the Practices and Interpretations), and that this needs to be analysed by the external review panel.

The Register Committee followed up on these problems regarding the proper coverage of external review reports in the amendments to the Procedures for Applications discussed in relation to the revised ESG (see 1.5 below).

1.3 Substantive Change Reports

According to the Procedures for Applications, registered agencies are requested to inform EQAR of substantive changes. Substantive changes include any type of change that may impact on the registered agency's ability to comply substantially with the ESG. Typically, such changes relate to the organisational structure or the external quality assurance activities of the agency.

One application for provisional registration, under the Merger Policy adopted in 2012, was made by the Finnish Education Evaluation Centre (FINEEC), resulting from a merger of the Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council (FINHEEC) with two other bodies. The Register Committee granted FINEEC provisional registration until 30/06/2016.

The Register Committee considered the substantive change reports listed in Table 3 in 2014. TYPE OF CHANGE is an indication of what change was reported by the agency. ACTION describes the decision taken by the Register Committee. For other actions than taking note of the report, full decisions can be found at www.eqar.eu/decisions/

EQAR Register Committee meeting in Rome

Table 3: Substantive Change Reports by Registered Agencies (2014)

AQAS - Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes
Type of change: Establishment of an appeals committee
Action: Took note of the report

EVA - Danish Evaluation Institute
Type of change: Activities discontinued
Action: Reduced remaining validity of registration until 31/12/2014

FINHEEC - Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council
Type of change: Merger
Action: Granted provisional registration until 30/04/2016

The Danish Accreditation Institution
Type of change: Activities extended to other types of higher education institutions
Action: Took note of the report.

The Register Committee encountered a few cases where it was already clear when the agency was admitted to the Register that specific substantive changes would occur in the near future. The expectation to report those changes was then underlined in the approval decisions.

Table 2: Issues Flagged in Applications (2014)					
ESG	**Initial**	**Renew**	**ESG**	**Initial**	**Renew**
2.1 Use of Part 1	2	1	3.1 Use of Part 2		
2.2 Development of Processes			3.2 Official Status		
2.3 Criteria for Decisions			3.3 Activities		
2.4 Processes Fit for Purpose			3.4 Resources	3	1
2.5 Reporting	3	3	3.5 Mission Statement		
2.6 Follow-Up Procedures	2	2	3.6 Independence	1	1
2.7 Periodic Reviews			3.7 External QA Procedures[A]	5	3
2.8 System-wide Analyses	1		3.8 Accountability Procedures		1

Where several issues related to the same standard were flagged for one agency, this is counted only once. Where a flag can be attributed to two standards, it is accounted for in relation to the standard that addresses the issue most specifically or directly.

[A]Only flags related to issues that are not addressed more specifically in part 2; flags under 3.7 relate to students on expert groups, the use of site visits and appeals procedures.

Agencies that had not made a Substantive Change Report by the time when it would have been expected were reminded by the EQAR Secretariat. This happened three times during 2014.

1.4 Complaints

The Register Committee first adopted a Complaints Policy in June 2011, in order to address concerns of individuals or organisations with regard to registered agencies' compliance with the ESG or the integrity of the external review process on which their registration is based. The Register Committee revised the Complaints Policy in July 2014.

The revision introduced the possibility to consider anonymous complaints, provided they are credible and substantiated. Practically, a special web form has been created in order to allow the anonymous submission of a complaint.

In 2014, EQAR received one complaint concerning the work of a registered agency. The complaint was considered by the Register Committee and found substantiated. The Register Committee issued a formal warning to the agency concerned.

Further information:
www.eqar.eu/register/complaints
www.eqar.eu/decisions/

1.5 Preparation for Transition to the Revised ESG

The preparation for transition to the revised version of the ESG (see also 2.1 below) was a priority for the Register Committee in 2014.

The Register Committee discussed possible scenarios for organising the transition to the revised ESG for registered agencies in early 2014. In July 2014, the Register Committee presented a consultation document to EQAR's governmental and stakeholder members, registered quality assurance agencies, ENQA and other organisations that have coordinated reviews of registered agencies.

After the consultation, the Register Committee adopted a Policy on Transition to the Revised ESG (see Annex 5), which ensures that by 2020 all agencies on the Register will have been reviewed against the revised ESG. The Policy will ensure a swift transition, while giving agencies sufficient time to adjust their structures or processes to the revised ESG

Initial applications (by agencies not yet included on EQAR) based on the current ESG are only possible until 15 March 2015. There will be no application round in the autumn of 2015. As from 2016, applications can be made based on the revised ESG in line with the regular deadlines.

For registered agencies whose registration expires during the transitional period between 1/1/2015 and 31/12/2016, the Policy provides for a provisional extension of their registration until 31/12/2016. This is to ensure that these agencies have sufficient time to adjust and prepare for a review against the revised ESG.

Furthermore, the Register Committee started to prepare a new policy document on the Use and Interpretation of the revised ESG, as well as some amendments to the EQAR Procedures for Applications. These will be finalised in 2015 and made available to potential applicants and registered agencies in due time before they are reviewed against the revised ESG, so as to enhance the transparency of the Register Committee decision-making process.

Figure 2: Renewal of Registration Based on Current and Revised ESG

2.1 Revision of the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG)

Based on the proposal prepared by the E4 Group in cooperation with BusinessEurope, Education International and EQAR, the Bologna Follow-Up Group (BFUG) endorsed the revised version of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (European Standards and Guidelines, ESG) in September 2014.

The proposal is subject to approval by the EHEA Ministers at their meeting on 14/15 May 2015 in Yerevan (Armenia).

As part of the Steering Group for the ESG revision EQAR was actively involved in finalising the proposal for the revised ESG. Moreover, EQAR prepared for the upcoming transition to the revised ESG as regards registration of quality assurance agencies, see section 1.5 above.

Further information:

www.eqar.eu/projects/esg-revision.html

RIQAA Final Conference/EQAR Members' Dialogue, hosted by the University of Palermo

2.2 Bologna Follow-Up Group and Working Groups

EQAR contributed actively to the work of the Bologna Follow-Up Group (BFUG) and relevant sub-structures:

/ **Working Group on Mobility and Internationalisation** (represented by Eric Froment, Chair of the Register Committee).
/ **Working Group on Reporting on the Bologna Process Implementation** (represented by Melinda Szabo, Project Officer);
/ **Working Group on Structural Reforms** (represented by Colin Tück, Director);

Based on the results of the RIQAA Project (see section 2.4 below) EQAR was able to contribute significantly to the working groups. Intermediate results were presented and discussed in the Structural Reform Working Group. A part of the Working Group's report addresses the issue of cross-border external quality assurance activity in the EHEA.

Taking stock of the Bologna Process implementation, the Reporting Working Group proposed a number of scorecard indicators. The scorecard indicators are used to highlight progress on some of the main policy commitments agreed in recent years, as well as to continue to show the evolution on commitments agreed during the first decade of the Bologna process.

One of the proposed scorecard indicators addresses the level of openness to cross-border quality assurance activity of EQAR-registered agencies, following up the commitment of EHEA ministers (Bucharest Communiqué, 2012) to "**allow EQAR-registered agencies to perform their activities across the EHEA, while complying with national requirements**" and to "**recognise quality assurance decisions of EQAR-registered agencies on joint and double degree programmes**".

2.3 European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes

Over the past years, QA agencies and stakeholders have been working together to develop and test various approaches (see Background Report) that ease at least the external QA of joint programmes and, moreover, reflect their joint character. These have demonstrated that the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG), the Qualifications Framework for the European Higher Education Area (QF-EHEA) and the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) together form a sound basis for QA of joint programmes.

Despite the commitment of the Bucharest Communiqué (2012) **"to recognise quality assurance decisions of EQAR-registered agencies on joint and double degree programmes"**, the full recognition of formal outcomes resulting from a single external quality assurance procedure remains a cumbersome and bureaucratic process in many places. This often makes the conduct of several, fragmented processes the most practical solution and leads to a situation where different agencies all look only at the bits and pieces in "their" country.

EQAR was represented on an ad-hoc expert group mandated by the BFUG to develop a European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes. The Approach addresses the issue of fragmented quality assurance procedures and provides a joint approach for quality assurance of joint programmes, based on the agreed tools of EHEA and without applying additional national criteria.

The proposal was endorsed by the BFUG and it is expected to be adopted by Ministers in Yerevan, 2015.

Further information:
www.eqar.eu/projects/joint-programmes.html

2.4 Recognising International Quality Assurance Activity (RIQAA Project)

The RIQAA project was set up to inform policy makers regarding the existing legal practices in EHEA countries recognising EQAR-registered agencies and to provide information on how HEIs make use of the existing possibilities to request quality reviews by foreign agencies, as well as the rationale behind it.

The first activity of the project was a mapping of the legal frameworks allowing the use of internationally active (EQAR-registered) QAAs in EHEA member countries (see map below). The mapping was based on the responses of EHEA countries to the Bologna Process Implementation Report, the examination of national legislation available on the websites of ministries and QAAs in these countries, and further feedback and updates to the initial set of results.

To broaden the understanding with regard to the external quality assurance (EQA) activities of agencies within different national contexts and legal backgrounds as well as to shed light on the main challenges and benefits related to their cross-border EQA activity, a **Survey on the Cross-Border Activity of QAAs** was carried out. The final analysis was based on the responses of 60 QAAs, including all EQAR-registered QAAs, representing 70% of the total number of QAAs contacted.

RIQAA Final Conference/EQAR Members' Dialogue, hosted by the University of Palermo

EQAR Seminar on Cross-Border External QA in Bayreuth, hosted by ACQUIN

A two day seminar was organised in Bayreuth on 29/30 April 2014 with representatives of over 24 QAAs operating within the EHEA. The seminar allowed for a group consultation of the participating QAAs and also provided the space for in-depth discussions, exchanges of good practices and sharing of existing experiences with international quality reviews.

To understand the dynamics of institutional experiences, **a multiple-case study research** was carried out with **12 higher education institutions** from four countries that recognise reviews of foreign EQAR-registered agencies as part of the national requirements for external QA, and four countries that do not. The countries and institutions were selected to represent a geographically balanced sample and a relevant mix of quality assurance frameworks across the EHEA.

On 21/22 October, the RIQAA Final Conference gathered nearly 100 participants from 35 countries in Palermo (Italy) including representatives of governments and ministries, QAAs, interviewed HEIs, students, policy makers and other key stake-holders (ESU, EURASHE, EUA, ENQA, European Commission etc.) to discuss the project results.

The conference conclusions together with the informa-tion provided in the final project report led to a set of policy recommendations to governments, to quality assurance agencies that operate across borders, to higher education institutions that seek to work with a registered QAA and finally to EQAR.

The **results of the project show that quality assurance agencies have rapidly expanded their international activities** in the last years across the EHEA. These activities provide an added value to agencies and also allow them to transfer their international expertise to the national framework.

Higher education institutions are keen to take advantage of the opportunities resulting from a cross-border external review. They recognise as main benefits the development of an interna-tional profile, a quality assurance that best suits their mission and needs, and enhanced recognition of their degrees.

Yet, the **national frameworks are lagging behind**: the number of countries that allow their higher education institutions to work with a suitable quality assurance agency from abroad is small (seeFigure 3), although the responses of quality assurance agencies to the RIQAA survey show that cross-border reviews are a reality in almost all EHEA member countries. In these closed higher education systems, international evaluation or accreditation takes place in addition to the obligatory, national external quality assurance arrangements and it is not recognised

as part of it. For institutions, this often means an unproductive duplication of efforts.
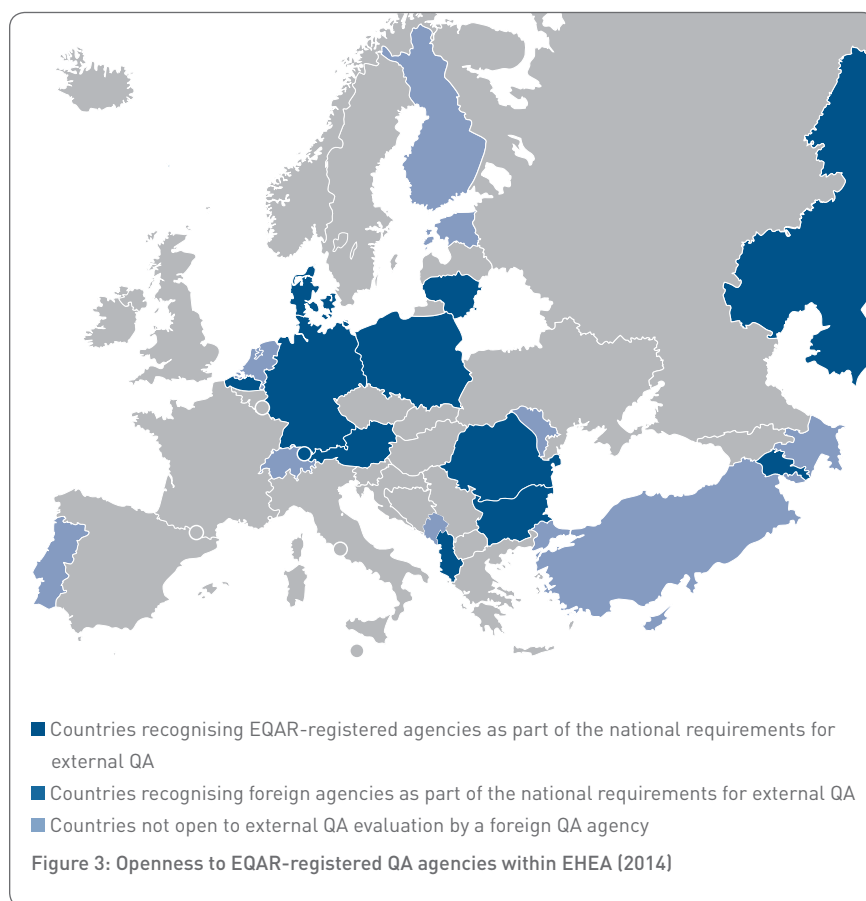
The findings and conclusions of the project are in the RIQAA Final Report at: www.eqar.eu/riqaa/

2.5 Annual Monitoring of Registered Agencies' Activities

In order to provide a regular overview of the volume of EQAR-registered quality assurance agencies' activities at home and across borders, an annual survey regarding the number of reviews was carried out for the first time for the year 2014.
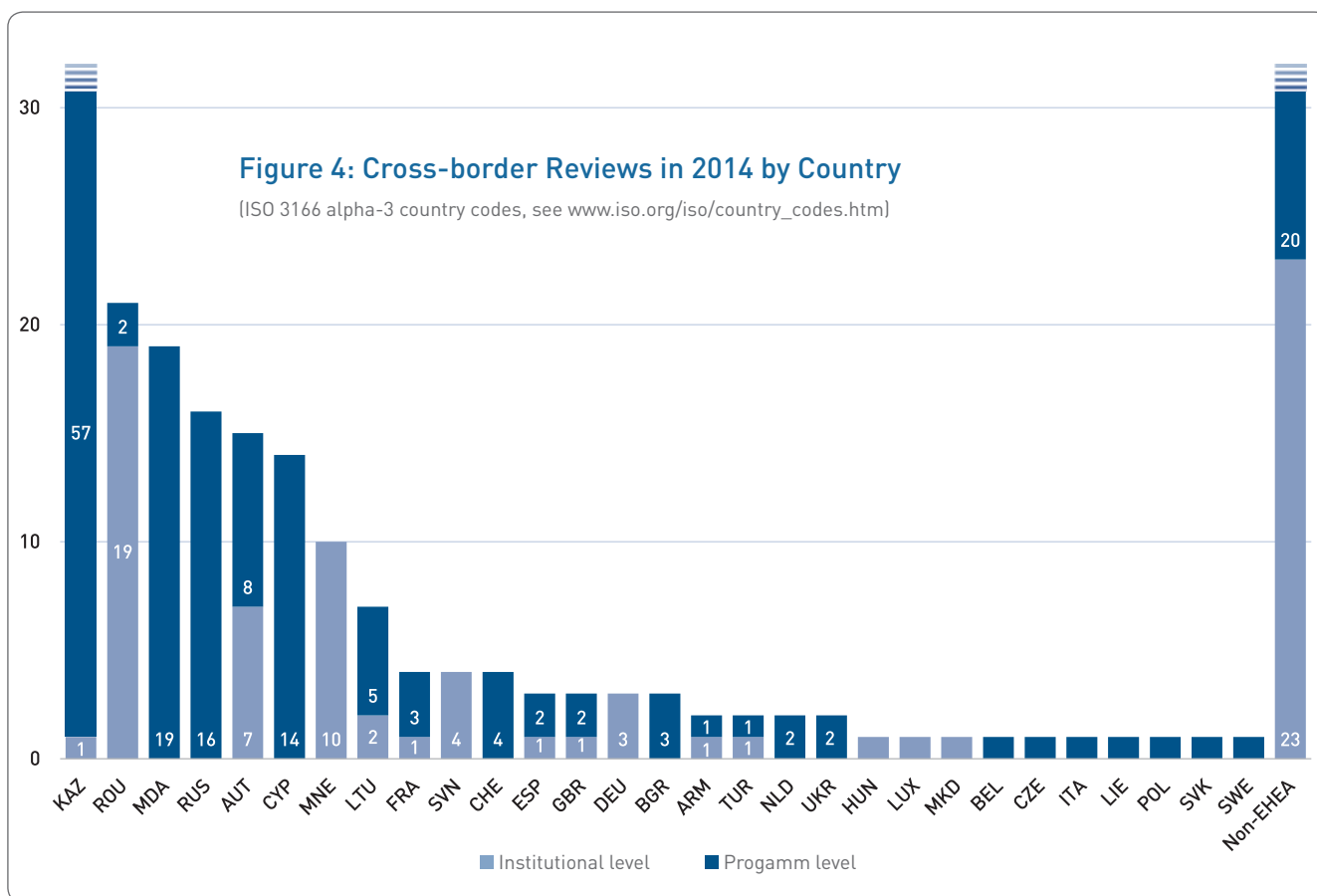
All but one of the 36 EQAR-registered QAAs provided the data on their activities[1]. The agency responses revealed that in 2014, EQAR-registered agencies carried out around 8000 reviews in total, at both programme and institutional levels (full data: see Annex 6).

More than half of EQAR-registered QA agencies (19 out of 35) carried out at least one cross-border review (evaluation, accreditation audit at programme or institutional level) in 2014. These activities were spread across 29 EHEA member states and several non-EHEA countries and territories, with most of the cross-border EQA being carried out at programme level (see Figure 4).

■ Countries recognising EQAR-registered agencies as part of the national requirements for external QA

■ Countries recognising foreign agencies as part of the national requirements for external QA

■ Countries not open to external QA evaluation by a foreign QA agency

Figure 3: Openness to EQAR-registered QA agencies within EHEA (2014)

Three registered agencies were originally set up with an international remit (EAPAA, ECCE, IEP) and thus do not have a "home country" in the same way as a traditional, national QA agency. However, a high number of cross-border external quality assurance (EQA) is carried out by agencies that function (also) as national QA agencies in their home countries. While the share of cross-border EQA reviews differs significantly between these agencies, the home country reviews remain their primary focus (see Figure 5). About 95 % of programme reviews and 85% of institutional reviews are carried out by the nationally established QAAs within these 29 EHEA countries.

[1] QANU did not submit its answers to the Survey, therefore it was not included in the present analysis.

Figure 4: Cross-border Reviews in 2014 by Country

(ISO 3166 alpha-3 country codes, see www.iso.org/iso/country_codes.htm)

■ Institutional level   ■ Progamm level

EQA activities in non-EHEA countries were carried out by 12 of the EQAR-registered agencies (mostly by QAA, ACSUG, CTI, AQAS and ASIIN). These reviews (23 at institutional and 20 at programme level) represent 16% of the total cross-border reviews carried out by EQAR-registered agencies. This shows that the ESG are also used for external reviews outside the EHEA.

In many cases, a large number of cross-border EQA reviews are carried out by agencies in one specific higher education system

(e.g. AQ Austria and ASIIN's each carried out over 20 programme accreditations in Kazakhstan, while IEP carried out over 18 institutional evaluations in Romania and 10 in Montenegro).

A detailed overview of reviews by agency and country is available as Annex 6.

Figure 5: Reviews Across Borders and in Agencies' Home Countries (2014)

Legend:
- ■ Cross-broder reviews at institution level
- ■ Cross-border reviews at programme level
- ■ Home country reviews

Agency	Home country reviews	Cross-border reviews at programme level	Cross-border reviews at institution level
EAPAA		2	
ECCE	4		3
IEP		35	
AQ Austria	50	38	
evalag	13	6	1
ASIIN	97	26	3
DAQ	28	8	
FIBAA	130	30	8
CTI	60	9	
AQAS	220	23	
AHPGS	69	3	2
QAA	293		13
ACQUIN	203	9	
ACSUG	210		7
ARACIS	517	17	
ZEvA	80	1	
NVAO	812	3	
HCERES	1187		3
A3ES	888		1

3.1 Publications

The EQAR Annual Report 2013, including the Report by the Register Committee, was published on-line only. It is available on the website and has been announced in one of the news-letters.

EQAR issued two newsletters in 2014 (reaching more than 500 recipients each), providing information about new agencies on the Register, relevant policy developments with regard to quality assurance, meetings and upcoming events as well as informa-tion on the RIQAA project.

One joint press release was issued to announce the proposal for revised Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) together with the E4 Group (ENQA, ESU, EUA, EURASHE), Education International and BUSINESSEUROPE.

The preliminary project report of the RIQAA project (see section 2.4) was distributed on paper to participants of the RIQAA Final Conference/EQAR Members' Dialogue in Palermo in October 2014. The final RIQAA project report was published on-line in December 2014.

3.2 Website and Social Media

EQAR's website remains the main communication tool to address its target audiences. Information on registered agencies can be accessed both via a list of registered agencies and via a map, showing where agencies are based and have carried out reviews. The website further features regularly updated news items, general information on EQAR and its workings, guidance for

applicant quality assurance agencies and other publications. Since 2013, the decisions of the Register Committee are publicly available on the website.

The number of visits on the EQAR website has been stable with approximately 15 000 visits per months in 2014 (2013: ca 14 000, 2012: ca 8 000, 2011: ca 6 000).

EQAR maintained an active presence on various social media, including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. EQAR reached out to up to 600 people via its Facebook page and had more than 300 Twitter followers by the end of 2014.

3.3 Representation and Relations with Partners

EQAR was represented in all major conferences and seminars concerned with quality assurance of higher education in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), including:

/ CHEA Annual Conference
/ Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) – Annual Conference
/ EU-Africa Quality Assurance Seminar
/ Seminar Quality Assurance in the Mediterranean Region
/ European Commission Conference Towards a European
  Area for Skills and Qualifications
/ INQAHEE Forum 2014 – Partnerships in Quality Assurance
  in Higher Education
/ EAIE Conference – Mapping the internationalisation of
  higher education Europe
/ ASEM Dialogue – Quality Assurance and Recognition
/ ENIC-NARIC Annual Joint Meeting
/ EQAF – Changing education – QA and
  the shift from teaching to learning

/ Future of Higher Education –
  Bologna Researchers Conference
/ Bologna Follow-up Group Meetings
  and BFUG Working Groups

EQAR further contributed to several conferences organised by national ministries, quality assurance agencies and stakeholder organisations. In doing so, EQAR was able to provide information both on its work and on the RIQAA project, reaching both potential applicants and the higher education community in general.

Various international quality assurance agencies and stakeholder organisations visited the EQAR offices to learn more about EQAR's work.

Further information:
www.eqar.eu/publications/presentations.html

3.4 Membership

The United Kingdom joined EQAR as Governmental Member in 2014. This means that of the 47 countries of the EHEA that are eligible for governmental membership, 32 governments are now members of EQAR (see Figure 6 and Annex 3).

3.5 Statutory Bodies

At the General Assembly of 8 April 2014, EQAR members elected a new Executive Board for a two-year mandate commencing on 1 May 2014:

/ Andreas Orphanides (President), EURASHE
/ Maria Kelo (Vice-President), ENQA (re-elected)
/ Fernando Galán Palomares (Vice-President), ESU
/ Tia Loukkola (Treasurer), EUA

The functions of President, Vice-President and Treasurer rotate annually amongst board members.

The General Assembly of 2014 approved the new Register Committee with a mandate from 1 July 2014 until 30 June 2016.

Figure 6: Governmental Members as of 31/12/2014
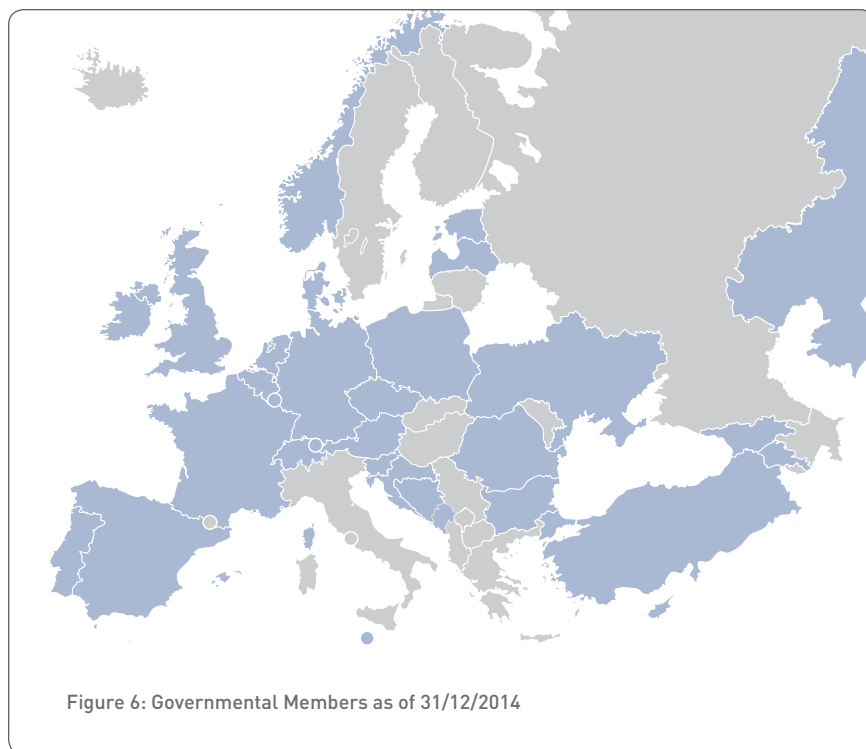
EQAR General Assembly in Athens, in cooperation with the Hellenic EU Presidency

Freddy Coignoul, Anita Lice, Olav Øye and Tibor Szántó were newly nominated to the Register Committee and replaced (respectively) Henrik Toft Jensen, Christoph Anz, Anca Prisacariu and Mala Singh. The other six members already served on the Register Committee under the previous mandate(s) and were re-nominated.

The Register Committee re-elected Eric Froment as its Chair and Lucien Bollaert as Vice-Chair.

The full composition of all EQAR statutory bodies is included in Annex 4.

3.6 Staff

In order to handle the growing workload the employment percentages of two staff members were increased (Melinda Szabo, Project Officer, to full-time and Annelies Traas, Events and Communications Officer, to 60%).

With these changes the Secretariat has a total staff of 2,6 full-time equivalent (FTE).

3.7 Finances

EQAR relies on a diversified funding base, including annual contributions from its members (governments and European stakeholder organisations) and application and listing fees paid by quality assurance agencies. In 2013 and 2014 EQAR received a project grant from the European Commission for the RIQAA project (Recognising International Quality Assurance Activity in the European Higher Education Area).

The financial year 2014 resulted in a surplus of EUR 1 654,85 after allocation of EUR 17 500 to the reserves.

Balance Sheet

Assets		Liabilities and Equity	
Fixed assets	**2 988,37**	**Own funds**	**129 954,58**
Guarantees	147,66	Profit/loss previous years	30 799,73
Office equipment	2 840,71	Result per 31/12/2014	1 654,85
Liquid assets	**177 295,46**	Reserves	97 500,00
Receivables up to 1 year	58 293,86	**Liabilities**	**50 329,25**
Cash and term accounts	105 585,72	Payables up to 1 year	42 073,25
Adjustment accounts	13 415,88	Adjustment accounts	8 256,00
TOTAL	**180 283,83**	**TOTAL**	**180 283,83**

Profit and Loss Account

Income		Expenditure	
Membership fees	229 317,00	Meetings and projects	158 044,68
Agency fees	49 192,00	Office and administration	36 684,83
Project grant	106 191,28	Staff	147 393,22
Other income	3 891,11	Other costs	27 582,62
Operational income	388 591,39	Operational expenditure	369 705,35
Operational result	18 886,04		
Financial income	809,72	Financial costs and taxes	540,91
Total result	19 154,85		
Withdrawal from reserves	0,00	Allocation to reserves	17 500,00
Result to be reported	1 654,85		

∥∥ List of Registered Quality Assurance Agencies

The following agencies were included on the register in 2014 (or for part of 2014). Agencies are included for five years counting from the date of their external review, the duration of inclusion is indicated in the table for each agency.

Further information on these agencies and the external review reports on which EQAR's decision are based can be obtained from: www.eqar.eu/register.html

Registered Agencies as of 31/12/2014:	Included since:	Inclusion until:
A3ES - Agency for Evaluation and Accreditation of Higher Education (Portugal)	29/11/2014	30/06/2019
AAC-DEVA - Andalusian Agency of Knowledge, Department of Evaluation and Accreditation (Spain) [1]	07/10/2009	30/09/2019
ACQUIN – Accreditation, Certification and Quality Assurance Institute (Germany)	15/04/2009	31/01/2016
ACSUCYL – Quality Assurance Agency for the University System of Castilla y León (Spain)	18/11/2010	31/07/2014[2]
ACSUG – Agency for Quality Assurance in the Galician University System (Spain)	18/11/2010	31/07/2019
AEQES – Agence pour l'Evaluation de la Qualité de l'Enseignement Supérieur	03/12/2012	30/06/2016
AHPGS – Accreditation Agency for Study Programmes in Health and Social Sciences AHPGS (Germany)	7/10/2009	31/03/2014[2]
ANECA – National Agency for the Quality Assessment and Accreditation of Spain (Spain)	07/05/2013 (05/12/2008	30/11/2017 30/06/2012)
AQ Austria - Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria	29/11/2014	31/05/2019
AQAS - Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes (Germany)	25/05/2010	28/02/2017

AQU – Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (Spain)	5/12/2008	31/07/2017
ARACIS – Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education	07/10/2009	30/09/2018
ASHE – Agency for Science and Higher Education (Croatia)	25/11/2011	31/08/2016
ASIIN – Akkreditierungsagentur für Studiengänge der Ingenieurwissenschaften, der Informatik, der Mathematik und der Naturwissenschaften (Germany)	15/04/2009	29/02/2016
CAQA - Commission for Accreditation and Quality Assurance (Serbia)	29/11/2014	31/12/2017
CTI - Engineering Degree Commission (France)	18/11/2010	30/06/2019
EAPAA - European Association for Public Administration Accreditation (the Netherlands)	22/05/2014	31/10/2018
ECCE – European Council on Chiropractic Education (Germany)	05/07/2013	30/06/2015
EKKA – Estonian Higher Education Quality Agency (Estonia)	23/10/2013	31/03/2018
EVA – Danish Evaluation Institute	14/05/2011	31/12/2014 [3]
evalag - Evaluation Agency Baden-Württemberg (Germany)	25/05/2010	30/09/2014 [2]
FIBAA – Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (Germany)	15/04/2009	28/02/2017
FINEEC - Finnish Education Evaluation Centre	18/11/2010	31/07/2015
HCERES - High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (France) [4]	14/05/2011	31/05/2015
IEP – EUA Institutional Evaluation Programme (Switzerland)	15/12/2011	31/01/2019
NOKUT - Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education	22/05/2014	31/05/2018
NVAO – Accreditation Organization of The Netherlands and Flanders	05/12/2008	30/09/2017

OAQ – Swiss Center of Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education	08/05/2012	31/05/2016
PKA – State Accreditation Commission (Poland)	08/04/2009	31/12/2018
QAA – Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (United Kingdom)	23/10/2013	31/07/2018
QANU – Quality Assurance Netherlands Universities	14/05/2011	31/12/2015
SKVC – Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (Lithuania)	03/12/2012	30/06/2017
SQAA – Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency (Slovenia)	23/10/2013	31/07/2018
The Accreditation Institution (Denmark))	18/11/2010	31/08/2015
Unibasq - Agency for Quality of the Basque University System (Spain)	29/11/2014	30/04/2019
VLUHR QAU – Quality Assurance Unit of the Flemish Council of Universities and University Colleges (Belgium)	05/07/2013	31/12/2014 [2]
ZEvA – Central Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (Germany)	08/04/2009	31/01/2016

Notes:

[1] The agency was named „Agencia Andaluza de Evaluación (AGAE) - Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Research of Andalucía" until 31/12/2011.

[2] The agency has applied for renewal of inclusion. Its registration remains fully valid until a decision on renewal has been made.

[3] EVA did not renew its registration due to the fact that all functions regarding QA and accreditation have been moved to the Danish Accreditation Institution.

[4] The agency was named „Evaluation Agency for Research and Higher Education (AERES)" until 17/11/2014.

LIST OF ANNEXES

www.eqar.eu/2014/

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