

## EQAR Members' Dialogue

14/15 January 2021

(all times in CET/UTC+1)

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### Objectives

- Contribute substantially to the EQAR self-evaluation
- Provide a forum to discuss current policy developments in QA

### Participants

Ca. 50 – 60 representatives from:

- Governmental members
- European stakeholder organisations
- Permanent observers on the GA
- EQAR statutory bodies

### Platform

Zoom

### Registration

<https://www.eqar.eu/registration-form/eqar-members-dialogue/>

## Thursday 14 January 2021

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### 14:00 Welcome and Introduction

Introduction to the current self-evaluation in the context of EQAR's Strategy and previous evaluations

**Karl Dittrich**, EQAR, President

Overview of surveys & responses, summary of key issues arising from the surveys & further reflection

**Colin Tück**, EQAR, Director

Followed by Q&A, discussion

### 14:45 Break

### 15:15 Parallel sessions 1: taking stock

The parallel sessions will dive deeper into the key issues arising and requiring further discussion by and with members.

Each session will be kicked off by a short (5 min) introduction, providing an overview and concluding with key questions to be discussed.

This first round is focused on taking stock and discussing the feedback and reflections on EQAR's work:

#### 1. Register

Feedback from QA agencies and reflections by the RC, ESG requirements that are often difficult, where do legal frameworks inhibit compliance and how should EQAR take those up with governments?

Moderator: **Beate Tremml**, Vice-Chair of the Register Committee & Self-Evaluation Group, EQAR

#### 2. Cross-border recognition of QA

State of play, what have we learned about different legal frameworks, why are countries hesitant to recognise registered QAAs' results, what else could EQAR do?

Moderator: **Daniel Miescher**, Liechtenstein & EQAR Self-Evaluation Group

#### 3. EHEA key commitments

How effective is EQAR's monitoring of the key commitment on QA and support to peer groups, does

DEQAR support the (automatic) recognition of qualifications, how can impact be assessed and enhanced?

Moderator: **Ivana Radonova**, Bulgaria & EQAR Self-Evaluation Group

#### 4. Analysis and policy briefs

How to make better known what we have, what do governments and stakeholders need and find useful, which topics are of interest, what format is most beneficial, Europe-wide vs individualised/per country?

Moderator: **Tia Loukkola**, EUA, EQAR Executive Board & Self-Evaluation Group

16:00 **Quick wrap up in plenary**  
(end 16:15)

### Friday 15 January 2021

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9:45 **Panel discussion on key trends and policy developments**

Touching on these topics:

- How can the ESG be applied flexibly in the changing landscape of higher education? How can EQAR sufficiently reflect the importance of the national QA system?
- How can EQAR ensure it remains relevant and useful in view of the changing higher education landscape (e.g. digitalisation, increased cross-border collaboration between higher education institutions and new/flexible learning paths)?
- Should any of these trends impact EQAR's modus operandi and, if so, how?

Moderator: **Karl Dittrich**, President, EQAR

Panelists:

- **Liz Marr**, [Pro-Vice-Chancellor Students, Open University](#) (UK)
- **Emily Palmer**, [Secretary General, Una Europa](#)
- **Diane Freiburger**, [Managing Director, FIBAA](#)

10:30 **Break**

11:00

## Parallel sessions 2: looking forward

The second round is focused on future directions

### 1. Agency vs system level

What is the role of agencies vs other actors in the system, how could EQAR better take into account the system level, how would this articulate to the agency reviews, how can EQAR raise flags/alerts about system-level issues?

Moderator: **Karl Dittrich**, President and Self-Evaluation Group, EQAR

### 2. DEQAR

Key lessons learned, how to maximise the potential of linking with ENIC-NARICs, Europass and other tools/platforms, how to develop the database for the future, how to represent micro-credentials etc.?

Moderator: **Colin Tück**, Director and Self-Evaluation Group, EQAR

### 3. Future of registration process

Introducing a lighter, focused review for “mature” agencies, what would be the scope of such a more focused review to ensure that EQAR can fulfil its role, what kind of monitoring and ongoing interaction does EQAR need with the registered agencies?

Moderator: **Steffen Westergård Andersen**, Register Committee & Self-Evaluation Group, EQAR

### 4. Serving the European higher education sector

How do EQAR members benefit, what can EQAR do to help members improve their QA system, how do we ensure relevance for countries with mature QA systems, where do we need to raise awareness of other stakeholders (e.g. academics and students)?

Moderator: **Michal Karpíšek**, EURASHE, EQAR Executive Board & Self-Evaluation Group

11:45

## Report back from sessions

Followed by Q&A, discussions

12:15

## Wrap up and closing

(end 12:30)