

Draft proposal Terms of Reference for AG2 on Learning and Teaching (AG2) for the working period 2021-2024

Name of the (Advisory) Group <i>Working Group on Learning and Teaching</i>
Contact persons (proposed co-chairs) The group shall be co-chaired by members of the Bologna Follow Up Group. It is important that the group's chairs continue to include one member and one consultative member.
Composition of the Group An open call will be issued to the members of the BFUG. The composition of the group shall be open to current and new members.
Overarching Aim The overarching aim is to support the members of EHEA in developing successful ways to improve strategies in learning and teaching. The working group will base its work on the recommendations that were endorsed by Ministers in the 2020 Conference of Ministers [as result of the 2018-2020 BFUG Work Programme], thus translating these into an operational action framework and – where possible – into measurable, qualitative indicators. <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Making student-centred learning a reality● Fostering future teaching● Strengthening higher education institutional and systems' capacity to support learning and teaching In view of its establishment during the COVID-19 pandemic, this group aims also to strengthen the resilience of higher education system, in addition to its focus on achieving an innovative and sustainable EHEA, with a focus on future skills, high quality learning, teaching, and assessment methods and strong links with research and innovation.
Objectives <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Further develop the recommendations made by the advisory group in the working period 2018-2020, by translating them into suggested actions on European/EHEA level¹ and – explore the feasibility of developing qualitative indicators, that can serve as a basis for monitoring of the progress on learning and teaching in EHEA.2) Organize a survey based on the recommendations to ascertain challenges and actions within the EHEA and inform the further work in this period. Repeat this survey at the end of the working period.

¹ This objective in particular raises the question of funding; to do this properly funding would be necessary to define and implement a systematic project approach. An EC funded umbrella project is suggested here, such as in the peer support groups of the current working period.

- 3) Developing a way to support member states in the development of concrete actions to implement the recommendations from advisory group 1 learning and teaching. This could entail, but does not need to be limited to, working in cooperation with existing peer support groups or via a peer support system and by organizing forums and/or seminars.
- 4) Collect and agree on lessons learnt during the COVID-19 crisis and translate them into recommendations and actions for learning and teaching in higher education in the EHEA. Emphasis might be put on the digital transformation of higher education institutions and systems and on future skills development for teachers and learners.

Reference to the Rome Communiqué

(the text below is subject to change)

We [acknowledge/adopt: to be decided] the “Recommendations for national/governmental support/action for the enhancement of Higher Education Learning and Teaching in the EHEA” (Annex 3) to support higher education institutions in the continuing development of student-centred learning and teaching. The recommendations comprise increased support for all learners, and for teaching and non-teaching staff. Academic staff, including junior academics, require stable employment and career opportunities, parity of esteem for teaching and research, attractive working conditions, access to up-to-date staff development, and recognition of their achievements. In all these respects we will foster dialogue and collaboration on learning and teaching in our national systems and at EHEA level.

Reporting

Minutes of working group meetings and the results of the surveys shall be made available to the BFUG.

BFUG shall receive regular reports and updates and be consulted if needed. Progress reports will be submitted by the working group at each BFUG meeting.

More specifically, the set of indicators measuring progress shall be agreed with the BFUG. In between BFUG meetings, updates shall be circulated by the BFUG Secretariat via email.

The draft of the working group report 2024 will be presented and discussed at the BFUG meeting at the end of 2023.

Draft meeting schedule

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