

BFUG Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024

Overview of progress in 2021-2023

Ninoslav S. Schmidt, Co-Chair, CROATIA

24 April 2023

BFUG WG SD Meeting, Brussels, ETUCE

I. **Our objectives 2021-2024**

BFUG Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024

We need to develop a framework for the implementation of the Principles and Guidelines!

Specific objectives for our BFUG WG on Social Dimension 2021-24:

- 1) Defining **indicators** for the Principles for social dimension
- 2) Developing a **system of monitoring the implementation** of the Principles
- 3) Organizing **peer support activities** for social dimension to support the implementation of the Principles among the EHEA members
- 4) Organising a **seminar on the social dimension at the end of the cycle in 2024**, within the events connected with the EHEA ministerial conference, to discuss the progress made in developing social dimension policies in the EHEA members.



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Bologna Follow-up Group

Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024

Workplan 2021-2024

Prepared by Co-Chairs:
CROATIA – Ninoslav Šćukanec Schmidt
EUROPEAN STUDENTS' UNION – Martina Darmanin

January 2022

II. Workplan 2021-2024

BFUG Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024

BFUG WG on Social Dimension Workplan for 2021-2024

- WG on Social Dimension-meetings in 2023 – 5 meetings per year:
 - ✓ **9th meeting in February 2023: 7-8 February 2023 (Belgium, Ghent).**

The PLA-2 within the project PLAR-U-PAGs: 9-10 February 2023 in Ghent
 - ✓ **10th meeting in April 2023: 24-25 April 2023 (Belgium, Brussels).**
 - ✓ **11th meeting in June 2023: 12-13 June 2022 (Croatia, Dubrovnik, University of Dubrovnik).**

The PLA-3 within the project PLAR-U-PAGs will take place on 13-14 June 2023 in Dubrovnik at the University of Dubrovnik – members of the WG SD are encouraged to apply for the PLA-3.
 - ✓ **12th meeting in October 2023: 24-25 October 2023 (more details TBC).**
 - ✓ **13th meeting in December 2023: 7-8 December 2023 (more details TBC).**
- **Web site for the WG on SD at the www.ehea.info + cloud-folder (Google Drive):**
 - Key documents related to the work of the WG on Social Dimension and its subgroups
 - Documents related to the WG-meetings

Work Plan 2021-2024

WG on Monitoring the
Implementation of the
Bologna Process



WG on Fundamental
Values



Bologna
Implementation
Coordination Group



Thematic Peer
Group A on
Qualifications
Framework
(TPG A on QF)



WG on Social
Dimension



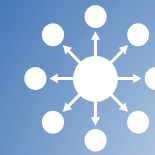
Thematic Peer
Group B on the
Lisbon Recognition
Convention
(TPG B on LRC)



WG on Learning
and Teaching



Thematic Peer
Group C on
Quality Assurance
(TPG C on QA)



WG on Supporting the
Implementation of the
Roadmap for San
Marino's Accession to
EHEA



EHEA Network of
National Qualifications
Framework
Correspondents



Coordination Group on
Global Policy Dialogue



Taskforce on
Enhancing Knowledge
Sharing in the EHEA
Community



Ad Hoc Task Force to Increase
Synergies Between the EHEA, the
Higher Education Dimension of the
EEA and the ERA



Update on BFUG Meetings

✓ **BFUG Board Meeting hosted by Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo): 31 March 2023**

- Horia Onita (ESU) was present and made update on the work related to the WG SD

✓ **BFUG Meeting hosted by Sweden (Stockholm): 12-13 May 2023**

- Nino Schmidt (Croatia) and Horia Onita (ESU) will be present and will make an update on the work related to the WG SD

Achievements 2021-2023

- ✓ **Key achievement: key objectives related to the creation of indicators for social dimension are successfully implemented** > consultation process under way
- ✓ **5 Peer-learning activities (PLA) in 2021 + 3 PLAs in 2022 = 8 PLAs**
- ✓ **Erasmus+ project that supports fulfillment of the objectives of the WG on Social Dimension > project started on June 1, 2022:**
 - the project „**Peer Learning Activities and Resources to Underpin the Principles and Guidelines for Social Dimension**”
 - Project coordinator: Flemish Community, Department of Education and Training, Belgium-Flanders
 - Partners: SIHO-Support Centre Inclusive Higher Education (Belgium), Ministry of Education and Science (Croatia), Institute for the Development of Education (Croatia), European Students’ Union
 - **1st PLA meeting on social dimension: 16-17 November, Zagreb-Croatia**, hosted by the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education
 - **2nd PLA meeting on social dimension: 9-10 February 2023, Brussels-Belgium**, hosted by SIHO
 - **3rd PLA meeting on social dimension: 13-14 June 2023, Dubrovnik-Croatia**, hosted by the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education and the University of Dubrovnik > **please APPLY for it!**

III.
**Consultation with the BFUG 2022-2023 on
indicators for social dimension**

BFUG Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024



Consultation related to:

Proposal of indicators for Principles and Guidelines

- Indicators on social dimension presented at the BFUG Meeting in Brno in November 2022 and at the BFUG Board Meeting in March 2023 > BFUG members were asked to provide feedback.
- The WG on Social Dimension received written comments by ENQA and the director of ENQA was at the WG SD meeting in Gent in February 2023.
- The BFUG Board in Sarajevo (March 2023) provided additional comments.
- Today we continue consultation with the ETUCE and E4 members (ENQA, EQAR, EUA, ESU).
- Goal: to prepare the new version of the document for the BFUG Meeting in Stockholm on 11-12 May 2023 > further comments will be provided in Stockholm



Consultation related to:

Proposal of indicators for Principles and Guidelines

- The WG on Social Dimension would like to include indicators into the new version of the document ‘Principles and Guidelines for Social Dimension’
- The new document of ‘Principles and Guidelines for Social Dimension’ **should be adopted as an Annex to the Tirana Communiqué 2024.**
 - Important policy objective in order to secure further development of the social dimension policy in the EHEA member states
 - New indicators will help creating national and institutional (university level) action plans for social dimension in HE.

IV.

**Update related to the conclusions of the last WG
SD meeting in Gent (7-8 February 2023)**

BFUG Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024

Updates

- Reformulate **indicators related to the quality assurance**, as agreed in Gent
 - ✓ Implemented
- Introduce **‘explanatory descriptors’ instead of sub-indicators** and explain them in a narrative format. Make sure that the formulations are not written in a prescriptive way.
 - ✓ Implemented
 - ✓ Should we create descriptors for each indicator so that we have a consistent structure throughout the document?
- We decided not to create a system of monitoring, because our indicators and descriptors enable national and European authorities to create their systems of monitoring for the implementation of the principles for the social dimension > explain that in the narrative part.
 - ✓ Implemented

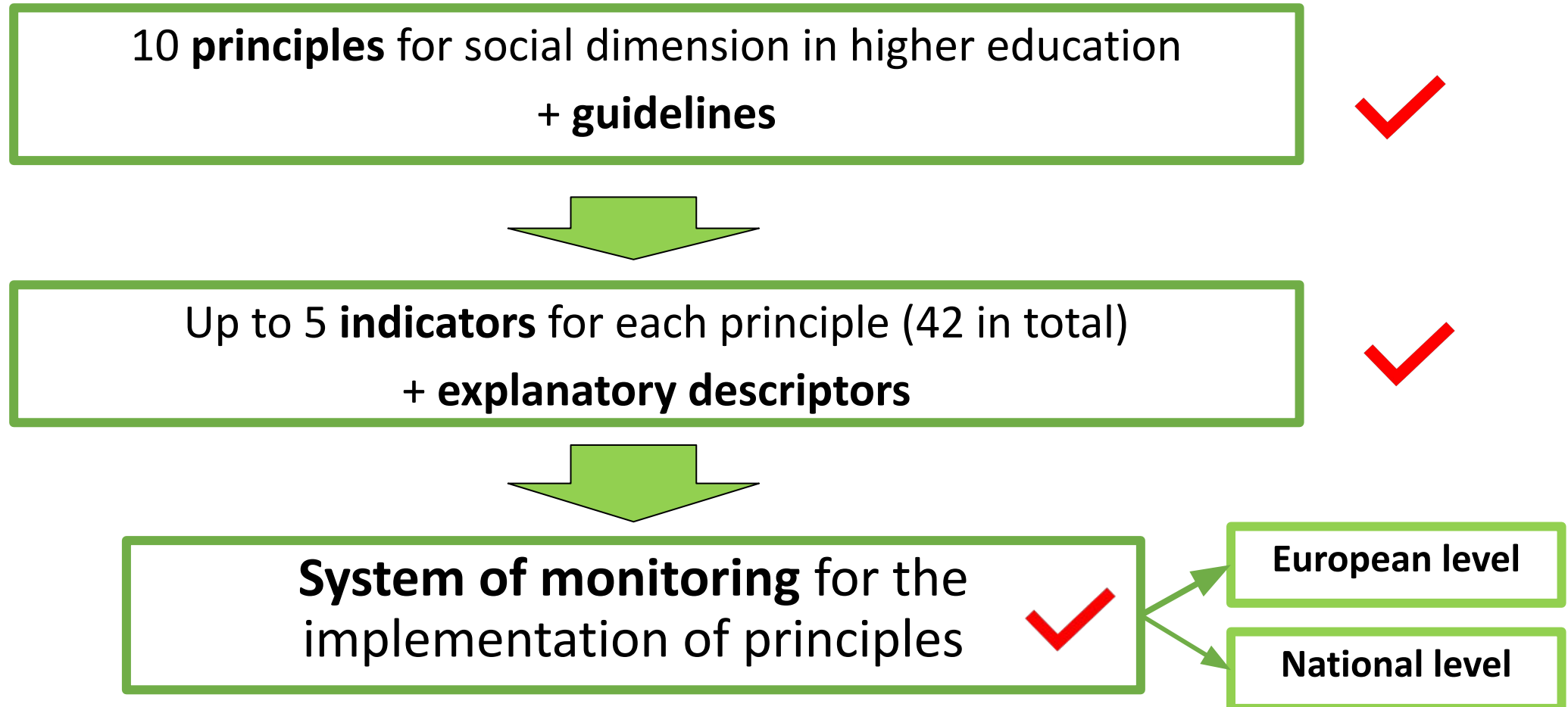
Updates

- Recreate the introductory part and make sure that the key headings are visually easy to capture
- Recreate the introductory part by defining key elements of the new document:
 - ✓ Implemented:
 - ✓ Adoption paragraph: new
 - ✓ Executive summary: new
 - ✓ Definition of the social dimension: old
 - ✓ The new EHEA framework for the social dimension: new
 - ✓ Definition of the principles and guidelines: old
 - ✓ Definition of the indicators and explanatory descriptors: new
 - ✓ Policy alignment with previous EHEA documents: old
 - ✓ Positive impact of the social dimension on societies: old
- Proposal for the new (extended) title of the document: “Principles, Guidelines **and Indicators** to Strengthen the Social Dimension of Higher Education in the European Higher Education Area (**PGI-2024**)”

V. Conclusion

BFUG Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024

The BFUG WG on Social Dimension is developing a **European policy framework for social dimension in HE** for public authorities



Thank you very much for your attention!

- Co-Chair – CROATIA:

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