

AG2 on Learning and Teaching (AG2) - Draft ToR 2021-2024

Name of the (Advisory) Group
<i>Working Group on Learning and Teaching</i>
Contact persons (proposed co-chairs)
The group should be co-chaired by members of the Bologna Follow Up Group. The current co-chairs would be committed to continue the role for a next period, if appointed. This would guarantee continuity and continue to include one Full 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 should be open to current and new members.
Overarching Aim
<p>The overarching aim is to support the members of EHEA in developing successful ways to improve strategies in learning and teaching. This could include recommendations, support and peer learning activities on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● future learning and teaching, in particular geared towards supporting the digital transformation of learning and teaching,● implementing student centred learning,● foster future skills development for teachers and learners and● further improving the quality of flexible and open learning and● improving teacher professionalization. <p>Established in times of pandemic this group aims equally at strengthening resilience of higher education systems as well as to help in reaching the goal of an innovative and sustainable EHEA, with qualitative learning, teaching, and assessment methods and practices, that are closely aligned with research. The working group will base its work on the recommendations that were agreed on 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.</p>
Objectives
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Collecting and agreeing on lessons learnt during the Covid19 crisis, discuss and seek how to make best out of these lessons to traduce them into principles for learning and teaching in higher education in the EHEA, in particular with a view to digital transformation of higher education institutions and systems and future skills development for teachers and learners.2) Further develop the recommendations by translating them into guidelines and – where possible – into qualitative indicators, so that monitoring of the progress on learning and teaching in EHEA can get started.

- 3) Further develop the recommendations by translating them into suggested actions on European/EHEA level.¹
- 4) Developing a way to support member states in the development of concrete actions to support the principles on learning and teaching and promote ways to implement them. This could entail, but does not need to be limited to, working in alignment with existing peer support groups or otherwise via a peer support system and by organizing forums/seminars, and alike.
- 5) Organize a survey based on the recommendations to get a picture of how EHEA members are doing and where they struggle most, to inform the further work in this period. Repeat this survey at the end of the working period.

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 will be made available by the BFUG.

BFUG should also receive regular reports and updates.

To allow for good communication with BFUG as a whole and for the necessary consultations, progress reports should be made at each BFUG meeting.

More specifically, the set of indicators measuring progress shall be agreed with the BFUG.

In between BFUG meetings, updates can be circulated by the Bologna 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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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.