

## **INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION**

Peer Learning Activities and Resources to Underpin the Principles and Guidelines for Social Dimension across the European Higher Education Area

The PLAR-U-PAGs project supports national authorities and higher education institutions in the implementation of the principles and guidelines for social dimension.

**Valérie Van Hees** on behalf of the PLAR-U-PAGs team  
Coordinator Support Centre Inclusive Higher Education (SIHO)  
Flemish Community

# General objective

Support national authorities and higher education institutions across EHEA in the implementation of the PAGs and to support the activities of the BFUG Working Group for Social Dimension 2021-2024.

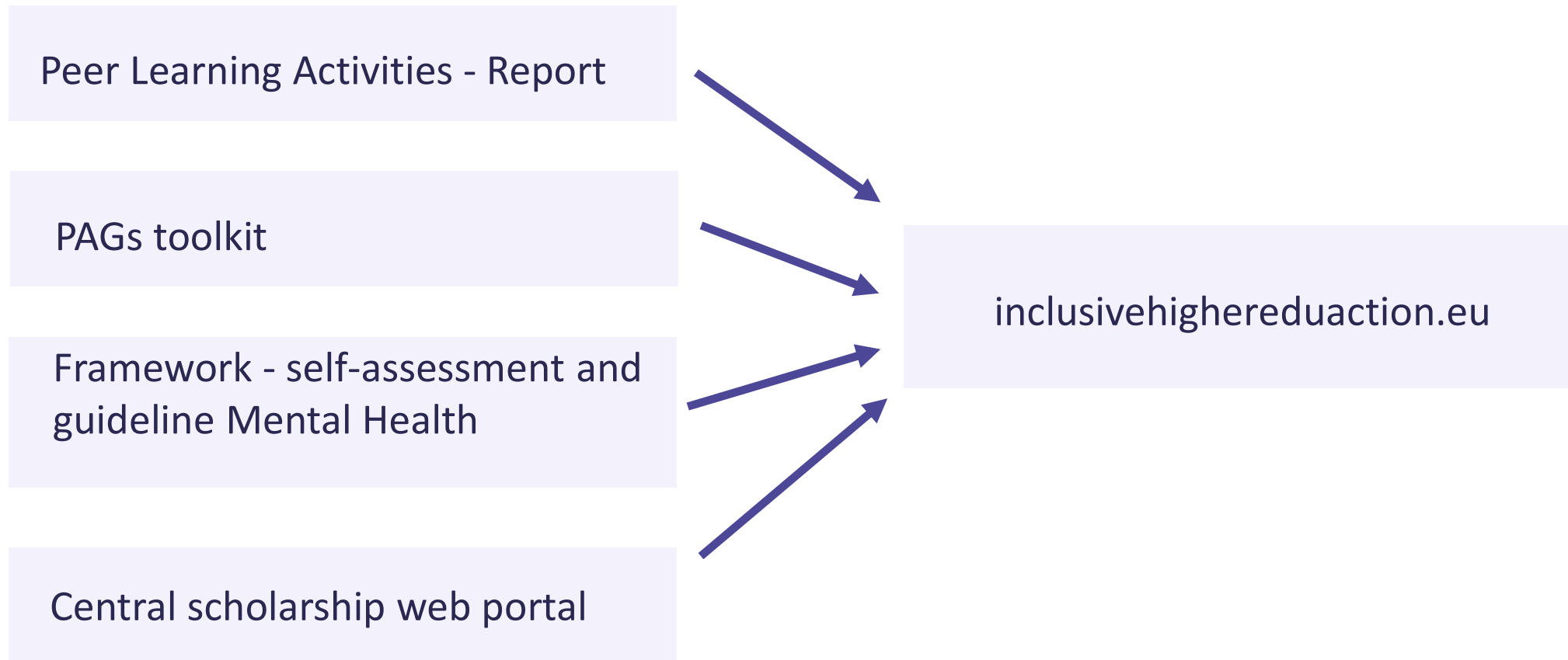


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graph LR; A[Support national authorities and higher education institutions across EHEA in the implementation of the PAGs and to support the activities of the BFUG Working Group for Social Dimension 2021-2024.] --> B[Peer learning]; A --> C[Resources];
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Peer learning

Resources

# Resources



# Project partners and experts

## **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING, FLEMISH COMMUNITY**

Partners and experts with complementary expertise in the field of policy, social dimension and mental health implement the project activities.



## **SUPPORT CENTRE INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION**

Partners and experts with complementary expertise in the field of policy, social dimension and mental health implement the project activities.



## **MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND EDUCATION, REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

Partners and experts with complementary expertise in the field of policy, social dimension and mental health implement the project activities.



## **THE INSTITUTE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION**

Partners and experts with complementary expertise in the field of policy, social dimension and mental health implement the project activities.



## **EUROPEAN STUDENTS' UNION**

Partners and experts with complementary expertise in the field of policy, social dimension and mental health implement the project activities.



## **PROJECT EXPERTS**

Partners and experts with complementary expertise in the field of social dimension and mental health implement the project activities.





### **Ronny Bruffaerts**

#### **KU Leuven - University Psychiatric Centre - Expert PLAR-U-PAGs**

Ronny Bruffaerts is full professor at the Department of Neurosciences KU Leuven and Head of the Centre for Public Health Psychiatry at University Psychiatric Centre KU Leuven (Belgium). With over 20 years of research experience in the field of mental health determinants at the level of the general and student population, he is the founder and global co-director of WHO's World Mental Health International College Student (WHM-ICS) Initiative, which is designed to generate accurate epidemiological data on student mental health worldwide. At national and international level he is an acknowledged expert involved in various task forces and advisory committees on public (student) mental health. He is involved as an academic expert in the European PLAR-U-PAGs project.



### **Frederik De Decker**

#### **Ghent University - Expert PLAR-U-PAGs**

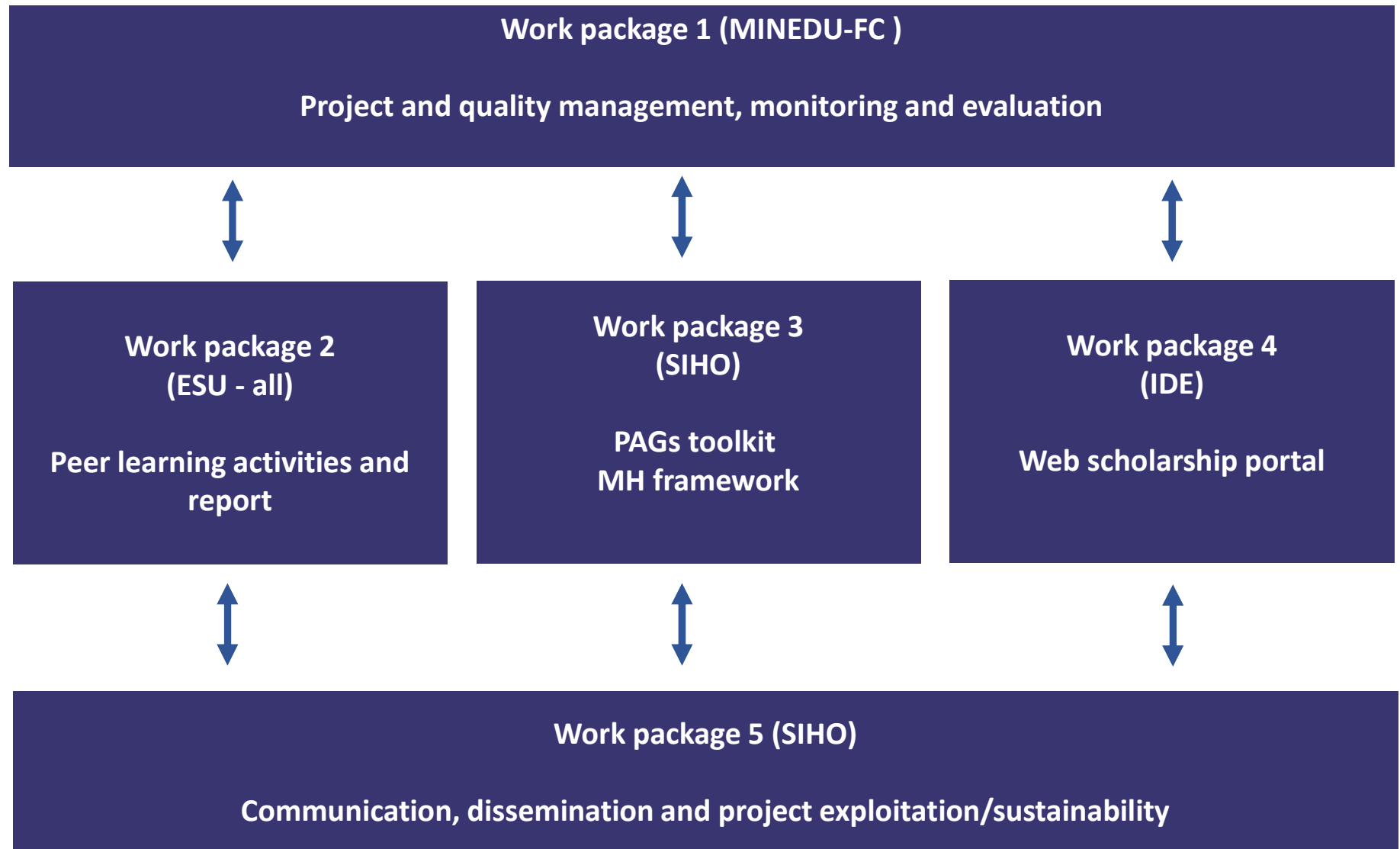
Frederik De Decker is the Head of the International Relations Office at Ghent University, the institution he graduated from and where he started his professional career in internationalisation more than 20 years ago, triggered by his own study abroad experiences in The Netherlands and Poland. He participates regularly as an expert in international projects, mainly dealing with internationalisation, educational development, qualifications frameworks, quality assurance and inclusion. Topics he frequently addresses as an (invited) speaker at conferences and publishes regularly about. He also chairs and participates in various advisory boards regarding these themes at the Flemish level. He is involved as an expert in the European PLAR-U-PAGs project.



### **Howard Davies**

#### **European University Association - Expert PLAR-U-PAGs**

Howard Davies is a Senior Adviser on Higher Education Policy at the European University Association (EUA). He has participated in a number of EUA projects addressing issues of mobility, inclusion, qualifications frameworks and the recognition of academic and professional qualifications. He holds a PhD from University College London and enjoyed a long career in UK higher education. He is involved as an expert in the European PLAR-U-PAGs project.



## WP 2 Peer Learning

- Objective: the main objective of this WP is to ensure the successful completion of the peer learning activities on the PAGs for ministry representatives and higher education representatives (across 15 countries) and ESU correspondents.
- WP leader: European Students Union (ESU). The Ministry of Science and Education, Directorate for Higher Education of Croatia.

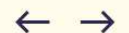


# WP 2 Peer Learning

Each PLA will take a closer look at three to four principles:

- 16-17 November 2022 | Croatia | The first PLA will take a closer look at principles 1, 5 and 10
- February 2023 | Belgium | The second PLA will take a closer look at principles 2, 4 and 5
- June 2023 | Croatia | The third PLA will take a closer look at principles 3, 5, 7 and 9
- October 2023 | Belgium | The fourth PLA will take a closer look at principles 5, 6 and 8

## Timeline



**2022**

November, Croatia  
Peer-learning activity 1  
Research

**2023**

February, Belgium  
Peer-learning activity 2  
Toolkit, mental health framework  
and web portal development

**2023**

June, Croatia  
Peer-learning activity 3  
Toolkit, mental health framework  
and web portal development

**2023**

October, Belgium  
Peer-learning activity 4  
Toolkit, mental health framework  
and web portal development



## Call for participants

The PLAs are intended for a maximum of 30 participants from up to 15 EHEA countries in different implementation stages, who will be engaged in mutual sharing and exchange of knowledge, concerns and ideas on the PAGs. For each PLA, an open call and survey of the current status of implementation and good practices will be distributed by the BFUG secretariat to the ministries of education of the EHEA countries.

The selection of 15 EHEA countries for each PLA will be based on a balance between countries that have successfully implemented the specific PAGs in their national policies and those that face challenges, the size of the country and the HE system (covering both smaller and larger systems), and the geographical distribution (countries from different parts of Europe).

**16-17 November  
2022**

**PAG 1**

**PAG 5**

**PAG 10**

## WP 3 PAGs toolkit + mental health

- Objective: develop a toolkit that includes information on the PAGs and tools at allowing higher education authorities and institutions for supporting, monitoring and assessing the implementing the PAGs at national and institutional level.
- **Self-assessment tool and manual/guideline** based on the **PAG indicators**
- The toolkit will be available on '[inclusivehighereducation.eu](https://inclusivehighereducation.eu)'.

## WP 4 web portal

- To develop a **counselling and informative tool on student financial aid at the EHEA level**
  - Supports Principle for SD no.5:  
„Public authorities should have policies that enable **higher education institutions to ensure effective counselling and guidance for potential and enrolled students** in order to widen their access to, participation in and completion of higher education studies”
  - Supports Principle for SD no.6:  
„**Financial support systems should** aim to be **universally applicable to all students**, however, when this is not possible, the public student financial support systems should be **primarily needs-based** and should make **higher education affordable for all students**, foster access to and provide opportunities for success in higher education.

# WP 4 web portal

## **DIRECT** target groups:

- Students: potential students (high school students) + current HE students
- Administrative staff involved in student counselling (HEIs, public authorities, agencies)

## **INDIRECT** target groups:

- Students' families
- Academic staff at HEIs

# Communication

**[inclusivehighereducation.eu](https://inclusivehighereducation.eu)**

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# Communication

- LinkedIn



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## Questions