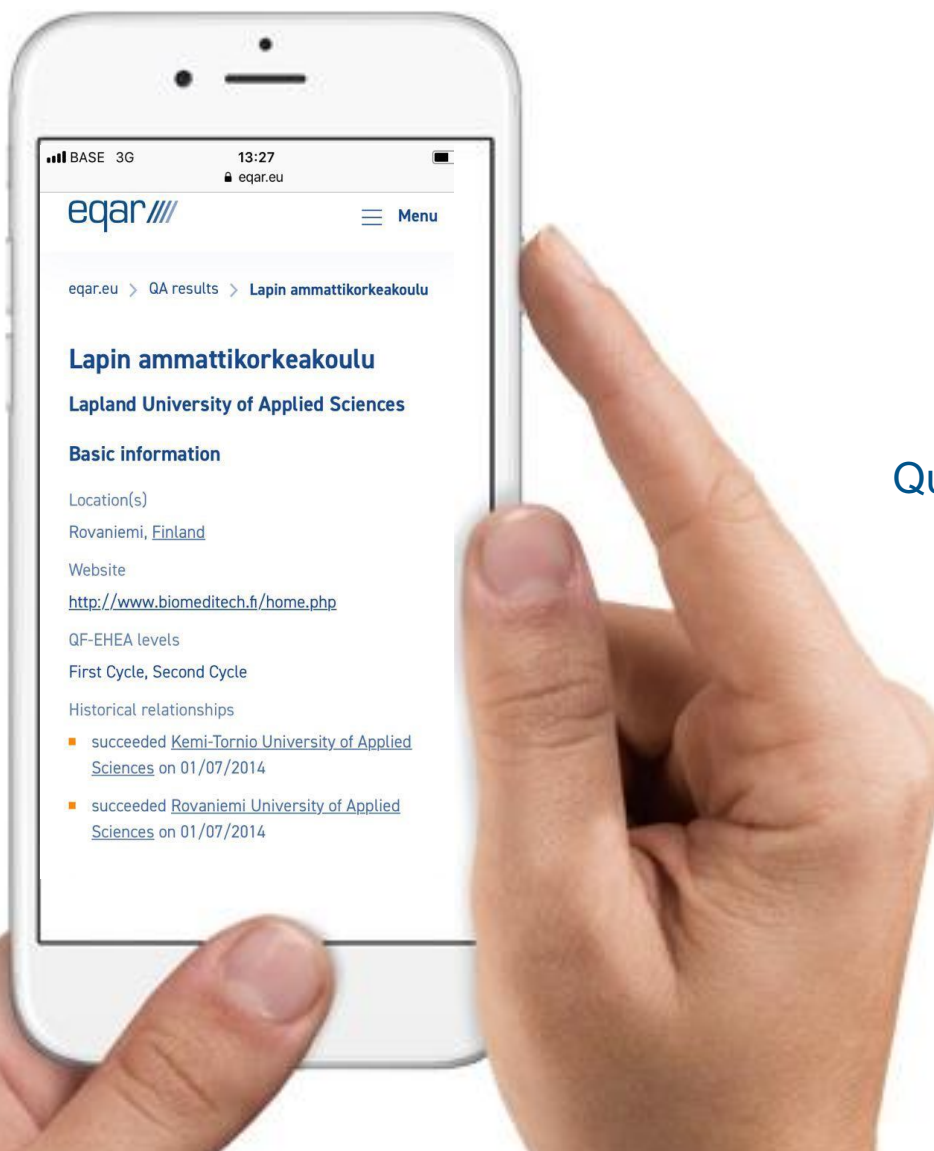


Database of External Quality Assurance Results (DEQAR)



Project Effective partnership for enhanced recognition – EPER

Peer learning activity Automatic recognition in higher education
Mostar, 20.11.2019.

Quality assurance and automatic recognition
(DEQAR)

www.deqar.eu

Jelena Šantić Stefanoska,
Policy and Project Officer



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Content



- Recognition and quality assurance (policy background)
- DEQAR project (general information, development background)
- DEQAR users
- DEQAR how to?
- DEQAR technical details
- DEQAR state of play
- DEQAR video
- Try it yourself!

- **Yerevan Communiqué 2015:**

“By 2020 we are determined to achieve an EHEA [...] where automatic recognition of qualifications has become a reality so that students and graduates can move easily throughout it”

“Do 2020. godine, odlučni smo da ostvarimo Evropski prostor visokog obrazovanja...gdje je automatsko priznavanje kvalifikacija postalo jedna realnost, tako da studenti i diplomci mogu lako da se kreću na cijelom prostoru”.

- **Council Recommendation (2018)** on promoting automatic mutual recognition of higher education and upper secondary education diplomas and the outcomes of learning periods abroad.

Preporuka Vijeća (2018) o promovisanju automatskog uzajamnog priznavanja diploma visokog i višeg sekundarnog obrazovanja te ishoda razdoblja školovanja u inozemstvu.

Recognition and the ESG



- **1.4 Student admission, progression, recognition and certification**

Guidelines: [...] Fair recognition of higher education qualifications, periods of study and prior learning, including the recognition of non-formal and informal learning, are essential components for ensuring the students' progress in their studies, while promoting mobility. Appropriate recognition procedures rely on: - institutional practice for recognition being in line with the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention; [...]

- **2.6 Reporting**

Full reports by the experts should be published, clear and accessible to the academic community, external partners and other interested individuals. [...]

- **Accessibility** of external quality assurance results is **crucial**

▪ 1.4. Upis i napredovanje studenata, priznavanje i certificiranje

Smjernice: “... Objektivno priznavanje kvalifikacija visokog obrazovanja, perioda studiranja i prethodnog učenja, uključujući i priznavanje neformalnog i izvanškolskog učenja, predstavljaju suštinske komponente za osiguranje napretka studenata na studiju, uz promovisanje mobilnosti. Odgovarajuće procedure priznavanja počivaju na:

- institucionalnoj praksi za priznavanje u skladu sa principima Lisabonske konvencije o priznavanju...”

▪ 2.6 Izvještavanje

Potrebno je objaviti cjelovite izvještaje stručnjaka, koji su jasni i pristupačni akademskoj zajednici, eksternim partnerima i ostalim zainteresiranim pojedincima.

Why DEQAR?



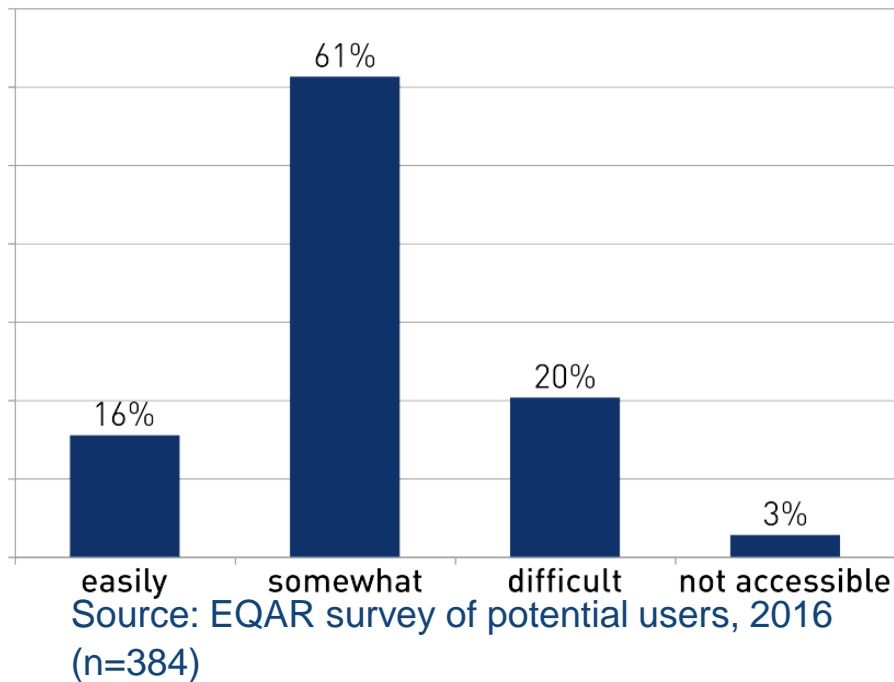
Existing initiatives:

- Mainly national & institutional databases used
- Information from various agencies (Crossroads, EUR-ACE, CHEA, USDE)
- Information on higher education institutions (WHED, ETER, Anabin, U-Multirank, Learning Opportunities & Qualifications)

Difficulties before DEQAR:

- Which agency?
 - User-friendliness of agency websites
 - Language
 - Information up-to-date
 - Understand different external QA systems
-
- Benefit from experience & built on existing data
 - Useful as underlying database

Background



- No optimal accessibility of quality assurance (QA) results
- Automatic recognition agenda (EHEA goal, EU recommendation)
- Need for easy access and understanding of QA

DEQAR Project info



- The Database of External Quality Assurance Reports (DEQAR) project was selected for EU co-funding under Erasmus+ Key Action 3 – European Forward-Looking Cooperation Projects.
- The main aim of the DEQAR project is the development of a database that will enhance access to reports and decisions on higher education institutions/programmes externally reviewed against the ESG, by an EQAR-registered agency.
- DEQAR project consortium: 6 stakeholder organisations; 1 research centre; 17 QA agency partners; 3 associate partners

Database of External Quality Assurance Results (DEQAR)



Mission: To collect all external quality assurance reports and decisions performed by EQAR-registered agencies in line with the ESG in order to make these available to various user groups.

Objectives:

- 1) Improve access to information on the external quality assurance of higher education
- 2) Facilitate the recognition of qualifications and mobility
- 3) Map the diversity of external quality assurance frameworks in Europe
- 4) Pilot the use of the database as a basis for Europe-wide thematic studies
- 5) Facilitate the exchange of data and links with other tools

Design principles



- Structure
 - **Lean approach:** only what is needed and readily available
 - **Standardised but reflecting varied structure of external QA:** institutional level as starting point, programmes not feasible for all
- Scope
 - **Comprehensive and up-to-date:** includes all currently valid reports/reviews within the scope of the ESG
 - **Accessible and understandable:** use of English; contextual information provided to clarify the status of reports and activities
- Access
 - **Low entry barrier for agencies:** possible for all EQAR-registered agencies to feed information into the database; all methods/code made public
 - **Free and open access to public:** no fees or restrictions on use; data also available as “open data” through public search API and data dump.

Information for users



1) Info on the institution

- Name (English & official languages)
- Country
- Website
- NQF and QF-EHEA levels

2) External QA procedure

- Quality assurance agency
- Description
- Level

Decision

Status

Date

Valid until

Report(s) and decision(s)

If programme-level:

Name of the programme in official language(s) and English

Name of the qualification(s) awarded

Country (if different)

NQF and QF-EHEA level

Search and discovery



 Browse and search

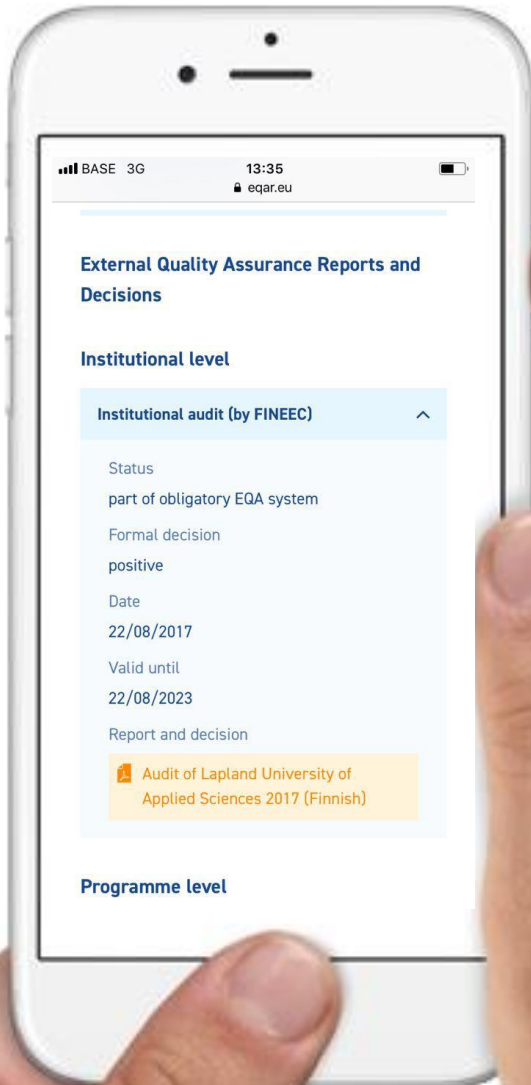
 (by institution name, country, agency)

 Historic records

 Full download

 Embed into third-party applications

DEQAR: “QA results at your fingertips”



Database of External Quality Assurance Results

PUBLIC PREVIEW

Search QA results by institution, city or country

search

[Advanced search](#)

State of play

Latest DEQAR statistics as of 11/11/2019



- **46 564** reports covering **2117** HEIs from **39** EHEA countries and **340** reports across **25** non-EHEA countries.
- **31 agencies:** A3ES (PT), AAQ (CH), ACPUA (ES), ACQUIN (DE), ACSUCYL (ES), ACSUG (ES), AHPGS (DE), AI (DK), ANQA (AM), AQAS (DE), AQU (ES), ARACIS (RO), ASHE (HR), ASIIN (DE), BAC (UK), EKKA (ET), evalag (DE), FIBAA (DE), FINEEC (FI), fmid (ES), HCERES (FR), IAAR (KZ()), IEP (CH), IQAA (KZ), MusiQuE (BE), NCEQE (GE), NCPA (RU), NVAO (BE), PKA (PL), SQAA (SI), UNIBASQ (ES), ZEvA (DE).
- **39 out of 49 EHEA countries:** Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom

Coverage



European Higher Education Area (EHEA)

Armenia	7	Georgia	10	Netherlands	1
Austria	10	Germany	368	North Macedonia	6
Azerbaijan	3	Greece	3	Poland	314
Belgium	36	Hungary	3	Portugal	94
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	Ireland	1	Romania	91
Bulgaria	2	Italy	1	Russia	29
Croatia	116	Kazakhstan	51	Serbia	1
Cyprus	4	Latvia	1	Slovenia	51
Czech Republic	4	Liechtenstein	1	Spain	491
Denmark	27	Lithuania	1	Switzerland	11
Estonia	21	Luxembourg	1	Turkey	8
Finland	42	Moldova	13	Ukraine	1
France	259	Montenegro	9	United Kingdom	14

3 Methods for Data Submission



Web form (administrative interface)

- Agencies without IT developers
- Agencies with a closed system architecture from which data export is not straightforward
- Submit small amounts of data occasionally

File upload (Comma-separated values, CSV)

- Export data from agency system into CSV (possibly via XLS/ODS/...)
- Work manually on the dataset before submit
- Submit big amount of data in a batch

Using the Application Programming Interface (API)

- Agencies with IT developers
- Send data in JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) format
- Keep DEQAR and local system in sync, e.g. submission of reports upon their creation
- Suitable also for large amount of data
- Data submitted periodically and at longer interval

Additional features



DEQAR has a full interface (REST API)

- Integrate search
 - Pull information from DEQAR in your own page or application
 - Use the same features/search options
-
- DEQAR podržava puni interface za korisnike. Svako može integrisati pretragu i/ili povući potrebne informacije iz DEQARa u svoje stranice ili aplikacije koristeći iste opcije koje koristi DEQAR.

Download full data sets



Database

Search

DEQAR Video

Infographics

Get data

— **Download data sets**

— Connect to API

Terms and Conditions

DEQAR project

Frequent questions

Download DEQAR Data Sets

We invite researchers and others who would like to work independently with DEQAR data to use one of the following sets of data currently available in the system:

Click below to download the available DEQAR data sets:

- **QA Reports – [download full data set](#)**

Download records on all reports that are currently available in DEQAR, including those that are no longer valid. Report entries are listed by country and name of higher education institution. Links back to original report PDF files are also provided.

[DEQAR Documentation: data submission data elements](#)

[Frequent Questions](#)

- **Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) – [download full data set](#)**

Download the complete DEQAR HEI list, including those that do not yet have reports in DEQAR. The entries comprise basic identifying data on each institution. The list is based on a core set of records exported from [ETER/OrgReg](#) with additional HEI entries input by EQAR registered agencies. The list is intended to give comprehensive coverage of tertiary education in the EHEA.

[DEQAR Documentation: institution data elements](#)

- **EQAR Registered Agencies – [download full data set](#)**

What information is in it?



**Institutions/
programmes**

Identify whether a higher education institution or its programmes were subject to external QA in line with the ESG

QA reports

Direct access to information and reports on external QA procedures

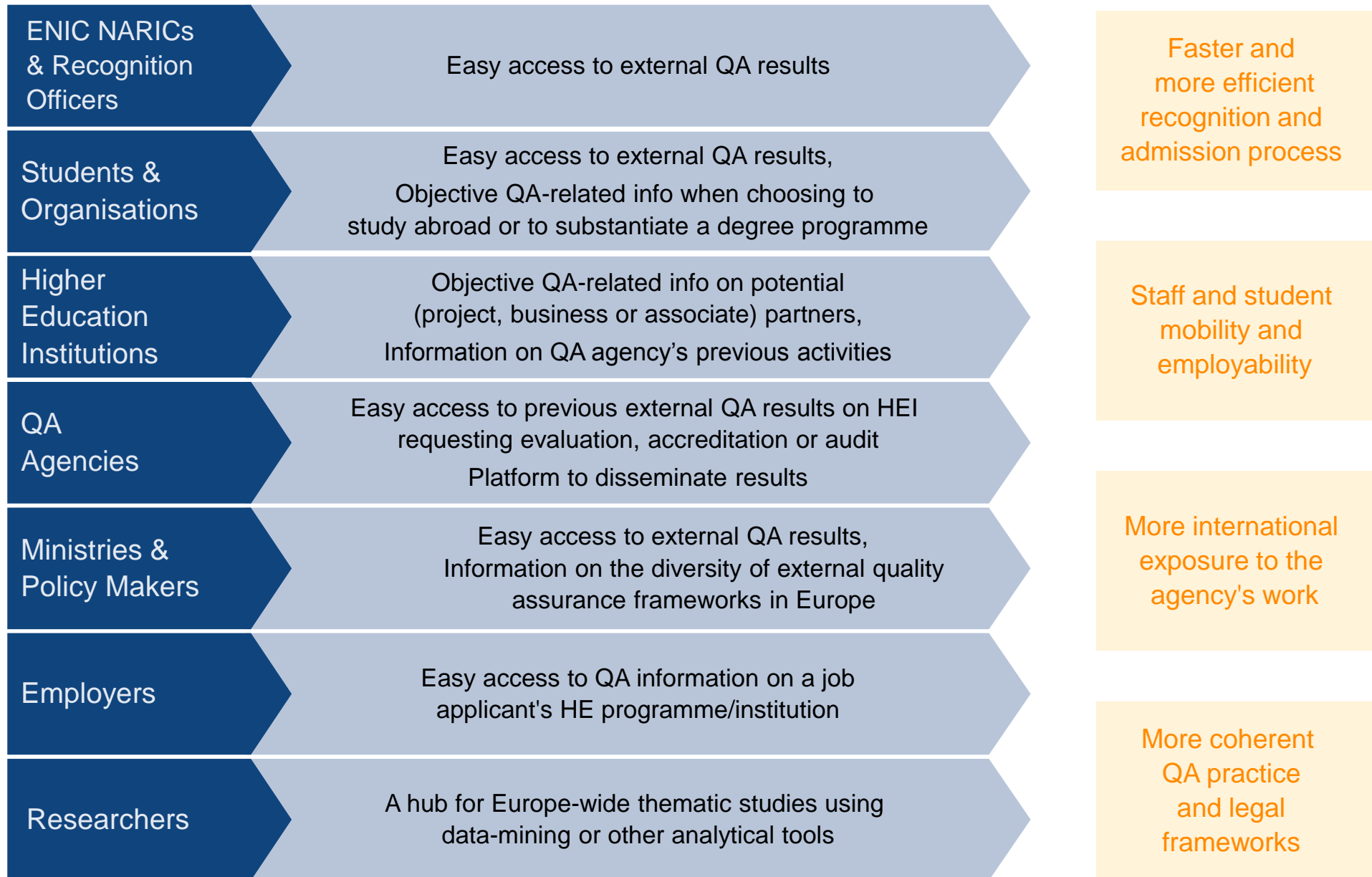
Countries

Clear and reliable information on EHEA's national quality assurance systems

Agencies

Information on EQAR-registered quality assurance agencies & their activities

What's in it for you?



National QA record

Found in
knowledge base

[eqar.eu](#) > [Knowledge base](#) > [Country information](#) > **France**

France

EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA - EHEA

[VIEW 202 INSTITUTIONS WITH 203 REPORTS](#)

institutions
with reports in
country in DEQAR

Membership in EQAR

National external quality
assurance requirements

National QA
requirements

eqar



France has been a Governmental Member of EQAR since February 2008.

Read more: [all Governmental Members of EQAR](#)

There are three main categories of higher education institutions in France: public universities, the Grandes Écoles (which include prestigious schools of engineering, business and management), and schools of art and architecture. The Grandes Écoles are either public, or private establishments that are typically smaller in size compared to universities.

All legislative and regulatory provisions relating to the French educational system are incorporated in a single reference document, the education code (see below weblink to Code de l'éducation - in French).

National QA record



Support for cross border / joint programme QA

European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes

In France the European Approach is available to higher education institutions under certain conditions.

The European Approach could be used subject to the general conditions for recognising QA results of EQAR-registered agencies, as described above.

Read more: [countries where the European Approach is available to higher education institutions](#)

Other HEI information

Further information

- [Code de la recherche, Article L114-3-1 \(in French\)](#)
- [Ministry responsible for higher education](#)
- [ENIC NARIC](#)
- [France - European Higher Education Area](#)

Registered agencies operating in France

Officially operating agencies

- [CTI - Engineering Degree Commission](#) /// 2009 -
- [HCERES - High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education](#) /// 2010 -
[VIEW 201 INSTITUTIONS WITH 201 REPORTS](#)
- [AQAS - Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes](#) /// 2008 -
- [ASIIN - ASIIN e.V.](#) /// 2008 - [VIEW 1 INSTITUTIONS WITH 2 REPORTS](#)

EQAR registration dates

of institutions with reports by agency in country in DEQAR

Institution QA record



Name in English and national language

Euroacademy

Euroakadeemia

Basic information

Location(s)

Tallinn, [Estonia](#)

Website

<http://www.euroakadeemia.ee>

Founding year

1997

QF-EHEA levels

first cycle, second cycle

ETER/OrgReg ID

EE0008

Previous names

■ Euro University (Euroülikool) until 30/06/2009

Link to national QA record

Previous name, or linked historical or hierarchical records

ETER ID for linking up

National QA requirements

National External Quality Assurance Requirements

■ Institutional accreditation

Once in every seven years higher education institutions must undergo institutional accreditation.

■ Quality assessment of study programme groups

Obligatory periodic assessment (every seven years) of all the study programme groups in which a higher education institution has been granted the right to conduct studies.

■ Initial assessment of study programme groups

An educational institution is granted the right to conduct studies by the Government of the Republic of Estonia in a specific study programme group and in a specific academic cycle (professional higher education, bachelor degree studies, master degree studies, doctoral studies). This allows the HEI to issue state-recognised diplomas under all programmes contained in the corresponding study programme group. Before such right is granted, the study programme group must undergo initial assessment, which the Ministry of Education commissions from EKKA.

Link to national QA record

■ [Further information on external quality assurance in Estonia](#)

Institution QA reports








External Quality Assurance Reports and Decisions

Institutional and/or programme reports

Institutional level

View with/without historical reports

show historic reports (1)















  	Institutional accreditation	▼
 	Institutional accreditation	▼

Obligatory (or voluntary) reports

Programme level

show historic reports (2)

Decision: positive / negative, not applicable

 	Arts study programme group, first cycle	▼
 	Business and administration study programme group, first cycle	▼
 	Business and administration study programme group Master's studies, second cycle	▼
  	Environmental protection study programme group, first cycle	▼
  	Environmental protection study programme group, second cycle	▼
 	Languages and cultures study programme group, first cycle	▼

Programme name and cycle

"Historical" reports that are no longer valid

Institution QA reports



Information on programme

Information on external QA activity

Downloadable PDF reports and decisions

Activity undertaken

Link to agency

Validity dates

Business and administration study programme group, first cycle	
Level	first cycle
Type	Quality assessment
Agency	EKKA
Status	part of obligatory EQA system
Formal decision	positive
Date	21/08/2018
Valid until	21/08/2025
Report and decision	Assessment Decision (English) Hindamisotsus (Estonian) Assessment Report (English)

Business and administration study programme group Master's studies, second cycle	

Environmental protection study programme group, first cycle	

QA agency



Found in register

[eqar.eu](#) > [Register](#) > [Registered agencies](#) > [NVAO](#)

of reports on institutions in DEQAR by agency

NVAO - Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders

Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie

SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE ESG

[VIEW 682 REPORTS ON 22 INSTITUTIONS](#)

Admission valid until

30/09/2022 (listed since 05/12/2008)

Website

<http://www.nvao.net>

Link to reports on agency website


Reports by the agency

<http://search.nvao.net/home&tab=advanced>


EQAR registration decisions and reports on the agency

 [21/11/2017 Renewal of Registration](#)

 [21/11/2017 External Review Report](#)

 [27/05/2017 Substantive Change Report](#)

 [03/12/2012 Renewal of Registration](#)

 [26/11/2008 Admission to the Register](#)

Information on the agency's work

NVAO is the independent and binational accreditation organisation for higher education in the Netherlands and in Flanders (the Flemish Community of Belgium). Its activities include drafting frameworks, deciding on accreditation for existing programmes, coordinating assessments and deciding on initial accreditation, institutional audits, or reviews in the Netherlands and Flanders. NVAO advises the Ministers of Education in both countries or carries out assessments related to quality assurance.

QA agency



Activities undertaken by agency





Activities within the scope of ESG

- Accreditation of joint programmes
- Assessments of special (quality) features for programmes and institutions in the Netherlands and Flanders
- Evaluations on features of programmes
- Initial programme accreditation in Flanders and the Netherlands
[VIEW 33 REPORTS ON 17 INSTITUTIONS](#)
- Institutional audits/reviews in the Netherlands and Flanders
- Programme accreditation in Flanders, the Netherlands and the so called "Caribbean Netherlands"
[VIEW 649 REPORTS ON 22 INSTITUTIONS](#)
- Programme assessment in Curacao, Aruba and St. Maarten

of reports on institutions in DEQAR by agency activity

Countries where agency undertook activities

Higher education systems where NVAO carried out external QA activities

-  [Armenia](#)
- [Aruba](#)
-  [Belgium](#)
- [Croatia](#)
- [Germany](#)
-  [Luxembourg](#)
-  [Netherlands](#)

Countries where agency worked officially

Activities undertaken by agency





Activities within the scope of ESG

- Accreditation of joint programmes
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-  [Belgium](#)
- [Croatia](#)
- [Germany](#)
-  [Luxembourg](#)
-  [Netherlands](#)

Countries where agency worked officially

Try it yourself!



- 1) Search the universities of your interest to check have they undergone mandatory external QA in compliance with ESG?
- 2) Which institutions were evaluated in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2018?
- 3) Which faculties of the University of Split have an institutional accreditation by ASHE?
- 4) How many institutions audited by ASHE offer third cycle programmes?
- 5) Which agencies have carried out external QA in France?
- 6) What are the national requirements for external QA of higher education institutions in France? What type of QA activities would you expect to find?

DEQAR Connect and regional initiatives

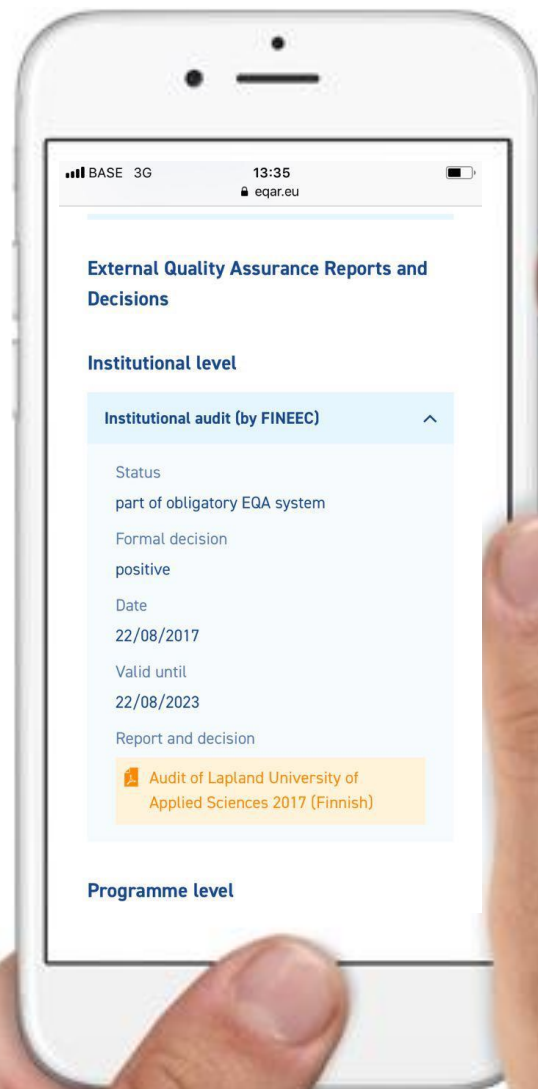


DEQAR Connect (expand coverage, peer-learning and support, piloting integrations of DEQAR data in the workflow of recognition information centres (ENIC-NARICs))

Regional initiatives/technical compatibility with DEQAR

EQAR support (Quick start guide, etc.)

DEQAR, quality at your fingertips!



Database of External Quality Assurance Results

PUBLIC PREVIEW

🔍 Search QA results by institution, city or country

search

[Advanced search](#)

Thank you!

ESG

Common standards for the EHEA

EQAR

Agencies using the standards

DEQAR

Institutions & programmes quality assured in line with the standards

Data structure

