

2021 European Quality Assurance Forum

Building trust and enhancement: from information to evidence

**Online event
18-19 November 2021**

Draft programme (2 September 2021)

The European Quality Assurance Forum (EQAF) provides a platform for discussion, professional development and exchange of experiences among the main stakeholders in quality assurance (QA). The Forum will be of interest to rectors and vice-rectors responsible for QA, QA officers in higher education institutions, students, QA agency staff and researchers working in higher education or the QA field.

This year's Forum entitled "**Building trust and enhancement: from information to evidence**" will combine online sessions about European policies and trends, research, and practical case examples related to the Forum theme and more generally about current developments in quality assurance.

Forum objectives

To promote trust and serve as a basis for informed decision making and quality enhancement, quality assurance needs to be evidence-based. The amount of data on higher education and the performance of higher education institutions has increased in recent years and its nature is changing partly due to digitalisation. This makes it increasingly important to determine which information is meaningful and relevant for stakeholders in higher education, hence worth serving as evidence for robust quality assurance processes.

The Forum will address questions such as how to ensure an appropriate balance between qualitative and quantitative data and diverse sources of information. It will also focus on how to analyse and interpret the data, as well as how to ensure that it is used to enhance quality and promote trust. Notably, the 2021 EQAF will offer an occasion to analyse how to make the best out of the opportunities offered by digitalisation while avoiding pitfalls. The Forum will explore the evidence used in external and internal quality assurance and how to improve its use and impact.

All time indications are in CET.

Thursday, 18 November

The event platform will be open and accessible as of 9.00.

13.30-14.15	Opening Session - The value of evidence This session will explore what constitutes useful and meaningful evidence in quality assurance, what big data, learning analytics, AI and open data mean for quality assurance, the link between evidence and quality, and the implications for measuring quality in higher education. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nicola Dandridge, Chief Executive, Office for Students, the UK• Dragan Gasevic, Professor, Monash University, Australia Chair: Jens Jungblut, EQAF Programme Committee
14.15-14.45	Break
14.45-15.30	Discussion Starter Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Indicators in learning and teaching and the social dimension Chair: Joaquim Mourato, EQAF Programme Committeeb) Quality assurance and academic integrity Chair: Pegi Pavletić, EQAF Programme Committeec) The road to meaningful standards and criteria in higher education institutions Chair: Gea van Zutven, EQAF Programme Committee
15.30-16.00	Break
16.00-17.00	Paper Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Accreditation on the move Chair: Ulf Hedbjörk, EQAF Programme Committeeb) Quality assurance of joint programmes Chair: Ronny Heintze, EQAF Programme Committee
17.00-17.30	Closing of day one

Friday, 19 November

09.30-10.30

Paper Session

c) Trust and impact in higher education

Chair: Liv Teresa Muth, EQAF Programme Committee

d) Strengthening external engagement

Chair: Geneviève Le Fort, EQAF Programme Committee

10.30-11.00

Break

11.00-11.45

Discussion Starter Session

d) Data and conversations: opposites or complementary?

Chair: Ronny Heintze, EQAF Programme Committee

e) Students – a rich source in quality assurance

Chair: Geneviève Le Fort, EQAF Programme Committee

f) The potential of digitalisation in data management

Chair: Ruben Jannsens, European Students' Union

11.45-12.15

Break

12.15-13.00

Closing Session - Building trust through quality assurance

This session will discuss what makes quality assurance and its results more convincing to and reliable for diverse stakeholders and how evidence-based quality assurance contributes to building trust.

- Vanessa Debiais-Sainton, Head of Higher Education Unit, DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission
- Mirek Pospisil, Senior Lead Manager for Public Policy and Government Affairs, LinkedIn
- Martina Darmanin, President of the European Students' Union

Chair: Karl Ditrich, President of the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education

13.00-13.10

Close of the event

The event platform will remain open and accessible for two weeks after the event.