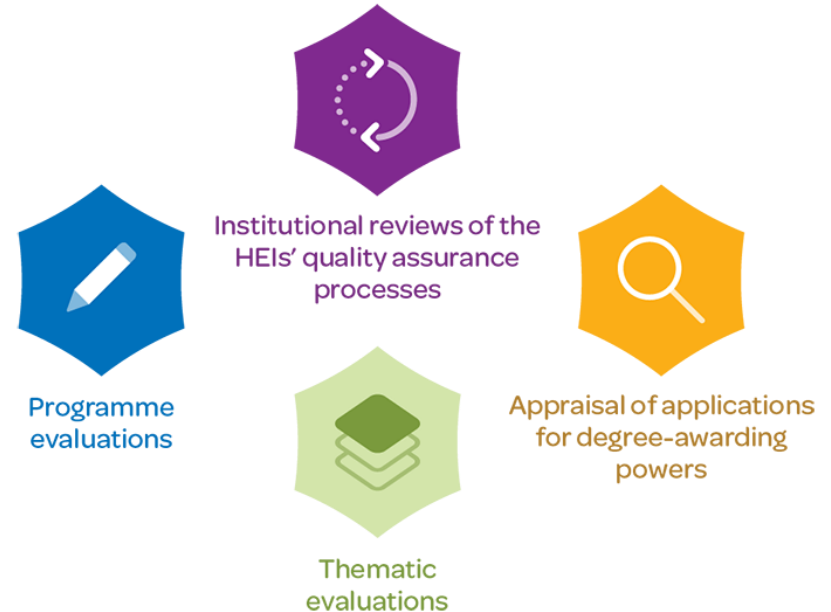# European Universities, Quality Assurance and UKÄ

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The QA system – four components

- Institutional reviews of HEIs' QA systems

- Programme evaluations

- Appraisal of applications for degree-awarding powers

- Thematic evaluations (e.g. sustainable development, widening participation, and ability and skills in nursing education)

Institutional reviews of the HEIs' quality assurance processes

Programme evaluations

Appraisal of applications for degree-awarding powers

Thematic evaluations

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Framework

Higher Education Legislation and Ordinance

European Standards and Guidelines (ESG)

Government communication
Quality Assurance of Higher Education (2015/16:76)

Cooperation with HEI, working life and student representatives

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HEIs and degree-awarding powers

	Universities	University colleges
State	General degree-awarding powers for 1st, 2nd and 3rd degrees; must apply to UKÄ for regulated professions	Degree-awarding powers for 1st degree. Must apply to UKÄ for degree-awarding powers on 2nd and 3rd degree (limits on 3rd degree)
Independent/private	General degree-awarding powers for 1st, 2nd and 3rd degrees; must apply to UKÄ for regulated professions	Must apply to UKÄ for all degree-awarding powers; decision by the Government

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European Universities (alliances)

- Pilots awarded funding 2019- 2020 and 2 in 2022
- **13 Swedish HEIs**

ACTIVE:

- Asking for a stronger Swedish voice (October 2020 and 24 Nov 2021)
- Several national policy group and working groups for for EUI

- UKÄ in **EUniQ pilot project**

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UKÄ so far – possible consequences – transnational quality assurance

Changes in Swedish law and mandate needed if UKÄ is to

- review EUIs, foreign HEIs, programmes or research e.g. in the EUniQ model (need parliamentary decision)

- ==automatically== accept/approve other QA organisations' reviews and not have to 'repeat' the review (need agreements)

- National investigation needed and/or agreements between countries

- Finances?

Main questions

Short term:

➢ (How) **can** UKÄ allow 'discounts' in the current system? (institutional)

➢ How can we implement the European Approach? (Appraisals and programme reviews)

➢ How can we collaborate with other QA organisations?

Long term:

➢ What changes in regulations are needed for long term changes?

- UKÄ registered at EQAR, but Sweden not a member (yet?)

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Internal project at UKÄ: Transnational Quality Assurance

Two main tasks: mapping legal obstacles for transnational QA and finding solutions (short and long term)

Two tracks: EUniQ continuation (institutional review) and European Approach (program level)

Connected to this working group in IMINQA: *QA for EUI*

Staff week at NVAO next week!

First steps - preliminary plans

Questionnaire and data collection from HEIs in Sweden about:

European approach – their policies and procedures for <mark>joint programmes</mark>

What are their plans and what do they need: Support, consultation?

Workshops about EUniQ model

How are they working with/planning for quality assurance in their European Universities, what issues/problems are they experiencing? Support?

Collaboration with Swedish Council for Higher Education – assigned by government to map legal obstacles and funding possibilities for EUIs in SE

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Next steps

- Start internal project

- One of five countries in feasibility study?

- Will connect internal project to *QA for EUIs!*