



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Ministry of Science
and Education



MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
OF UKRAINE

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Advisory Group on L&T Seventh meeting online 25 May 2020

Minutes

List of participants

Delegation	Surname	First Name
Armenia	Hovhannisyan	Ani
Austria	Kohler	Alexander
Belgium	Hovhannisyan	Gohar
Belgium/ Flemish Community	Soenen	Magalie
Belgium/ French Community	Vanholsbeeck	Marc
EI/ETUCE	Roman	Agnes
Estonia	Pukk	Janne
EUA	Gaebel	Michael
EUA	Zhang	Thérèse
EURASHE	Ehlers	Ulf
European Commission	Anderson	Julie
Finland	Korhonen	Jonna
France	Lalle	Philippe
Germany	Seel	Ben
Holy See	Rosenbaum	Melanie
Switzerland	Maret	Antoine
BFUG Secretariat	Lucke	Vera
BFUG Secretariat	Ioimo	Clarissa
BFUG Secretariat	Benedetti	Filippo

Apologies from Bulgaria, Estonia, Italy and Slovenia.

1. Welcome from the Co-chairs

The Co-chairs welcomed the participants and thanked them for joining the online meeting, hosted by the EURASHE Co-chair. The Co-chairs reminded the group members that the documents are available on google drive for all members for changes and/or comments. The agenda of the meeting was introduced and adopted without modifications.

2. Report from the BFUG Board meeting

The Dutch Co-chair summarized for the group members what emerged from the online BFUG Board meeting that had taken place on 2 April 2020. Unlike the previous Board meetings, all the Co-chairs of AG2 were able to participate in this meeting. The Board appreciated the work done by AG2 on L&T, the short document was rated positively and was considered a good annex to the Communiqué. With regard to the long document, it was requested to collect more inspiring practices and to connect them with the already prepared recommendations. The Co-chair informed that during the Board meeting there was a preliminary discussion on the effects of the COVID-19 situation on the EHEA and AG2 received a mandate to reflect on how the teachers and learners of the EHEA countries reacted to the crises also collecting best practices that underline if being part of the EHEA was a support or not in facing it. In this regard, the EHEA member countries were asked to share with the AG2 on L&T how they are facing the crisis and how they can cooperate in this new context and to submit experiences they have with the implementation of measures related to the COVID-19 crisis. Moreover the time to send inspiring practices was extended to 10 June. No answers have been received at the moment of this meeting, and a reminder will be sent as soon as possible.

3. Discussion on shaping the text in light of the Corona crisis (more Digital formats + more future skills)

The Co-chairs opened the floor for discussion on whether it is necessary to rewrite the recommendations or if the work already done can be amended by the Group emphasizing the elements most related to the reaction to the COVID-19 crisis. It was suggested to organize a webinar in order to collect the L&T best practices from the EHEA countries. Having the possibility of online meetings, it was proposed not only to ask countries in writing what they are doing, but it might be interesting to directly discuss the solutions implemented by the countries and do something interactive. The idea was considered interesting and the group will see how to proceed, perhaps as an event at the Global Summit in November. It was decided not to host a separate event any time soon, especially not because other events are already being organized.

The European Commission informed about a weekly meeting that the HE Department is organizing with the EU countries representatives in order to share good practices. The Holy See representative proposed to share through the AG2 members the ENIC-NARIC Networks' document on the recognition of qualifications in the time of COVID-19. The Secretariat will ask to the President of the ENIC Bureau and to the President of the LRC Bureau at the end of the meeting whether the document can be used and if so, the documentation will be sent to the members of the group.

It was also proposed to analyse the mobility aspect, strongly affected by the COVID-19 crisis. In addition, a post COVID-19 follow-up should be considered. It was also emphasized that an important aspect to be assessed is the balance of the document and the group agreed that it is important not to focus only on the technological consequences of the crises but also to analyse the social problems that are coming out and other consequences (30% of all students in Europe do not have sufficient access to technology

for the online-transition; there are disciplines that are simply not apt for non-physical learning and teaching such as Medicine, Arts, Music and Sports). It is essential to be able to maintain the social dimension even in this emergency phase.

In conclusion, the group agreed that it is too soon in the crisis to already integrate lessons learned in the work. As the crisis is still evolving, it is not yet clear what the consequences for learning and teaching are exactly. It is however the case that the current crisis illustrates the importance of many aspects of the work that this advisory group focuses on. It was decided that the document will only be modified slightly, to integrate the impact of the Coronavirus considering the fact that the world is still in the middle of the crises and so a lot of the real effects are not clear yet.

4. Looking at the inspiring practices (Sufficient complete EU picture? Result of the second phase call of inspiring practices about Corona responses?)

The co-chairs reminded the members of the group that inspiring practices have been requested from the EHEA member countries and answers are awaited. The BFUG Secretariat informed the group that for the next BFUG meeting - which will be online at the end of June - the agenda is being worked on these days and parallel sessions are being organized on the effects of COVID-19 and how countries are organizing themselves to deal with the crisis. It has been suggested to the Secretariat to draft, in addition to the minutes, separate documents on the different issues concerning COVID-19 so that the various groups can easily find the information they need. It was agreed to send through the Secretariat a reminder to the EHEA member countries to ask for inspiring practices about Corona responses, as no reply has yet been received.

5. “Big Picture“ discussion about the AG Method work and future direction

The group discussed the AG2's future objectives. Some members stressed the problem that the recommendations are general and not always concrete, and having had to shorten the document some important concepts were lost. The Co-chairs informed the AG2 that the very last deadline to improve the document, make the recommendations more concrete and implementable is 10 September 2020. It was stated that the group will have to see how to deal with the next period of work. The AG2 members agreed to create a voluntary sub-group to start drawing up the draft ToR based on the draft recommendations for the next working period 2020-2023 as soon as possible. The co-chairs will send an e-mail requesting volunteers to express their interest to be part of the ToR drafting sub-group.

6. Meeting conclusions

The Co-chairs thanked the participants and closed the meeting.