

# Update from the Bologna Implementation Coordination Group (BICG)

BFUG Board Meeting LXXXIII  
Sarajevo, BiH  
31 March 2023



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# Meetings of the BICG 1/2:

## 1. First Meeting of the BICG, 10 May 2021, online

The 2021-2024 Work Plan (Terms of Reference, deliverables and meeting schedule);  
The draft Guidelines for the TPGs; Status Quo Implementation of KCs; European  
Commission support for TPGs under the Erasmus+ Program; Next steps.



## 2. Second Meeting of the BICG, 1 October 2021, online

Update from the Secretariat, the BICG Co-chairs and the TPGs Co-chairs; Umbrella  
Projects, EC support; Work Plans of TPGs /discussion of Templates for Work Plans/.



## 3. Third Meeting of the BICG, 21 January 2022, online

Update from the Secretariat, the BICG Co-Chairs; Umbrella Projects and update on EC  
support, update from the TPGs Co-Chairs; TPG Countries' workplans/discussion

# Meetings of the BICG 2/2:

## 4. Fourth Meeting of the BICG, 29 March 2022, online

Update from the Secretariat, the BICG Co-Chairs; Update on EC-Support on TPG Umbrella projects, Update from TPGs Co-Chairs; TPG Countries' workplan, discussion

## 5. Fifth Meeting of the BICG, 25 October 2022, online

Updates from Secretariat, EC TPG Co-chairs and different PLAs

## 6. Sixth Meeting of the BICG, 28 March 2023, online

Updates from members and TPGs, BICG Input for Communique, BICG report 2024 (draft structure)

*Regular pre- and post-meetings of the Co-chairs are also held.*

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# The Thematic Peer Groups - overall state of affairs:

Composition and the structures of each Peer Group established

Terms of Reference and guidelines approved

All groups have established meeting schedule (2 per year, mix of online and in-person)

All TPGs submitted Umbrella Projects for EC support → **all TPGs received support**

All TPG workplans were submitted by end of October 2021

Countries were to submit their TPG workplans by January 2022: **most, but not all, have done so.**

**All TPGs established sub-working groups in 2022 and have started working**



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# TPG A - actions



**4 TPG A meetings** – June 2021, November 2021 (online), March 2022 (online),  
October 2022 (face to face), Riga, Latvia

**4 PLA meetings:**

**Micro-credentials and use of QF by stakeholders – October 21, 2022, Riga, Latvia**

Implementation of Qualification Frameworks and ECTS – Focus on Learning Outcomes – April  
2023, Vienna, Austria

Self-certification – Autumn 2023, Tblisi, Georgia

Assessment of learning outcomes on programme level – Spring 2024 - Tallinn, Estonia

**3 sub-working groups:**

Micro-credentials

Self-certification

Short Cycle Higher Education



# TPG A – latest developments October 2022 – February 2023

## TPG A – October 2022 Riga, Latvia

First face-to-face meeting; Exchange with TPG B and C Co-chairs (Online); reports from 3 sub-working groups, discussion of various dimensions of MCs.

### 3 sub-working groups established:

**Micro-credentials:** First meeting, Sept. 2022 [ToR approved, countries share state of affairs, ETF and CEDEFOP describe challenges for MCs], Oct. 2022 (Riga), March 2023

**Self-certification:** First meeting Sept. 2022, October 2022 (Riga) (WG work planned), February 2023

**Short Cycle Higher Education,** First meeting, Sept. 2022 [ToR approved, countries share state of affairs, presentations on Latvian and other experiences], Oct. 2022, March 2023

### 1<sup>st</sup> PLA meeting:

„The Place of Micro-Credentials in Qualifications Frameworks for Higher Education“

October 21, 2022, Riga, Latvia

<https://aic.lv/en/par-aic/projects/quatra-tpg-a/pla-in-riga>



## TPG A – next planned activities

**TPG A – next meeting: 26 April 2023, Vienna, Austria**  
**Focus on „Policy priorities in the context of learning outcomes“**  
3 sub-groups will also meet in person



## **2nd PLA meeting: 25 April, 2023 Vienna**

„How are learning outcomes perceived, transmitted, and implemented in daily practice of higher Education Institutions?“

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# TPG B – ongoing and planned actions (1)



## TPG B meetings

- 5° TPG B meeting – 27 April 2023 (Albania)
- 6° TPG B meeting – January 2024 (online)
- 7° TPG B meeting – May 2024 (TBD according to the Ministerial conference)

## Public seminars - in conjunction with the face-to-face meetings

- Seminar on automatic recognition (28 April 2023)
- Seminar on digitalisation (TBD back to back with the in presence meeting in May 2024)

## Ad-hoc peer support activity and staff mobility

- Staff mobility (questionnaire + matchmaking activity at the spring 2023 meeting)
- Further activities based on the needs expressed by the TPG members

<http://ehea.info/page-peer-group-B-LRC>





## TPG B – ongoing and planned actions (2)

- **4 Working groups established:**
  - WG1 on micro-credentials (4 meetings held)
  - WG2 on digitalisation (4 meetings held)
  - WG3 on quality of recognition (3 meetings held)
  - WG4 on European Degree (start working at a later stage)

The WGs will work on documents/studies focused on the mentioned topics

# Questionnaire on the monitoring of the Action Plan of the TPG B (16 respondents)



## Most useful activities carried out in TPG B for the implementation of KC 2 at national level:

- **Discussion improved on:** automatic recognition, digitalisation, micro-credentials, qualifications held by refugees, optimising the potential of digital technology for the recognition agenda and the Diploma Supplement.
- **Practice sharing and networking**
- **Stakeholders engagement**

## Suggestions to improve the work of TPG B:

- **Gathering precise information in the LRC implementation status** going directly into the analysis of national legislation and practices of ENICs-NARICs
- **Strengthening the dialogue** with competent authorities
- **Enhancing cooperation** with non-EU-countries and their NICs

# TPG C meetings and PLAs

**7 TPG** meetings for all members (4 physical, 3 online meetings):

- **1<sup>st</sup> meeting: Kick-off 30 June 2021 – online**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> meeting: 17, 18 May 2022, Leuven, BE/FL**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> meeting: 30 November 2022 – online**
- 4<sup>th</sup> meeting: 1,2 June 2023 – Kazakhstan
- 5<sup>th</sup> meeting: November 2023, online
- 6<sup>th</sup> meeting: May 2024, Romania
- 7<sup>th</sup> meeting: November 2024, Belgium

**3 PLAs:**

- **Aligning the legal framework with the ESG, 1 Sept. 2022, BE/FL**
- Cross-border QA and QA of transnational education, March 2023, RO
- European Approach to the QA of joint programmes, Sept. 2023, BE

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# TPG C – Staff mobility Calls 1 and 2

## **Staff mobility - timing call 1:**

**Launch of the *call for applications*: June 2022**

**Deadline for applications 31 July 2022**

***Matchmaking committee meeting*: 31 August 2022**

Selection results: September 2022

Staff Mobilities: October 2022 – March 2023

Review observation reports: May 2023

## **Staff mobility – timing call 2:**

Launch of the call for applications: 25 January 2023

Deadline for applications: 31 March 2023

Matchmaking committee meeting; 30 May 2023

Selection results: June 2023

Staff mobilities: June 2023 – February 2024

Review observation reports: May 2024



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# TPG C – 3 Thematic WGs



## QA of Micro-credentials

### 2 meetings held

- composition of subgroups working on desk research, guiding documents for HEIs and QAA
- inclusion MC providers in DEQAR, feasibility quality label, harmonised data standard

## QA of European Universities

### 2 meetings held

- analysis of legal and regulatory obstacles
- feasibility study in 5 selected EHEA countries, including 2 small PLAs (selection ongoing)

## Digitalisation of QA processes

- Documentation, Survey based mapping: launched March 2023, results end of May 2023
- identification good practices, interviews with some QAA representatives, reflection group, thematic workshop to discuss outcomes Nov 2024





## BICG - Challenges, topics of discussion and reflection

In a **generally positive context**, matters for discussion and consideration are:

- how to stimulate more active **participation** in the TPG activities by all countries
- how to **ensure** that **both** countries that believe they have completely implemented the Key Commitments and those that believe they need support participate fully and pro-actively
- **coordination among the various representatives (in different TPG) of each country is necessary but often problematic.**

The BICG's mission is to ensure that the **Key Commitments themselves** are at the **centre** of the TPGs' attention. Sometimes relevant but less central issues are at the forefront.

**Complete and compatible implementation of the 'Key Commitments'** is necessary for the realization of the other EHEA commitments – including new ones.



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# On behalf of the BICG

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Ivana Radonova (Bulgaria)  
Ann Katherine Isaacs (Italy)

Thank you!

