



# Albanian Candidature to host the 2023 EHEA Ministerial Conference and BFUG Secretariat

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*Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth*

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BFUG Board Meeting

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# Political support and institutions to be involved

- **Prime Minister Office**
- **Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth**
- **Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs**
- **Municipality of Tirana**
- **Center for Educational Services (ENIC)**
- **Agency for Quality Assurance in HE**
- **Bologna National Team and HERE**

# Albania in BFUG

- ❖ **Albania is full member of the Bologna Process and EHEA since 2003**
- ❖ **Albania started to apply the main principles of the «Bologna» restructuring Albanian HE system since 2004:**
  - **Reorganizing HE according to the 3 cycle system**
  - **Introducing ECTS**
  - **Establishing an Agency for QA and standards on HE**
  - **Reorganizing the recognition process and establishing the ENIC center**
  - **Establishing a National QF**

# Albania in BFUG

- ❖ **Albania co-chaired the BFUG with Belgium for the 2° semester 2010**
- ❖ **The next co-chairing semester foreseen, as by actual calendar, is the 1° semester 2021 with Portugal, but we agreed to postpone it for the 1° semester 2024 in order not to double the chairing roles in case of endorsement**

# Albania's role in BFUG

Albania participated actively in BFUG contributing also in different WGs and AGs:

## 2015-2018

- Co-chair with Romania of AG on Revision of DS
- Member of AG on Dealing with non-implementation
- Member of WG on Monitoring
- Member of WG on Implementation
- Member of WG on New Goals

## 2018-2020

- Member of WG on Monitoring
- Member of e TPG-A on Qualifications Framework
- Co-chair with France and Italy of the TPG-B on LRC
- Member of the TPG-C on QA

# Albania's candidature



\* Work Plan according to the draft 3 of the Ministerial Communiqué.  
Subject to change according to the final and agreed Ministerial Communiqué.

  
REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND YOUTH  
MINISTER

No. 1446 prot. Tirana, on 21.02.2020

Dear BFUG Secretariat,

With this letter, the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth (MEoYS) announces Albania's candidacy for hosting the next Ministerial Conference of the Ministers of Higher Education of the *European Higher Education Area* (EHEA) and to be entrusted of the Bologna Follow Up Group (BFUG) secretariat responsibility.

In the last few years, Albania has played an active role within BFUG and the different working and advisory groups. Guided by the Bologna Process principles, Albania has implemented higher education reforms, which demonstrate our determination to fully implement the Bologna key commitments and to contribute to the development of the European Higher Education Area.

As a part of the Berlin process, Albania has been uniquely placed to be an important player and facilitator of the cooperation within the Western Balkan countries. We have so far undergone important work in the field of recognition of academic and professional qualifications, confirmed by the endorsed declaration in Poznan on the recognition of Higher Education Qualifications, and the agreement on roaming signed about one year ago. We intend to use what we have learned from this process in forging deeper connections with our neighbors, as we all strive to improve our education systems in the path toward joining the European Union.

Hosting the ministerial conference as well as the BFUG secretariat, immediately after France and Italy, constitutes an important challenge for us, which will most certainly prove to be an impetus for Albania's continued improvement of its higher education system. It will also be a good example for other EHEA countries not yet part of the EU in their engagement for the realization of Bologna key commitments.

**BESA SHAHINI**  
  
Minister



Mr. Luca Lantero  
General Secretariat of the Bologna  
Follow-Up Group  
c/o CIMEA  
Viale XXI Aprile, 36  
00162 Roma  
ITALIA



# Albania's candidature

Our candidature is based on:

- ❖ **Albania's high interest and the very active role in the BFUG and different WGs/AGs in the two last BFUG mandates**
- ❖ **Significant national HE reforms from 2014 demonstrating our will to:**
  - **fully implement the Bologna commitments**
  - **be an relevant contributor in the EHEA and beyond**

# Regional developments

- ❖ **6 WB economies are all part of Berlin Process, and, apart Kosovo\*, the other 5 countries are also part of EHEA.**
- ❖ **The challenges in the Balkan region has placed Albania as an important player in the actual cooperation of the WB six economies, cooperating within different regional initiatives in the framework of the Regional Economic Area, in line with Bologna key commitments:**
  - Automatic recognition of academic and professional qualifications**
  - Mobility of researchers**
  - Quality Assurance**



# Why Albania?

**Hosting Ministerial conference and BFUG secretariat in Albania:**

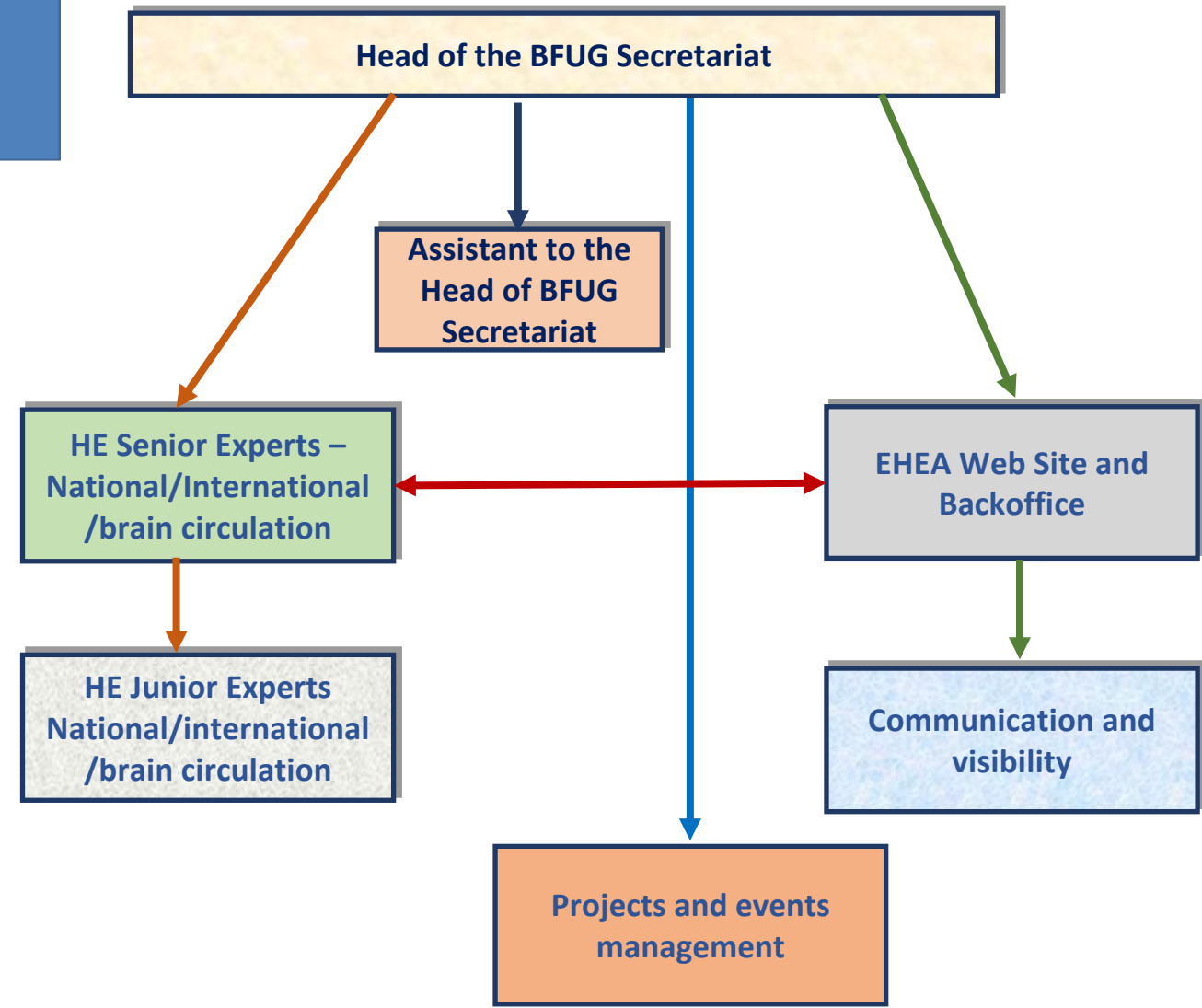
- will bring to focus at national/regional level the challenges and opportunities of the Bologna process**
- will also help to strengthen the cooperation between the WB economies in the context of the Berlin Process, focusing on very similar key commitments, and helping to spread that same spirit in the region as well**

# Why Albania?

Hosting the future Ministerial Conference and the BFUG secretariat by one of the EHEA countries, that is looking to become part of the European family, just after France and Italy, is designing an interesting set of opportunities that:

- ❖ will support Albania in the process of the reforms in the field of HE,
- ❖ will also be of good example for other EHEA countries not part of the EU in the framework of their engagement or in the implementation of Bologna commitments,
- ❖ will contribute to fulfillment of obligations for Albania EU integration in the HE field.

# Proposed structure of the BFUG secretariat 2020-2023\*



\*This structure should be considered for visual purpose only

# Proposed structure of the BFUG secretariat 2020-2023\*

\*Preliminary structure and tasks



	Tasks	Numbers and typology of staff
Head of the secretariat	Organization and management of the secretariat; relations with governments and international organizations and management of relation with vice chair/Albanian government	1
Assistant junior of the head	Support to organization activities of the office and to Head of Secretariat	1 external
Responsible for communication activities	Dissemination of BFUG activities, relation with media and implementation of the social media strategy and instruments	1 resident (+1 external PT support)
Responsible for web communication	Content management of the existing website and of the new web initiatives from the Albanian side	1 external PT (+1-2 resident support)
Responsible for project and event management	Administrative management of the project and management of different events and meetings	1 external PT (+3-4 resident support)
HE senior experts (national/international/brain circulation)	High level technical support to strategic decisions and to directions in order to implement all activities of the secretariat	6 (2 resident + 4 external)
HE junior experts (national/international/brain circulation)	Support to senior experts in drafting and preparation of supporting documents for the Secretariat, management of technical and institutional processes and outcomes, follow activities of the different advisory and working groups	6 (2 resident + 4 external) + 3-5 PT tbd

# COVID-19 emergency

The challenges we are facing in this COVID-19 global emergency period should make us reflect on:

- How to be prepared for similar situations in the future
- How to review the priorities for the 2030
- How to value lessons learned and how this can turn into an added value for the future
- How to evaluate how we can support each other in similar situation and how we can create common platforms in the future
- How to promote and building on the values that unite us and the spirit of solidarity within EHEA

# COVID-19 emergency

In such cases, any country support, no matter how small it is, would be welcome in cases of difficulty

Albania's help to Italy in this situation has shown that, although in difficulty, each of us can help the others if needed and that solidarity has nothing to do with the opportunities you have.

*“Friends will share also the last coin if needed”*

# Social activities during one of AG4 meetings in Albania, 2016



Albania beautiful country, marvelous people!



Skanderbeg square, Tirana





# What's behind the slides?

## Historical museum, Tirana



What's behind the slides?

Tirana night life



What's behind the slides?

Berat

UNESCO World Heritage site



# What's behind the slides?

## Mesi Bridge, Shkoder

# What's behind the slides?

## Gjirokastra Castle

UNESCO World Heritage site

What's behind the slides?

Saranda

What's behind the slides?

**Butrinti Archeological Park**  
UNESCO World Heritage site



# What's behind the slides?

Ksamil



What's behind the slides?

Koman lake

What's behind the slides?

## Ali Pasha Castle



What's behind the slides?

Osum river canions

What's behind the slides?

Manastiri beach

What's behind the slides?

Blu Eye water spring



# What's behind the slides?

Ksamil



What's behind the slides?

Dhermi



Thank You!

[Link to the Video](#)



Albania go your own way

