



Ministry of Education, Culture and  
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Ministry of Education  
of the Republic of Moldova

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## **“EHEA international cooperation” parallel Session**

### **How to think an EHEA international partnership policy and rethink the Bologna policy Forum?**

#### **Introduction**

Since 2005, the internationalisation of the EHEA has been supported by different reports, BFUG working groups, a strategy for the external dimension of the Bologna Process and at a political level by four policy statements discussed in the so-called « Bologna Policy Forum » (BPF) during the Ministerial Conferences in Leuven in 2009, followed by Vienna (2010), Bucharest (2012) and Yerevan (2015).

In Yerevan, where very few non EHEA Ministers attended the meeting, the Ministers called for the necessity « *to pursue common goals through European collaboration and in dialogue with partners around the world* » and added: « *We must renew our original vision and consolidate the EHEA structure* ».

International partnership and policy dialogues are mainly promoted at European, national and institutional level. How can the EHEA bring an added value to these existing policies and dialogues?

The advisory group “EHEA international cooperation” agreed on

- The necessity to promote a global dialogue with regions in the world building Common Areas for Higher Education such as the EHEA (examples of ASEM, ASEAN, East African Community, CELAC, Mercosur in Latin America)
- Around topics of mutual interests linked with the Yerevan priorities
- To be discussed at the 2018 EHEA Ministerial Conference in Paris and beyond

#### **Purpose**

In the parallel session on ‘EHEA international cooperation’ we would like to focus on the ‘international partnership policy’ we have to implement for the EHEA in order to support a new vision of the Bologna Policy Forum for the next Ministerial in 2018 and beyond by :

- Contributing to define relevant topics and regions to cooperate with, following the matrix approach proposed in the advisory group
- Identifying ideas on how to move forward the current conception of the Bologna policy Forum
- Considering which type of actions and meetings could be useful to draw a sustainable road map

## **Structure**

We will start with a presentation of what should be an international partnership policy for the EHEA and imagine a new vision for the EHEA in a global setting. We will follow this short presentation by a discussion around the following questions :

1. What are the main stakes for the EHEA to be engaged in a global inter-regional dialogue with voluntary Regions and countries?
2. Which topics with which regions could be the most relevant to set an overarching framework and renew the EHEA vision and its position in a global setting?
3. What is the role of the BFUG in promoting partnerships outside EHEA beyond good practice sharing, peer learning and mapping?
4. How can the Bologna Policy Forum be re-thought to be more integrated to the Ministerial conferences and attract non EHEA Ministers and stakeholders on a sustainable basis?

## **References**

Pavel Zgaga, "Looking out: The Bologna Process in a Global setting. On the "external dimension" of the Bologna Process". December 2006.

"European Higher Education in a global context. A strategy for the external dimension of the Bologna Process", Leuven, 2009.