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Highlights from EURASHE since the BFUG meeting in Tartu on 9-10 November 2017

EURASHE is the European Association of Institutions in Higher Education that offer professionally orientated programmes and are engaged in applied research within the Bologna cycles. EURASHE represents universities of applied sciences (UAS) and university colleges; other members of EURASHE are national and sectorial associations of higher education institutions, and other individual institutions, such as universities. EURASHE is highly committed to the Bologna Process and takes part in the advisory groups on 'dealing with non-implementation' and the 'revision of Diploma Supplement', as well as in the working groups on 'implementation' and on 'new goals'. www.eurashe.eu

Seminar 'Smart solutions for the regions: UAS applied R&I increasing regional cooperation', November 16-17, 2017, Porto, Portugal

The European UAS are deeply rooted in the regional cooperation and in many cases provide the connecting link between the regional actors and stakeholders. UAS conduct solution-oriented applied research and innovation activities in cooperation with the regions and in many areas also participate in the development of regional strategies. They are in many ways at the very core of the regional development and innovation activities and able to quickly align their R&I activities and curricula to the needs and changes of the regions. The UAS are also the main regional entrepreneurship educators and provide the regions with highly skilled graduates with working life skills. The seminar in Porto (Portugal) was organised in cooperation with Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administracao do Porto (ISCAP) and the Portuguese Polytechnics Coordinating Council (CCISP) to address these topics and to promote the current activities UAS are engaged in within the regions.

More at www.eurashe.eu/events/seminars/rdi-porto

Workshop on Permeability between HE and VET within the EU Vocational Skills Week, November 22, 2017, Brussels

EURASHE developed together with other partners (EUCEN, EfVET ...) the workshop on permeability and work-based learning issues based on its policy paper and findings from various projects dealing with the topic. This workshop was a part of the events hosted by the EC within the Vocational Skills Week in Brussels. The workshop focused on support to learners, employers and educational institutions in providing appropriate pathways which recognised learning and skills development in both the workplace and formal education. For more see the workshop [conclusions](#).

12th European Quality Assurance Forum, "Responsible Quality – Committing to Impact", November 23-25, 2017, Riga, Latvia

EURASHE has traditionally cooperated with other E4 partners in organising EQAF. Besides involvement in academic (the EURASHE Board member Juan Carlos Hernandez Buades has been acting as a chair of the EQAF Steering Committee) and organisational structures of EQAF, contribution to facilitation and panel discussions, EURASHE provided a workshop "[One size does not fit all: challenges of quality assuring professional higher education](#)" based on the outcomes of EURASHE project mapping the landscape of professional higher education and developing tools for institutional self-reflection of addressing specific features of this type of education. More details on [EQAF site](#).

EURASHE contribution to the Bologna Process Researchers Conference, November 27-29, 2017, Bucharest, Romania

The conference provides a platform for meeting of researchers, experts and policy makers to discuss further challenges and developments within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). EURASHE contributed to the panel discussions and with a paper “Unveiling the potential within the European Higher Education Area of the Professional Higher Education sector” which focused on key findings of the project mapping the current landscape and characteristics of various provisions within the professional higher education. Challenges remain in terms of full integration of PHE sector in the Qualification Frameworks, transitions between sectors and flexible learning paths, implementation of the short cycle. There is a lot of potential for the Bologna process to pick up some of these issues and work on further on challenges of the PHE sector, as well as mobility and recognition within EHEA. For more consult the [conference website](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

In the coming months EURASHE will continue promoting professional higher education within EHEA and provide support to its members in areas linked to the priorities of the EHEA. This will take the form of, amongst others, the following events:

- EURASHE Annual Conference ‘**Partnerships for a Digital Future – Strategic role of professional higher education for society**’, Tallinn, Estonia, April 19-20, 2018 which will focus on a role of professional higher education within the diversified higher education systems and strategic partnership with business and other partners from the world of work, various models and approaches to their effective engagement to address the upcoming challenges including digitalisation. www.eurashe.eu/tallinn
- **EQUIP breakfast event**, February 27, 2018, Brussels. An event presenting findings and conclusions of the joint E4 and other partners’ project on mapping implementation of ESG. More to be published soon and distributed through the BFUG secretariat. www.equip-project.eu
- **UAS4EUROPE Croissant event**, February 28, 2018, Brussels. Presentation of joint [UAS4EUROPE](#) views on FP9 and discussion on experience of UAS engagement in research activities, in particular Horizon2020. For more information contact EURASHE Secretariat.
- Conference ‘**Employer Involvement with Higher Education; Creating Relevant Learning Experiences**’, Leuven, Belgium, June 14-15, 2018 which will focus on partnerships with employers for more effective learning provisions with a particular focus on modern and flexible ways of learning and work-based learning. More to come soon at the [EURASHE website](#).

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