



L-Università  
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# ASIIN Global Conference 2022

Reinventing Higher Education Quality Assurance  
for our time - no stone left unturned

Malta, 18-19 October 2022





**18 – 19 October 2022**

**When**

Tuesday, 18 October: 10.00 – 17.00

Wednesday, 19 October: 09.00 – 13.00

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**Where**

**University of Malta (Valletta Campus)**

**Aula Magna**

St Paul Street, Valletta VLT 1216, Malta

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**Who**

- Representatives of the national and international Higher Education community
- Quality management staff of HEIs
- Representatives of international Quality Assurance Agencies
- Representatives of Recognition Authorities
- Representatives of the international business world and employers' associations
- Political stakeholders and
- Representatives of the media

Dear Colleagues,

The framework conditions for international (higher education) politics are changing at a breath-taking pace. But are we as Quality Assurance Bodies, Higher Education Institutions, Policy Makers and Recognition Authorities optimally prepared to capitalize on these new challenges and opportunities?

**On the most fundamental political level,** Europe and its international partners are like never before confronted with armed conflicts and unpredictable political developments putting European unity, its core values of democracy, territorial integrity, the rule of law and the pursuit of unbiased science in jeopardy. Higher Education and QA bodies, being core pillars in promoting these ideals and values, have no choice but to position themselves in this new world of conflict and disarray. But what are appropriate lines of actions to take and guardrails to operate within?

**On the level of educational policies,** European Policy makers are presenting revolutionary ideas to provide synergies for cooperation and European integration countering national attempts to reset the clock. The development of a new type of “European joint degrees”, heavy investments in virtual cross-border European Universities, the introduction of a new European Student Card as well as the proposition of a European Qualification Framework for Microcredentials are on the very top of the political agenda. They are adding to the multitude of existing instruments for international integration in place for decades. But with so many auxiliary resources in place, why is so difficult to deliver on the promises of the EHEA?

What

**On the level of institutional policies,** European/international Quality Assurance bodies and higher education institutions alike are under pressure to deal with the ongoing silent revolution in educational demand and supply. The massive expansion in the type and number of educational providers and the customizing of educational pathways challenge traditional ways to do business. How then can QA bodies and HEIs respond appropriately to offer in time, tailor-made educational opportunities in individual learning accounts?

**On the individual level,** we are all called upon to provide the best educational services possible while at the same time working to promote educational and professional mobility opportunities for students. In spite of the Lisbon and the new UNESCO global recognition convention, the creation of the DEQAR database etc., many unnecessary obstacles remain in place. How can HEIS, QAA bodies and the ERIC-NARICS find urgently needed new modes of cooperation to fulfil our common promises?

These are the questions, which ASIINs and its partners are going to discuss in the framework of our global conference 2022 at the University of Malta. As always, participants can expect a state of the art program, featuring exceptional speakers and a participatory presentation and discussion mode. Together we will strive to move forward finding new departures and solutions to the problems at hand. Come and join us for this unique opportunity on the beautiful island of Malta!

**Agenda** The agenda will include presentations, plenary sessions, forum discussions and workshops that will stimulate in-depth discussion between the participants.

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Conference registration is required for participation.

**Registration** Detailed information about the conference, registration link and further information can be found here:  
<https://www.asiin.de/en/asiin-global-conference-2022.html>

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## Monday, 17 October 2022 – Special Program for Early Arrivals

Guided City tour through Valetta (duration approximately 3 hours)

## Day 1: Tuesday, 18 October 2022

09.00 **Registration and Networking**

### Opening Session

10.00 **Welcome Speeches**  
Professor Alfred J. Vella, Rector of the University of Malta  
Professor Felix Huber, Chair of the ASIIN board

10.30 **Introduction into the program and moderation**  
Dr. Iring Wasser, Managing Director of ASIIN

### Session 1: The Changing landscape of Higher Education – Points of Orientation and a Need for Action

(20 minutes each + 15 minutes QA session)

10.40 **War and Conflict in Europe - how can value based Higher Education Quality Assurance operate in times of conflict?**  
Sjur Bergan, Council of Europe

- 11.15 **A new demarche – how European Universities, European Joint Degrees, a Qualification Framework for European micro-credentials change the landscape of European Higher Education and beyond**  
Vanessa Debiais-Sainton, Head of Unit Education, European Commission
- 11.50 **The new UNESCO Global Recognition on Higher Education – a pager tiger or a real game changer?**  
Dr. Peter J. Wells, Chief, Higher Education, UNESCO
- 12.30 **Lunch**

**Session 2: Reinventing the toolbox for external quality assurance – bridging the gaps in the European and International EQA and IQA Architecture**  
(20 minutes each + 15 minutes QA session)

- 14.00 **What’s new in INQAAHE – INQAAHE’s new policy agenda, the reform of the Guidelines of Good Practice and what they mean for stakeholders**  
Dr. Deborah Adair, President of INQAAHE
- 14.35 **European competence profiles/achieved Learning Outcomes – how to jointly strengthen European QA procedures**  
Dr. Iring Wasser, Managing Director of ASIIN
- 15.10 **Coffee Break – Speed-Dating**
- 15.45 **New Challenges of Internal Quality Assurance - what are suitable quality assurance arrangements for the new “European Universities”**  
Professor Wouter Duyck, Vice-Chair NVAO
- 16.20 **Recognition procedures in Universities: Enhancing Student Mobility Across Educational Boundaries through Recognition**  
Professor Oliver Günther, Vice-President German Rectors Conference
- 17.00 **End of First Day**
- 18.30 **Social Dinner**

## Day 2: Wednesday, 19 October 2022

### Opening Session

- 9.00 **Welcome Speech**  
Hon. Stefan Zrinzo Azzopardi, Minister for Public Works and Planning

**Session 3: Where does the journey go? – New approaches in internal and external quality assurance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century**

(20 minutes each + 15 minutes QA session)

- 09.15      **National Reforms in higher education and quality assurance in Malta - what to expect from the future"**  
Dr. Rose Anne Cuschieri, CEO of the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority
- 09.50      **The New European Qualification Framework for Microcredentials and its impact on Internal and External Quality Assurance of Universities and Agencies**  
Professor Jacques Lanarès, Vicerector of the University of Lausanne
- 10.25      **EQAR – What are European Ministers plans for the Future of the European Quality Assurance Register?**  
Beate Tremml, Vice-Chair of the EQAR Register committee
- 11.00      ***Coffee Break***
- 11.20      **Road towards a European Joint Degree: Identifying opportunities and investigating the impact and feasibility of different approaches'**  
Gerda Burneikaitė, Research Manager at PPMI
- 11.55      **Quality Assurance of Teaching and Learning: Introducing the Eurolecturer Academy**  
Dr. Nataša Brouwer, Senior Educational Consultant at the University of Amsterdam
- 12.30      **Participants of the Conference will question the Representatives of the E 4 group regarding a joint European vision of IQA and EQA**  
Maria Kelo, Director of Institutional Development at EUA  
Anna Gover, Director of ENQA  
Ana Tecilazić, Member of EURASHE  
Horia Onița, Vice-President of ESU
- 13.00      **Closing Words**  
Dr. Iring Wasser, Managing Director ASIIN
- 13.00      ***End of Conference***