

## Peer Learning Activity 3

### Towards an Interconnected EHEA by 2030

During the 2020 Rome Ministerial Conference, ministers for higher education set a vision of building an inclusive, innovative, and interconnected European Higher Education Area (EHEA) that can underpin a sustainable, cohesive, and peaceful Europe, by 2030. To support this process, the BWSE FOR2030 project is conducting three peer-learning activities (PLAs) with the aim to bring together higher education ministries, higher education institutions, students, and other relevant stakeholders. The PLAs follow the three related goals outlined in the [Rome Communiqué](#): 1) inclusive, 2) innovative, and 3) inter-connected EHEA.

The purpose of the PLAs is to:

- Focus on mutual learning and exchange of practices;
- Identify potential solutions for existing barriers to innovation in European higher education;
- Gather tangible recommendations to support innovative processes in the Bologna Process in the long term.

The first PLA, entitled “Towards an **inclusive** EHEA by 2030”, took place in February 2023 in The Hague (The Netherlands), and the second one, “Towards an **innovative** EHEA by 2030”, took place last April in Zagreb (Croatia).

### Interconnectivity in higher education

The Rome Communiqué states (pp. 4 and 6) that the EHEA member states commit to building an inclusive, innovative, and interconnected EHEA by 2030, able to underpin a sustainable, cohesive, and peaceful Europe.

According to the Communiqué, an interconnected EHEA will facilitate and enhance international cooperation and reform, as well as exchange of knowledge and mobility of staff and students through shared frameworks and tools. It will thus also enhance equitable quality education and research by making it easier for students and researchers to access educational resources and opportunities across borders, including online courses, distance learning programs, and international exchange programs. An interconnected EHEA could facilitate the sharing of best practices and the exchange of knowledge, as well as increased international competitiveness. Overall, interconnectivity in higher education can help to create a more dynamic and integrated educational landscape, with greater opportunities for collaboration, innovation, and excellence.



### Programme PLA 3

The aim of the PLA is to exchange examples of good practice from across the EHEA based on existing knowledge, including that which is generated through projects and other activities geared towards enhancing higher education. The PLA will facilitate a practice driven process to 'translate' existing ambitions and policy into sustainable ideas for implementation.

The interactive PLA sessions will foster the exchange of knowledge based on both experience and research. Participants will share their understanding of an interconnected EHEA and the main issues that will need to be addressed in the next Bologna cycle on internationalisation and mobility. In addition, they will actively engage in collaborative processes to jointly formulate considerations which will feed into a set of policy recommendations developed by the BWSE FOR2030 project consortium in preparation for the Tirana Ministerial Conference in 2024.

#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84474986315?pwd=NTFpMWJZQ1dxYm5UVFBkSjFRUIVEZdz09>

Meeting ID: 844 7498 6315

Passcode: 047136

<b>Peer Learning Activity 3: Towards an Interconnected EHEA by 2030</b> <i>Friday, 23rd June 2023   09.45h - 14.30h CEST   Online</i>	
<b>09.45 – 10.00</b>	Room is open   <a href="#">Mentimeter audience poll</a>
<b>10.00 – 10.15</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Introduction</b> <b>Helene PETERBAUER</b> , Policy Analyst, EUA <b>Nuria PORTERO</b> , Project Coordinator, ESU
<b>10.15 – 10.30</b>	<b>Tour de table</b>
<b>10.30 – 10.50</b>	<b>Interconnected EHEA by 2030</b> Setting the scene: what do we understand by 'interconnected' EHEA? Perspectives from students, universities, and other institutions. <b>Katrīna SPROGĒ</b> , Vice-president, ESU <b>Helene PETERBAUER</b> , Policy Analyst, EUA <b>Daliborka LUKETIĆ</b> , Associate Professor, University of Zadar, Croatia Moderator: <b>Nuria PORTERO</b> , ESU
<b>10.50 – 11.00</b>	<b>Pocket of Inspiration I: Diana Soares, Universidade Católica Portuguesa about Learning Innovation Labs</b> A short presentation by a participant selected through the call for applications about a particular approach to interconnectivity in higher education, followed by Q&A. Moderator: <b>Nuria PORTERO</b> , ESU
<b>11.00 – 11.50</b>	<b>Carving out the challenges</b> Participants will be invited to identify key challenges associated with an interconnected EHEA. Moderator: <b>Helene PETERBAUER</b> , EUA

<b>11.50 – 12.20</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>12.20 – 12.30</b>	<p><b>Pocket of Inspiration II: Liv Teresa Muth, Ghent University about quality assurance and interconnectivity</b></p> <p>A short presentation by a participant selected through the call for applications about a particular approach to interconnectivity in higher education, followed by Q&amp;A.</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Louis BRAU, ESU</b></p>
<b>12.30 – 13.10</b>	<p><b>Finding solutions</b></p> <p>Based on the previously identified key challenges, participants will outline needs and solutions to achieving an interconnected EHEA.</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Louis BRAU, ESU</b></p>
<b>13.10 – 13.25</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>13.25 – 14.20</b>	<p><b>Policy Recommendations</b></p> <p>An open, facilitated discussion with participants on how to formulate policy recommendations geared towards fostering an interconnected EHEA by 2030.</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Katrīna SPROGĒ, ESU</b></p>
<b>14.20 – 14.30</b>	<p><b>Final Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Helene PETERBAUER, EUA</b></p>