

## Draft agenda

# The Future of Higher Education: Sharing knowledge and supporting implementation for a stronger Bologna Process

16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2026  
Bucharest, Romania

### Day 1 – Wednesday, 16th of September 2026

08:30 – 09:30 Registration of participants. Welcome coffee

09:30 **Start of the event**

09:30 – 10:00 **Plenary session – welcome address from the hosts and the ministers of higher education of Romania and the Republic of Moldova**

10:00 – 10:15 **Keynote address from the European Commission: the contribution to the EHEA and synergies with the European Education Area, the European Research Area and the Skills Agenda**

10:15 – 10:30 **Growing momentum: moving towards the Iași - Chișinău EHEA Ministerial Conference (2027)**  
Presentation of the state of play regarding the Bologna Work Programme and inputs for the Ministerial Conference

10:30 – 10:45 **The impact of the Bologna Process – key commitments, evolving needs and trends**  
Presentation of a prospective study on the existing gaps and potential solutions for the policy commitments in the Bologna Process and their impact

10:45 – 12:15 **Supporting the implementation of the Bologna Process at national and institutional levels: system-level approaches, peer learning and examples of good practice**  
Panel and discussion with BFUG representatives, national experts and project coordinators outlining examples of good practice for implementing EHEA commitments at national and institutional levels, including through Bologna national committees, experts groups, peer support and projects.

- 12:15 – 12:30 Coffee break
- 12:30 – 14:00 **Clearing bottlenecks in implementing Bologna reforms: rationales, solutions, paradigms and communication efforts**  
Short panel with co-chairs of BFUG current and former working structures supporting Bologna Process implementation and stakeholder engagement, followed by breakout sessions. Discussions will focus on tackling challenges such as insufficient information, stakeholder engagement, misaligned incentives and synergies or inappropriate feedback loops allowing adequate policy adjustment.
- 14:00 – 15:00 Lunch
- 15:00 – 16:30 **Supporting implementation: the role of national action plans and thematic peer groups**  
Panel on the role of thematic peer groups, their supporting projects and the national action plans introduced by the Tirana Ministerial Communiqué in driving better implementation, as well as discussions on how to improve their impact and efficacy.
- 16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break
- 17:00 – 18:30 **Fundamental values - Synergies between EHEA – EEA – ERA**  
Discussions with representatives of the European Commission (DG EAC and DG RTD), the European Parliament, the BFUG Working Group on Fundamental Values and Magna Charta Universitatum on how improve the efficacy of the European frameworks protecting fundamental values and ensure their alignment
- 10:45 – 16:30 *Parallel Bologna Process Researchers' Conference panels presenting and discussing the research papers*
- 18:30 Dinner

## Day 2 – Thursday, 17th of September 2026

08:30 – 09:00 Welcome coffee

09:00 – 14:30 ***EduGlobal section within the Bologna Process Researchers' Conference (participants at the Conference are invited to attend this slot of the BPRC)***

09:00 – 09:45 *Vision on the future of higher education - High level intervention from a global perspective*

09:45 – 11:15 *Feeding research into Bologna Policy – missing gaps in European research and policy on the Bologna Process;*

11:15 – 11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30 – 12:30 *Anticipatory Science: Future -proofing Higher Education*

12:30 – 13:30 *Common challenges across the globe for the future of higher education. Tailored solutions that work*

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 **Presenting the new Bologna tools: looking forward to 2027**

Presentation and parallel discussions on the revised Standards and Guidelines for the Quality Assurance in the EHEA, the revised ECTS User's Guide and the EHEA Action Plan on Internationalisation and Mobility

16:00 – 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 – 17:30 **Fulfilling the 2024 Tirana Communiqué mandate: Future-proofing the Bologna key commitments**

Panel and discussions with co-chairs of the Thematic Peer Groups, EHEA stakeholders and the Task Force on the Future of Bologna on the future-proofing of Bologna key commitments and tools, including for the digital transformation and artificial intelligence

17:30 – 18:15 **Final session: Preparing for the 2027 EHEA Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum and beyond**

Drawing conclusions based on the key messages identified during the Conference and considering takeaways for the preparation of the Iași-Chișinău Ministerial Conference with the BFUG Vice-chair and the BFUG co-chairs

18:15 Dinner

Friday, 18th of September 2026

09:00 – 13:00 Meeting of the Task Force on the Future of Bologna (by invitation only)  
UEFISCDI headquarters (30 Frumoasă Street)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

The Conference ‘*The Future of Higher Education: Sharing knowledge and supporting implementation for a stronger Bologna Process*’ is organised within the framework of the “Support for the 2024-2027 Moldovan-Romanian EHEA Secretariat: Delivering together for a renewed Bologna Process” (EHEA-SEC-4-BP) project, funded by the European Union.