

## EUA INSTITUTIONAL EVALUATION PROGRAMME

### Call for pool members

The European University Association's [Institutional Evaluation Programme \(EUA-IEP\)](#) is seeking current or former rectors and vice-rectors/presidents and vice-presidents to join its pool of experts.

To ensure an appropriate balance in countries of origin, languages spoken, and disciplines within the pool, special attention will be given to applicants from Denmark, Italy, France, Poland, Georgia, the Czech Republic, and Greece who work in the humanities and social sciences. Particular consideration is reserved for candidates with demonstrated experience in the design, governance, and implementation of European Universities alliances.

This document provides information about EUA-IEP, the role of pool members, and the application process.

### About EUA-IEP

EUA-IEP is the quality assurance programme of the European University Association. EUA-IEP is listed on the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR) and is a member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). Since its launch in 1994, it has supported 350 institutions in 51 countries, helping them to enhance strategic leadership and manage change through voluntary evaluations.

EUA-IEP is based on the following core characteristics:

- comprehensive evaluations, which take into account the institution's specific goals, objectives and profile, with emphasis on an inclusive self-evaluation process and institutional self-knowledge;
- an improvement-oriented approach, which actively supports the institution in fulfilling its mission, independent from governments or other such bodies, and is not geared towards an accreditation or rankings;
- a European focus, which takes into account the framework of current developments in higher education, such as the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG, 2015);
- a peer review approach, with international evaluation teams representing the diversity of the European higher education sector.

In spring 2025, EUA-IEP launched the evaluation of European Universities alliances. The programme's approach builds on the results of the [EUniQ project](#) (2019–2021), which developed a European framework for comprehensive quality assurance of university networks. In line with the 2024 and 2025

Council of the EU recommendations encouraging EU member states to draw on the EUniQ methodology for European Universities alliances, EUA-IEP has developed an adapted approach for the evaluation of university alliances. This methodology retains all key elements of the traditional EUA-IEP evaluations while remaining aligned with that model. As a pioneer of this new initiative, the INGENIUM alliance is currently undergoing a pilot evaluation.

### **EUA-IEP pool and teams**

The EUA-IEP pool of experts (and each evaluation team) consists of rectors/presidents or vice-rectors/vice-presidents (current or former), student and senior higher education professionals, with the latter also acting as team coordinators. EUA-IEP ensures appropriate balance in the pool (and each evaluation team) in terms of experience of pool members, country of origin, discipline, gender, etc.

#### *Evaluation process*

EUA-IEP accepts registrations all year and adapts the evaluation timeline to the specific needs of institutions and alliances. The timeline for evaluations may vary; however, the whole process lasts around one year and its main stages are as follows:

- September: Annual Seminar for the pool members;
- October–February: a self-evaluation phase of the evaluated institution/alliance. The team receives the self-evaluation report prepared by the institution/alliance;
- March–April: the team attends the two-day online meetings;
- May–June: the team attends the four-day site visit;
- July–August: the team writes and finalises the evaluation report.

#### *Responsibilities of pool members*

EUA-IEP pool members are expected to take part in a two-day Annual Seminar where they are provided with training on conducting evaluations, updates on current higher education trends and developments in quality assurance, and have the opportunity to meet other members of their evaluation team. This year the Annual Seminar will take place in person in September in Geneva, Switzerland. Attendance to the event each year is a pre-condition for carrying out evaluations.

Participation in evaluations depends on demand and availability. Although EUA-IEP cannot guarantee that each pool member will be assigned to an evaluation every year, efforts are made to provide opportunities for all members on a regular basis.

Each evaluation involves the following work:

- preparation: analysing the self-evaluation report and supporting materials provided by the evaluated institution/alliance, becoming familiar with the EUA-IEP guidelines for teams and guidelines for institutions/alliances;
- online meetings: two-day online meetings with the institution/alliance;
- site visit: four-day (excluding travel time) visit to the institution (in case of an alliance evaluation, the site visit takes place at the coordinating institution), concluding in the delivery

of an oral report including findings and recommendations that will be later incorporated in the written report;

- written report: each team has a coordinator who drafts the report, which is completed and validated (via email exchange) by the whole team;
- for follow-up evaluations: only the site visit takes place.

#### *Practical and financial information*

EUA-IEP covers the travel expenses of pool members for the evaluation visit, and travel and accommodation expenses for the Annual Seminar. Evaluated institutions/alliances organise and cover the costs of accommodation, meals and local transportation including airport transfers for the teams during the visits.

Team members (other than the team coordinator) are not paid for their work. However, EUA-IEP reimburses all team members a flat sum of €220 for the online meetings and €330 for the site visit in order to cover sundry expenses that require no receipts.

#### **Recruitment process**

EUA-IEP is currently looking for senior university leaders to join its pool of experts. Candidates should have the following profile:

- current or former rectors or vice-rectors/presidents or vice-presidents;
- up-to-date knowledge of European and international higher education trends based on evidence of activities in higher education;
- clear evidence of leadership abilities and interest in quality development;
- evaluation experience;
- fluency in English.

In building the pool of experts, attention will be paid to ensuring an appropriate balance in geographic representation, languages, gender, age, and disciplinary backgrounds. In this context, particular consideration will be given to applicants from Denmark, Italy, France, Poland, Georgia, the Czech Republic and Greece working in the humanities and social sciences, as well as to candidates with demonstrated experience in the design, governance, and participation in European Universities Alliances. It should also be noted that the age limit for all members of the EUA-IEP pool is 72 years of age.

Candidates interested in joining the pool should complete [this online form](#) and upload an updated CV by **Friday 10 April 2026 at 23.59 CEST**.

The EUA-IEP Steering Committee will decide by mid-May on the invitations to new pool members, based on the CVs submitted and the selection criteria outlined above. All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application via email.

#### **Further information**

Further information about EUA-IEP is available on its [website](#). Should you have any questions regarding the Programme, the work of the pool members or the application process, please contact Tania Durt in the EUA-IEP secretariat at [info@eua-iep.org](mailto:info@eua-iep.org).