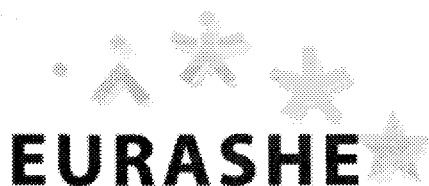


## **INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS**

### **CONTENT:**

- **ABOUT EURASHE**
  
  - **ADDED VALUE of EURASHE for its members**
    - ✓ Have their voice heard and promoted
    - ✓ Be fully engaged in the association
    - ✓ Have an opportunity to cooperate transnationally with the EURASHE numerous member institutions
    - ✓ Participate and host EURASHE events
    - ✓ Enter an enriching discussion to deepen the views on the EHEA
    - ✓ Be partners in interesting and innovative projects
    - ✓ Have a possibility to endorse policy documents and to share good practice
    - ✓ Receive support and information in adopting and implementing action lines prescribed by the Bologna Process (EHEA)
  
  - **EURASHE MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE**
  
  - **ORGANISATION**
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European Association of Institutions in Higher Education

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## **ABOUT EURASHE**

**EURASHE** is the European association of European Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that offer professionally oriented programmes and are engaged in applied and profession-related research within the Bologna cycles. Currently, about more than 1200 higher education institutions in 47 countries within and outside the European Higher Education Area (EHEIA) are affiliated to EURASHE. The association is present mostly through National Associations of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and individual institutions, such as Universities, (Unlversity) Colleges and Universities of Applled Sciences, as well as through other professional associations and stakeholder organizations active in the field of higher education.

EURASHE believes partnership and cooperation with other regions in the world are of important. It has thus established relationships with countries outside the EHEA through associate membership and partnership agreements with other regions, such as Canada, the United States of America, Central America, Central Asia and the Caribbean region.

EURASHE's mission is to represent the views of professionally oriented institutions and programmes in the Higher Education systems in countries of EHEA, either in binary HE systems (professional or vocational higher education) or in unitary 'university' systems.

Its mission is to promote the interests of professional higher education in the EHEA and to contribute to the progressive development of the Area of Higher Education and Research (EHERA). In addition to offering professionally oriented programmes, EURASHE members are specifically engaged in applied and profession-related research, and its technological applications.

## **ADDED VALUE for an EURASHE member:**

### HAVE THEIR VOICE HEARD AND PROMOTED

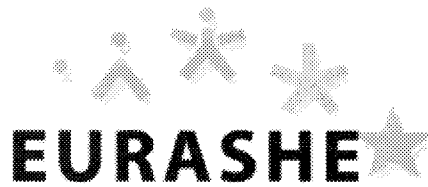
As stated in the Statutes of EURASHE, "The mission of the association is to promote the interests of professional higher education in the member countries of the European Union and in other European countries, in institutions which are public or recognised and/or financed by the public authorities of a European Union member country or another European country."

EURASHE's main objective is, therefore, to defend the interests of the professionally oriented HEIs, and to continuously enhance the importance and the quality of professional higher education in Europe.

### GUARANTEE MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

EURASHE offers its institutional members an interactive membership program. We believe that the participation of our membership in the construction of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) is an enrichment for the process. The financial support provided by our members allows us to contribute to the optimization of the educational, socioeconomic, political and cultural transformation of European Higher Education; to sustain and provide our own platforms for leading experts with whom we share innovative ideas on contemporary higher education issues; and to ensure a sustainable development of the European Higher Education Area.

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European Association of Institutions in Higher Education

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EURASHE has five operational working groups, in which all members can actively be involved, namely 'professionally oriented research, development and innovation', 'mobility and international openness', 'transparency tools and quality assurance', 'national qualifications frameworks and student-centred learning', 'employability and lifelong learning'.

#### HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COOPERATE TRANSNATIONALLY WITH THE EURASHE NUMEROUS MEMBERS INSTITUTIONS

EURASHE aims at promoting transnational cooperation among its members. EURASHE also helps its members to achieve cooperation with other stakeholders in higher education by establishing close links with other organisations that have similar objectives inside or outside the EHEA. This commitment will allow EURASHE members to develop fruitful bi-lateral and multi-lateral partnerships. For this objective EURASHE provides a platform for members to obtain and exchange information, views and resources on institutional level.

#### ENTER AN ENRICHING DISCUSSION TO DEEPEN THE VIEWS ON THE EHEA

EURASHE members have opportunities for an exchange of ideas, experience and views with others working in a similar field. In particular via EURASHE's Working Groups, which focus on policy development around the five main themes which were presented in the EURASHE's publication for the Ministerial Bologna Conference in Budapest (2010), "EURASHE's 10 Commitments for the EHEA in 2020 – Visions and Strategies".

#### PARTICIPATE AND HOST EURASHE EVENTS

EURASHE's annual conferences and seminars greatly contribute to the professional development of our member institutions, and are therefore vitally important for European professional higher education. They attract an interesting mix of delegates – heads of institutions, HE practitioners, policymakers, academics and students - from the education community across Europe and beyond. These events which are hosted by member institutions and organizations, are widely recognized as a communication and information platform for education experts and professionals, in stimulating interactive environments.

#### BE PARTNERS IN INTERESTING AND INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

EURASHE develops innovative and hands-on projects in response to the challenges facing European higher education, especially in times of economic crisis. We have a long history of working towards quality education available to all, and of developing programs that prepare people for the labour market. Our approach is multi-disciplinary, politically independent and combines cutting edge (applied) research and policy development with concrete initiatives. Our projects generate new models for tackling the economic and social challenges of today. All EURASHE members are invited to participate in events and initiatives within the framework of projects in which the association is involved.

#### HAVE A POSSIBILITY TO ENDORSE POLICY DOCUMENTS AND TO SHARE GOOD PRACTICE

A pool of people with expertise in diverse higher education and research policy issues, such as Lifelong Learning, Student-centred learning, Quality Assurance, Qualifications Frameworks, Recognition of Prior

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Learning, etc. is constantly revising and updating our policy documents and analysing the state of professional HE in order to formulate policy positions on their area of expertise, and then develop an activity plan to implement these policies.

Members of EURASHE also have assistance and support from the EURASHE Secretariat and fellow members to develop and implement joint activities.

RECEIVE SUPPORT AND INFORMATION IN ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING ACTION LINES PRESCRIBED BY THE BOLOGNA PROCESS (EHEA).

EURASHE members benefit from the expertise of the association in adopting and implementing the 'Bologna' action lines in their specific country context. Through our consultative membership in the Bologna Follow-Up Group (BFUG), we are in a position to provide full support to our members and to help them face the challenges of implementing the reform on an institutional level.

## EURASHE MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

EURASHE has three categories of membership.

- **Full Member as a National Association**, representing individual HE institutions in a European country or nation, and recognized as such by its authorities.
- **Full Member as an Individual institution** (autonomous HE institutions or faculties, institutes and departments, etc. within or affiliated to autonomous HE institutions)
- **Associate Member**, which can be either associations or organisations active in higher education.

The European Association of Institutions in Higher Education accepts applications for **full membership** from Institutions and Associations of Higher Education Institutions in a country or region in the EHEA, provided they are recognized as such by their authorities.

All other members are **Associate members**. Associate Members are stakeholders in HE, such as public or officially recognized Q.A.-agencies, Qualifications Councils, professional bodies, etc.

Country associations, networks on a national or trans-national basis, or individual HEIs **outside the European Higher Education Area** are also considered as Associate Members. On becoming a member, the **national associations** commit themselves to spreading information about the workings and the interests of our association in their home countries, and to their members. **Higher Education Institutions** that are affiliated to EURASHE through a 'national association' or via an 'associate member association' (see above under these headings) may also apply for individual membership. This way they can have a direct impact on the policymaking of the association, and will also receive information which is normally restricted to national associations.

## ORGANISATION

EURASHE was founded in Patras, Greece, in 1990. It has the status of a non-profit international association according to Belgian law and its Secretariat is located in Brussels.

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