

## RIQAA Final Conference and EQAR Members' Dialogue

21/22 October 2014

Palermo (Italy)

Venue:TBC

Palermo, Italy

With the support of the:

**Ministry of Education, Universities and Research, Italy**



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

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## Objectives

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### Overarching policy aim:

- To enhance international trust and contribute to the cross-border recognition of quality assurance agencies' results and decisions in line with the EHEA Ministers' commitment.

### Specific objectives of the conference:

- Disseminate the RIQAA project results to a broad range of policy makers and stakeholders.
- Receive feedback on the project results, with a view to fine-tuning the final results as published.
- Discuss policy conclusions/recommendations that would be fed into the preparation of the Yerevan conference.

### Participants:

- EQAR governmental members and BFUG representatives;
- European institutions, organisations, stakeholder organisations;
- International organisations interested in the area of external QA (e.g. CHEA, INQAAHE, OECD, UNESCO)
- Quality assurance agencies;
- Representative of higher education institutions interviewed for the project
- Advisory Group, EQAR committee members and staff
- Budget: 90-100 participants, subsistence funded, travel self-funded

### Format:

- 2 half day conference
- Plenary sessions: few presentations, short statements followed by discussions
- Knowledge Café: like in Gent (2013)

## Tuesday, 21 October 2014

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### 14:00 Welcome and opening (20 min)

**Marzia Foroni** (Ministry of Higher Education Ministry, Italy – Host)/**Roberto Lagalla** (Rector, University of Palermo)

**Andreas Orphanides** (President of the EQAR Executive Board)

### 14:20 Enhancing the recognition of EQA reviews across borders (1h 30m)

Format: presentation of project results followed by short statements and reactions from panel members.

The panel will be asked to bring their contribution to the topic (5 min initial statement) and to discuss the implications of the current findings for opening up national frameworks to EQA with an EQAR-registered agency

### 15:50 Coffee Break (30 min)

### 16:20 A snapshot of cross-border EQA (1h 30m)

Format: Knowledge Café formed by QAAs/HEIs/ministry “trios” sharing their success story. The ‘trios’ will be asked to present the EQA review process, the rationale for the review, challenges encountered (linguistic barriers, financial concerns etc.), how these challenges were overcome and the impact and results of these reviews.

### 17:50 Day ends

### 19:30 Conference Reception

## Wednesday, 22 October 2014

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### 9:30 Improving trust and recognition of EQA across borders (1h40m)

Format: intro (short review of the main conclusions of the project) followed by statements and reactions from panel members.

The session will discuss the importance of delivering high quality reviews in less familiar EQA frameworks, the possible approaches to EQA and existing tensions between the different approaches to QA and between national and non-national QAAs.

### 11:10 Coffee Break

### 11:30 Conclusions and Closing (1h 30min)

Format: Panel will be discussing the implication of the current findings and resulting policy recommendations.

### 13:00 Lunch