



European Association for
Quality Assurance in Higher Education

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Gloucester, 29 June 2021

Subject: Reconfirmation of membership of ACPUA in ENQA

Dear Antonio,

I am pleased to inform you that, at its meeting of 24 June 2021, the Board of ENQA agreed to reconfirm the ACPUA membership of ENQA for five years from that date. The Board concluded that ACPUA is in compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015) and thus fulfils the membership criteria according to article 6, paragraph 1 of ENQA's rules of procedure.

The Board would like to use this opportunity to provide an articulation regarding standard 3.4 Thematic analysis. The Board shares the panel's call upon the agency to continue its efforts to further strengthen approaches to analysing the general findings of the agency's external quality assurance activities. At the same time, the panel's recommendation to provide reports that discuss trends and developments at the level of the Aragon higher education system should be followed by the agency as far as is practical and possible within its remits and methodologies.

The Board would like to receive a follow-up report within two years of its decision, i.e. by June 2023.

The Board also encourages ACPUA to take advantage of the voluntary progress visit – an enhancement-led feature in the review process. The visit would take place in about two to three years' time from this decision. The ENQA Secretariat will be in touch with you in about a year's time to discuss this possibility. The costs of this visit have already been included as part of the review fee and are non-refundable except for the travel costs of the experts. More information about the progress visit can be found in the Guidelines for ENQA Agency Reviews.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the ENQA Secretariat.

Please accept my congratulations for the re-confirmation of membership of ACPUA.



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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas Blackstock', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Douglas Blackstock
President

Annex: Areas for development

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As outlined by the review panel, ACPUA is recommended to take appropriate action, so far as it is empowered to do so, on the following issues:

ESG 3.4 Thematic analysis

The agency is recommended to develop a more systematic and deeper approach to the analysis of findings from its evaluation processes and expand its research activities to provide reports that discuss trends and developments at the level of the Aragon higher education system.

ESG 3.6 Internal quality assurance and professional conduct

The agency is recommended to bridge the gaps in its internal quality assurance system by closing the feedback loops between its evaluation bodies and reviewers, and by putting in place a procedure to deal with breaches of its Code of Ethics that might occur in the future.

ESG 2.1 Consideration of internal quality assurance

The agency is recommended to develop a coherent approach to address more explicitly student-centred learning, teaching and assessment in its evaluation methodologies, and pay special attention to these issues in its training for reviewers.

ESG 2.6 Reporting

The agency is recommended to continue its efforts to ensure that reports in all evaluation processes provide sufficient evidence and analysis to substantiate judgments, and that report writing for the new processes follow best practice. For a related recommendation on feedback to be provided to review panels, see ESG 3.6.