Can a new governmental assignment create impetus for change in HEIs? Can we reinforce links between HEIs quality work and strategic management?

The national quality assurance system in Sweden (since 2017):

- Institutional reviews being the cornerstone
- Programme evaluations for specific government needs or if special requirements
- Accreditation of new programmes
- Thematic evaluations in order to enhance quality in the sector
- Thematic analyses





2023 – new governmental assignement

Requesting proposals on:

- How the national quality assurance system can be developed to further strengthen quality and promote excellence in higher education
- To be developed in dialogue with HEIs
- Without adding administrative burden.

Interpretation of excellence (UKÄ + HEI:s)

- Ambition increase
- Movement towards higher quality
- Renewal
- UKÄ:s role to stimulate this move

With enhanced focus on:

- Self-governance
- The use of quality work in its strategic management

Proposals so far (institutional assessments):

- Greater focus on accountability through enhanced emphasis on quality work (ESG 1.9) and quality culture
- A freer format for self-evaluation report
- HEI:s to describe processes they believe have contributed to a particularly good result
- UKÄ to stimulate exchange of good practices through the design of the reports, conferences and analyses
- Introduce the judgement excellent quality work



Questions

- How can institutional reviews be designed to promote HEIs' self-governance? What are the key factors?
- How can internal quality assurance contribute to a culture of renewal, ambition increase, excellence and high quality in education through strategic management?

