*Highlights from EURASHE since the*

*latest meeting of the BFUG on 28-29 August in Cyprus*

**EURASHE 23rd Annual Conference ‘Higher Education – Making the Knowledge Triangle Work’, 9-10 May 2013, Split (Croatia)**

The 23rd Annual Conference of EURASHE will be held on Thursday 9 and February 10 May 2013 in Split (Croatia) at the occasion of the country joining the European Union. It will be preceded by EURASHE internal events, including its 2013 General Assembly on 8 May. The main Conference theme is ‘Higher Education – Making the Knowledge Triangle Work’.

In this Conference we focus on what we have identified as key features of the Knowledge Triangle, and what this entails for higher education institutions engaged in applied research and experimental developments.

In the plenary meetings of the two conference days key note speakers from the hosting country (Croatia), official European organisations as well as major stakeholders in higher education will expand their views on the overarching conference theme *Making the Knowledge Triangle Work*.

In the different sections we will look at how countries shape their education policies and we will be presented issues like:

* Comparison of European HE systems, including the outcomes of the HAPHE project on the profile of professionally-oriented institutions and programmes (Harmonising Approaches to Professional Higher Education);
* Strategic frameworks for the development of professional higher education;
* Professional and academic education in the binary system of higher education.

The Conference is organised by EURASHE and the Croatian Council of Universities and University Colleges of Applied Sciences (VVIVŠ), with the support of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia (MZOS), and in close co-operation with the Universities of Applied Sciences Network (UASnet), the University of Split (host), the Agency for Science and Higher Education (ASHE) and the HAPHE initiative: Harmonising Approaches to Professional Higher Education in Europe. The Conference will be held under the High Patronage of the President of the Republic of Croatia.

See also: [www.eurashe.eu/split](http://www.eurashe.eu/split)

**Roundtable on Employability, 7 February 2013, Brussels (Belgium)**

In October 2012 EURASHE adopted its 2013 work programme with a strong emphasis shown on employability, highlighting our belief in the corner-stone importance of employability in current times. On 7 February 2013 EURASHE organised a *Roundtable on Employability* in Brussels (Belgium).

This one-day closed event gathering selected experts in the field: researchers/students from Maastricht University (Netherlands) and from FH Joanneum University of Applied Sciences (Austria), researchers from Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic) and representatives from EUROCADRES and ASIIN e.V., allowed participants to compare their understanding of employability with other stakeholders and to suggest further actions to widen the HE community’s participation in further exploring the field of employability. The Report of the Roundtable will be available at the end of February on our website.

See also: [www.eurashe.eu/roundtable](http://www.eurashe.eu/roundtable)

**Seminar on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): Flexible Ties within Higher Education, 13-14 December 2012, Prague (Czech Republic)**

On 13-14 December 2012 EURASHE organised together with the European RPL Network (ERPLN), the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MŠMT) and the Czech Association of Schools of Professional Higher Education (CASPHE) its Annual Lifelong Learning (LLL) Seminar on *Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): Flexible Ties within Higher Education* in Prague (Czech Republic).

The Seminar provided participants with the opportunity to discuss the latest developments in the field of RPL as well as the various national and international perspectives of RPL, through the input provided by French, Irish, Dutch, British speakers as well as representatives from UNESCO’s Institute for Lifelong Learning (UILLL). The Report of the Seminar will be available on our website at the end of February.

See also: [www.eurashe.eu/prague](http://www.eurashe.eu/prague)

**Seminar on the Implementation of Internal and External Quality Assurance (QA), 27-28 September 2012, Nicosia (Cyprus)**

On 28-29 September 2012 EURASHE organised with European University Cyprus (EUC), Open University of Cyprus (OUC) and under the auspices of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union a Seminar on the *Implementation of Internal and External Quality Assurance (QA)* in Nicosia (Cyprus).

This seminar provided the participants with the opportunity to share their views on the implementation of internal and external QA based on the ESG through various hands-on workshops, and to share institutional experience in the matter. The Report of the Seminar is available on our website[[1]](#footnote-1). On this occasion EURASHE released its ‘*Report on the Implementation of the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education Institutions*’[[2]](#footnote-2) based on a consultation conducted within the framework of the MAP-ESG project and conducted with its partners of the E4-Group (ENQA, ESU, EUA and EURASHE).

See also: [www.eurashe.eu/nicosia](http://www.eurashe.eu/nicosia)

**Initiative on ‘Harmonising Approaches to Professional Higher Education in Europe’ (HAPHE)**

Over four months after the launch of the initiative in October 2012 the HAPHE (Harmonising Approaches to Professional Higher Education)[[3]](#footnote-3) partners have concluded the desk research on the current state of Professional Higher Education (PHE) in the countries in focus. The points considered included the legal framework, types HEIs as well as types of degrees and programmes offered. The relevant information has been taken on board in order to develop Country Profiles.

Besides this objective data, a survey has been developed to focus on more subjective points and it will be used to finalise the first phase of the research. At the same time, relevant stakeholders have been targeted in order to gather better insight in the current state of PHE.

See also: [www.eurashe.eu/haphe](http://www.eurashe.eu/haphe)

**EURASHE welcomes 11 new members**

At its Council meetings of October 2012 and February 2013 EURASHE had the pleasure to welcome 11 new members:

* Rectors’ Council of Armenia State Higher Educational Institutions (Armenia);
* Yerevan State University of Architecture and Construction (YSUAC, Armenia);
* Association of Law Schools (ALS, Armenia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine);
* International Association of Trade and Economic Education (IATEE, Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia);
* Benha University (Egypt);
* Athens School of Fine Arts (ASFA, Greece);
* Kazakh-Russian International University (KRIU, Kazakhstan);
* College of Law (JK, Latvia);
* National School of Political and Administrative Studies (SNSPA, Romania);
* Conference of Academies for Applied Studies in Serbia (KASSS, Serbia);
* Kyiv University of Law of National Academy of Science of Ukraine (KUL, Ukraine).

**EURASHE elected a new Board**

In October 2012 the Council of EURASHE (re-)elected as Board members Marc Vandewalle (Belgium), Gintautas Braziūnas (Lithuania) and Stéphane Lauwick (France) for a term of two years. They will serve on the Board until 2014 alongside the office-holders of EURASHE.

1. <http://www.eurashe.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/EURASHE_Sem_QA_120927-28_Report.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.eurashe.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/EURASHE_Report_Implementation_ESG_August_2012_full.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. HAPHE is a project financed by the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)