



The European Consortium for
Accreditation in Higher Education

ECA NEWSLETTER



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**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

and a
fulfilling New Year!



Member's Seminar and Training in Paris

By ECA



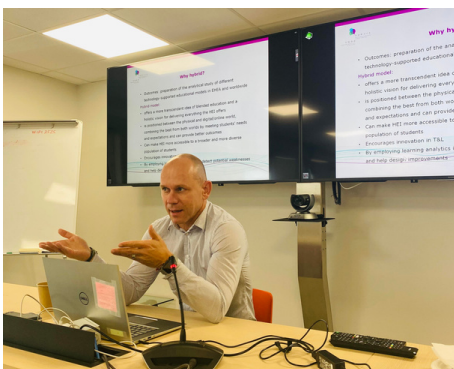
After a long period of video conferencing, ECA members and observers met on 12 September for a Seminar in Paris. The event was hosted by Cti.

In addition to a general meeting and a working group meeting, the seminar focused on the future of the field of quality assurance and recognition and the role of quality assurance agencies in supporting academic integrity.

The varied programme was marked by the lectures from **Julie Anderson** (European Commission), **Sue Hackett** and **Mairead Boland** (Quality and Qualifications Ireland), **Klemen Šubic** (SQAA) and **Luut Kroes** (NVAO).

As addition to Member's Seminar, on 13 and 14 September Cti hosted the first **ECA in-person training** after the pandemic on the European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes.

The participants had the opportunity to learn more about joint programmes and how they are assessed following the European Approach, focusing in the specific standards and procedure. The training with a hands-on approach, held lively discussions and addressed the challenges of assessing joint programmes with a real case study.



AI-driven Solutions for Qualitative Quality Assurance

By ECA

The Qual-AI-ty Engagement (Fostering Student Engagement through AI-driven Qualitative Quality Assurance Practices) project is approaching its finish line and most of the results of the project are ready to disseminate.

In the framework of the project, the consortium has developed the following materials:

- **Compendium of good practices on student engagement with society:** This compendium highlights cases from Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Malta, Spain, and the Netherlands, and how these diverse higher education institutions implement practices to facilitate students' interaction with society. Consult the compendium [HERE](#).
- **Status of student engagement with society:** these reports present the practices of student engagement with society in Latvia, Malta, and the Netherlands, plus one report focused on the EU level. Consult the status quo reports [HERE](#).

- **Qual-AI-ty Engagement Materials:** These materials were used as the guide to orientate Quality Assurance officers in the discussion about how to include Student Engagement with Society in the existing Quality Assurance practices. Consult the materials [HERE](#).

In the next stage, the project will launch the Interview Assistant Bot, an AI-driven tool for collecting and analysing qualitative data of large population samples. Additionally, the project will host a training event in Brussels, in February 2023.



Good practices in student engagement with society: ECA CequInt Certificate

By ECA

Cequint's internationalisation certificate developed by ECA offers programmes and institutions the means to self-assess internationalisation and/or to have their internationalisation assessed by a quality assurance agency.

Good practice report:

Fernández, E. (2022). ECA Certificate for Quality in Internationalisation (CeQuInt).

Certificate for quality
in internationalisation



The Rise and Recognition of Micro-credentials

By ECA

Paper The Rise and Recognition of Micro-Credentials, Stacking Modules and the Future of the Qualification, developed under the [STACQ project](#), revisits the current flexibilization of the education landscape (modular learning and stacking of learning units) and what the implications are for current good practice in recognition as promoted by the LRC.

The purpose of this paper is twofold: to provide insight into the current state of play in the field of micro-credentials, and to give recommendations for the development of practices for their recognition.

Please find the paper [HERE](#).



The Micro-Evaluator

By ECA

STACQ project also responds to the continuous developments in flexible, online and alternative forms of learning and supports institutions in their evaluation of micro-credentials, with the aim to make it more accessible for them to include online and non-formal learning in their recognition and admission practices.

One of the tools developed under the project is also [The Micro-Evaluator](#), an easy online tool for recognising micro-credentials for admission officers, credential evaluators, and anyone interested in the recognition of micro-credentials.



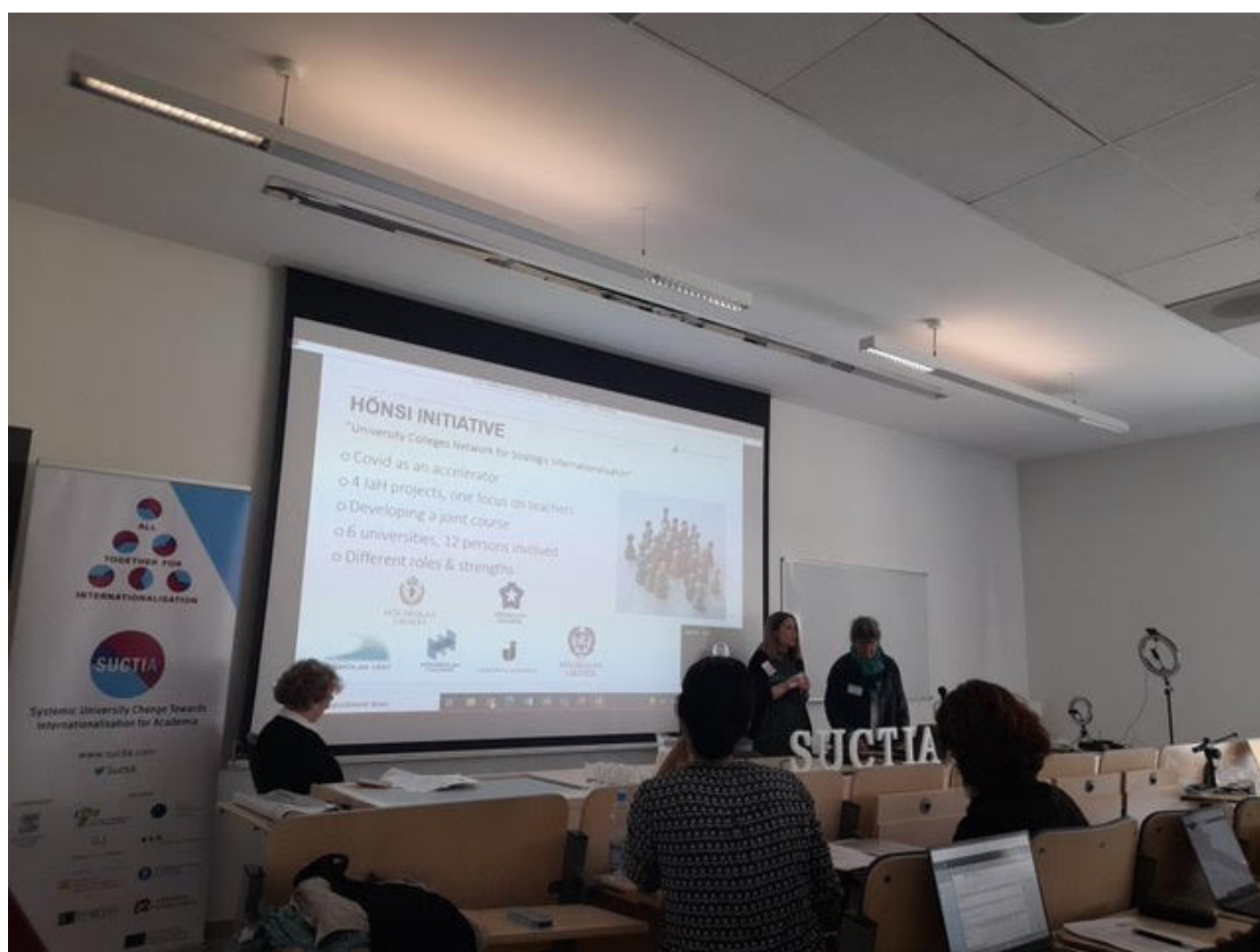
SUCTIA project final conference

By ECA

ECA was a partner of the recently finished SUCTIA project aiming to raise awareness and shift the internal culture of HEIs towards internationalisation, creating a systemic change in HEIs and in the European Higher Education Area.

The SUCTIA project final conference took place in Poznan on 2-3 June 2022. These were two amazing days full of inspiring presentations, interesting talks and exchange of good practices and experiences on internationalising academics. In addition, after the completion of the project, the SUCTIA impact report is already available.

Internationalisation during the COVID-19 crisis



NEWS FROM ECA MEMBERS

Report on Hcéres' event and follow-up white paper

By High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES)



On the 16th of March 2022, Hcéres organised a series of round tables in the framework of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union. This hybrid event gathered nearly 60 participants on-site and about 200 online.

The key stakeholders of the European Higher Education Area as well as of the European Research Area were gathered to discuss common issues: how can evaluation make the EU stand out on the international stage? What future for European university alliances and how can our agencies help? How is research assessed by European quality assurance agencies?

You can watch the recording of the event and find key quotes of the day on their website. Hcéres will also follow up on the event and publish a white paper detailing his positions and commitments on the future of evaluation in the EU in early 2023.

For more information please visit [THIS LINK.](#)



Cti is recruiting new experts by Cti



CTI, the French quality assurance agency dedicated to the engineering field is opening a call for international experts and student experts.

The selected experts will take part in evaluation procedures (mostly in France and some abroad) that lead to the accreditation of the institutions to award the engineering degree "titre d'ingénieur diplômé". This means that the experts participate in the preparatory phase, the site visit and the writing of the evaluation report. French speaking and writing is mandatory since most evaluation procedures take place in French speaking countries and only a few are carried out in English.

Conditions for students experts:

- **Student experts should be registered in a HEI, at least at Master or Doctorate level;**
- **Their discipline of study has to be in the field of Science and Engineering;**
- **French speaking and writing skills are mandatory.**

Conditions for foreign experts:

- **Be academics or professionals in the field of Science and Engineering;**
- **Work actively in a HEI or in a company in the field of engineering or have retired recently;**
- **Be based in a country outside of France;**
- **French speaking and writing skills are mandatory.**

Candidates are requested to send their CV, and a covering letter explaining their interest in participating in our evaluation procedures to secretariat@cti-commission.fr.

For more information or question, please contact Solange Piszcz, Deputy executive director at CTI to Solange.piszcz@cti-commission.fr.

