



**FIGHTING FOR
STUDENT'S RIGHTS
SINCE 1982**

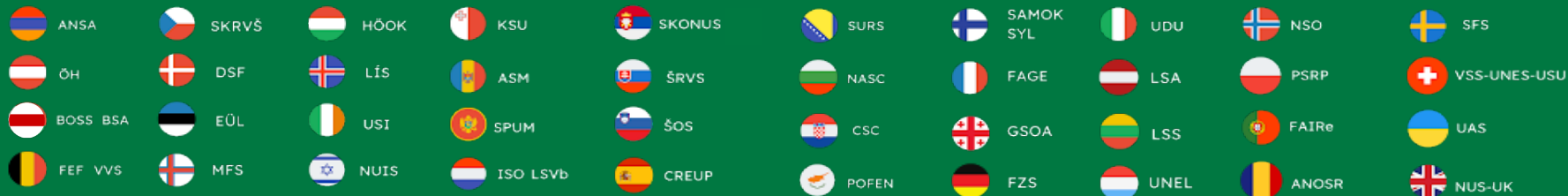
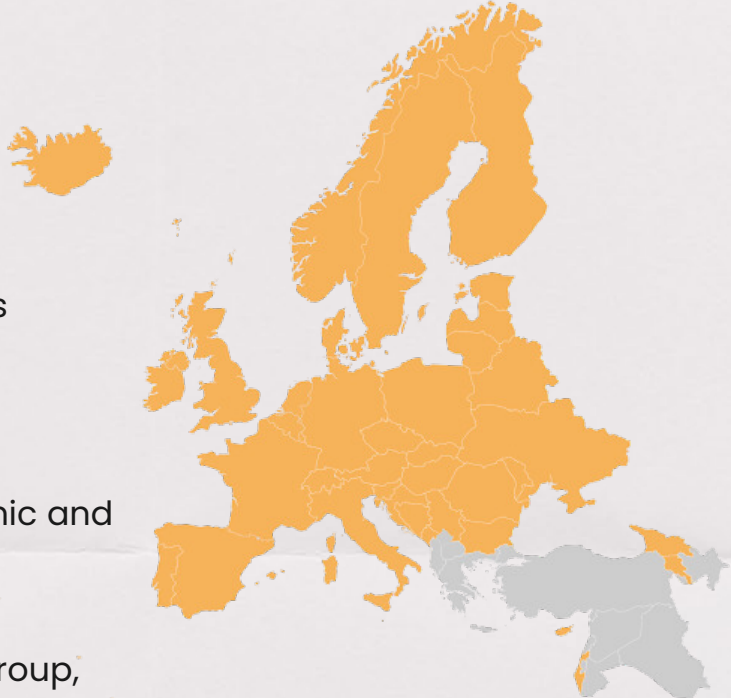


ESU 101

Participació de l'estudiantat
en l'àmbit internacional

Tamara Ciobanu

- 44 National Unions of Students (NUS) from 40 countries
- 20 million students across Europe
- Representing & promoting educational, social, economic and cultural interests
- Towards the European Union, the Bologna Follow-Up Group, the Council of Europe and UNESCO





The European Standards and Guidelines: Context, impact and the role of ESU

Understanding the ESG and the Role of Students in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)



The Origin of the ESGs

- Established as part of efforts to **enhance quality assurance** in the EHEA in 2005, which emerged through the Bologna Process.
- Developed to ensure **consistent quality standards** across EHEA universities and to support mutual recognition of qualifications.
- Builds upon the goals of **transparency, mobility, and academic cooperation** set by the Bologna Process.
- Since 2005, **considerable progress has been made** in quality assurance as well as in other Bologna action lines such as qualifications frameworks, recognition and the promotion of the use of learning outcomes, all these contributing to a paradigm shift towards student-centred learning and teaching.

Actors in the definition and development of the ESG

Who shapes the ESG?

- Development involves collaboration among key stakeholders:
- [ENQA](#) – The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education
- [ESU](#) – European Students' Union
- [EUA](#) – European University Association
- [EURASHE](#) – European Association of Institutions in Higher Education



Advocating for student-centered
learning and representing
students' during revisions of the
~~ESG.~~

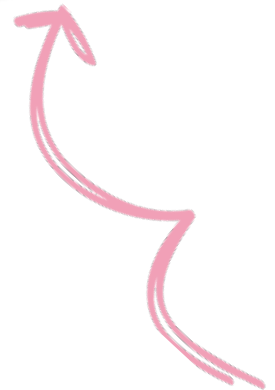
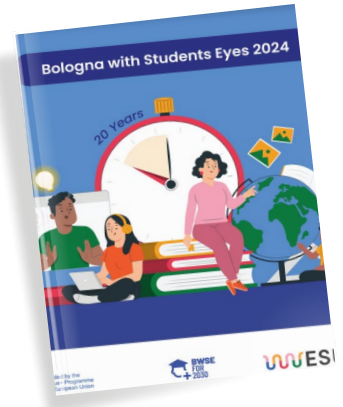


ESU EUROPEAN
STUDENTS'
UNION

European Students' Union

Impact of the ESG on Students in the EHEA

- Promoting **student-centered learning**
- Focusing on **active & participatory learning methods**
- Ensuring educational programs are designed with students' needs in mind
- Enhancing **mobility opportunities** through QA
- Ensuring transparency of the learning outcomes
- Guaranteeing a certain level of inclusivity in higher education
- Requesting **student participation at all levels & in all areas**





ESU's view on the ESG and the Future

Current debates – Preparing for the 2027 update of the ESGs

- Focus areas include **social dimension** aspects, **digital transformation**, **sustainability** and **evolving learning models**.
- We stress the need for a **greater focus on inclusivity and accessibility** within the ESG framework.
- **Stronger accountability** measures for institutions to implement ESG principles effectively.



Beyond the ESG: ESU's other activities

Advocacy and Representatives

National level

- Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
- Rectors' Conferences
- NUSes
- National Quality Assurance Agencies
- ENIC/NARICS

European Level

- European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
- European Union (Commission + Parliament)
- Council of Europe
- Partners such as ESN, ENQA, EUA, LLLP

International Level

- UNESCO
- Global Student Forum
- Partners such as Scholars At Risk

Be part of our projects and activities



[Take a look to our projects](#)

[Apply to our open calls](#)
[& to QA POOL!](#)



Students' Role in Shaping Higher Education Policies

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Students are key stakeholders in shaping policies that affect their education and future.

Advocating for:

- Equity and inclusivity in higher education
- Enhancing student representation at all decision-making levels
- Participation in policy development related to academic freedom, digitalization and sustainability.

Collaborative impact!

Nothing about us without us

- Students bring critical insights into inclusivity, quality assurance and the future of learning.
- Partnerships with ESU amplify student voices across Europe.



Key takeaways:

- The **ESG** is central to maintaining and improving the quality of education in the **EHEA**.
- **ESU** plays a pivotal role in shaping and advocating for student interests.
- **Students remain at the heart of decision-making processes in European higher education.**



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