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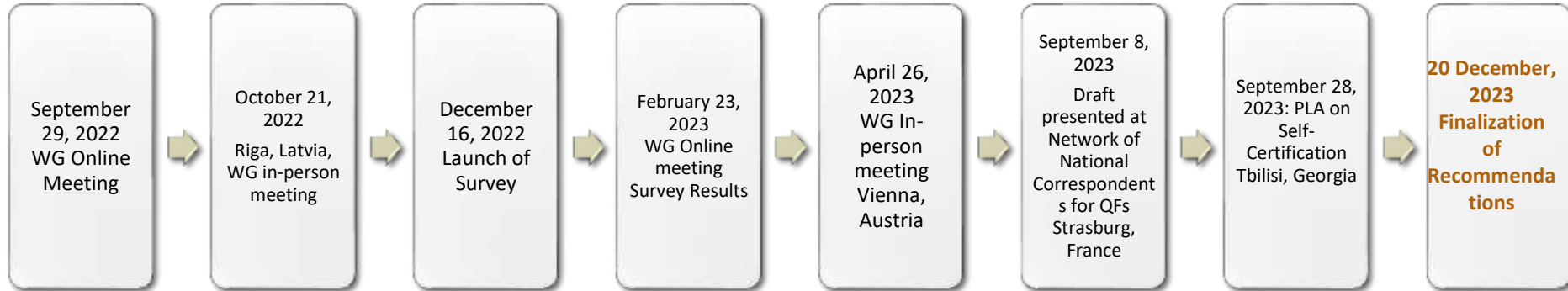
# Preparation of Self-certification Reports within the Bologna Process: Next Steps

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# Working on Recommendations



## **Composition of Working Group on Self-Certification**

Andorra, Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Sweden (observer)  
Co-Chairs: Georgia and Bulgaria



## Peer Learning Activity on Self-certification

September 28, 2023

Tbilisi, Georgia

### PLA Agenda

- Preparation of Self-certification Reports within the Bologna Process – Guidelines, Observations and Recommendations
- International Experts Panel
- Sharing Experiences of Countries (Kazakhstan and Latvia)
- Recent Developments in the Georgian NQF

*59 participants/23 countries, ETF, BFUG Secretariat*



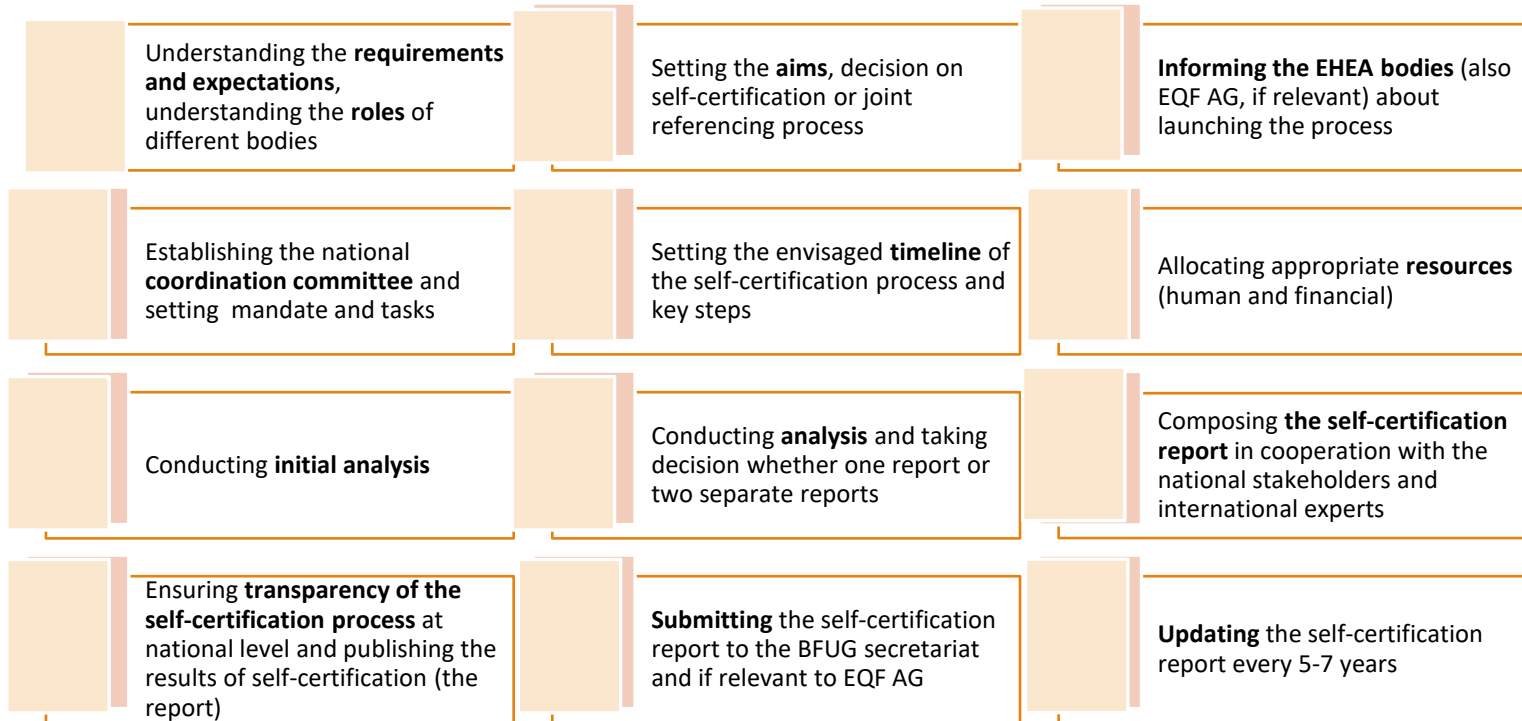
## Recommendations covered following aspects:

- Updating criteria and procedures for verifying the compatibility of qualifications frameworks with the QF-EHEA;
- Development and publication of procedure for the self-certification process, e.g., in the form of BFUG note or recommendation;
  - Updating the self-certification reports, i.e. whether or how often the reports should be updated;
  - Development guidance material for international experts providing support in self-certification process, which includes their review of the self-certification report and statement;
  - Suggestions for EHEA member countries on the steps within the self-certification process;
  - Recommendations for EHEA member countries on the involvement of international experts;
  - Suggestions on the structure of the self-certification report.

## Developed Recommendations for EHEA Member Countries, BFUG and ENIC/NARIC Network

EHEA Member Countries	BFUG	ENIC/NARIC Network
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Recommended steps of the self-certification process</li> <li>II. Structure of the self-certification report</li> <li>III. Involvement of international experts (IntE)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Updating criteria and procedures for verifying the compatibility of qualifications frameworks with QF-EHEA</li> <li>II. Development and publication of procedure for the self-certification process, e.g., in the form of BFUG note or recommendation</li> <li>III. Updating the self-certification reports</li> <li>IV. Development guidance material for international experts providing support in self-certification process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Host of ENIC/NARIC website should invite the network member countries to regularly update and improve information about their NQFs and relevant reports</li> </ul>

# Recommended steps of the self-certification process (for EHEA Member Countries)



# Structure of Self-Certification Report (for EHEA Member Countries)

- **Introduction** (e.g., purpose of the report, outline of the self-certification process)
- **Comprehensive description of the HE system**
- Description of criteria and procedures for verifying the compatibility of national qualifications framework of HE with the QF-EHEA
- **International experts' review statements**
- Statement(-s) of the relevant QA agency or QA agencies
- **Letter of Endorsement from approving body** (if relevant)

# Involvement of international experts (IntE) (for EHEA Member Countries)

1. At least **two or three** IntE should be involved
2. Team of IntE and their involvement should reflect the **objectives and needs of the country**
3. IntE should provide an **objective and unbiased assessment** of the compatibility of the QF of HE with the QF-EHEA
4. IntE are expected to present their opinions regarding the fulfilment of **each criterion and procedure** for verifying the compatibility of qualifications frameworks with the QF-EHEA
5. IntE should be involved at the **earliest possible stage**, but IntE should **not influence any national decisions** about the development of the QF or self-certification process
6. Self-certification report should explicitly include **statements from the IntE** on the report and the self-certification process addressing each criterion and procedure
7. Self-certification report should clearly demonstrate what was the **role of IntE** in the self-certification process
8. IntE should have a **deep understanding of HE systems**, should be familiar with the development, implementation, and maintenance of QFs, Bologna Process



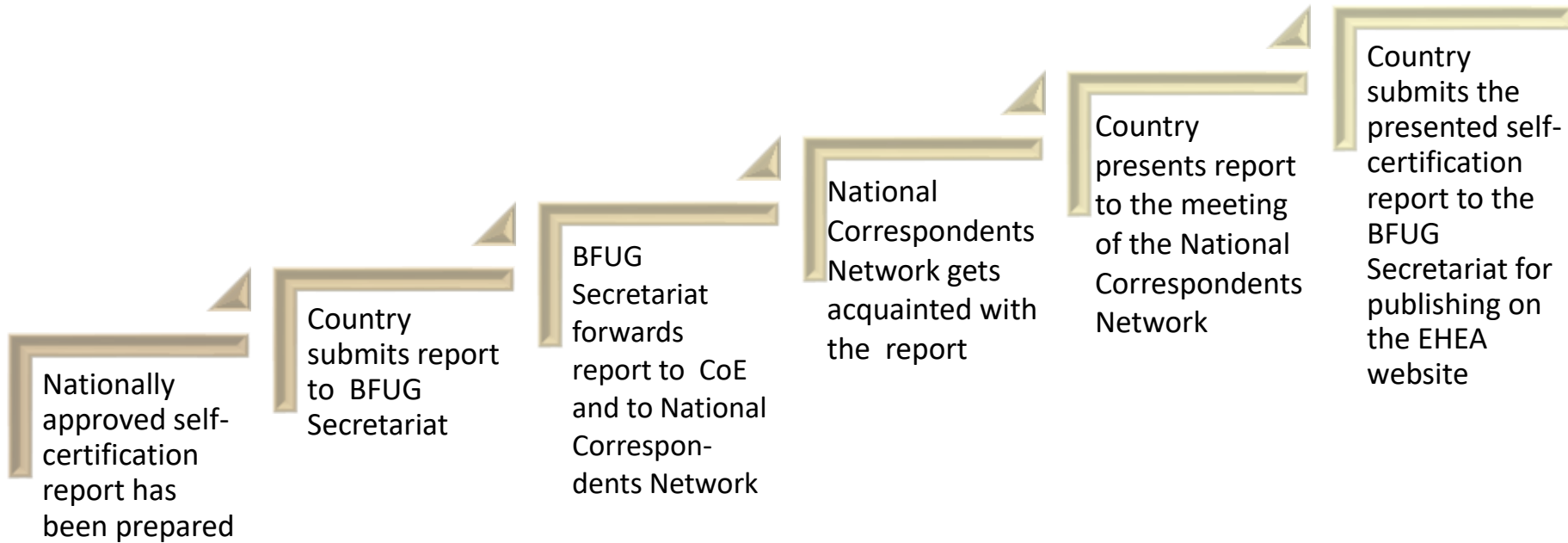
# Updating criteria and procedures for verifying the compatibility of QFs with the QF-EHEA (For BFUG)

1. National framework for HE qualifications and the body or bodies responsible for its development are designated by the national ministry with responsibility for HE
2. There is a clear and demonstrable link between the qualifications in the national framework and the cycle qualification descriptors of the **QF-EHEA**
3. National framework and its qualifications are demonstrably based on learning outcomes, and the qualifications are linked to ECTS or ECTS compatible credits
4. Procedures for inclusion of qualifications in the national framework are transparent
5. National quality assurance system for higher education refers to the national framework of qualifications and is consistent with **the ESG**
6. National framework, and any alignment with the **QF-EHEA**, is referenced in all DS
7. Responsibilities of the domestic parties to the national framework are clearly determined and published

1. Competent national body/bodies shall self-certify the compatibility of the national framework with **the QF-EHEA**
2. Self-certification process shall include the stated agreement of the quality assurance bodies in the country in question, which follow **the ESG**
3. Self-certification process shall involve international experts
4. Self-certification and the evidence supporting it shall be published and shall address separately each of the criteria set out
5. **BFUG secretariat and ENIC/NARIC** networks shall maintain a public listing of States that have confirmed that they have completed the self-certification process
6. Completion of the self-certification process shall be noted on DS

# Proposal for procedure of the submission of the self-certification report and peer learning

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# Recommendations were prepared in the terms of the activities of the QUATRA – TPG A Working Group on Self-Certification

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## Experts involved:

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[https://ehea.info/Immagini/QUATRA - TPG A recommendations self-certification\\_20.12\\_2023\\_.pdf](https://ehea.info/Immagini/QUATRA - TPG A recommendations self-certification_20.12_2023_.pdf)

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## Panel discussion

*Exploring self-certification from the perspective of countries,  
higher education institutions, students*





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Thank you for your attention!



*Qualifications Frameworks for trust, transparency and diversity – TPG A (QUATRA – TPG A)*



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