

I am pleased to invite you, on behalf of the President of EURASHE, Prof. Andreas G. Orphanides, to the **EURASHE International Seminar on Quality Assurance**, which will take place in Nicosia (Cyprus) on 27-28 September 2012, in cooperation with European University Cyprus and the Open University of Cyprus, under the auspices of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU.

As you are deeply involved in the field of **Quality Assurance** through your activities in Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs, we thought that the theme of this International Seminar would interest you and your colleagues. Alternatively we would also be glad to welcome persons interested in the topic who you might know. The results of the EURASHE survey on the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance (ESG) served as the basis for the joint E4 report and the EURASHE position, both of which will be presented during the Seminar.

The Seminar is built upon two themes, **Internal Quality Assurance Processes & Instruments**, and **Implementation of the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance at Institutions**. We are convinced that the programme of the Seminar as well as the *opportunity to share best practices* and to benefit from this *platform for networking* will meet your expectations.

The main objective of the Seminar is to **train QA practitioners in workshops on practical issues related to the implementation of internal QA based on the ESG**, which will help them **organise and implement their own internal Quality Assurance** based on the **ESG**, preparing also in this way for the external Quality Assurance evaluation of their institutions.

We managed to bring together expert professionals on both themes, including 3 new confirmed speakers:

Pascale De Groote, Artesis University College (BE), on *“Testimonial from a Head of an institution in the implementation of QA proceedings, based on the ESG for QA, and other instruments for QA with a professional connotation”*;

Mindaugas Misiunas, Rector of Kaunas University College (LT), on *“How do the Mission and Role of Professionally Oriented HEIs impact internal QA proceedings?”*;

Nicolae Dură, Ovidius University of Constantza (RO), on *“Quality Research at Higher Education Institutions”*;

Lucien Bollaert, Vice Chair of the EQAR Registering Committee (BE), on *“Moving from Theory to Practice on the Implementation of ESG in Internal & External QA & the EURASHE’s Survey on the Implementation of the ESG”*;

Fiona Croizer, Vice President of the ENQA Board (UK), on a *“Discussion of the ESG, the ESG Survey and the E4 Joint Report & ENQA’s Point of View on ESG Implementation”*;

André Vyt, Quality Management System expert (BE), on *“Developing an Institutional Policy and Quality Management Handbook & PROSE Diagnostics System, an instrument for internal QA. Illustrated with examples, and an analysis of PROSE tools”*.

For more detailed information, we are kindly asking you to check [our website](#) on a regular basis, which we are constantly updating with new information.

The on-line registration for the Seminar is available on the EURASHE website, [click here](#). We would kindly advise you to proceed with your accommodation and travel arrangements as soon as you can due to the several activities planned in the framework of the Cypriot Presidency.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to a challenging EURASHE Seminar.

Yours sincerely,
Mario De Martino