Building a Framework for Comprehensive Quality Assurance of European Universities

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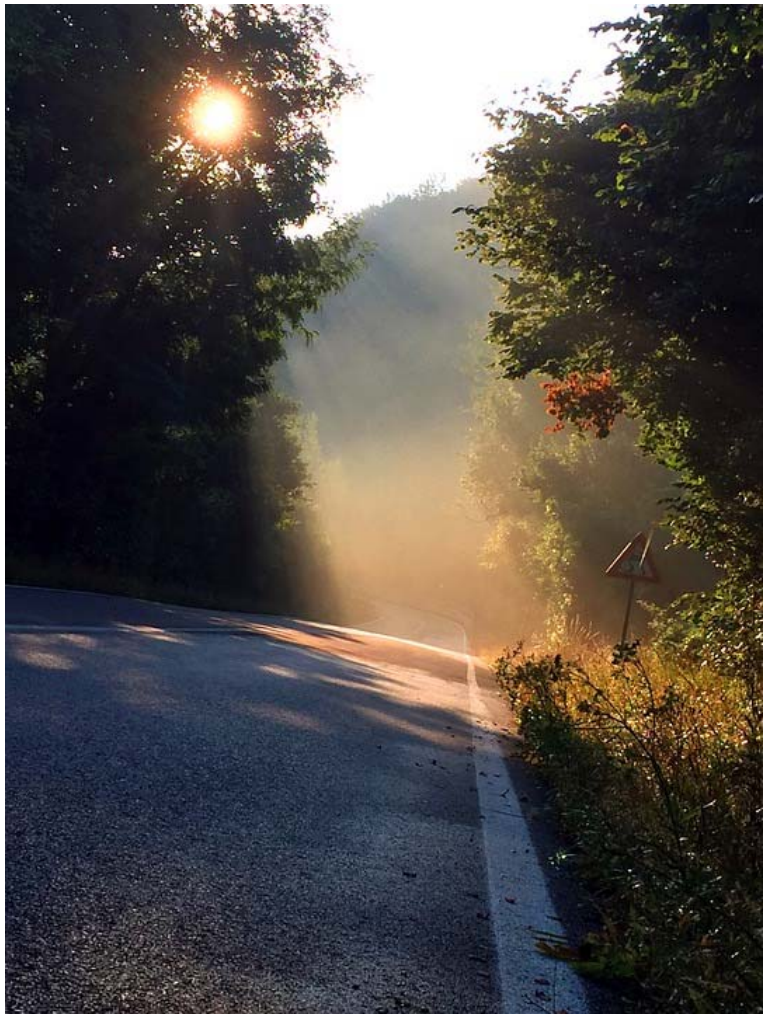
EUniQ Workshop “Towards a Quality Assurance Framework for European Universities”
Rome – 23 October 2019



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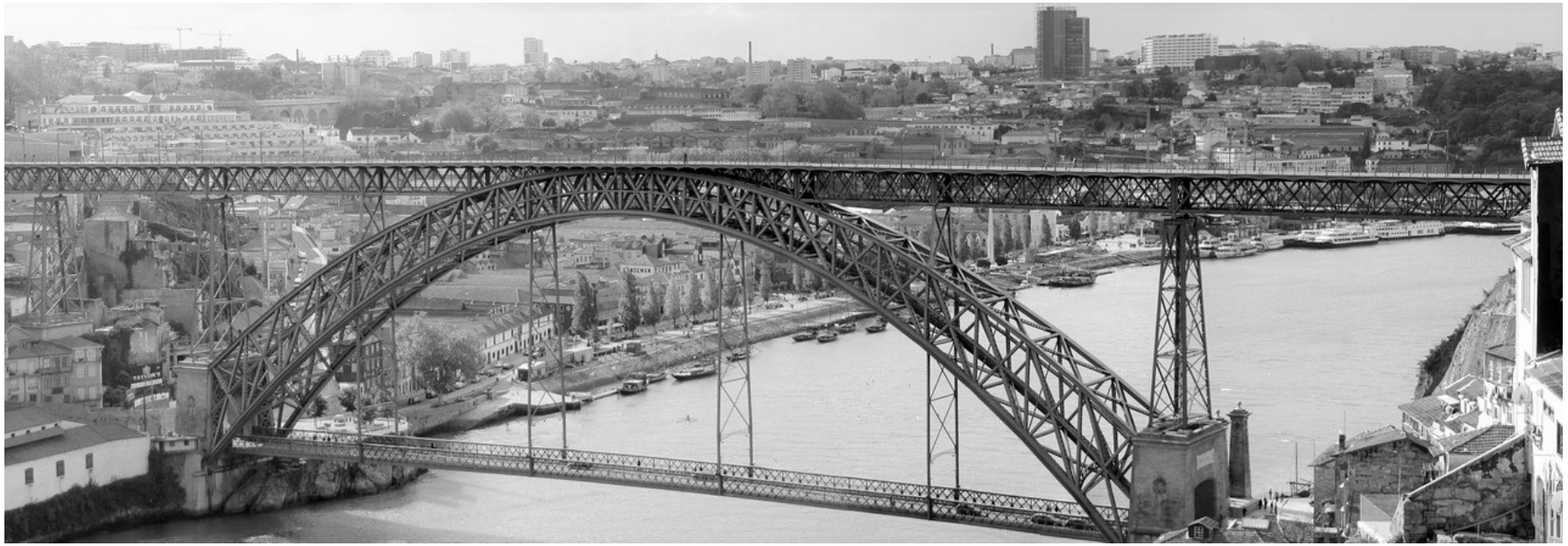

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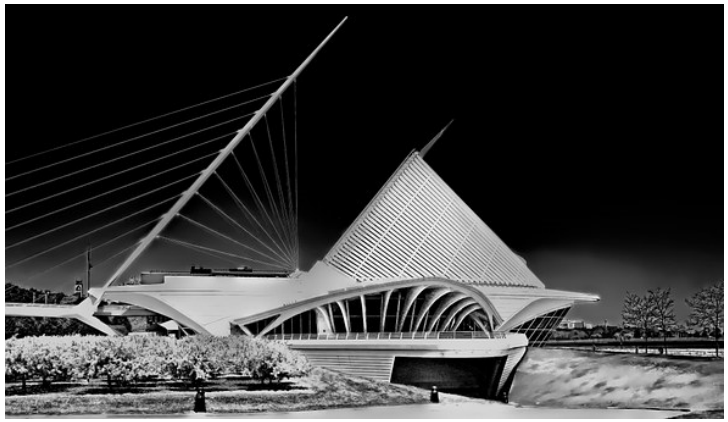

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European values and identity

Long-term joint strategy

Quality, performance, attractiveness …

European higher education inter-university ‘campus‘

European knowledge-creating teams

… international competitiveness of EHEI

Models of good practice

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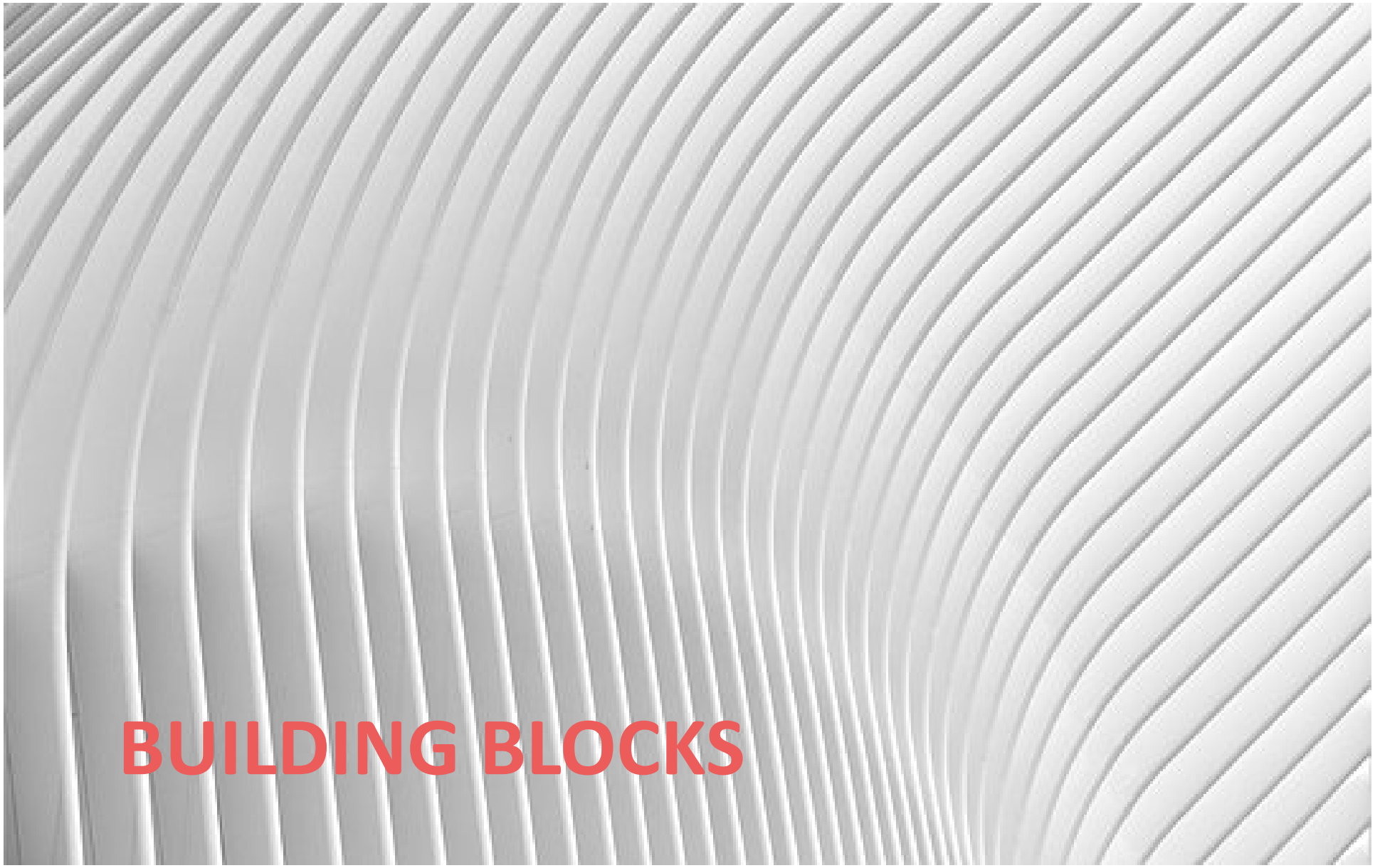

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Standards

Evaluation – Stage of development

EVALUATION PRINCIPLE

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INTER-RELATED QUESTIONS

- What is the European University's vision on the quality of its education and, where possible, research, innovation and service to society?
- How will the European University realise its vision?
- How does the European University monitor to what extent its vision is actually realised?
- How is the European University working on improvement?
- Is the quality of the European University's provision assured in an internationally accepted manner? (~ESG)

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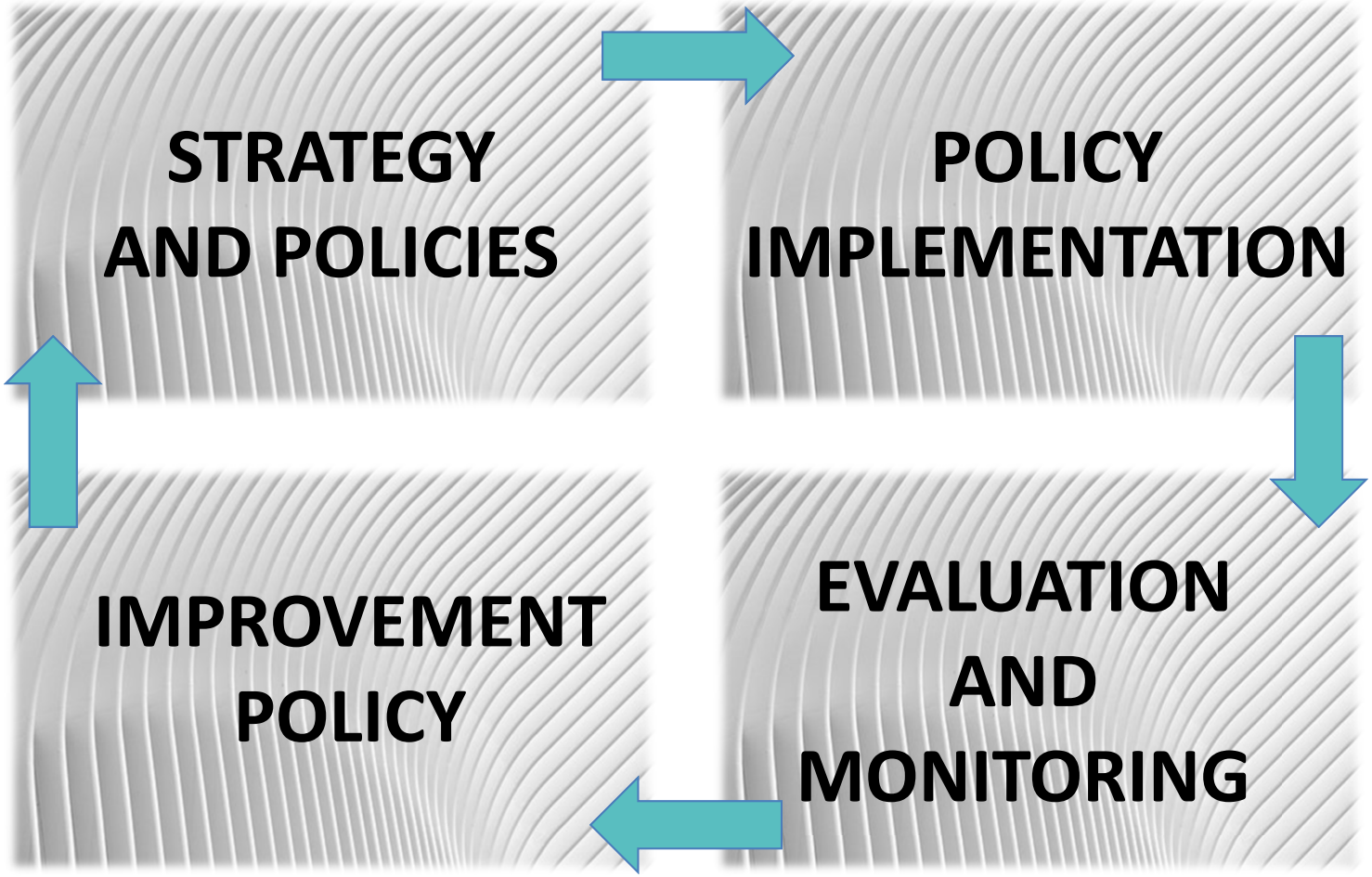
STANDARDS



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The European University's strategy and policies for education, and where possible, research, innovation and service to society enable the realisation of an inter-university 'campus' which assures, in close collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, the quality of a joint provision that adequately responds to societal challenges.

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a) Presence of a shared, integrated, long-term joint strategy for education, and where possible, research, innovation and service to society.
b) Policies for the alliance focus on the specifics of a European higher education inter-university 'campus' and mobility.
c) Strategy, policies and joint provision contribute to regional development and reflect relevant societal challenges.
d) Quality assurance policies are aligned with Part 1, and where relevant Part 2, of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015).

The European University takes adequate measures to implement its joint strategy and policies in an effective manner and to enhance the quality of its education, and where possible, research, innovation and service to society.

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a) Specific, relevant and attainable objectives.
b) Sufficient resources are allocated to achieve the objectives.
c) Relevant and efficient common management structures.
d) Effective societal engagement with key stakeholders and involvement of the local community.

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EVALUATION AND MONITORING

The European University guarantees the effectiveness of its policy implementation for the benefit of the quality of education, and where possible research, innovation and service to society, by setting up appropriate feedback and quality monitoring systems.

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a) Provides relevant information pertaining to all policy domains.
b) Includes the application of innovative pedagogical models; links between education and research and innovation; the measurement of all types of mobility.
c) Active role of students, staff, alumni, the professional field and external independent experts.
d) Cooperation is sustained across various levels of the alliance, and across different areas of activity, building on complementary strengths.

The European University takes measures to improve the realisation of its policy objectives and the sustainability of the alliance.

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a) Active improvement policy based on the outcomes of its evaluations, demonstrating ability to innovate and adapt.
b) Demonstrating capability for long-term sustainability.
c) Sharing outputs and good practices with a wide range of stakeholders.
d) Results in a quality culture, in which all those involved contribute to innovation and to continuous quality improvement.

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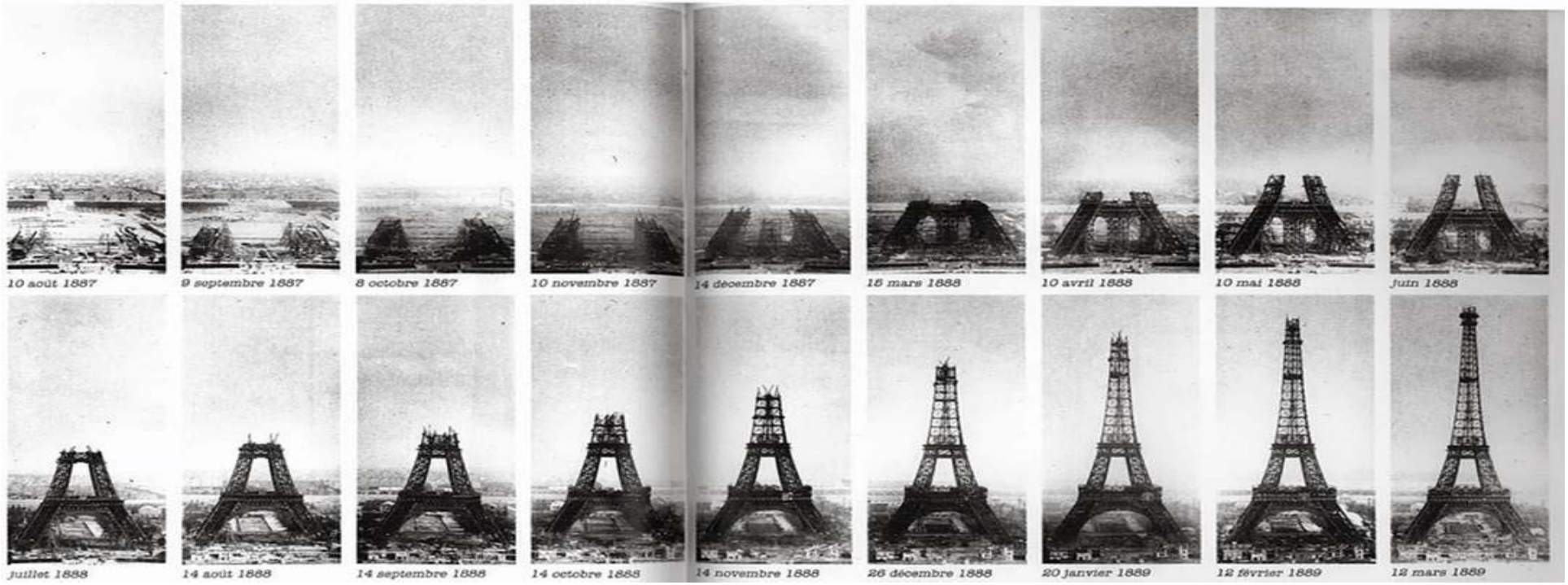
STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT



In each pilot it will be determined by the QA agencies and the European University participating in the pilot whether an evaluation scale will be used.

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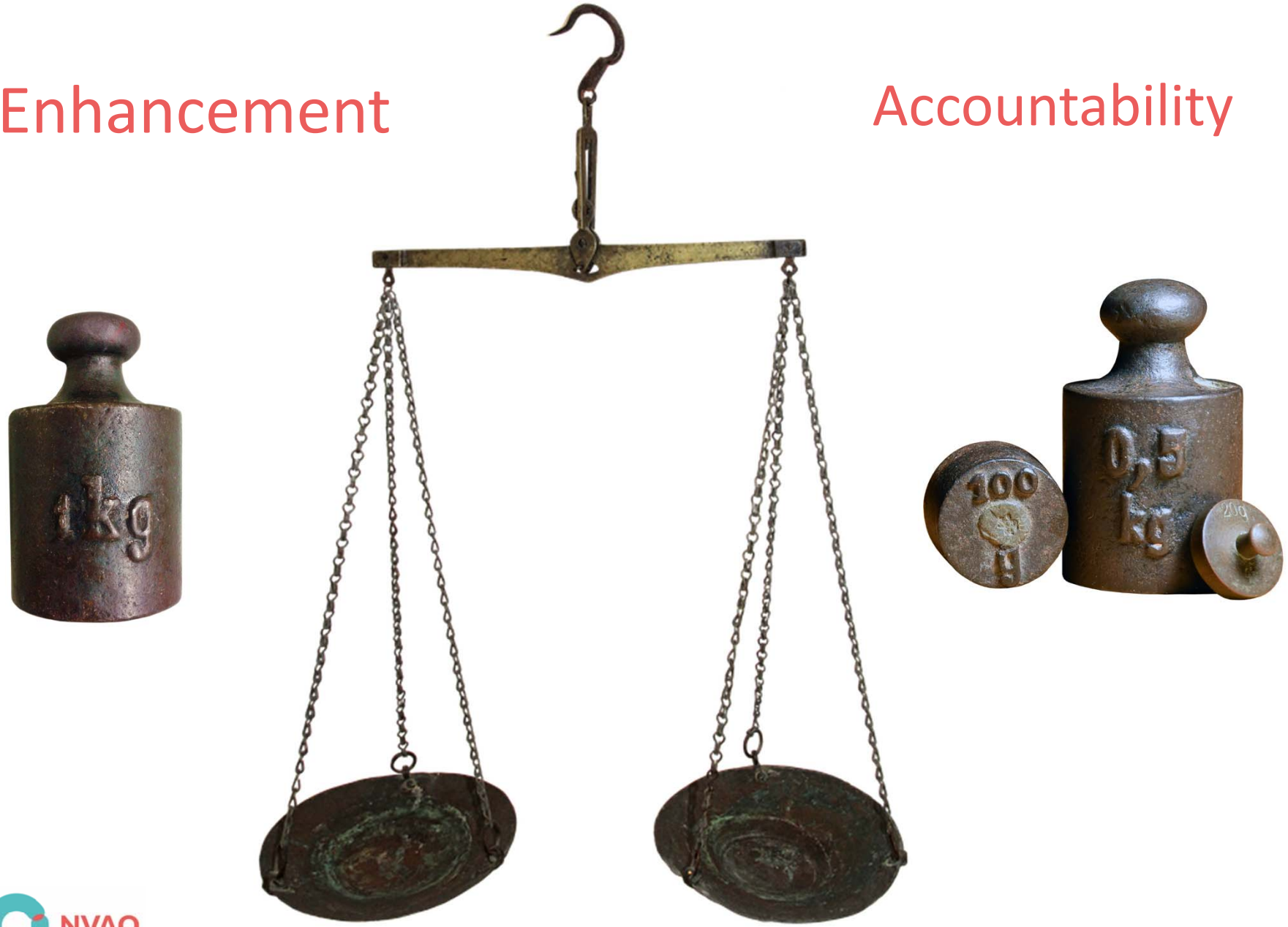
Enhancement

Accountability



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PS: ELABORATING STANDARDS AND REFERENCE POINTS

- STRATEGY AND POLICIES

  Facilitator: Laura Beccari, AAQ
- POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

  Facilitators: Nina de Winter, ESU and Karl Dittrich, EQAR
- EVALUATION AND MONITORING

  Facilitator: Vicky Vanruysseveldt, Flemish Ministry of Education and Training
- IMPROVEMENT POLICY

  Facilitator: Maria Kelo, ENQA

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Information

Panel

Site visit

Evaluation report

Future evaluation procedure

EVALUATION PROCEDURE

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INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE PANEL

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT + CONTEXT

- The project proposal
- Mission statement
- Strategic and policy documents
- The partnership agreement (if available)
- Joint work plan of activities and road map
- Quality assurance policies/manual/documents

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COMPOSITION OF THE EVALUATION PANEL

- Appointment by QA agencies
- Agencies confer with Euni (+ right to raise well-grounded objections – no veto)
- Agencies ensure impartiality and fairness of experts
- Three members, including a student
- Process coordinators: not part of the panel, taking the minutes of all meetings, writing draft evaluation report
- One-day training: activities – roles – expectations

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EXPERTISE

- Educational expertise
- Research expertise
- Expertise regarding innovation and service to society
- Senior experience with managing university networks
- Senior university management experience
- Student-related expertise
- Internationalisation expertise and international experience (knowledge of some of the national higher education systems of the alliance is desirable)
- Quality assurance expertise
- Experience with e-learning and digitisation

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SITE VISIT

- 2 days site visit
- One location of the European University
- Should enable discussing the Euni's development in view of the standards
- Discussions with representatives of all (associate) partners in the alliance: management, staff, students, other relevant stakeholders – alumni and professional field

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EVALUATION REPORT

- Prepared by evaluation panel
- Contains relevant evidence, an analysis and the conclusions with regard to the standards
- Should contain recommendations for the further development of the Euni
- Euni should have opportunity to comment on a draft version and request correction of factual errors
- Finalised by the panel – approved by the agencies
- Published on the EUniQ project website

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BACK TO THE FUTURE… (tomorrow)

Guiding questions:

- Required expertise of the panel and
- training?
- Information provided for the panel?
- Preliminary coordination meeting?
- Site visit?
- Panel report?

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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