



Ministry of Education, Culture and  
Science of the Netherlands



Ministry of Education  
of the Republic of Moldova

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## Paper on work progress of Advisory Group 2 “Support for Belarus”

Name of AG/WG: **Advisory group on the “Support for the Belarus Roadmap” (AG 2)**

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### **Update of the work** (will be updated for all BFUG meetings)

The initial working phase of the Advisory group on the “Support for the Belarus Roadmap” (XII-2015 – I-2016) was concentrated on clarifications of the goals and methods of work. Given the particularity of a group focusing on the implementation of “Bologna-Reforms” within one single Country, with the Country itself, other countries and stakeholder-representatives included, requests as method a “dialogical approach” which includes, especially at the beginning, more emphasis on listening, leaning understanding and creating mutual trust and comprehension.

The AG 2 can be seen as kind of a pilot project within the BFUG work-program. It is the first and only BFUG « working » Group focusing on only one country, but it may be a model for the future. There are close links between this group and the AG 3 on non-implementation. The co-chair from Iceland of AG3 is also member of this group. It is time that the EHEA is looking into the issue of non-implementation and the discussion on Belarus has given the BFUG the occasion to go into this direction.

The AG 2 has to fulfill two tasks: 1. to accompany Belarus in its higher education reform process in line with the provisions of the EHEA, more precisely the Roadmap. That has been approved by the European Ministers of Education at their meeting in Yerevan, May 2015, and 2. to report back at the end of the work to the BFUG and the Ministers. The first task requires establishing a relation of trust between the AG and Belarus. Regarding the second task, the group will monitor developments and will base its recommendations on evidence and facts that have to be collected, checked and put into systematic order. According to it’s TOR the AG has no mandate for immediate intervention in single cases regarding whatever problems and also must not be seen as in Instance of appeal like the CoE Court of Human rights. This does not exclude the possibility of anyone, to inform the group via official channels (co-charis and/or BFUG Secretariate) also about single concrete cases related to the goals of the roadmap.

**Calendar** (what have you done and what is planned to + indicate which events you want to include in the general tentative schedule)

17 December 2015: Coordination meeting of BFUG WGs and AGs in Brussels

19 January 2016: AG meeting in Chisinau

2-4 June 2016: AG meeting and other events in Minsk (tbc)

October/November 2016. AG meeting and possible peer learning events in Rome (tbc)

A more detailed work program will be discussed and decided at the AG meeting in June 2016