

Recent Developments in Ukraine Higher Education according to amendments to the Laws of Ukraine “On Education” (2017), “On Higher Education” (2014) and other legislation; Ukraine’ Education System Description

Higher Education Institutions types and statistics (2021/2022)*:

	Higher Education Institutions (Universities, Academies, Institutes)	Academic staff
Total HEIs	386 (1,046 mln students)	124 779
Public HEI	283 (1,007 mln students)	
Private HEI	103 (0,038 mln students)	
International students	73 626	

VET Institutions*** statistics (2021/2022)*:

	VET Institutions	Students	Teacher staff
Total	$248 + 692 =$ 840	$282319 + 250336 =$ 532 655	$3865 + 31083 + 31324 =$ 66 272
International students		481	

*** There is only the public type of ownership of VET institutions in Ukraine

Secondary Education Institutions types and statistics (2020/21)*:

	Secondary Education Institutions	School Students	Teacher staff
Total	13 991	4 230 358	434 755
Public	13 585	4 164 307	426 301
Private	406	66 051	8 454

*Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua>

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National Qualifications Framework (2011, 2020) with **8 levels** of qualifications according to the *amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Education”* (2019) and QF LLL (2017) was approved by the Cabinet of Ministries of Ukraine in 2020.

Note* The NQF with **11 levels** of qualifications (based on EQF LLL) was approved by the Cabinet of Ministries of Ukraine in 2011.

The **Law of Higher Education** (2014) is compatible with the Bologna Process (3-cycle HE, LQ, ECTS, DS, ESG, NQF implementation).

NQAA began activity in 2019 (<https://en.nqa.gov.ua>). The Cabinet approved **NQAA’ members list** (December 2018) (<https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro-zatverdzhennya-skladu-nacionalnogo-agentstva-iz-zabezpechennya-yakosti-vishchoyi-osviti>). Guidelines on accreditation procedure incl. criteria were developed and implemented under providing accreditation process using EDUQAS project outcomes. National QA experts’ pool was created based on QUAERE project outcomes and engaging representatives of the Erasmus+ projects.

Note* **HERE team member** – Iryna ZOLOTARIOVA is selected NQAA member. Ex-Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine Sergiy KVIT is the NQAA Chairman elected by the NQAA members (December 2018 – 2021). **HERE team member** – Mychailo WYNNYCKYJ was appointed on position of the Head of the NQAA’ Secretariat – executive body (February 2019 – 2022).

Accreditation of study programmes (curricula) is provided by the NQAA from *September 2019* (according to the **Law of Education** (2017); before 2019 accreditation was provided by the Accreditation Commission (advisory body) established by the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine according to the existing procedure).

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2022

Strategy for the Higher Education Development in Ukraine for 2022-2032 (Стратегія розвитку вищої освіти в Україні на 2022-2032 роки) (Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, on 23 February 2022, in Ukrainian, <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/286-2022-%D1%80#Text>) is developed in line with European Integration prospects as well as EHEA principles.

Recent amendments to the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine “On the approval of the Procedure for the implementation of the right to *academic mobility*”, 13 May 2022, in particular: internships (for practical skills development) and language internships will be added as forms of academic mobility, the right to mobility was extended to VET students.

Recent amendments to the Law On Higher Education, 2022: the Annual report of the Rector of the higher education institution must contain information on the level of achievement of the target indicators of the higher education institution, determined by the contract with the Ministry.

Ukraine Recovery Plan, project of the working group "Education and Science (План відновлення України, проект робочої групи «Освіта і наука»), 2022. (<https://www.kmu.gov.ua/storage/app/sites/1/recoveryrada/ua/education-and-science.pdf>) presents the vision and ways of development of education and science in the conditions of martial law and post-war recovery, in particular, it contains a description of specific projects to attract international investments.

2021

Recent amendments to the Law On Higher Education:

- the main change on the election of the Rector of the HEI – if there is the second round of the election, 50 % of those who participated in the vote are required, not from the total number of people, who have the right to participate (Law 1216-IX, <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1216-20#n2>)
- increasing institutional autonomy concerning using property of public higher education institutions (Law 1557-IX, <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1557-20#n6>)
- cancellation of restrictions on sectoral representation for students and employers in frame of the selection procedure for membership of the NQAA (Law 1838-IX, <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1838-20#n6>)
- harmonizing the structure of military education in line with the NATO standards, granting the relevant bodies the authority to independently resolve issues of military education (Law 5641, http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=72182)

The Cabinet approved *the Concept of the State programme for the development of research infrastructures in Ukraine until 2026* on 14 April 2021 (<https://www.kmu.gov.ua/npas/pro-shvalennya-koncepciyi-derzhavnoyi-cilovoyi-programi-rozvitku-doslidnickih-infrastruktur-v-ukrayini-na-period-do-2026-roku-i140421-322>).

After the public discussions of the draft Order of the Cabinet “*On approval of the Concept of the State programme for the renovation and development of the HEIs’ students hostels network for 2021-2025*” finished on 1 September 2020 the document is on the improvement of the MESU to be further agreed with other public authorities (<https://mon.gov.ua/ua/news/mon-proponuye-do-gromadskogo-obgovorennya-proyekt-rozporjadzhennya-kmu-pro-shvalennya-koncepciyi-derzhavnoyi-programi-vidnovlennya-ta-rozbudovi-merezhi-gurtozhitkiv-dlya-prozhivannya-studentiv-zakladiv-vishoyi-osviti-na-2021-2025-roki>)

The State Programmes foresee the activities list, responsible persons, deadlines, and state funds for their implementation. As a matter of fact, their implementation will start under conditions of the reconsideration of the State Budget 2021.

(2) Situation with the **National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance (NAQA)**.

The MESU has prepared the draft Law On Amendments to the Certain Laws of Ukraine (ref. № 1/12-3604 dated 30.07.2020) and submitted to be agreed by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and other national authorities.

The draft Law concerns the change of the NQAA *status* and *formation procedures*.

The key recommendation of the draft Law is to change from a **public collegial body status** (under the Ministry) to an **executive body status**. (* In 2013-2014, during the preparation of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education", the possibility of establishing a National Agency as an executive body was considered, but the proposal was rejected by the Ministry of Justice and other authorities - preventing an increase in the number of executive bodies).

Currently, the Ministry itself *approves* the documents developed by the NAQA concerning the national level activities (e.g., Regulations on accreditation of study programmes, etc.). NAQA *funding* is carried out from two sources – the State Budget (the chief administrator is the Ministry) and incomings from HEIs (payment of services on accreditation).

Thus, as an executive body, the NAQA becomes a chief administrator of own funding, so it acquires independence in approving decisions and funding, i.e. it becomes more independent from the Ministry. However, it will be provided if the current NAQA formation procedure is maintained – the NAQA members are selected by an international Competition Commission, the NAQA Chairman is elected by the NAQA members and appointed by the Government, the Secretariat staff is appointed by the elected Chairman, and the Secretariat is a public service.

As for the *NAQA formation procedure*, the provisions on the establishment of an international Competition Commission and the procedure for NAQA members competitive selection, as well as their rotation every 3 years and election of the NAQA Chairman as in the Law On Higher Education have been *removed by the draft Law* (there is simply NAQA staff appointment by the Government). Provisions on the principles of forming the composition of the NAQA – representation of HEIs, research institutions, employers, students; balance of education fields' representation; gender balance, etc. as in the Law On Higher Education have been *removed by the draft Law*. In addition, one important point is *a draft Law does not provide NAQA quality assurance according to the ESG as it is in the Law On Higher Education 2014*.

In this context, the NQAA really ceases to be an independent organization and does not acting according to the ESG. As of June 2021 this draft Law was postponed and not considered by the Cabinet.

On *March 11, 2021*, Hearings on accreditation issues and the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance were conducted in the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Education, Science and Innovation with participation of NEO – Ukraine and HEREs. Issues on accreditation and NAQA activity were discussed by the Parliament's Members, representatives of the Ministry, NAQA, HEIs, NEO – Ukraine, HEREs. The recommendations of the Hearings emphasized the importance of further implementation of ESG-2015 in Ukraine, ensuring NAQA independence and improving QA activities.

On *March 30, 2021* the Law “On amendments to some Laws of Ukraine concerning settlement of some issues of awarding scientific degrees and licensing of educational activity” was adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Parliament). In particular, it cancelled NAQA authority to implement public policy in higher education. At the same time, its authority to accredit specialized scientific councils for the defense of PhD dissertations and the authority of the Ministry of Education and Science to approve decisions on the award of PhD degrees were cancelled. According to the new regulation, the decision of the HEI on awarding a scientific degree doesn't require approval, but may be cancelled by NAQA due to violations of academic integrity.

On *April 14, 2021* a workgroup of Verkhovna Rada Committee on Education, Science and Innovation was created to work out amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" regarding NAQA status in order to harmonize it with other laws in compliance with ESG-2015 recommendations about its independence and core functions.

2020

(1) As a result of the meeting of the Rectors of the leading Ukrainian Universities (2 June 2020), the **President Decree “On the improvement of the higher education of Ukraine”** of 3.06.2020 № 210/2020 has been issued (<https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/210/2020#Text>). It specifies the following activities:

- Creation of the **Council on the Higher Education development in Ukraine** as a consultative-counseling body of the President of Ukraine.

The Head of the President’s Office had to submit the Regulations about the Council and its members – by 17 June 2020, no other information is available on this matter as of June 2021.

- The Cabinet of Ministers have to approve the following documents:

On September 1, 2020 – **Action Plan for promotion of the STEM education** developed in cooperation with the National Institute of Strategic Studies, National Academy of Science of Ukraine, National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine (The Action Plan was adopted on 13 January 2021) (<https://www.kmu.gov.ua/npas/pro-zatverdzhennya-planu-zahodiv-sh-a131r?fbclid=IwAR0wAdPwkgIGHfqBvwQphNLBys7zn8hvAfHLgXh6g-kZIynYXJuwTIuUc1w>).

– **Action Plan for promotion of the higher education opportunities for the foreign students in Ukraine** developed by the subgroup, which was created within the Workgroup on the Higher Education Development Strategy 2031 (The Action Plan was adopted on 21 April 2021) (<https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/350-2021-%D1%80#Text>).

On 1 November 2020 – **Higher Education Development Strategy 2031** to set up the key objectives and priorities, taking into consideration global trends of the world economy.

The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine in cooperation with the National Institute of Strategic Studies and the National Academy of Science of Ukraine has been assigned responsible for the Strategy by the Government.

The Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine has been appointed responsible for European Integration and as Temporary Acting Minister (Cabinet of Ministers Orders (25.06.2020. № 759-p, 25.06.2020 № 761-p).

Temporary Acting Minister formed the **Workgroup for the Higher Education Development Strategy 2021-2031** (the Order of 28.07.2020 № 974), which is divided into the subgroups according to the strategic goals defined by the Ministry, while the *Internationalization* goal was not in the list among:

1. Analysis of the current Ukraine’s higher education state of play
2. International experience of the higher education system organisation
3. Forecast of the labour market needs in higher education graduates
4. *Institutional forms of obtaining higher education in Ukraine*
5. *The University teacher of the future*
6. *Innovation technologies in higher education, distance learning, scientific and methodological developments for higher education*
7. *Research and technical activities within higher education*

8. *Entrepreneurship skills development in frame of the higher education*
9. *Higher education system and smart-specialisation of the regions, building of the regional eco-systems and clusters of Industry 4.0*
10. *Education monitoring and quality assessment system*
11. *Higher education funding*
12. *Development of the higher education governance system*
13. *Promotion of the higher education opportunities for the foreign students in Ukraine (for the **Action Plan**).*

The Workgroup and subgroups members list (*incl. 6 HEREs and 1 NEO representative*) and meetings are placed at the special *Strategy website* to invite wider audience to provide contributions (<http://www.reform.org.ua/workgroup.html>).

The subgroups proposals are submitted to the MESU for the generalization.

The latest e-meeting of the Workgroup was led by the 1st Deputy Minister – Mr. Kyzym on September 4th, 2020.

NEO – Ukraine also submitted proposals for the higher education internationalization in Ukraine, which were not taken into account in the draft Strategy, which was discussed at the meeting of the Workgroup on 4 September.

Now, after receiving comments and suggestions, the draft Strategy is being finalized by the Ministry of Education and Science in close cooperation with HEREs and in line the new legal requirements on strategic documents.

The Law with amendments to the *Law of Higher Education* and *Law of Education* concerning *improvement of educational process in higher education* (adopted by the Parliament and signed by the President of Ukraine on January 13, 2020) are compatible with the Bologna Process in general and includes the following key provisions:

1. Higher education institutions are allowed to issue a higher education document (Diploma/Degree) under an accredited study programme only. This provision somewhat limits the academic autonomy of institutions, as any higher education documents issued under a non accredited programme will not be accounted in the National Unified Education e-Database and recognized by the state.
2. *License requirements* for conducting educational activities in higher education institutions are supplemented by the requirement to create appropriate conditions for persons with special educational needs. License requirements allow the offer of Junior Bachelor's (higher education short cycle) and Bachelor's degree programmes not only by higher education institutions but also by pre-tertiary vocational institutions (VET).
3. *License* is granted by the Ministry for conducting educational activity on certain higher education level/cycle and not within a specific Program Subject Area (specialty) (as it was in previous version of the Law).
4. The *List of Fields of Study and Program Subject Areas* (specialties) in Higher Education is developed *on the basis of the International Standard Classification of Education* and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, which will ensure

comparison of higher education documents (Diploma/Degrees) and collection of statistics on higher education.

5. The *contract* with the Rector will identify the higher education institution performance indicators (KPI), the achievement of which must be provided by the Rector, as well as the timing and mechanisms of verification of achievement of such targets.
6. Introduced *dual higher education* as full-time education, which provides on-the-job training at enterprises, institutions and organizations for the acquisition of certain qualification (in the amount of 25-60 % of the study programme).
7. The higher education institution has the right to decide on the *teaching of one, several or all courses, the completion of individual tasks and the conduct of control measures in English*, provided that all students who study the respective courses are enough competent in English. If there is a written request from one or more students, the higher education institution provides translation into the Ukrainian.
8. The *number of qualification levels* of the National Qualifications Framework should be consistent with the number of levels of the European Qualifications Framework for LLL (8 levels).

2019

The [Law of Vocational Pre-Tertiary Education](#)* (2019) is compatible with the Bologna Process in general and includes the following key amendment to the Law of Higher Education and the Law of Education:

1. Introduce a new level of NQF (5th) for qualifications relevant to Vocational Pre-Tertiary Education within VET; therefore NQF includes 11 levels now. Tertiary (Higher) Education consists 5 levels and the Law determinates correspondence between higher education levels, postdoctoral/scientific level (Junior Bachelor – Bachelor – Master – PhD – Doctor of Science) and levels of *National Qualification Framework* (6 – 7 – 8 – 9 – 10)

**Law of VET Education is under development now.*

2017-2018

The [Law of Education \(2017\)](#) is compatible with the Bologna Process in general and includes the following key provisions:

1. Introduce *12-years complete general secondary school* within 3 stages – for primary education – on September 1, 2018; for basic secondary school – on September 1, 2022; for field-specific secondary school – on September 1, 2027 (*Part XII. CONCLUDING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS*).

2. Implement European approach to assure right of equal access to education and inclusive learning for *people with disabilities* (persons with special educational needs) (*Article 19, 20*).

3. Introduce the institute of *Education Ombudsman* for providing good conditions for realization of the right to education within education system (*Article 73*).

4. Present *formal, non-formal and informal education* as means of life-long learning (*Article 8*).

3. Implementation of reviewed [National Qualification Framework](#) (*see Table*) – **11 levels** of qualifications (0-10) *incl.* Higher Education (Junior Bachelor (*short cycle*), Bachelor – Master – PhD) and plus so called 4th or postdoctoral cycle – Doctor of Science (*Article 36*).

Determination of *correspondence* between educational levels and levels of *National Qualification Framework* (for Higher education: 6 – 7 – 8 – 9 – 10 levels) (*Article 10*) (*see Table*).

Introduce *Doctor of Art degree* in frame of the 3th cycle of Higher Education for artistic qualifications / professions along with PhD degree for other qualifications / professions.

4. Introduce definitions for professional and educational qualifications; *descriptions* of the National Qualification Framework corresponding with EQF LLL; *Sectoral Qualifications Frameworks*, *Qualifications Centres* for Learning Outcomes and *Qualifications Recognition* (including via informal and nonformal education) in line with Lisbon and Bologna processes; *National Qualifications Agency* for maintaining NQF implementation in particular (*Article 34, 35, 36, 38*).

5. Widen *University Autonomy* via introducing several legal statuses for HEIs – state-funding institution (present status for state HEIs); non-commercial education institution; commercial education institution (*Article 22*).

6. Establish *obligatory correlation* between *Education Standards* and *NQF* (*Article 32*).

7. QA system *novation* is ***Academic Integrity*** as well as ***Institutional Accreditation*** (voluntary procedure by HEI initiative, assessment of quality of educational activity of the HEI) (*Article 42, 46*).

8. Assure *Teaching Quality improvement* – State provides support to advanced training of State HEIs academic staff via additionally allocated funds from the State Budget and the amount of these funds cannot be less than 2 % of the academic staff' salary fund (*Article 78*).

9. On the day this Law enters into force, ***the powers of the members of the NQAA*** in Higher Education delegated by the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, national sectoral academies of sciences, elected by congresses from the representatives of HEIs, Joint Representative Body of all-Ukrainian Association of employers' organizations, congress of representatives of students ***are terminated*** (*Part XII. CONCLUDING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS*).

10. *The Ministry provides study programmes accreditation* according to the procedure envisaged for accreditation of disciplines and specialities until approval, according to the procedure established by the Law on Education, of the regulations about study programmes accreditation.

11. Some *key amendment* to the Law of Ukraine “On Higher Education” (2014):

(1) Introduce new approach to *formation* of the ***NQAA – National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education*** is composed on 23 persons appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the basis of the decision of the *Selection Committee* following the results of the selection that takes place with due consideration of gender balance and sectoral (field of study) representation principles.

(2) The *composition* of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education is formed with safeguarding the representation of no more than 1 person from a Field of Study and includes:

1) 3 persons – selected among representatives of all-Ukrainian employers' organizations;

2) 2 persons – students of the first or second cycles of HE;

3) no less than 1 representative from among persons who work on a permanent basis at:

the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine;

national sectoral academy of sciences (1 representative per each academy – 5 ones);

state HEI;

municipal HEI;

private HEI.

A person may be nominated a candidate to the NQAA via self-nomination also.

(3) The organization and conduct of the selection of NQAA is done by the *Selection Committee* that is established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine as an advisory body for only 3 years in this composition. The members of Selection Committee perform their duties pro bono.

The *Selection Committee* is comprised on 9 persons, 4 of which as *international members are delegated from the European Higher Education Area organisations ENQA, EURASHE, EUA, ESU* and

per 1 person from the following institutions

- the Ministry – Yuriy Rashkevych, Deputy Minister, **HERE team member**,

- Joint Representative Body of All-Ukrainian Association of Employers,

- National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine,

- National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine – Volodymyr Lugovyy, First Vice-President, National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine, **HERE team member**, as a *Chairman*,

- national students association of Ukraine that is a member of European Students' Union (ESU).

Membership is allowed for persons who have an academic degree and / or academic title or no less than 5 years of work experience in the field except for students' representatives and international representatives.

The **decision** of the *Selection Committee* is considered taken if it is supported by the majority of the international members and majority of national members.

The work of *Selection Committee* is organized as *sessions*, participation for international representatives is allowed with the assistance of *electronic videoconferencing*. International representatives who take part in a session via videoconferencing confirm results of their voting in writing.

The sessions of the *Selection Committee* are *open*. Information about the sessions is published on the *Ministry's website*.

The *Selection Committee* develops a *Regulation* on the contest for the selection of NQAA members that is approved by the Cabinet and formulates qualification

requirements to candidates, that foresee the availability of an academic degree or professional work experience no less than 5 years, except for students representatives.

The *Selection Committee* provided selection procedure and formulated list of NQAA members. Regulation of the Cabinet on NQAA approval (27 December 2018) incl. *NQAA members* list is placed at the Cabinet website (<https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro-zatverdzhennya-skladu-nacionalnogo-agentstva-iz-zabezpechennya-yakosti-vishchoyi-osviti>). **HERE team member** – Iryna ZOLOTARIOVA is selected NQAA member. During the first official meeting of the NQAA members the NQAA Chairman was elected, ex-Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine Sergiy KVIT took this position. In February 2019 **HERE team member** – Mychailo WYNNYCKYJ was appointed on position of the Head of the NQAA' Secretariat – executive body.

12. According to the Law **the Cabinet** of Ministers of Ukraine *within 1 year* from the day of entry into force by this Law in particularly:

to prepare and submit for consideration by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine a proposal regarding bringing laws of Ukraine *in line with* this Law;

to prepare and submit for consideration by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine draft laws about *making amendments to the Tax and Customs Codes of Ukraine* with a goal to exempt of education and research institutions from taxes, payment of customs duties for educational, scientific / research and production equipment and supply that are moved across the customs border of Ukraine for educational and scientific / research goals (*Part XII. CONCLUDING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS*).

13. According to the Law of Higher Education, the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine formed the Scientific and Methodical Commissions (SMCs) in 2016, which developed 236 Higher Education Standards projects by 2020. HEREs provided methodical expertise of 214 projects during 2017-2020 and 135 projects were approved by the Ministry. Established NQAA will providing accreditation taking in account Higher Education Standards according to the Law of Higher Education of Ukraine.

2014-2017

The [Law of Higher Education \(2014\)](#) is in line with Bologna process but *finance autonomy* will remain **limited** until appropriate Draft Law on Amendments to Budget Code will be passed.

The National Bank of Ukraine adopted the Resolution on the *exemption* from the **mandatory** sale of exchange for EU projects that have passed state registration (December 4, 2015, № 863).

Now HEIs *cannot* manage their own revenues (non-governmental funding), *incl. international grants*, that is managed by the State Treasury.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (September 2, 2015, № 719) adopted the Regulation on placing revenues of public HEIs and research institutions on bank accounts (*incl. international grants*) that allow HEIs more flexibility to manage grants.

The Law is compatible with the Bologna Process in general and includes the following key provisions:

- Implementation of *three cycle structure* of Higher Education (Junior Bachelor (*short cycle vs Junior Specialist*), Bachelor – Master – PhD) and plus so called 4th or postdoctoral cycle – Doctor of Science;
- PhD education is provided by structured education and research programs within Aspirantura (similar with *Doctoral School*) at HEI or research institutions, 4 years duration;
- Doctor of Sciences' (postdoctorate) education is provided by Doctorantura of HEI or research institutions (Article 7);
- Determination of correspondence between educational levels, postdoctoral/scientific level (Junior Bachelor – Bachelor – Master – PhD – Doctor of Science) and levels of *National Qualification Framework* (5 – 6 – 7 – 8 – 9);
- Implementation of *ECTS* (determination of education programs scope in terms of ECTS credits) and *Diploma Supplement* (integral part of documents of HE);
- Decrease of *student workload* from 36 to 30 hours in 1 ECTS credit, and decrease of maximum of *teaching workload* from 900 to 600 contact hours per year;
- Development of *academic mobility*, provide maintenance of job place/study place, scholarship/salary in academic mobility period;

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted the Regulation on *academic mobility* ([August 12, 2015, № 579](#));

- University' *academic autonomy* (development new programs *incl.* interdisciplinary, degree awards, *recognition* of degrees/diplomas, etc.), *organizational autonomy* (development of HEI structure, establishment of research and education institutions, innovative productive organizations, clinics, laboratories, etc.), *human resources autonomy* (direct elections of Rectors by secret ballot, personnel arrangements, foreign scholars and academics

employment, tangible reward, etc.) and **financial autonomy** (international grants for research and education could be placed on accounts in public banks and not only in State Treasury, independently command budget *incl.* reallocation between budget items, etc.);

- Establishment of **National Agency on HE Quality Assurance (NQAA)** in the capacity of a public institution; **NQAA** should be established by the Cabinet (*it had to be done till September 6, 2015*). **NQAA** will consist Secretariat for Agency' activity support and Public Council (25 individuals from different stakeholders – academics, students, employers) for making decisions on QA issues (*incl.* accreditation of study programs). According to Article 17 of the Law on Higher Education, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine issued a decree about the establishment of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and approved the rules of this Agency (15 April 2015). The **NQAA** has not yet started its activities in Ukraine;
- The methods for Quality Assurance are defined by the Law on Higher Education. The procedure for issuing the Certificates of Study Programmes Accreditation by **NQAA** should be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;
- According to the Law on Higher Education, the **Higher Education Standard** is a set of requirements for the content and results of the educational activities of the higher education institutions and the research institutes at each higher education level within each programme subject area (there are 114 programme subject areas (detailed fields) of education and training);
- The Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine has formed **Scientific and Methodical Commissions (SMCs)** in March 2016. Each SMC consists of experts in the relevant *program subject area*, which represent HEIs from over Ukraine. The key objective of SMCs is *development of higher education standards* according to the Law of Ukraine on Higher Education. Training sessions were initiated by the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine and performed by Institute of Higher Education, NEO and HERE team with support of British Council and USETI. All in all 430 members of SMC took the trainings on creation of higher education standards in line with new Law and ESG during April 2016;
- SMCs under the Ministry intend to develop higher education standards for each programme subject area (detailed field) taking into account the proposals of sectoral public authorities, industry associations and employers' organizations till September 2016;
- Technical schools and Vocational schools that offer Junior Specialist' programs (ex-level within HE) will be *transfer from Higher Education system* into Vocational Education system during 5 years.

Useful information for the higher education institutions on capacity building to implement reforms, including presentations, publications, videorecordings, translations etc. is placed on the Higher Education Reform Experts Team web-page: <http://erasmusplus.org.ua/erasmus/ka3-pidtrymka-reform/natsionalna-komanda-ekspertiv-here.html>

EDUCATION STRUCTURE IN UKRAINE (NQF revised in 2020, new *Law on Education, 2017, Law on Pre-Tertiary Vocational Education, 2019*)

		LEVELS (DEGREES), education confirming document	PERIOD OF STUDY (years, ECTS credits)	EHEA CYCLES, NQF levels
Higher Education		Doctor of Sciences (Postdoctoral Academic Degree), Diploma	3 years	8 level, NQF
		Doctor of Philosophy, PhD (Academic Degree), Diploma	4 years (30-60 ECTS – education part)	III cycle 8 level, ISCED 2011 8 level, NQF
		Master (Academic Degree), Diploma	90-120 ECTS (300-360 ECTS for program in Medicine, Veterinary, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Pediatrics)	II cycle 7 level, ISCED 2011 7 level, NQF
		Bachelor (Academic Degree), Diploma	180-240 ECTS (Nursing)	I cycle 6 level, ISCED 2011 6 level, NQF
		Junior Bachelor (Academic Degree), Diploma	90-120 ECTS	short cycle 5 level, ISCED 2011 5 level, NQF
Vocational Education and Training - VET	vocational pre-tertiary education	Vocational Junior Bachelor Diploma	120-180 ECTS (based on complete secondary education) 240 ECTS (based on basic secondary education)	Access to higher education 4 level, ISCED 2011 5 level, NQF
	third (upper) level	Junior Specialist Diploma, Certificate	2-3 years (based on complete secondary education) 3-4 years (based on basic secondary education)	Access to higher education 4 level, ISCED 2011 4 level, NQF
	second (basic) level	Certificate	1-1,5 years (based on complete secondary education) 3 years (3-4 based on basic secondary education)	Access to higher education 3 level, ISCED 2011 3 level, NQF
	first (initial) level	Certificate		2 level, NQF
Complete Secondary General Education	Fields-specific secondary education (Upper secondary general education) <i>Under the implementation from 2018</i>	Certificate	2 years (3 years since 2027)	Access to higher education 3 level, ISCED 2011 3 level, NQF
	Basic secondary education (Lower secondary general education)	Certificate	5 years	Access to VET 2 level, ISCED 2011 2 level, NQF
	Primary secondary education		4 years	1 level, ISCED 2011 1 level, NQF
Preschool education			4 years	



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