

HERE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017

“EU AND ITS NEIGHBOURS: HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY AND COOPERATION”

UNDER DISCUSSION IN BRUSSELS

The network of Higher Education Reform Experts (HERE), supported by the SPHERE (Support and Promotion for Higher Education Reform Experts) Consortium, organized its annual Conference in Brussels under the topic “EU and its Neighbours: Higher Education Policy and Cooperation”.

Two members of the EAEC board, Mr. Gregory Makrides, president, and Mr. Carlos Afonso, vice-president, attended the conference with the support of DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), within the framework of their participation as external experts in the STEERING (Support for European Higher Education in Germany) project.



During the intensive two-days Conference (11-12 December), participants had the opportunity to become aware and to discuss the efforts that are being made to enhance cooperation between Erasmus programme countries and partner countries for the successful implementation in the latter of reforms in higher education, namely those connected to the Bologna Process.

This cooperation aims at involving partner countries at European values in higher education, higher education modes of governance, Bologna principles, among others.

The HERE network has had the main responsibility for these efforts, with the active participation of experts from both sides.

The Conference provided also the opportunity for European Commission members, namely EACEA, to present the new initiatives and new strategy for higher education that are under development for implementation in the short term, such as the Erasmus Student Card, or the guidelines of the Sorbonne Convention.

A new and stronger focus on actions especially directed at non-academic staff has been one of the recommendations put forward at the Conference.