



EUG Executive Committee
Yearly report 2019



1. The EMREX User Group (EUG)

The EMREX User Group is formed by organizations in the EMREX network and interested parties to manage the network and to advance the use of EMREX. The abbreviation is EUG.

The purpose of the EMREX User Group is to:

- maintain the EMREX network including architecture and specifications,
- support the uptake of EMREX in new countries and with new services,
- plan and support dissemination activities around EMREX,
- maintain the EMREX policy agreement to be signed by all full members,
- contribute to relevant standardization work, especially around ELMO.

2. The EUG Executive Committee

The Executive Committee can look back at the year 2019 as the first complete working year. The Committee carried out the plans set out in the year plan. The Annual Assembly was held in Trondheim in June. The following were elected as members of the Executive Committee:

- Jan-Joost Norder, DUO, the Netherlands, Chairperson
- Jukka Kohtanen, CSC, Finland,
- Tor Fridell, Ladok, Sweden
- Janina Mincer-Daszkiwicz, UW, Poland
- Geir Vangen, UNIT, Norway

3. Major events during the year

3.1.ELMO supporting Diploma Supplement has been released

Version 1.4 of ELMO has now been released on GitHub:

<https://github.com/emrex-eu/elmo-schemas/releases/tag/v1.4.0>

The new version includes structure for Diploma Supplement data and is based on the results of the workshop in Helsinki in September 2018. This update enables producers of ELMO



Diploma data to add Diploma Supplement information as structural data, in addition to the DS-document itself.

3.2.Croatia is now a full member of the EMREX User Group (EUG)

Croatia has been accepted as a full member to the EMREX User Group (EUG). Croatia is represented by the Agency for Science and Higher Education (ASHE).

3.3.EMREX used for admission by NOKUT

NOKUT (the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education) are looking for solutions where they can automate the verification process of documents received from their applicants. In this context NOKUT have implemented a connection to EMREX into NOKUT's applicant portal. That means that users from countries connected to EMREX can attach their diplomas and transcripts to their application.

3.4.German EMREX pilot

Within the aim of the Bologna Process, German universities goal is to increase international and European study programs and study exchanges. Although German Students are among the most mobile of all large industrial countries, there is still room for improvement. A main reason for this is the lack of digitally supported back office processes within German universities, which leads to slow and inefficient processing times. To solve this problem, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research has initiated the project *platform of international student mobility (PIM)*, which will benefit not only student applicants but also university examination boards and administration offices. The vision of the PIM project is to develop a conceptual and technical framework for a platform that will focus on digitalizing and standardizing back and front office processes within the structures of academic recognition.

3.5.GUnet from Greece workshop with EMREX

GUnet (<https://www.gunet.gr>) is a non-profit organization founded in 2000 by all Greek universities with the mandate to drive the digital innovation in Greek higher education institutions (HEIs). GUnet's mission includes the coordination of initiatives that advance the



eGovernance in education and research, the design and development of application platforms for HEIs, and the delivery of digital services for education that run at national level.

The EMREX workshop in November, held at the GUnet premises in Athens, increased the awareness of the EMREX network within the Greek HEIs. This two-day workshop was the perfect opportunity to bring together the EMREX representatives with development teams and decision makers from the Greek HEIs, and identify opportunities for cooperation and synergies.

4. Outcomes of planned activities 2019

Since funds are limited, the tasks are performed by the members according to their available resources and more could be done on almost every activity. Nevertheless, most of the activities were carried out, in part or completely. The outcomes of all activities are as follows.

4.1.Update the emrex.eu website

The goal for the emrex.eu during 2019 was that it should be updated to reflect EMREX as a production environment. This is completed. Moreover, we now have one main administrator from DOU to maintain the site and material is added on a weekly basis as needed.

4.2.Create general information material

General information material has been produced, some available on the emrex.eu-site and some on the closed pages on Confluence. More is needed so this activity is prolonged to next year (and probably all years to come).

4.3.Send regular newsletters to the members

During the year three newsletters were sent.

4.4.Dissemination

EMREX has been presented at a number of conferences.

Internationally, EMREX had sessions or presentations at

- NUAS Forum, entitled *The digital Workplace – Skills For a Changing World*, Tromsø, Norway, August



- EUNIS, Trondheim, Norway, June
- DigiRec mini conference in Tallinn, Estonia
- EUROPASS, cooperation in data format
- EAIE conference, Helsinki, September
- PIM, german pilote for student data exchange
- eID-forum, Tallin, September 2019
- **DEQAR**-Conference, Madrid, Spain, September (DEQAR is the *Database of External Quality Assurance Results* produced by EQAR-registered quality assurance agencies).
- GUnet-workshop, Athens, Greece, December

In addition, EMREX has been presented at a number of national conferences and meetings.

4.5.New members

The following organisations applied for membership during the year

- Georg-August-University of Göttingen (Full member)
- Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias (Associate member)
- Freie Universität Berlin (Associate member)
- AVOHOKS (Higher education organization in Flanders), (Associate member)