



National Centre for Public
Accreditation

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PUBLIC
ACCREDITATION



This report presents the performance of the National Centre for Public Accreditation in 2021:

- changes in legal and regulatory framework on evaluation of educational quality were analyzed,
- the results of accreditation and international activities of the agency were presented,
- thematic analysis was carried out in the following areas: analysis of reports of external review panels for compliance with the NCPA standards, including analysis of reports with renewed 9 NCPA standards; the results of surveys and questionnaires,
- the results of follow-up procedures carried out by NCPA,
- NCPA in mass media and coverage of issues related to the development and evaluation of education in various media resources.

Currently, one of the key trends in education is digitization and all corresponding innovations, including the development of new educational models and new approaches to ensuring and evaluating the quality of education.

In 2021 NCPA had continued improving the technologies and methods of accreditation, including updating of the NCPA's automated platform, which helped to use it more effectively during the pandemic.

The agency held reviews in various formats: on-site, online and hybrid format. The obtained results were the basis for NCPA's strategic planning and improvement of the internal quality assurance system, which helps to hold high positions in Russia and abroad.

KEY CHANGES IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2021

The coronavirus pandemic introduced changes to all spheres of life, including education. 2021 was replete with educational initiatives and new documents. The project «Priority-2030» was launched, and winners of the project were identified this year. The drafts of regulatory documents on permanent accreditation are being prepared. A new Committee on Science and Higher Education was established.

PRIORITY 2030

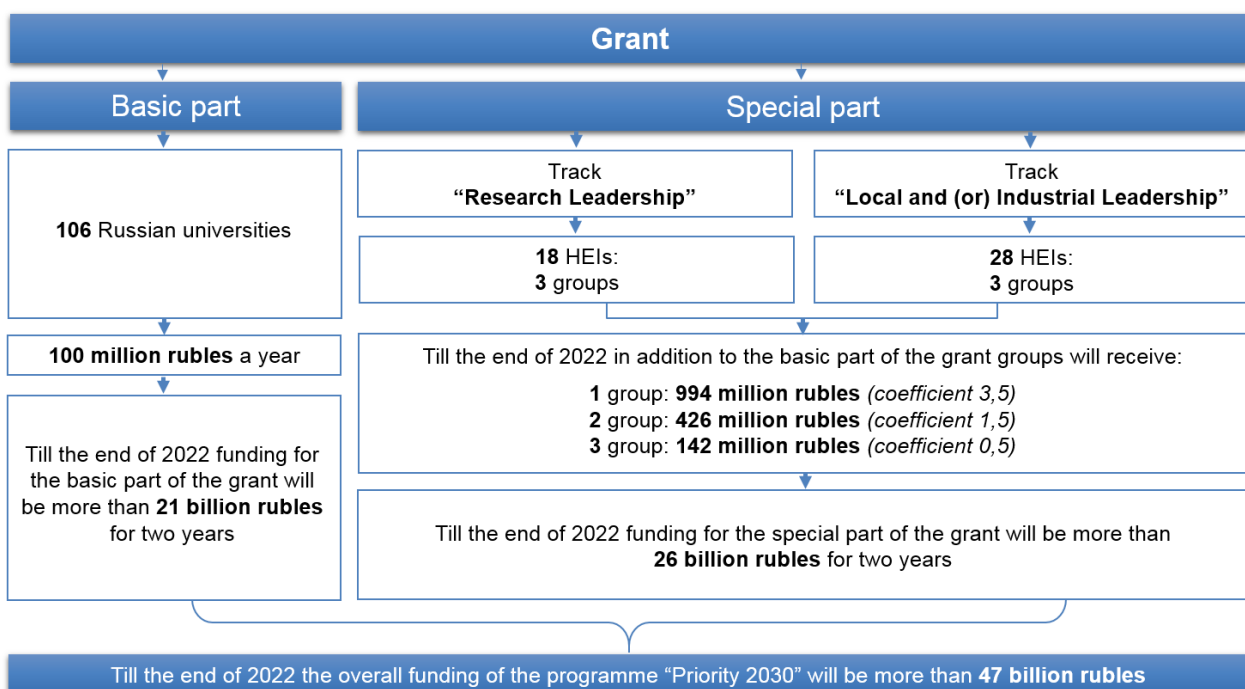
«Priority 2030» is the most significant programme of government support of universities in Russian history.

priority2030[^]
leaders are made, not born

The goal of the programme is to form a large group of universities that will become the leaders in creating new scientific knowledge, technology, and developments for introduction into the economy and social sphere in Russia.

The Commission of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation selected 106 universities from 49 Russian cities. These institutions received the basic part of the grant in the amount of 100 million rubles. More than 60% of HEIs participating in the programme are regional. Only 28 universities are located in Moscow, 11 are in Saint Petersburg. Other 67 HEIs are located in 47 Russian cities.

46 universities from 22 Russian federal districts received the special part of the grant in tracks «Research Leadership» and «Local and Industrial Leadership».



These institutions will receive extra funding in addition to the basic part of the grant till the end of 2022 (from 142 to 994 million rubles depending on the group).



The participating universities will develop the best practices in scientific research, innovation, and education and promote them throughout the system of higher education. They will also improve the image of life and work in Russia and make them more attractive to both local and foreign students and scientists.

These practices will help graduates of Russian universities get the knowledge and skills necessary for their success in today's labor market and in future, in the fast scientific and technological progress.

TRANSFORMATION OF STATE ACCREDITATION

On March 1, 2022 changes to the Federal Law «On Education in the Russian Federation» will come into force, which will impact the procedure of state accreditation of educational activities **Accreditation** of Russian higher education institutions **will be indefinite**.



Federal Law "On Education in the Russian Federation" № 273-ФЗ

Article 92. State accreditation of educational activities

When making a decision on state accreditation the accreditation body issues a certificate on state accreditation. The certificate remains in force indefinitely.
<...>



What HEIs should do if their state accreditation expires from January 1, 2022 till March 1, 2022?

«Since March 1, 2022 accreditation becomes indefinite. At the same time, we have to control educational institutions that receive such preference», S. Kochetova noted during the meeting of the Public Council.

A new model provides for transition from evaluation of educational programmes against standards to evaluation of quality of students' training. In the meantime, performance of the educational institutions will be evaluated on the basis of accreditation indicators.

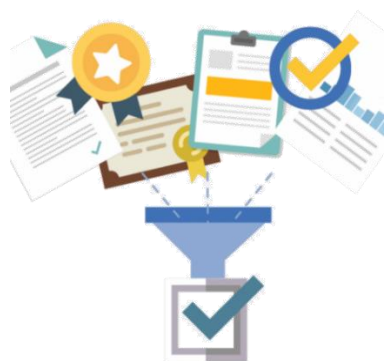
ACCREDITATION INDICATORS

The order of the Russian Ministry of Science and Higher Education №1094 of November 25, 2021 approved accreditation indicators that will be used for state accreditation, accreditation monitoring and federal state control (supervision) in education. The indicators will come into force on March 1, 2022 and will be in effect until September 1, 2024.



Approved accreditation indicators

- 1 The average score of the Unified State Exam and additional creative entrance examinations for full-time students
- 2 Electronic informational and educational environment
- 3 The proportion of students, who successfully completed the educational programme
- 4 The proportion of graduates who fulfilled obligations according to contracts on employer-sponsored education
- 5 The proportion of teachers (full-time) with academic degrees, or state honorary titles, award holders, etc.
- 6 The proportion of practitioners out of the total number of teachers
- 7 The proportion of students, who completed 70% and more of diagnostic tasks from the pool of assessment tools of the educational institution
- 8 The internal system of education quality evaluation
- 9 The proportion of graduates, who obtained employment within a year after graduation



POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

On September 1, 2021 changes in the Federal Law «On Education in the Russian Federation» related to the adjustment of requirements to postgraduate programmes came into effect.



The key changes are the following:

- **postgraduate programmes will have federal state requirements (instead of the Federal State Educational Standards);**
- **state accreditation of postgraduate programmes is cancelled;**
- **final examination will be carried out in the form of assessment of a thesis for its compliance with the criteria developed in correspondence with the Federal Law «On Science and State Research and Technological Policy»;**
- **admission for postgraduate programmes in compliance with the Federal State Educational Standards finishes in 2022/23 academic year.**

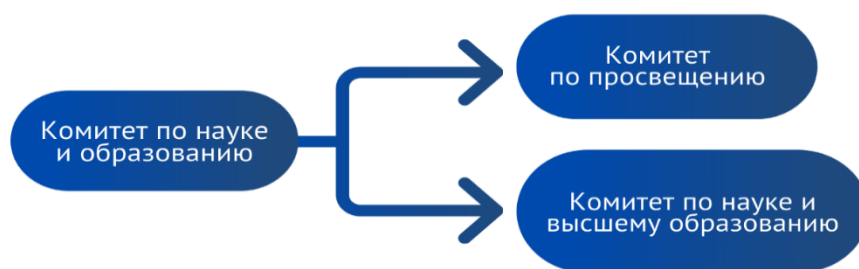
Since the beginning of 2021 academic year there will be no state accreditation of postgraduate studies (postgraduate studies in a military institution), no diplomas for completion of postgraduate studies, because state final examination will be replaced by final examination. Those, who successfully pass final examination, will receive a final statement on compliance of a thesis for a Candidate of Sciences and a certificate on completion of postgraduate studies (postgraduate studies in a military institution).

According to the Federal Law №517-ФЗ, admission for postgraduate programmes in compliance with the Federal State Educational Standards finishes in 2022/23 academic year. Postgraduate students, who were admitted on the programmes developed in compliance with the Federal State Educational Standards, have a right to switch to educational programmes on the basis of the Federal State Requirements.

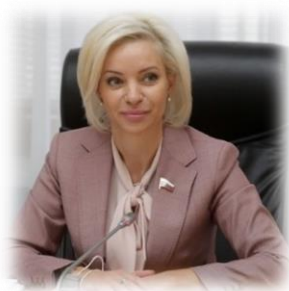
Postgraduate students of the programmes on the basis of the Federal State Requirements will also be considered as students and enjoy all benefits (social benefits: scholarships, financial help, dormitories, draft deferment).

NEW DUMA – THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

On October 12, 2021 the first meeting of the State Duma of VIII convocation was held. The number of Committees in the State Duma has increased from 26 to 32. The Committee on Science and Education was divided into two – **Committee on Education** and **Committee on Science and Higher Education**.



The Committee on Education will work on major challenges that the Russian educational system is facing today.



**Olga Kazakova –
Chair of the Committee
on Education**

The Committee is headed by **Olga Kazakova** – representative of the faction "United Russia", ex-Minister of Culture of the Stavropol Region.

The near-term plans of the Committee on Education are discussion of issues related to major repairs and construction of new educational institutions.

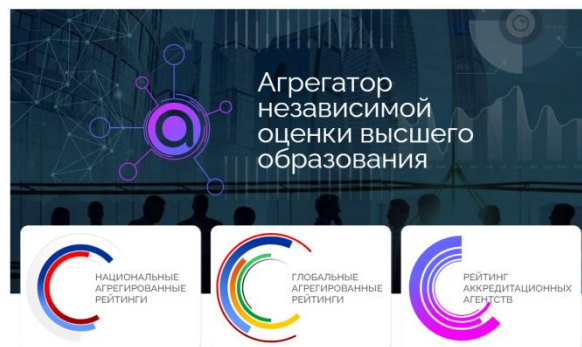


**Sergei Kabyshev –
Chair of the Committee
on Science and Higher
Education**

The Committee on Science and Higher Education is headed by a representative of the faction «A Just Russia – For Truth» **Sergei Kabyshev** – lawyer, Candidate of Jurisprudence, Honored Lawyer of the Russian Federation.

PORTAL «AGGREGATOR OF INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION»

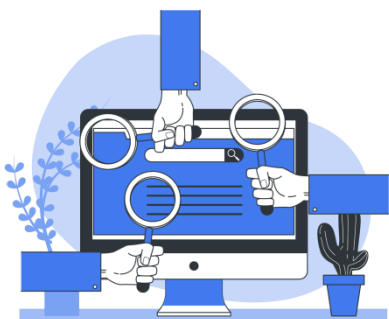
A natural and reasonable step is to unite the results of all significant procedures of independent evaluation of all Russian HEIs on a unified open platform - portal **«Aggregator of independent evaluation of higher education»** - best-edu.ru.



The **Global Aggregated Ranking** 2021 comprises 11 rankings and the European Database of External Quality Assurance Results.

The **National Aggregated Ranking** of Russian HEIs comprises 687 educational institutions. It is a service that helps to provide data on educational institutions, their subordination, region, league arranged by years.

The National Aggregated Ranking by Subjects comprises rankings by subjects of leading Russian agencies, popular world rankings by subjects, Hirsch index ranking by subjects, ranking of the results of education quality evaluation, and ranking of the results of independent evaluation of programmes. An absolutely new product has been presented – 55 rankings by subjects on each integrated group of training areas.



NCPA'S ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD

2021

2 MEETINGS
IN AN ONLINE FORMAT

February 17

273 PROGRAMMES WERE ACCREDITED

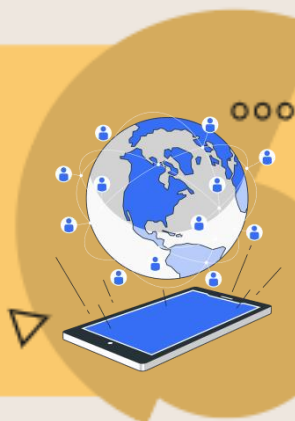
National accreditation – 47
International accreditation – 207
Joint accreditation – 19



July 1

252 EXPERTS

252 experts from 16 countries took part in NCPA's external reviews



ON-SITE AND ONLINE ACCREDITATION

17 HEIs

234 HE programmes
38 postgraduate programmes
1 programme of secondary vocational education

ONLINE ACCREDITATION

www.ncpa.ru

www.аккредитация.рф

In 2021 273 different educational programmes from 17 educational institutions were accredited.

Type of accreditation	Number of programmes
National	47
International	207
Joint	19
Total	273

273 accredited programmes include:

- 234 higher education programmes (Bachelor, Master, Specialist programmes),
- 38 postgraduate programmes;
- 1 programme of secondary vocational education.

252 experts from **16** countries took part in NCPA's external reviews.

Foreign experts – 61
Russian experts – 90
Employers – 50
Students – 51

- Austria – 2
- Belarus – 1
- Bulgaria – 8
- Great Britain – 2
- Hungary – 1
- Germany – 5
- Kazakhstan – 9
- Kyrgyzstan – 5
- China – 2
- Latvia – 2
- Lithuania – 11
- Poland – 1
- Romania – 5
- Slovenia – 1
- Czech Republic – 3
- Estonia – 3



In 2021 the National Accreditation Board made 273 positive decisions, which include:

- **higher education programmes** – 230 programmes for a full term; 4 programmes for a reduced term;
- **postgraduate programmes** – 38 programmes for a full term;
- **programmes of secondary vocational education** – 1 programme for a full term.

JOINT INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATIONS 2021

In 2021 NCPA carried out 2 joint international accreditations.

On May 18-20, 2021 a joint international external review of the educational programmes delivered by N. Isanov Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transport and Architecture was held for the first time in Kyrgyzstan. The review was jointly conducted with the Independent Accreditation Agency "Bilim-Standard".



On November 9-11, 2021 a joint external review of the educational programmes "Applied Mathematics and Computer Science", "Mechanics and Mathematical Modeling" delivered by National Research Tomsk State University was held. The review was jointly conducted with the Higher Education Evaluation Centre of the Ministry of Education, HEEC (China).

A joint external review is conducted by Russia and Kyrgyzstan for the first time. The joint evaluation involved huge preparatory work on agreement of standards and criteria. The work of the Panel was coordinated by representatives of two agencies.

Joint accreditation promotes the development of educational programmes and an educational institution on the whole. Programmes are given an opportunity to check quality at the international level and receive recommendations of highly qualified foreign experts. Most significantly, the results of such a review are approved by the certificates on joint accreditation of two countries.



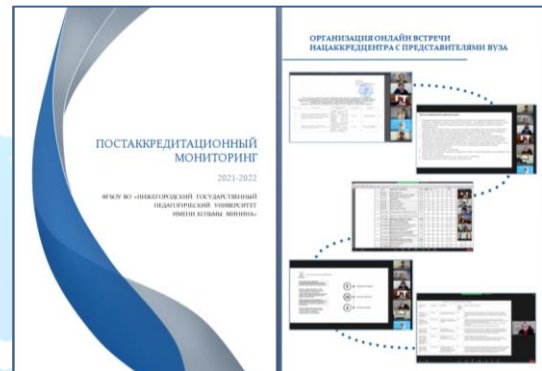
FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES

The National Centre for Public Accreditation carries out follow-up monitoring on a regular basis. It is an international practice that is carried out to monitor fulfillment of recommendations given by external review panels for enhancement of educational programmes in compliance with the criteria of public accreditation.

During follow-up procedures the educational institution prepares an Action plan for quality enhancement on the basis of recommendations of the external review panel, where it identifies the activities, deadlines, people responsible for these activities and the level of fulfillment.

The educational institution presents information on fulfillment of recommendations of the external review panel for the educational programme or the cluster of educational programmes for the whole period since it receives a certificate of accreditation; the institution also gives information on all changes in training in compliance with the accreditation standards and criteria.

The National Centre for Public Accreditation holds a meeting with representatives of the educational institution online on the basis of the ZOOM platform according to the schedule of follow-up procedures.



Отчет о выполнении обязательств перед аккредитацией ФГОС ВО - НПО им. К.М.Вороши
 ЕИ. Статус
 14 декабря 2021

ПОСТАККРЕДИТАЦИОННЫЙ МОНИТОРИНГ

План мероприятий и отчет по исполнению и совершенствованию качества в рамках реалитаций внешних экспертных комиссий аккредитационных программ по направлениям подготовки (Планами учебной подготовки (ПАУП)), утвержденным Комиссией образовательных организаций высшего образования (ОАО ВУЗ), территориальным профессиональным управлением «Централизованное управление образования», «Централизованное управление высшего образования» Минобрнауки России (ЦУВО) и Национальным центром аккредитации и мониторинга качества образования (НЦАМО).

№	Рекомендации ЦК	Мероприятия по исполнению рекомендаций	Сроки исполнения	Специальные мероприятия	Действ. выполняются/не выполняются
1	Удовлетворить требования по организации учебной подготовки на образовательной территории вуза, на образовательной территории вуза, на образовательной территории вуза, на образовательной территории вуза.	1. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки. 2. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки. 3. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки. 4. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки.	2021-2022	Планирование мероприятий по исполнению рекомендаций.	Выполняются.
2	Удовлетворить требования по обеспечению качества учебной подготовки на образовательной территории вуза, на образовательной территории вуза, на образовательной территории вуза, на образовательной территории вуза.	1. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки. 2. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки. 3. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки. 4. Анализ качества учебной подготовки по направлениям подготовки.	2021-2022	Планирование мероприятий по исполнению рекомендаций.	Выполняются.
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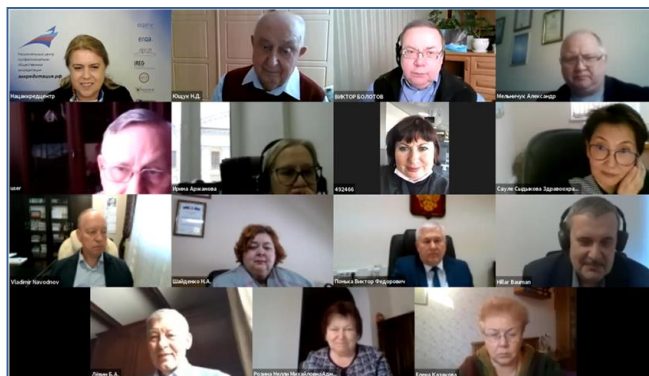
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MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD 2021

In 2021 2 meetings of the National Accreditation Board were held online:

Meeting of February 17, 2021

On February 17, 2021 an online meeting of the National Accreditation Board chaired by Viktor Bolotov, Academician of the Russian Academy of Education, was held.

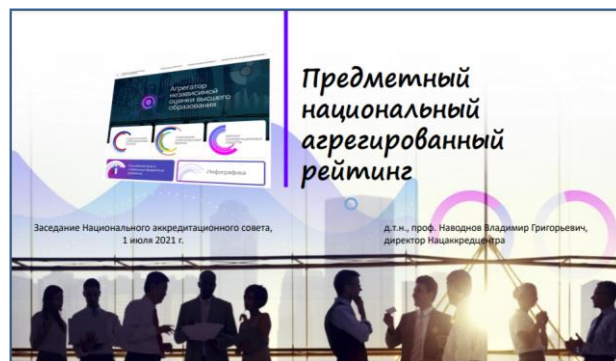


During the meeting accreditation decisions of 37 educational programmes from 5 educational institutions were made:

- international accreditation of 7 educational programmes delivered by Privolzhsky Research Medical University and 3 educational programmes delivered by Derzhavin Tambov State University;
 - international accreditation of 7 educational programmes delivered by Altai State University and 4 educational programmes delivered by Rubtsovskiy Institute (branch) of Altai State University;
 - public accreditation of 13 educational programmes delivered by Stolypin Omsk State Agrarian University; 3 educational programmes delivered by Krasnoyarsk State Agrarian University.
-

Meeting of July 1, 2021

On July 1, 2021 an online meeting of the National Accreditation Board chaired by Viktor Bolotov, Academician of the Russian Academy of Education, was held.



During the meeting accreditation decisions of 236 educational programmes from 12 educational institutions were held:

- international accreditation of 19 educational programmes delivered by N. Isanov Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transport and Architecture together with the Independent Accreditation Agency «Bilim-Standard» (Kyrgyz Republic);
- international accreditation of 17 educational programmes delivered by M.I. Glinka Novosibirsk State Conservatoire; 6 educational programmes delivered by I.P. Pavlov Ryazan State Medical University; 11 educational programmes delivered by Novosibirsk State Technical University; 25 educational programmes delivered by Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University; 7 educational programmes delivered by Altai State Institute of Culture; 31 educational programmes delivered by Ural State Agrarian University; 74 educational programmes delivered by Russian State Agrarian University - Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy; 6 educational programmes delivered by Bonch-Bruевич Saint Petersburg State University of Telecommunications; 9 educational programmes delivered by Ufa State Petroleum Technological University;
- public accreditation of 26 educational programmes delivered by Dmitry Mendeleev University of Chemical Technology of Russia; 5 educational programmes delivered by Altai State Institute of Culture.

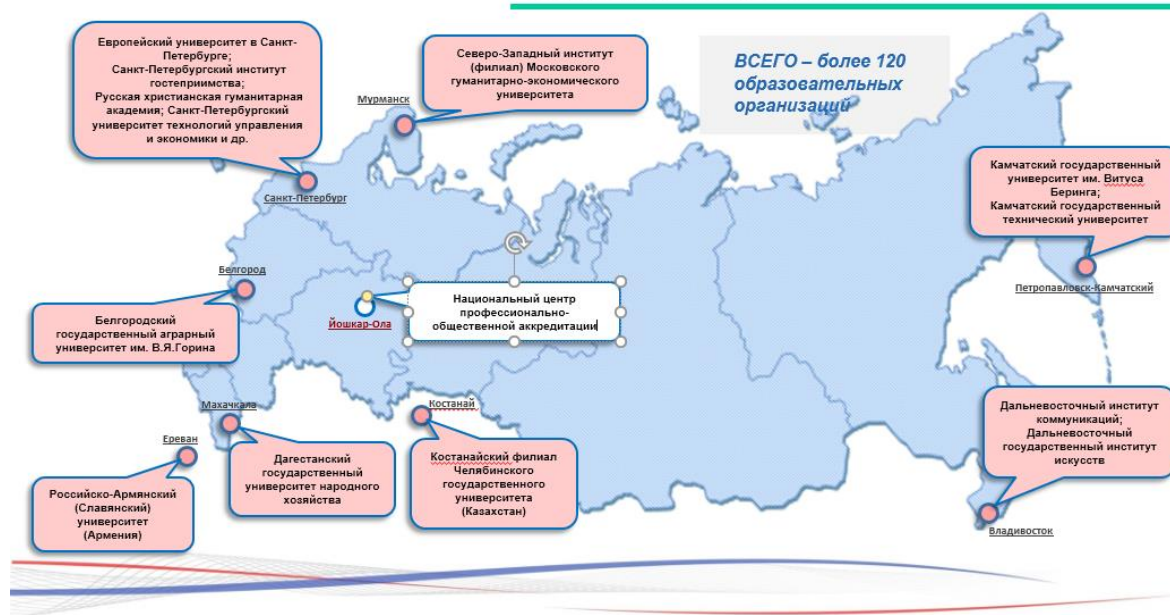
Besides, the National Aggregated Ranking by Subjects was presented during the meeting.

TRAINING OF EXPERTS

In 2021 the National Centre for Public Accreditation held 6 events devoted to the issues of education quality evaluation and development of public accreditation.

On May 13 – 14, 2021 a training webinar was held for educational institutions on changes in the regulatory framework related to admission for higher education programmes; specific features of admission of foreign citizens in 2021; websites of educational institutions and use of various tools to support HEIs in evaluation procedures.

География участников вебинара

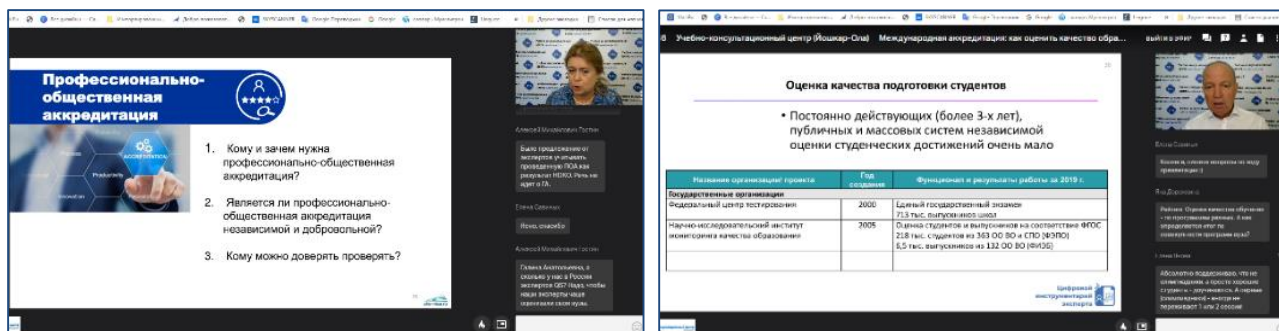


On June 23 – July 7, 2021 a series of webinars «International Accreditation: How to Evaluate Education Quality Against International Standards» was held.

More than 150 participants from 130 organizations took part in the event.

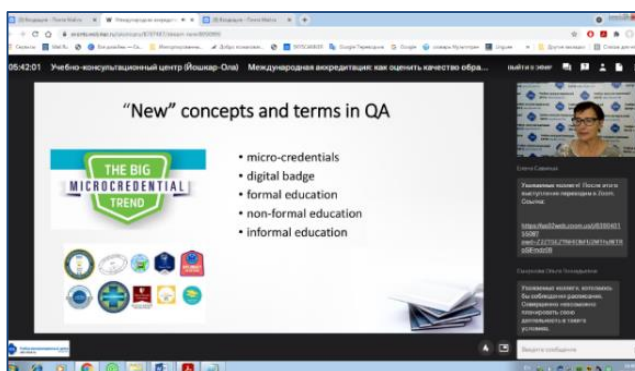


Vladimir Navodnov, NCPA Director, and Galina Motova, NCPA Deputy Director, covered issues related to the changes in legislation in higher education, quality evaluation of students' training, international standards of education quality assurance, digital tools of an expert.



Petr Korotkov, Head of the Accreditation Office, and Oksana Matveeva, Deputy Head of the Accreditation Office, delivered the presentation «NCPA's International Accreditation: New Technologies, Digital Tools for Experts and HEIs, Changes in Standards».

Vera Chepurnykh, Head of the International Relations Office, delivered the presentation in English «Understanding Quality Assurance Terminology».



Guest speakers also took part in the webinar and delivered the following presentations:

- Use of the official website of a HEI as a key source for public information (N. Tiurina, Head of the Department of Projects in Education and Social Sphere, International News Agency «Rossiia Segodnia», member of the National Accreditation Board);
- Internationalization of higher education: European context (O. Oleinikova, Director of the National Office Erasmus+ in Russia);
- Modernization of legislation in higher education in terms of the mechanism of a «regulatory guillotine» (S. Iankevich, Deputy Dean for Academic Affairs, Faculty of Law, Higher School of Economics, Head of the Laboratory for Education Law, Institute of Education, Higher School of Economics).

Certain presentations were devoted to the review of higher education quality, in particular, to practical recommendations of Russian and European experts:



SAULE SYDYKOVA

Candidate of Medicine, Associate Professor

First Vice-Rector, member of the Board of the Astana Medical University (Kazakhstan); member of the Expert Board on Medical Education, Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (Kazakhstan)

Topic:
«Expert Evaluation: Art of Asking Questions of Participants of Meetings»



ELENA KAMENSKAIA

Doctor of Business Administration, Visiting professor of Philosophy, University of Salzburg, University of Vienna

Researcher, Institute of Scientific Theory, International Research Centre (Salzburg), consultant on higher education, Department of International Relations and Projects (Austria); consultant on modernization of higher education, international expert of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA)

Topic:
«ESG as landmarks of higher education quality: internal and external evaluation (practical recommendations of an expert)»



TATIANA RUDENKO

Candidate of Pedagogy

Director of the Centre of International and Public Accreditation of Educational Programmes at Tomsk State University

Topic:
«International Accreditation: Advantages and Disadvantages of the Procedure and Each Step»



ELENA KHOKHLOVA

Candidate of Pedagogy, Associate Professor

Vice-Rector for Education Quality, Russian State Agrarian University - Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy

Topic:
«How to Use European Standards of Quality for the Internal Quality System in a Russian HEI»



INNARA GUSEINOVA

Doctor of Philology, Associate Professor

Vice-Rector for Project Activities and Youth Policy, Moscow State Linguistic University

Topic:
«Peculiarities of Cross-Border Work of an Expert in Terms of International Accreditation»



MILAN POL

Professor of Pedagogy

Dean of the Faculty of Art, Masaryk University (Czech Republic), member of the Accreditation Commission of Slovakia (2010-2016), expert of the European Commission, ENQA expert

Topic:
«International Accreditation: Advantages and Disadvantages of the Procedure and Each Step»



On October 26 – 28, 2021 a webinar «How higher education will be changed in 2021-2022 academic year» for 104 participants was held.

Vladimir Navodnov, NCPA Director, and Galina Motova, NCPA Deputy Director, covered issues related to the changes in the higher education system: new requirements to the delivery of postgraduate programmes; international accreditation as a new trend to improve competitiveness and education quality.

On December 1, 2021 NCPA held an open online presentation for various stakeholders devoted to development of accreditation in Russia, peculiarities and advantages of international and joint accreditation of educational programmes.

TRAINING OF STUDENTS

On December 3, 2021 an online seminar «Under the Quality Label» was held together with the Russian Student Union as part of the Russian School on Education Quality Evaluation.



Galina Motova, NCPA Deputy Director, gave a presentation «The role of students and student organizations in evaluation of education quality». 48 students from different Russian regions took part in the seminar.

During the seminar the participants discussed issues of the difference of a student's role in education and its evaluation in Russia and abroad, the best foreign practices of participation of student organizations in evaluation procedures (university, regional, national and international levels), students' participation in activities of the National Centre for Public Accreditation.

On December 16-19, 2021 the Russian Student Union held the Russian school on evaluation of education quality «Under the Quality Label» in Sheregesh (Kemerovo region). More than 50 students from different Russian regions took part in the event.



During three days open lectures, workshops and trainings were held, where experts in evaluation of education quality were involved. The National Centre for Public Accreditation was represented by Oksana Matveeva, Deputy Head of the Accreditation Office.



She made a presentation «The role of students in quality management and evaluation» and held a workshop on the technology of evaluation of educational programmes.



The students became familiar with the best foreign and national practices of involving students in evaluation procedures, discussed the differences between the roles of students in education and evaluation of its quality, involvement of student unions in evaluation procedures, learned the NCPA technology, dealt with cases and played the role of experts.

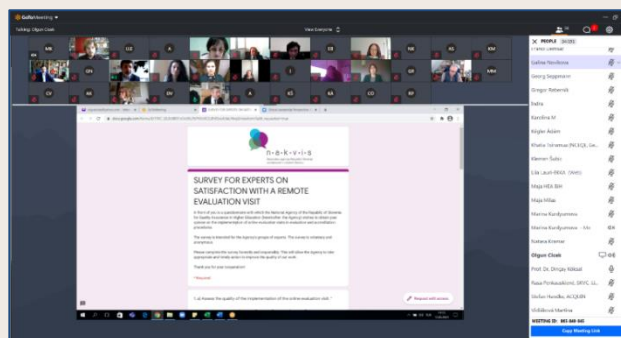
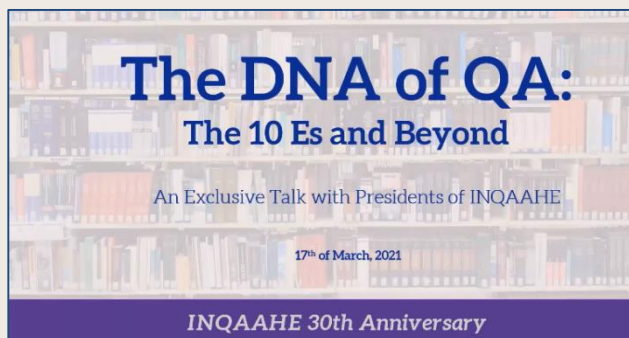
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

On January 19, 2021 an online bi-monthly meeting of the Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CEENQA) was held. More than 40 representatives of quality assurance agencies (CEENQA members) took part in the event.



On March 17, 2021 a panel discussion with the Presidents of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQA/AHE) was held remotely. The event was dedicated to the 30th anniversary of INQA/AHE. The participants discussed the main changes in quality assurance of education, current issues and development prospects.

On March 17, 2021 a bi-monthly meeting of members of the Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CEENQA) was held. The aim of the meeting is to discuss current and important issues in quality assurance of higher education. More than 30 representatives of quality assurance agencies – CEENQA members – attended the meeting.



On March 18, 2021 the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) together with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA, UK) held a webinar «Protecting and promoting academic integrity: How quality assurance agencies can take action». More than 40 representatives of quality assurance agencies – members of ENQA – took part in the webinar.



On April 22, 2021 the ENQA General Assembly was held, where new Board members and a new President were elected. The event, held in an online format, was attended by 109 participants from 49 countries of the European Higher Education Area.

On July 13, 2021 a progress visit of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education was held online. The staff presented the progress made by NCPA in relation to fulfillment of recommendations of the ENQA External Review Panel.

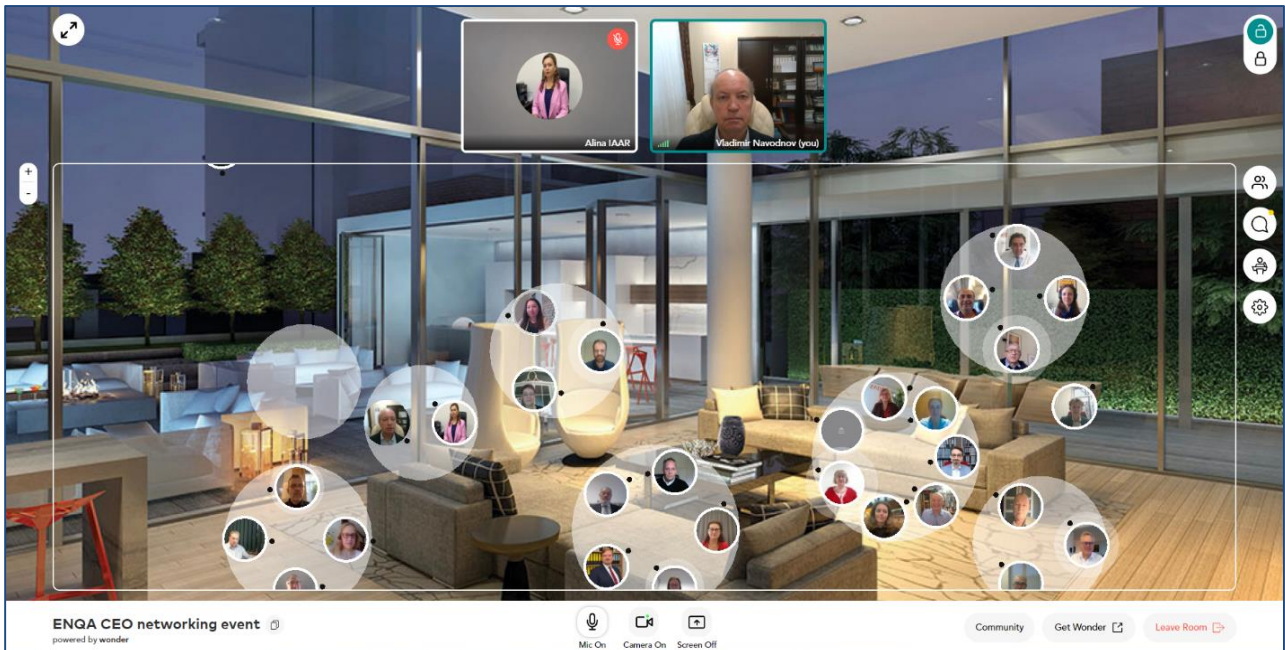


On October 1-2, 2021 the V Central Asian International Forum «Higher Education Quality Assurance: Global Trends and Regional Aspects» was held. It was dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), the Republic of Kazakhstan. The annual Forum is aimed at discussing modern approaches to the development of the quality assurance system, accreditation and ranking research, and extending cooperation with international organizations and agencies.

A promotional banner for the IAAR 10th anniversary forum. The background is light blue with a stylized world map in shades of blue and green. In the top left corner, a dark blue banner contains the text "IAAR is a driver of quality assurance" in white. In the top right corner, the IAAR logo is displayed, featuring the number "10" and the letters "IAAR" around a globe. The main text in the center is in Russian: "V ЦЕНТРАЛЬНО-АЗИАТСКИЙ МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ ФОРУМ «Обеспечение качества высшего образования: мировые тенденции и региональные аспекты» посвященный 10-летию IAAR". Below this, the dates "1-2 октября 2021" and the location "Республика Казахстан, г. Нур-Султан" are listed, along with the website "www.iaar.agency".



On October 6, 2021 the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR) held a webinar, where it presented the results of research about the issues that quality assurance agencies face during the process of registration in the Register. More than 100 participants took part in the webinar.



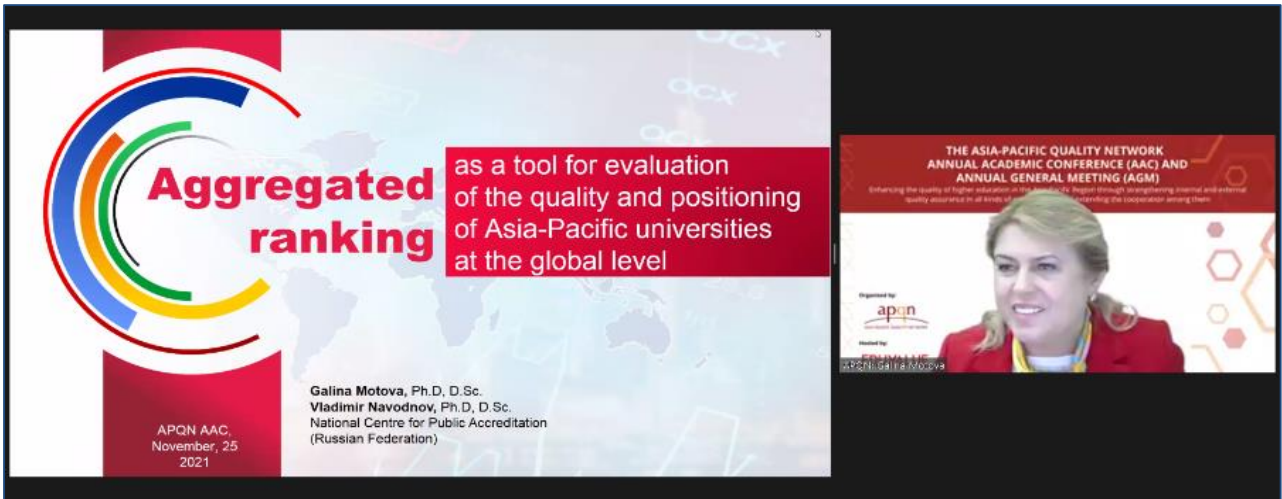
On October 20, 2021 an online meeting of heads of quality assurance agencies – ENQA members – was held. During the meeting the participants discussed modern problems in quality assurance and their solutions.

On October 21-22, 2021 the General Assembly of the European Association for Quality Assurance (ENQA) was held, as well as webinars on the changes in quality assurance in the post-Covid era and changes in approaches of agencies to external review of education quality. The participants were representatives of quality assurance agencies, higher education institutions and students.





On October 28, 2021 an ENQA webinar on changes to agencies reviews was held. During this webinar ENQA presented the key changes to the guidelines and the new methodology for targeted reviews, and EQAR shared information on the registration process.



On November 25, 2021 the APQN Academic Conference and Annual General Meeting was held. This year the topic of the conference was devoted to the challenges, which educational institutions and accreditation agencies from different countries faced during the pandemic. The conference and the Annual General Meeting were held remotely and united 200 participants from 45 countries of the Asia-Pacific region.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL GRANTS AND PROJECTS

In 2021 the National Centre for Public Accreditation continued its participation in the international educational project. The project is carried out from January 15, 2020 till January 14, 2023.



SAGRIS – «Enhancement of Postgraduate Studies on Sustainable Agriculture and Future Farming Systems».

The project addresses the demand of educating doctoral students on high quality and international standards to increase knowledge based solutions for sustainable agriculture and future farming systems – a topic of national, cross-regional and international relevance.



On February 4, 2021 a meeting of the Steering Committee of the SAGRIS project was held. During the meeting the management team have summoned up the outcomes achieved after the first year of project implementation. Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions most planned meetings and events were conducted online, and consortium of the project achieved the

results set for the 1st year of the project even in given circumstances.

This year the participants started to develop educational materials for courses/modules, as well as strategies for long-term development of third-cycle education in partner universities. Project participants as well as postgraduate/doctoral students from partner universities took part in training internships, and pilot implementation of the developed modules.





On October 28, 2021 the 9th meeting of the Steering Committee of the SAGRIS project was held online. NCPA was represented by Galina Motova, Deputy Director, and Marina Kurdiuova, Manager of the International relations Office.



On December 10, 2021 NCPA participated in the international forum "Prospects of postgraduate education in agricultural universities of Russia and Kazakhstan on the way to integration into the international scientific community" organized in the framework of ERASMUS+ project "Enhancement of postgraduate studies in the sphere of sustainable agriculture and future farming systems" (SAGRIS).

During the forum sessions the partners discussed the issues related to improving the quality and competitiveness of postgraduate programmes at agricultural universities, focused on good practices, challenges and prospects of postgraduate education.

Galina Motova, NCPA's Deputy Director, made a presentation entitled "External quality evaluation of education as a mechanism of quality assurance and competitiveness of educational programmes at agricultural universities" with thematic analysis of the results of public accreditation carried out by NCPA at agricultural universities.



DEQAR CONNECT – “Enhancing the Coverage and Connectivity of QA in the EHEA through DEQAR”

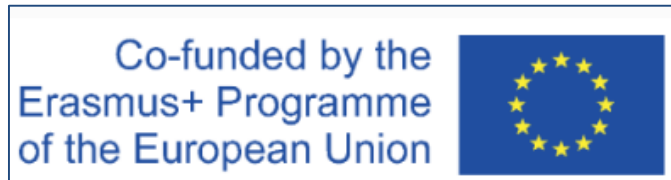
Duration - February 1, 2020 – January 31, 2022.

At the beginning of 2020 NCPA joined the consortium of the DEQAR CONNECT project.

DEQAR is a database of higher education institutions and programmes accredited by agencies recognized at the European level. The main aim of DEQAR is to widely inform public about accreditation agencies and their decisions at international, European and national levels.

As of January 12, 2022 the DEQAR database comprises 72 653 reports of 3 087 higher education institutions.

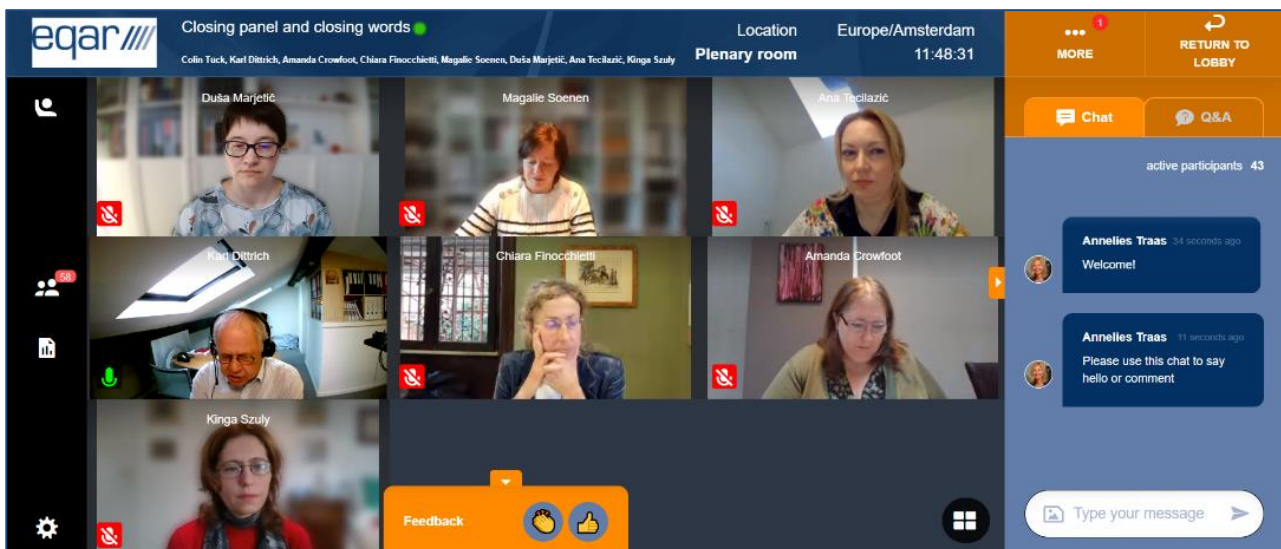
DEQAR CONNECT project is coordinated by EQAR and is financially supported by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.



The main goal of DEQAR CONNECT is to expand coverage to EHEA countries currently under-represented in DEQAR. The partners of the project are 16 accreditation agencies from the European Higher Education Area.

Russia is represented by the National Centre for Public Accreditation.

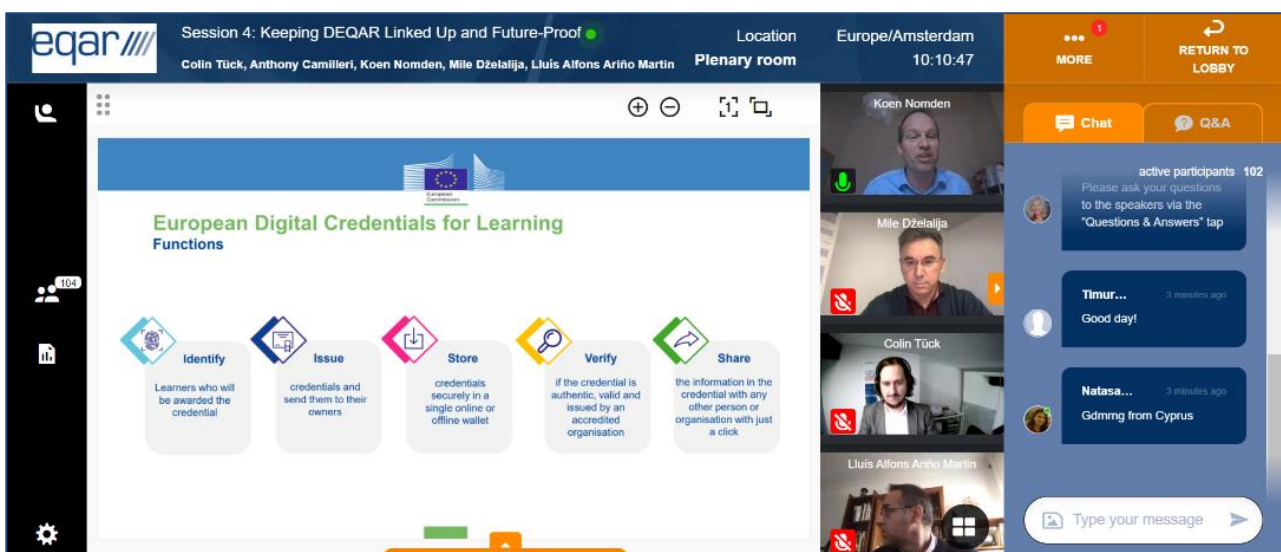
Since the beginning, all meetings are held online.



On December 6-7, 2021 a conference "From Data to Policy – Linking Quality Assurance and Recognition" was held as part of the project DEQAR CONNECT. The conference gathered 182 participants: representatives of ministries of education, quality assurance agencies, members of ENIC-NARIC and experts in quality assurance policy in higher education in the EHEA.

The conference was devoted to the issues of integrating the Database of External Quality Assurance Results (DEQAR) in automatic recognition, and connecting DEQAR to the European ecosystems for digital credentials.

The main conclusion of the conference was that development of the DEQAR database is great success. The participants highly evaluated the importance of this project; stakeholders and experts are certain that the database is useful and valuable. It was also noted that DEQAR is essential for automatic recognition of qualifications.



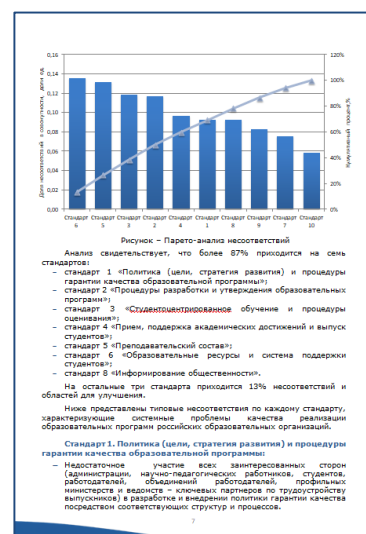
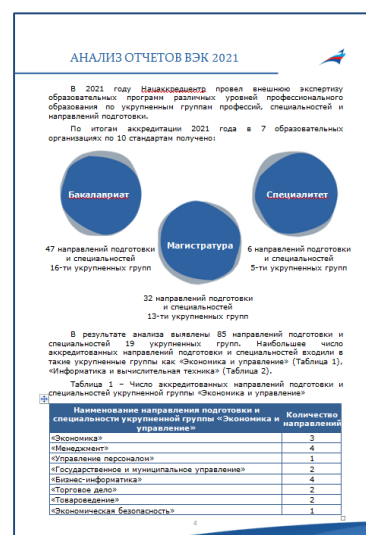
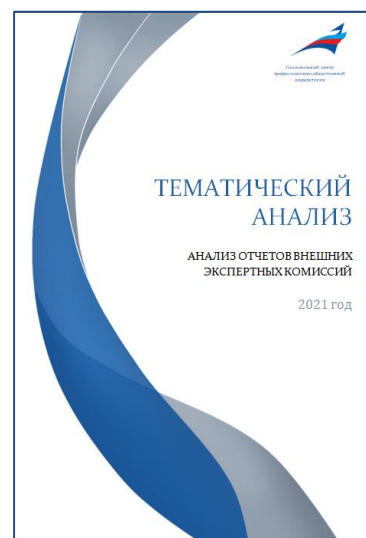
THEMATIC ANALYSIS

Every year NCPA carries out thematic analysis in various fields.

Thematic analysis can be used to analyze the majority of qualitative data, including performance of focus-groups, research, reports, reviews, etc.

Thematic analysis is an element of the internal quality assurance system of NCPA. The results of analysis of the ERP reports are used by the agency in order to further improve methods and accreditation activities; they can also be used by various stakeholders.

The goal of this thematic analysis is systematization, analysis of recommendations and comments from the reports on external reviews, public information about the results of this analysis. Systematic analysis contributes to quality enhancement of performance of the agency and educational institutions. Besides, this analysis can be used by the agency in training of experts and enhancement of external review procedures.



ANALYSIS OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF REVIEW PANELS FOLLOWING THE RESULTS OF NCPA ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES IN 2021

In 2021 NCPA analyzed 50 reports of external review panels. The agency analyzed and summarised recommendations of external review panels about good practice and noncompliance of educational programmes accredited by the National Centre for Public Accreditation.

One of the valuable advantages of NCPA's public accreditation is that after accreditation procedures HEIs get recommendations of experts for further improvement of quality and efficiency of the educational programmes.

The following typical recommendations of experts were defined following the analysis of reports of external review panels in 2021:

Development of the University website and promotion of educational programmes

- In order to enhance information of students about the educational programmes, it is recommended that the University should publish description (annotations) of courses and disciplines, information about formative and summative assessment, employment of graduates.
- The University should improve the structure and content of the official website for external stakeholders - applicants, graduates and employers (partners). The same is applicable to information about graduates' employability and its relevance.
- The University should improve its website in English.
- The educational institution should structure websites of its subdivisions in compliance with the University website (unify, simplify and remove duplication of information).



Student-centred learning

- The educational institution should support student mobility; establish the environment that contributes to improvement of language proficiency of students (English and, if desired, other languages).
- The University should pay attention to students' initiatives concerning enhancement of the educational programmes.
- The University should involve students in academic mobility on a regular or long-term basis through participation in international conferences and symposiums, and short-term internships in other educational and research organizations.



International activities and academic mobility

- The educational institution should extend the forms of students' participation in mobility programmes and increase the number of students involved in these programmes; inform students more about mobility programmes; cooperate with more countries for participation in mobility programmes.
- The University should develop mechanisms of involvement of foreign specialists and teachers in the educational process, research schools, conducting research, serving internships and sharing experiences.
- The University should develop all necessary regulatory documents concerning the procedure of awarding Diploma Supplement to all students; develop a technology of awarding Diploma Supplement and inform students about this possibility.



Internal quality assurance system

- The University should involve more graduates, who have professional work experience, in processes and procedures of the internal quality assurance system.
- The University should regularly hold internal examinations of retained knowledge, analyze the results and take them into account in the programme for education quality enhancement.

Teaching staff:

- The University should promote teachers more to publish subject-specific articles concerning the disciplines they teach and educational programmes that they deliver.
- The University should develop a system for improvement of skills of the teaching staff in methodology and pedagogy; teachers should regularly enhance their qualification concerning teaching methods, use of modern interactive and digital educational technologies in the educational process. Use of such practices by other teachers will contribute to quality enhancement of the educational process.
- The teachers, who deliver academic courses and carry out research, should publish more the results of their research in peer-reviewed journals and journals in foreign languages in order to make them available for the international community.

Involvement of stakeholders

- The University should extend the set of stakeholders involved in quality evaluation and enhancement of the University development strategy (especially, graduates and employers).
- The University should design more specific feedback survey forms on its website and publish the results of their analysis and proposed changes for discussion.
- The University should extend, structure and document methods of collecting feedback from students, teachers and employers on issues related to organization of the educational process.

Research activities of students

- The University should involve students in research and enhance publication activities, including foreign journals.

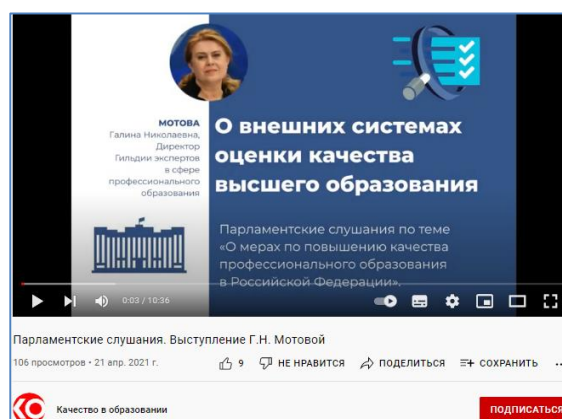
PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOUT EDUCATION QUALITY EVALUATION

NCPA informs the public about the results of accreditation procedures and achievements in evaluation and quality assurance of education through its website www.ncpa.ru (www.аккредитация.рф), e-bulletin «Vestnik Akkreditacii», annual reports, open pages «Quality in Education» in Telegram, Facebook, YouTube channel.

Besides, NCPA carries out analysis of its activities, covers key events concerning the issues of accreditation evaluation procedures in higher education through publications in Russian and foreign printed and electronic journals.

On April 16 parliamentary hearings «**On Measures for Quality Improvement of Higher Education in the Russian Federation**» organized by the Committee on Education and Science were held in the State Duma.

NCPA was represented by Galina Motova, Deputy Director. In her presentation «**On external systems of evaluation of quality of higher education**» she suggested to introduce three key statements in the Recommendations of participants of the Parliamentary Hearings:

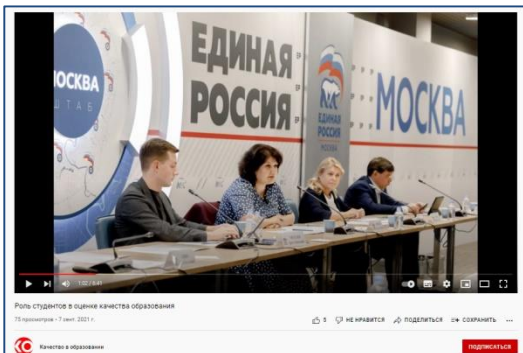


1) it is necessary to not only consider but take into account high achievements of a HEI in recognized national and global rankings and current international accreditation in state accreditation and monitoring procedures.

2) it is necessary to promote HEIs to participate in quality evaluation on national and international levels (HEIs are primarily responsible for education quality. External independent systems of evaluation should be established to allow HEIs to demonstrate quality of students' training).

3) it is necessary to support internationally recognized Russian organizations on quality evaluation that promote Russian HEIs globally.

The Recommendations based on the results of the hearings will be given.



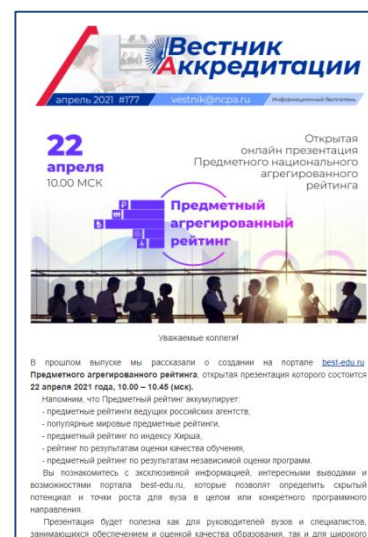
On September 2, 2021 a panel discussion «The Role of Students in Education Quality Evaluation» was held in the Office for Public Support of the party «Yedinaya Rossiya» (United Russia). The participants discussed international and national practices on taking into account opinions of students in quality evaluation of higher education, key barriers in the implementation of the models of independent evaluation of education quality, and involvement of students in this process to develop solutions on changing the approach to education quality evaluation in Russian HEIs.

G. Motova, NCPA Deputy Director, made a presentation at the event.

In 2021 13 editions of the newsletter «Vestnik Akkreditacii» were published. The publication covers all significant activities in higher education and accreditation: publication of new documents, journals, conference and events in Russia and abroad.

In 2021 «Vestnik Akkreditacii» covered the following issues:

- publication of the National Aggregated Ranking by Subjects;
- changes in higher education, approval of new regulatory documents, orders, decrees of the Government, etc.;
- launch of a new support programme for universities «Priority-2030»;
- launch of the Aggregator of independent evaluation of higher education quality;
- changes in employer-sponsored education and list of entrance examinations for applicants; an opportunity for students to undergo work placement in organizations of self-employed entrepreneurs;
- national and international activities concerning independent evaluation of education quality.



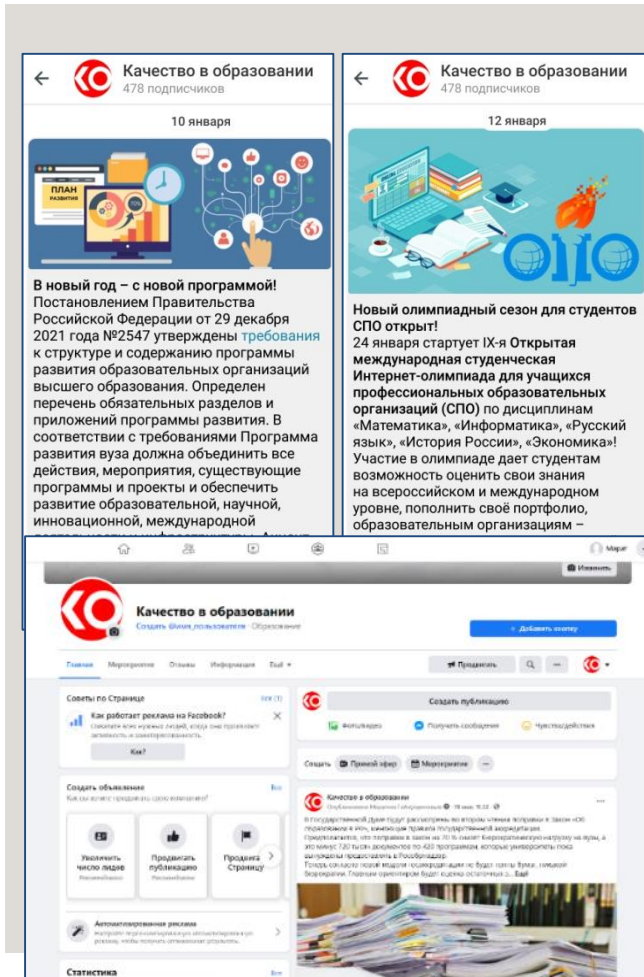
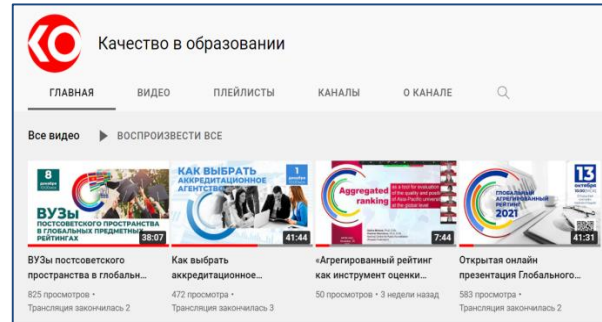
NCPA IN MASS MEDIA

In 2021 NCPA significantly improved its positions in covering issues related to the development and evaluation of education in various media resoucrs. Accounts in various social media and messengers under a brand «Quality in Education» were created; it contributed to consistent and comprehensive operation in the Russian media space.



The YouTube channel represents important news and announcement of advanced technologies in education quality management.

There are 26 video, 189 subscribers, and 20 980 views.



In 2021 the Telegram-channel «Quality in Education» published 27 posts. There are 454 subscribers.



Promotion in social media is carried out. Facebook news feed covers key events in higher education.

Information about national and international activities related to independent evaluation of education quality is regularly renewed. Subscribers have an opportunity to learn changes in the sphere of higher education, monitor approval of new regulatory documents, orders, decrees of the Russian Government that regulate performance of educational institutions.

In 2021 NCPA published 7 articles in Russian and foreign journals.



2021

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Аносова Н.А., Аносова А.О. Влияние ограничительных мер в условиях пандемии на качество образовательного процесса в колледже // Новые технологии оценки качества образования: сборник материалов XVI общероссийского Форума Гильдии экспертов в сфере профессионального образования/ под общей редакцией д.п.н. Г.Н. Мотовой. – М.: Гильдия экспертов в сфере профессионального образования, 2021. – С. 54–57

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Наводнов В.Г. О независимой оценке высшего образования // Аккредитация в образовании, 2021.- № 1(125). – С. 20-25.

Advertisements in journals

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