



**ACPUA**

AGENCIA DE CALIDAD Y PROSPECTIVA  
UNIVERSITARIA DE ARAGÓN

# Activity Report 2022

*[Approved by the ACPUA Governing Board at its meeting of 23 March 2023].*



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## MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

### MISSION

ACPUA's mission is to guarantee and promote the quality of the University System of Aragon. This mission includes both the development of useful links between the university, the socio-productive fabric, the institutional decision-making bodies and Aragonese society as a whole, and the promotion of the exchange of experiences, not only with other national and international university systems, but also with other educational levels (secondary education, vocational training, etc.).

To achieve this mission, ACPUA mainly carries out technical tasks of evaluation, certification and accreditation. This public service activity is complemented by research and foresight work and activities to promote a culture of quality in higher education in the region.

### VISION

ACPUA aims to be an agile and efficient agency; one that will become essential in the territory due to the seriousness and operability of its service activity. Providing the added value of quality assurance, we will be an indispensable reference for all institutions and agents with educational responsibilities in the region.

We aspire to become, outside Aragon, a qualified agency and a recognised interlocutor in the European area of university quality and evaluation.

In order to achieve this vision, ACPUA must be governed in all its procedures and actions by European standards and guidelines (ESG). With transparency, independence of judgement and commitment to accountability, we support reflection, continuous improvement and creativity.

### VALUES

- Independence, autonomy and objectivity.
- Social accountability and transparency by ensuring public access to reliable, timely, clear and accurate information.
- The establishment of internal and external quality assurance mechanisms for the continuous improvement of processes to ensure their effectiveness and efficiency.
- The development of relations with all stakeholders (university, administration, business world, Aragonese society) through the promotion of dialogue to ensure their satisfaction.
- The promotion of student participation in the Agency's activity and quality assurance processes.

- Cooperation with national and international higher education agencies and networks.
- Commitment to a job well done by the Agency's staff and its collaborators, associated with professionalism and honesty.
- Teamwork, based on respect and collaboration to achieve the best working environment.

## MAP OF PROCESSES

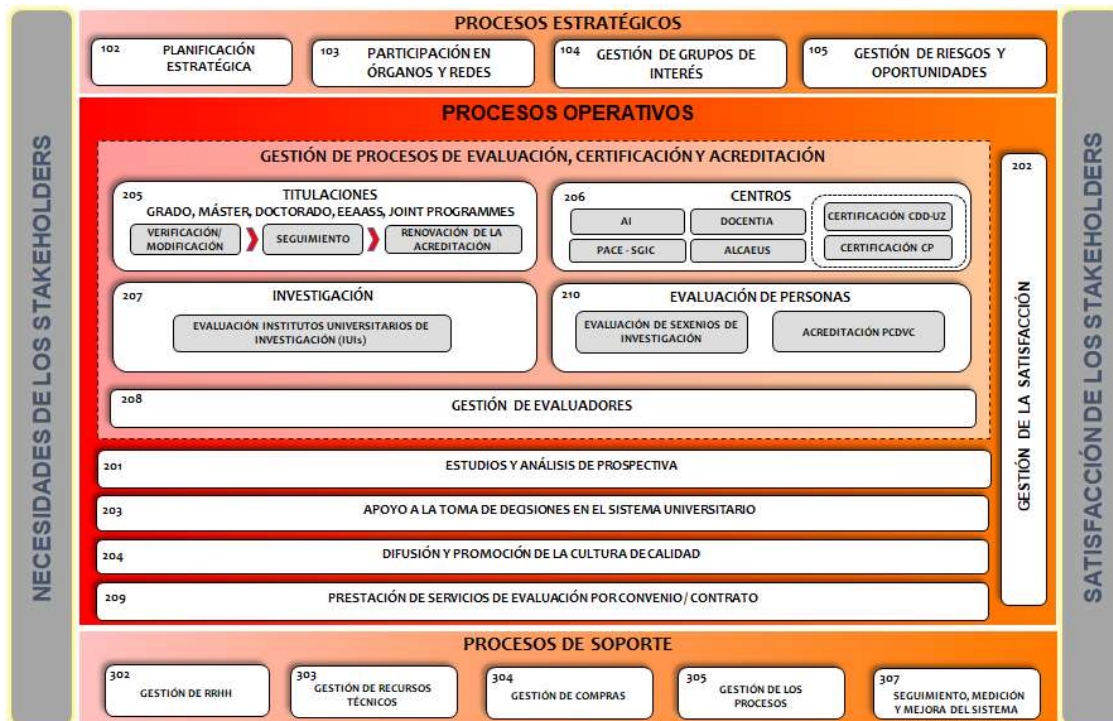


Table 1 Process map of the ACPUA.

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2022

Line No.	Strategic line	Annual target 2019	Annual target 2020	Annual target 2021	Annual target 2022
L1	INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION AND ITS IMPACT ON UNIVERSITY QUALITY ASSURANCE	Promoting Institutional Accreditation in Universities and Higher Education Institutions s Aragonese	Promoting Institutional Accreditation in Aragonese Universities	Advancing in the Institutional Accreditation of the University System of Aragon	Advancing in the Institutional Accreditation of the University System of Aragon
		Promoting evaluation programmes teacher	Promote teacher evaluation programmes	Consolidate teaching evaluation programmes	Consolidate teaching evaluation programmes
		Develop institutional reaccreditation protocol	Develop institutional monitoring and re-accreditation protocols	Approve institutional monitoring and re-accreditation protocols	Adapt the institutional monitoring and reaccreditation protocols to the new legislation
L2	CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF TEACHING EVALUATION PROCESSES	Complying with degree evaluation processes	Complying with degree evaluation processes	Complying with degree evaluation processes	Comply with evaluation processes of qualifications
				Update assessment protocols to adapt them to new developments (COVID-19 impact).	Adapting assessment protocols to new legislation
					Have an action plan in place to deal with recommendations of ENQA
L3	SYSTEMATISATION OF THE R&D&I EVALUATION ACTIVITY	Reflect on those aspects of the Science Act that could be developed by the Agency	Reflect on those aspects of the Science Act that can be developed by the Agency.	Reflecting on the evaluative challenges of R&D&I in Aragon	Reflect on challenges and improvements in the evaluation of the Humanities
		Comply with evaluation processes assigned	Comply with assigned evaluation processes	Comply with assigned evaluation processes	Comply with evaluation processes assigned
		Develop the accreditation protocol of PCDVC	Develop and validate PCDVC accreditation protocol	Launch PCDVC accreditation assessment	Consolidate PCDVC accreditation assessment



Line No.	Strategic Ine	Annual target 2019	Annual target 2020	Annual target 2021	Annual target 2022
L4	FORESIGHT: DRIVING EXCELLENCE, STRATEGIC EVALUATIONS AND ANALYSIS THEMATICS	Develop studies on the insertion of alumni	Developing graduate integration studies	Systematise and disseminate thematic analyses on quality and employability in the SUA.	Systematise and disseminate thematic analyses on quality and employability in the SUA.
		Promoting thematic analysis about the SUA	Promoting thematic analysis of the SUA		
			Boosting excellence and strategic evaluations	Visibilising the excellence of the SUA and its comparability with other systems	Visibilising the excellence of the SUA and its comparability with other systems
L5	DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF QUALITY	Define indicators for sustainability assessment in the HEIs	Development of a programme to evaluate the implementation of the 2030 agenda in the SUA.	Implementing the ALCAEUS Programme	Consolidating the ALCAEUS Programme
		Incorporate equality criteria in evaluation processes.	Promoting the principle of equality and respect for sexual diversity	Apply across the board the principle of real (effective, material) equality of opportunity between women and men.	Apply the principle of real (effective, material) equality of opportunity between women and men across the board in evaluation guides. men
				Contribute to the effective respect for the sexual diversity of all persons in the SUA centres	Launch an ACPUA seal of respect for diversity
L6	OPENNESS TO STAKEHOLDERS	Increase stakeholder participation in all Agency processes.	Increase stakeholder participation in all Agency committees and processes.	Strengthen stakeholder participation in all committees and processes of the company. Agency	Ensure active stakeholder participation in all Agency committees and processes.
			Providing information and responding to the expectations of the Aragonese society.	Providing information and responding to the expectations of the Aragonese society	Providing information and responding to the expectations of the Aragonese society
				Establish a stable channel of communication with SUA students in order to know their needs and expectations (impact COVID-19).	Strengthen communication with the SUA student body.
					Analysing teaching needs and expectations (COVID Impact)

Line No.	Strategic line	Annual target 2019	Annual target 2020	Annual target 2021	Annual target 2022
L7	INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE AGENCY AND OPENING UP TO OTHER SPACES AND CENTRES	Increasing the ACPUA's participation in the international sphere	Increasing the ACPUA's participation in the international sphere	Strengthen the ACPUA's participation in European and international projects.	Develop the international participation of the ACPUA by enhancing its involvement and prestige in the EHEA and in other regions and networks. global
		Increasing ACPUA participation outside the SUA	Increase the ACPUA's projection at national level.	Strengthen the ACPUA's projection and exchanges at the national level.	Continue to collaborate and increase the exchange of information and knowledge. ACPUA at national level
L7 +1	ADAPTING THE AGENCY'S STRUCTURE TO THE NEW TRENDS OF THE EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA SUPERIOR	Strengthening the Agency's structure	Strengthening the agency structure	Strengthening the agency structure	Strengthen the agency's structure, based on ENQA recommendations on ESG 3.5/ 3.6

Table 2 ACPUA Strategic Plan 2019-2022

## 1. EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

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Most of the evaluation activities carried out by the ACPUA in 2022 can be broken down into two large blocks. The first of these comprises all the activities associated with the evaluation of official university degrees, i.e. Bachelor's and Master's syllabuses and Doctoral Programmes, which were carried out in accordance with Royal Decree 822/2021, of 28 September, which establishes the organisation of university education and the procedure for quality assurance. The second of these encompasses all certification and accreditation activities, together with other programmes carried out on university centres, activities carried out in accordance with Royal Decree 640/2021, of 27 July, on the creation, recognition and authorisation of universities and university centres, and institutional accreditation of university centres.

In addition, during 2022 the ACPUA also carried out evaluation activities on individuals, as well as on other research structures that form part of the Aragonese R&D&I system or of other systems outside the Aragonese system.

### 1.1. Qualifications

University studies leading to official degrees awarded by the universities are structured in three cycles, called Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate respectively, in accordance with the provisions of Article 37 of Organic Law 6/2001, of 21 December, on Universities.

In order to ensure the quality of university studies, official university degrees shall be subject to external assessment procedures in accordance with the *European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance of Higher Education (ESG)*, in accordance with the provisions of Title V of Organic Law 6/2001, of 21 December, and in accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 822/2021, of 28 September, and Royal Decree 99/2011, of 28 January, which regulates official doctoral studies. To this end, the universities shall be jointly responsible for quality assurance by developing their internal quality assurance systems and promoting a culture of quality among the university community.

The quality assurance procedures, which involve all the syllabuses of official university degrees, are those of verification, monitoring and modification, as well as the renewal of degree accreditation. To this end, the quality assurance agencies jointly establish the quality assessment protocols that underpin them.

Verification is the first step in the creation of a new degree, and firstly requires the universities to draw up a verification report containing the degree project, so that verification basically consists of the approval of the verification report and therefore of the degree project presented by the university. With this ex-ante assessment, the assessment agencies

They let the universities know that their degree project is appropriate, that the project contains a coherent curriculum and that the resources with which the degree will be endowed appear to be adequate. Once the quality assurance agencies have issued a favourable report (and the implementation of the degree has been authorised by the regional government), this document becomes the "contract" that the universities sign with society and becomes the reference document for subsequent evaluations. It is in this process that the justification, the appropriateness of the degree, the syllabus, the learning outcomes to be achieved and the material and human resources to be made available for the degree are approved.

Subsequently, in the monitoring and accreditation renewal evaluations, the people who make up the degree evaluation panels analyse whether there are deviations from the verified report, propose recommendations for improvement and/or highlight good practices in an overall process of continuous quality improvement, so it is very important that the report is well thought out and that the evaluation carried out on it in the verification process is very rigorous.

### 1.1.1. Verification and modification of curricula and doctoral programmes

The activity of verification of study plans -Graduate or Master- and Doctoral Programmes carried out by the ACPUA is always an open activity, which attends to all the requests that arrive from the Council of Universities once the university initiates the procedure, adjusting to the deadlines and procedures established in the Order IUU/969/2017, of 23 June, which regulates the procedure for the implementation, monitoring, modification, renewal of accreditation and suppression of official university studies in the Autonomous Community of Aragon.

In addition, the verification procedure is regulated in article 26 of Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes and in article 10 of Royal Decree 99/2011 of 28 January for doctoral programmes. Modification procedures, which may or may not be substantial and which may or may not take place in institutionally accredited centres, are regulated in articles 30 to 33 of Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September for Bachelor's and Master's degree syllabuses and article 10 of Royal Decree 99/2011 of 28 January for doctoral programmes.

To carry out these activities, the ACPUA, like other Spanish evaluation agencies, uses the VSA (Verification-Monitoring-Accreditation) platform, which is the computer tool that ANECA uses for the evaluation of the official courses taught by universities, with the limitations that this entails for the agency.

Finally, and once the Agency's use of collaborative ICT tools had been consolidated, which made it possible during 2020 and 2021 to maintain the Agency's activity despite the pandemic situation generated by COVID-19, during 2022, **the ACPUA carried out all these activities of verification and modification of curricula.**

**in a virtual way** according to the "Guía ACPUA de Actuación para las Visitas Virtuales<sup>1</sup> " approved by the CECA on 30 October 2020, taking into account all the recommendations, standards, clarifications and information that for the evaluation in times of pandemic were established by the Spanish Network of University Quality Agencies (REACU) or from Brussels by ENQA and EQAR, as well as the requirements established in the Resolution of 6 April 2021, of the General Secretariat for Universities, approving recommendations in relation to the assessment criteria and standards for the verification, modification, monitoring and renewal of the accreditation of official university Bachelor's and Master's degrees offered in virtual and hybrid teaching modalities. This way of working has enabled the Agency to make teamwork more profitable while at the same time helping to reduce costs by avoiding travel and helping to reduce the carbon footprint generated by its activity.

The aforementioned regulations establish different deadlines for carrying out the activities associated with the verification and modification of degrees (depending on the process and whether or not they are taught at institutionally accredited centres), which mean that depending on when the university initiates the procedure, it may begin one year and end the following year. Having made the above observation, the following table shows the official degrees whose application for verification or modification was received by the ACPUA in 2022.

Procedure	Level	Institution	Qualification
Verification	Grade	University of San Jorge	Graduate o Graduate at Engineering from from Cybersecurity
Verification	Grade	University of San Jorge	Graduate in Biomedical Engineering
Verification	Grade	University of San Jorge	Graduate in Artificial Intelligence
Verification	Master's degree	University of San Jorge	Master's Degree in Prosthetics and Orthotics
Verification	Master's degree	University of San Jorge	Specialised Professional Translation
Verification	Grade	University of San Jorge	Graduate in Criminology from the University San Jorge
Modification	Grade	University of San Jorge	Graduate in Bioinformatics by the University of San Jorge
Modification	PhD	University of Zaragoza	Doctoral Programme in Health and Sports Sciences

*Table 3 Procedures for the verification and modification of curricula.*

<sup>1</sup> [https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/201030\\_guia\\_acpua\\_visitas\\_virtuales.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/201030_guia_acpua_visitas_virtuales.pdf)

In addition to carrying out the verification processes for new degrees, and continuing the work undertaken in coordination with the other agencies within REACU, the following protocols were approved in 2022 in accordance with Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September:

- a) Assessment protocol for the verification of syllabuses of university studies leading to the award of official Bachelor's and Master's degrees (approved at the REACU meeting of 13 January 2022).
- b) Evaluation protocol for the modification of syllabuses of university courses leading to the award of official Bachelor's and Master's degrees (approved at the REACU meeting of 17 January 2022).
- c) Assessment protocol for the verification and modification of official doctoral programmes (Approved at the REACU meeting of 3 February 2022).
- d) Guidelines and orientations for the elaboration and evaluation of the modifications of the curricula for the adaptation of the assignment to the fields of knowledge of the official university Bachelor's and Master's degrees (approved at the REACU meeting of 27 May 2022).

Accordingly, the ECSC adopted

- a) The guidelines for the evaluation of teaching modalities at the meeting held on 11 July 2022.
- b) The document entitled "Verification - Instructions for completing the sections of the report and for its assessment", at the meeting held on 11 July 2022, which was reviewed by the Qualifications Assessment Subcommittee on 14 October 2022.
- c) The protocol for the Verification of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at a meeting held on 22 November 2022.
- d) The protocol for the Modification of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at a meeting held on 22 November 2022.
- e) The protocol for the Verification of Doctoral Programmes at a meeting held on 22 November 2022.
- f) The protocol for the Modification of Doctoral Programmes at the meeting held on 22 November 2022.

In order to monitor the evolution of the documentation, regular meetings have been held with the management teams of the universities, mainly with the Vice-rectorate for Academic Policy at the University of Zaragoza and the Vice-rectorate for Academic Policy and Teaching Staff at the University of San Jorge.

### 1.1.2. Follow-up of degrees

The regulations governing this procedure are set out in articles 28 and 29 of Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes and in article 10 of Royal Decree 99/2011 of 28 January for Doctoral Programmes.

The entry into force of Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September in October 2021 led the ACPUA, in coordination with the other agencies within REACU, to approve the following evaluation protocols:

- a) Evaluation protocol for the monitoring and renewal of the accreditation of official university Bachelor's and Master's degrees (approved at the REACU meeting of 2 March 2022).
- b) Assessment protocol for the monitoring and renewal of the accreditation of doctoral programmes leading to the award of the official degree of Doctor (approved at the REACU meeting of 2 March 2022).

As a consequence, the ECSC adopted

- a) The monitoring programme - procedure for the monitoring of Bachelor's and Master's degrees (non-institutionally accredited centres) at the meeting of 11 July 2022.

The Monitoring Committee (SC), created in 2020, is the committee in charge of monitoring all the processes, both in programme evaluation and in the evaluation of teaching and research centres and institutions. The reports it generates are submitted to the corresponding Evaluation Subcommittee, either the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Degrees (SET) or the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres (SEC).

RD 822/2021 establishes that non-institutionally accredited institutions shall draw up at least one follow-up report, which is mandatory three years after the effective implementation or renewal of the accreditation of their degrees.

In the Aragon University System, all degrees are monitored annually by the IACS of the centres. These reports are made available to the ACPUA every year.

Given the change in the frequency of accreditation renewal processes for master's degrees from 4 to 6 years, and the fact that the centres with the largest number of degrees within the UZ and all the centres of the USJ are institutionally accredited, there were no degrees to be monitored in 2022.

### 1.1.3. Renewal of Accreditation

The renewal of accreditation is another quality assurance procedure that basically consists of monitoring the development of the syllabus of the official university degree with the aim of assessing compliance with the fundamental academic criteria and approaches set out in the syllabus report (verified report). Articles 34 and 35 of Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September regulate this procedure.

Until 2021, the accreditation renewal activities were usually carried out during two campaigns (1<sup>er</sup> and 2nd semester of the year) in accordance with the annual planning established by the corresponding Order issued by the department responsible for universities in accordance with the provisions of article 13 of Order IJU 969/2017, of 23 June. However, during the year 2022, with Royal Decree 822/2021, of 28 September, being already in force, the accreditation renewal activity is also open since, in accordance with the provisions of Article 34.3 of Royal Decree 822/2021, of 28 September, in the case of degrees taught in non-institutionally accredited university centres, the start of the procedure, "...the university shall apply to the Council of Universities...", while in the case of degrees taught in institutionally accredited university centres, Article 35 of Royal Decree 822/2021, of 28 September, renewal is automatic as long as the centre maintains institutional accreditation.

Having made the above observation, the following table lists the official degrees whose application for renewal of accreditation was received by the ACPUA in 2022.

Institution	Centre	Level	Qualification
University of San Jorge	Higher School of Business Management and Marketing (ESIC)	Grade	Graduate o Graduate in Marketing
University of Zaragoza	Doctoral School	PhD	PhD Programme in Logistics and Supply Chain Management Supply
University of Zaragoza	Faculty of Human Sciences and Education, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences and Faculty of Education	Grade	Graduate o Graduate in Early Childhood Education
University of Zaragoza	Faculty of Humanities and Education, Faculty of Sciences Social and Humanities and Faculty of Education	Grade	Graduate in Primary Education Teaching Degree

*Table 4 Procedure for the renewal of degree accreditation.*

As in the case of the procedures for the verification and modification of Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral programmes, the accreditation renewal processes were carried out virtually, with the exception of those cases in which the degree was undergoing this assessment process for the first time, as in the case of the Bachelor's Degree in Marketing. In this case, the visit was carried out in a mixed format, i.e. one day in person with a visit to the centre where the degree programme is taught and another day in virtual mode.

In addition, within REACU, the following protocols were approved during 2022 in accordance with Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September, which came into force in October 2021:

- a) Evaluation protocol for the monitoring and renewal of the accreditation of official university Bachelor's and Master's degrees (approved at the REACU meeting of 2 March 2022).



- b) Assessment protocol for the monitoring and renewal of the accreditation of doctoral programmes leading to the award of the official degree of Doctor (approved at the REACU meeting of 2 March 2022).

Subsequently, the ECSC adopted

- a) ACPUA Accreditation Renewal Programme - Protocol for the Assessment of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees (at the meeting held on 11 July 2022).
- b) ACPUA Accreditation Renewal Programme - Protocol for the Evaluation of Doctoral Programmes (at meeting held on 11 July 2022).

#### 1.1.4. Recognition of artistic education

Royal Decree 1614/2009, of 26 October, which establishes the organisation of higher artistic education regulated by Organic Law 2/2006, of 3 May, on Education, aims to develop the structure and basic aspects of the organisation of higher artistic education, in accordance with the provisions of Article 58 of Organic Law 2/2006, of 3 May, and in accordance with the general lines emanating from the European Higher Education Area.

Article 19 of Royal Decree 1614/2009, of 26 October, establishes that the education authorities shall promote systems and procedures for the periodic internal and external evaluation of the quality of these courses. The basic reference criteria will be those defined and regulated in the context of the European Higher Education Area. To this end, the assessment bodies determined by the education authorities, within the scope of their competences, shall design and implement the corresponding internal and external assessment plans in collaboration with the higher education institutions.

In Aragon, the ACPUA is the agency responsible for the evaluation of Master's degrees submitted:

- a) The Conservatory of Music of Aragon (CSMA).
- b) The School of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage (ESCYRA).
- c) The Escuela Superior de Diseño de Aragón (ESDA).
- d) HAC\_R, Centro Superior de Diseño de Zaragoza (Higher Private Authorised Centre for Fashion Design).

so that, as Master's degrees in artistic education are not subject to pre-established names and basic contents, they have to undergo a system of ex-ante evaluation called "homologation".

During the year 2022, none of the aforementioned entities initiated a procedure related to the evaluation for the recognition of a Master's degree programme.

### 1.1.5. Abolition of official university education

Article 14 of Order IUU/969/2017, of 23 June, which regulates the procedure for the implementation, monitoring, modification, renewal of accreditation and suppression of official university courses in the Autonomous Community of Aragon establishes that the application for the suppression of official university courses at the request of a university shall not be subject to submission deadlines and shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of article 4, Once the application has been received, the Directorate General responsible for universities will require a mandatory report from the ACPUA in which the reasons for the suppression and the adoption of measures to guarantee the academic rights of the students will be assessed.

During 2022 the ACPUA received a request for a report on the suppression of the Master's Degree in Advanced Studies on Language, Communication and its Pathologies from the University of A Coruña; the University of Salamanca; the University of Santiago de Compostela and the University of Zaragoza.

## 1.2. Centres

### 1.2.1. Certification of the Centres' IQAS Implementation

After being legally introduced in Spain in 2015 (Royal Decree 420/2015 of 29 May), 2018 was finally the year in which the new institutional accreditation model was effectively implemented. The publication of the Resolution of 7 March 2018 of the General Secretariat for Universities, which issued the instructions on the procedure for the institutional accreditation of public and private university centres, enabled the procedure to be put into practice. Therefore, the ACPUA designed and approved in 2019 the PACE - SIGC Programme for the certification of the implementation of the internal quality assurance systems of university centres.

In 2021 a new regulation was published in this area, Royal Decree 640/2021, of 27 July, on the creation, recognition and authorisation of universities and university centres, and institutional accreditation of university centres, which, in its single repealing provision, abolishes the previous Decree with the exception of the second and third final provisions.

The application of the ACPUA PACE - SIGC Programme to a centre of the Aragonese university system can be requested at any time of the year by the university concerned.

At the end of 2022, the application was received for the **certification of the Internal Quality Assurance System, according to the PACE-SIGC Programme of the ACPUA**, from the Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Zaragoza, a process that will be completed in 2023.

The following link to the ACPUA website contains information on PACE-SIGC certified centres <https://acpua.aragon.es/es/acreditacion-institucional>.

In relation to this programme, the initiative of the University of Zaragoza to train its staff as "internal auditors of the PACE programme" stands out. To this end, the university, through its Vice-rectorate for Academic Policy, published a call for applications on 15 February, calling for PAS and PDI staff with training and experience.

in quality and in the PACE programme, as well as experience in centre and degree quality commissions. The vice-rectorate invited the ACPUA to participate in the activity "**Training session for auditors of the PACE programme**" addressed to the staff of the stock exchange.

### 1.2.2. Institutional Accreditation

After being legally introduced in Spain in 2015 (R.D. 420/2015), 2018 was finally the year in which the new institutional accreditation model was effectively implemented. The publication of the Resolution of 7 March 2018 of the General Secretariat for Universities, which issued the instructions on the procedure for the institutional accreditation of public and private university centres, enabled the procedure to be put into practice.

In developing and improving its evaluation protocols and activities, the ACPUA pursues effective interaction with national and international networks committed to new trends in the quality assurance of university education. In relation to the evaluation of centres, the ACPUA has been actively participating in the activities, meetings, work and projects of the Spanish network of quality agencies REACU with the aim of improving and perfecting the institutional accreditation model. Proof of this is that the ACPUA is one of the agencies that make up Working Group 4 on Institutional Accreditation, which was formed within REACU in 2019.

In 2021, a new regulation on this matter was published, Royal Decree 640/2021, of 27 July, on the creation, recognition and authorisation of universities and university centres, and institutional accreditation of university centres, which, in its single repealing provision, abolishes the previous Decree with the exception of the second and third final provisions.

This was followed by the Resolution of 3 March 2022 of the General Secretariat for Universities, which issued instructions on the procedure for the institutional accreditation of public and private university centres, and published the Protocol for the certification of internal quality assurance systems of university centres and the Protocol for the evaluation procedure for the renewal of the institutional accreditation of university centres, approved by the General Conference on University Policy.

In 2022, no new centre was institutionally accredited, although the ACPUA continued its work of accompanying the universities and centres of the University System of Aragon that are working to achieve certification of their internal quality assurance systems and, consequently, institutional accreditation. To this end, numerous meetings were held throughout the year with various centres in the system that have expressed to the ACPUA their aspiration to become institutionally accredited in the near future or that have expressed an interest in this type of accreditation.

Within the programme of meetings of the Agency's management with the Aragonese universities called Dialog Meetings, and related to institutional accreditation, the Director of the ACPUA was invited by the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Sport of the University of Zaragoza, Germán Vicente Rodríguez, to an academic event organised in Huesca by this Faculty on the occasion of the festivity of the University of Zaragoza.

patron saint, S. José de Calasanz. The ceremony, which was presided over by the Vice-Rector of the Huesca Campus, Marta Liesa, included special recognition of the San Jorge University Hospital and the Sagrado Corazón Provincial Hospital for their collaboration with the Faculty in meeting the teaching needs caused by the recent pandemic. The Director of the ACPUA took part in the awarding of the Extraordinary End of Degree Prizes for the degrees taught by the centre, and also said a few words in which he highlighted the commitment of the Faculty of Health and Sports Sciences to quality, having obtained institutional accreditation, and encouraged the centre and the other faculties and schools on the Huesca campus to continue persevering along this path of academic excellence.

### 1.2.3. Monitoring of Centres

In 2022, the certification of the IACS of the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts, the Faculty of Sciences and the Polytechnic University School of La Almunia of the University of Zaragoza was monitored. The reports were drawn up by the ACPUA Monitoring Committee and all showed the progress made by the centres in the consolidation of their IACS.

In preparation for the first monitoring of the IQAS certification of the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts, and at the request of the Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts of the University of Zaragoza, Prof. Elena Barlés, on 8 February the director of the Agency, Antonio Serrano, and the technical coordinator, Isabel Ortega, held a meeting with the Dean and the members of her team responsible for the internal quality assurance system: Dr. Miguel Ángel Rodríguez, Delegate of the Dean for Quality, and Pilar Ortigosa, administrator of the centre. The main purpose of the meeting was to inform the ACPUA of the progress and improvements made by the Faculty following the recommendations of the Agency in its report on the certification of the centre's IQAS according to the ACPUA's PACE programme.

### 1.2.4. DOCENTIA Programme

The DOCENTIA Programme is a programme developed by ANECA in collaboration with the other Spanish quality assurance agencies, the aim of which is to support universities in designing their own mechanisms for assessing the quality of their teaching staff's teaching activities. In this way, it aims to meet the demands of the universities and the need of the education system to have a model and procedures to guarantee the quality of university teaching staff and to promote their development and recognition.

The ACPUA's participation in the programme is twofold:

On the one hand, the ACPUA is part of the DOCENTIA Commission in charge of the development and monitoring of the programme. This commission is made up of technicians from the agencies in charge of the programme and meets several times a year.

On the other hand, the ACPUA assesses the implementation of DOCENTIA in the universities of the Aragonese university system. During the year 2022 there has been no activity by the universities in this programme.

### 1.2.5. Certification of training centres

Since 2104, the ACPUA has been certifying the quality of internships carried out in non-university schools in Aragon by students of the Bachelor's Degrees in Early Childhood Education and Primary Education, as well as the Master's Degree in Teaching. This is a unique evaluation process, unprecedented in Spain, which brings together data and evaluations from the education administration with those produced by the ACPUA reports on the monitoring of these degrees and master's degrees. The educational centres that accredit the correct participation in the teaching of internships for at least two years can apply for this ACPUA certification.

After successive improvement updates, the one applied in the 2021 call has been the "Protocol for the Certification of Training Centres" approved by the Agency's ECSC in session of 17 July 2020.

### Evaluation of secondary schools

Having reviewed the latest Quality Assessment Reports and the Learning Outcomes of the Master's Degree in Teaching and the practicum report provided by the DGIFP, no incidents were detected in any of the Secondary Education centres that receive students on placements and which are already certified, with students expressing a high level of satisfaction.

It should be noted that the sources of information considered by the Quality Assurance Committee of the University of Zaragoza for the preparation of the aforementioned reports include: student satisfaction surveys, meetings with lecturers and subject and speciality coordinators, and lecturer satisfaction surveys.

### Results:

The Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres, in the light of the evidence evaluated, resolved to maintain all the certificates, proposing, in addition, **the certification of the new 35 centres proposed** (ACPUA Resolution in the BOA of 22 November 2022).

Certificate No.	Type of centre	Name of the Centre	Centre Code	Locality	Province
CEP-2022-003	Private Education Centre Pre-school Primary and Secondary	INTERNATIONAL AMPHORA	50019378	QUARTER OF HUERVA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-004	Secondary School	SEA OF ARAGON	50011732	CASPE	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-005	Private Education Centre Pre-school Primary and Secondary	NTRA.SRA. DEL CARMEN	50007133	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-006	Secondary School	EL PICARRAL	50019500	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-007	Private Education Centre Pre-school Primary and Secondary	THE ANNOUNCEMENT	50006463	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-	Secondary School	JOSÉ MANUEL BLECUA	50009166	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA

Certificate No.	Type of centre	Name of the Centre	Centre Code	Locality	Province
008					
CEP-2022-009	Private Secondary School	LAVIAGA-CASTLE SALESIANS	50000412	ALMUNIA DE DOÑA GODINA (LA)	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-010	Secondary School	DAROCA COMMUNITY	50010284	DAROCA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-011	Secondary School	VALDESPARTERA	50019020	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-012	Centro Privado Integrado de Vocational training	LABOUR FOUNDATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION	50019147	VILLANUEVA DE GÁLLEGO	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-013	Secondary School	ANGEL SANZ BRIZ	50011069	BOOTHES	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-014	Secondary School	ZAURIN	50011252	ATECA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-015	Private Training Centre Professional Specific	TENA VALLEY	50011781	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-016	Private Education Centre Pre-school Primary and Secondary	MONTESSORI SCHOOL	50006581	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-017	Public Education Centre for Adults	JUAN JOSÉ LORENTE	50010880	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-018	Secondary School	GUADALOPE VALLEY	44005104	CALANDA	TERUEL
CEP-2022-019	Official Language School	OF HUESCA	22005212	HUESCA	HUESCA
CEP-2022-020	Secondary School	SOBRARBE	22005406	AÍNSA	HUESCA
CEP-2022-021	Private Education Centre Pre-school Primary and Secondary	THE MIRACLE	50007042	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-022	Public Education Centre for Adults	LEFT BANK	50010879	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-023	Secondary School	ARGENSOLA BROTHERS	22000809	BARBASTRO	HUESCA
CEP-2022-024	Secondary School	ARBA RIVER	50008770	TAUSTE	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-025	Integrated Public Centre	SENA RIVER	50018261	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-026	Educational Guidance Team Infant and Primary	Nº 5 of ZARAGOZA	50701013	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-027	Secondary School	JILOCA VALLEY	44004045	CALAMOCHA	TERUEL
CEP-2022-028	Secondary School	JOAQUÍN COSTA	50001349	CARIÑENA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-029	Secondary School	HUECHA VALLEY	50011677	MALLÉN	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-030	Pre-school and Primary School Educational Guidance Team	OF LA ALMUNIA DE DOÑA GODINA	50700124	ALMUNIA DE DOÑA GODINA (LA)	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-031	Secondary School	DOMINGO MIRAL	22002727	JACA	HUESCA
CEP-2022-032	Secondary School	JUAN DE LANUZA	50000874	BORJA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-033	Educational Guidance Team Infant and Primary	Nº 1 of ZARAGOZA	50700151	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-034	Private Education Centre Pre-school Primary and Secondary	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	50006888	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-035	Private Education Centre Pre-school Primary and Secondary	NTRA.SRA.SRA. DEL CARMEN AND SAN JOSE	50007157	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-036	Private Training Centre Professional Specific	MARCO ACADEMY	50009889	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA

Certificate No.	Type of centre	Name of the Centre	Centre Code	Location	Province
CEP-2022-037	Secondary School	CONDE ARANDA	50000163	ALAGON	ZARAGOZA

*Table 5 List of newly certified centres .*

All this information is updated in the register of certified centres published on the ACPUA website.

Direct access:

[https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/resolucion\\_centros\\_secundaria.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/resolucion_centros_secundaria.pdf)

### Evaluation of pre-primary and primary schools

Having reviewed the latest Quality Assessment Reports and the Learning Outcomes of the Master's Degree in Teaching and the practicum report provided by the provincial education services, no incidents were detected in any of the Infant and Primary Education centres that receive students on work experience and which are already certified, with students expressing a high level of satisfaction.

It should be noted that the sources of information considered by the Quality Assurance Committee of the University of Zaragoza for the preparation of the aforementioned reports include: student satisfaction surveys, meetings with lecturers and subject and speciality coordinators and lecturers' satisfaction surveys.

### **Results:**

The Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres, in the light of the evidence evaluated, resolved to maintain all the certificates, proposing, in addition, **the certification of the 4 new centres proposed** (ACPUA Resolution in the BOA of 22 November 2022).

Certificate No.	Type of centre	Name of the Centre	Centre Code	Location	Province
CEP-2022-038	Rural College Grouped	RAINBOW	22005820	CONCHEL	HUESCA
CEP-2022-039	Rural College Grouped	SIERRA DE ALBARRACIN	44004495	TRAMACASTILLA	TERUEL
CEP-2022-040	College of Education Infant and Primary	FIGUERUELAS	50019731	FIGUERUELAS	ZARAGOZA
CEP-2022-041	College of Education Infant and Primary	MARY ZAMBRANO	50019792	ZARAGOZA	ZARAGOZA

*Table 6 List of newly certified centres .*

All this information will be updated in the register of certified centres published on the ACPUA website.

Access direct access at:  
[https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/resolucion\\_centros\\_educacion\\_infantil\\_y\\_primaria.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/resolucion_centros_educacion_infantil_y_primaria.pdf)

### Online training on ACPUA certification of pre-school, primary and secondary schools

The ACPUA took part in a survey prepared by the Directorate General for Innovation and Vocational Training to find out what **information and knowledge** secondary schools had about both the quality agency and the evaluative activity: **certification of university practice centres**.

Following the detection of the need for information, derived from the results of the survey, the ACPUA participated in the **training session organised by the Innovation and Teacher Training Service** of the Directorate General for Innovation and Vocational Training of the Department of Education, Culture and Sport of the Government of Aragon.

Under the title: "**Pre-university quality: ACPUA certification**", the director Antonio Serrano presented the Agency (its mission, objectives and main activities) to more than 90 educational centres, focusing on the purpose and added value of this evaluative activity that began in 2014 and that certifies the good work of the centres that host trainee students of the degrees of early childhood and primary education and of the master's degree in teaching. Link to the presentation: [PowerPoint presentation](#).

#### **1.2.6. Certification of the evaluation of the University of Zaragoza's dedication and teaching complements.**

At the end of 2018, the Government of Aragon signed both a new Agreement and a new programme contract with the University of Zaragoza for the allocation and funding of the additional salary complements linked to individual merits of the teaching and research staff of the University of Zaragoza during the period 2019-2023 ("*ORDEN IUU/2095/2018, de 27 de diciembre, por la que se publica el Acuerdo de 3 de diciembre de 2018, del Gobierno de Aragón*").



For this reason, and within this framework of action for the period 2019-2023, **in 2021 the ACPUA carried out the annual certification of the results** of the process followed by the University of Zaragoza for the evaluation of the teaching merits and dedication of its teaching and research staff.

researcher for the purpose of receiving the corresponding regional allowances.

The corresponding resolution with the results of the process was published in the Official Gazette of Aragon on 2 November 2022.

### **1.3. Evaluation of persons**

The evaluation activities carried out by the ACPUA during the year 2022 focused, on the one hand, on evaluating the research and/or teaching activity of the people who carry out their professional activity in different centres that make up the Aragonese R&D&I system, and on the other hand, on carrying out the evaluation of the accreditation of the figure of



Professor to Associate Professor with Clinical Attachment to the Public Health System of Aragon, a new position introduced in 2018 by the Government of Aragon.

### 1.3.1. Evaluation of research activity (six-year periods)

#### Normative framework and scope of the evaluation

Both Organic Law 6/2001, of 21 December 2001, on Universities and Law 5/2005, of 14 June 2005, on the Organisation of the University System of Aragon provide for the possibility of establishing salary supplements for university teaching staff.

In development of these precepts and by Agreement of the Government of Aragon, the additional salary complements linked to individual merits of the teaching staff of the University of Zaragoza are periodically fixed, being currently in force the "Agreement of 3 December 2018, of the Government of Aragon, which establishes the additional salary complements linked to individual merits of the teaching and research staff of the University of Zaragoza for the period 2019-2023 and approves the conclusion of the Contract-programme between the Government of Aragon and the University of Zaragoza for the allocation and financing of the aforementioned salary complements" published by Order IJU/2095/2018, of 27 December, is currently in force.

As established in the aforementioned agreement, the ACPUA is responsible for the evaluation of merits for the period 2019-2023 in accordance with the assessment criteria for the aforementioned period which, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement of 3 December 2018 of the Government of Aragon and within the framework of the relations between the University of Zaragoza and the trade union representatives, will be established by the Agency itself in accordance with the provisions of Article 85.1.e) of Law 5/2005 of 14 June 2005.

The criteria were published in the BOA by Resolution of 27 December 2018, of the Director of the Agency for Quality and University Prospects of Aragon, which published the criteria and procedures for the evaluation of the teaching staff of the University of Zaragoza, leading to the award of additional salary complements, linked to individual merits, dedication, teaching and research established for the period between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2023.

At the same time, the ACPUA has been carrying out the evaluation of these same merits for teaching and research staff of other entities and organisations such as the Centro Universitario de la Defensa de Zaragoza, a centre attached to the University of Zaragoza since 2011, the Centre for Food Research and Technology (CITA) since 2015 and more recently since 2018 the teaching and research staff of the Polytechnic University School of La Almunia (EUPLA), the University School of Tourism of Zaragoza (ETUZ) and the research staff of the Aragonese Institute of Health Sciences (IACS).

By decision of the ACPUA Governing Council of 22 January 2018, the ACPUA proceeded to evaluate the above groups, through two different calls, one specific for the staff of the University of Zaragoza and the other for the rest of entities and organisations.

For the year 2022, the calls for evaluation were both published in the BOA of 25 March 2022:

- a) Resolution of 16 March 2022, of the Director of the University Quality and Prospective Agency of Aragon, by which the contracted teaching staff of the University of Zaragoza are summoned for the evaluation of their research activity.
- b) Resolution of 16 March 2022, of the Director of the University Quality and Prospective Agency of Aragon, by which the teaching and research staff of the University Centre of Defence, the Polytechnic University School of La Almunia and the School of Tourism of Zaragoza, as well as the Centre for Agri-Food Research and Technology of Aragon are summoned, of the Aragonese Institute of Health Sciences, and research staff contracted by the University of Zaragoza both within the Ramón y Cajal aid programme and in the "Contract for access to the Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System" modality for the evaluation of their research activity.

### Evaluation processes and results

In accordance with the above-mentioned resolutions, during 2022, the evaluation of the research activity was carried out with respect to the admitted applications of the full-time contracted teaching staff of the University of Zaragoza and the staff of other entities such as the CUD, the EUPLA, the CITA, etc.

In all cases, six-year periods of research activity (sexenios) were evaluated using criteria similar to those used at national level for civil servants by the National Commission for the Evaluation of Research Activity (CNEAI).

The panels of experts, appointed by the Director of the Agency on the proposal of the Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission (CECA) and whose composition was published on the ACPUA website, assessed the merits of the applicants in accordance with the criteria set out in the calls for applications.

The following table shows the applications admitted to the two calls for evaluation of research activity, as well as the results obtained (positive or negative evaluation) after the evaluations.

	Applications assessed	Applications positively assessed	% positive applications	Negatively assessed applications	% negative applications
UZ 2022	116	102	87,93	14	12,07
ENTITIES 2022	15	14	93,33	1	6,67
Totals	131	116	88,55	15	11,45

*Table 7 Admitted applications, positively and negatively evaluated (sexennial evaluation).*

### Training session organised by CIFICE

Every year, **CIFICE invites the ACPUA** to hold a training session for contracted teaching staff on the evaluation of six-year periods. This activity was held on 12 January 2022 and was well received by the teaching staff of the three campuses.

### **1.3.2. Evaluation for the accreditation of the position of Professor to Associate Professor with Clinical Attachment to the Public Health System of Aragon.**

#### Normative framework and scope of the evaluation

Decree 206/2018, of 21 November, of the Government of Aragon, which amends Decree 84/2003, of 29 April, of the Government of Aragon, which regulates the legal and remuneration system for contracted teaching and research staff at the University of Zaragoza, introduces in Aragon the figure of Professor or Contracted Doctoral Professor with Clinical Links to the Aragonese Public Health System (PCDVC). This new type of contract establishes, among other prerequisites, the possession of a previous positive evaluation by the ACPUA.

In 2021 the ACPUA carried out the first call for evaluation of this figure once the CECA approved for the first time on 14 May 2020 the "Programa ACPUA para la acreditación de la figura de Profesora a Profesor Contratado Doctor con Vinculación Clínica al Sistema Sanitario Público de Aragón" (ACPUA Programme for the accreditation of the figure of Professor to Associate Professor with Clinical Links to the Public Health System of Aragon) modifying it later, on 22 February 2021.

During the year 2022, by Resolution of 29 September 2022, of the Director of the University Quality and Prospective Agency of Aragon, the evaluation for the accreditation of the position of Professor or Associate Professor with Clinical Links to the Public Health System of Aragon was announced.

**The main new features** of this second call for applications are the following:

- a) The obligation of interested parties to interact with the Administration by electronic means by virtue of Order CUS/1302/2022, of 15 September, which establishes the obligation of interested parties to interact with the Public Administration of the Autonomous Community of Aragon by electronic means in certain procedures related to research, innovation, development of electronic administration, information society and university, including the evaluation of the figure of PCDVC.
- b) The availability for applicants of a "Guide to help applicants PCDVC", accessible at the electronic headquarters of the Public Administration of the Autonomous Community of Aragon, a guide that is complemented with the information offered by the Government of Aragon to help citizens to carry out their formalities in

online and with the guide produced by Servicios Digitales de Aragón with information on electronic signatures.

- c) The preparation by SALUD of a specific document to help applicants when filling in part of the merits to be evaluated in the specific platform of this entity.
- d) The update of the Framework Document "Programa ACPUA para la Acreditación de la figura de Profesora o Profesor Contratado Doctor con Vinculación Clínica al Sistema Sanitario Público de Aragón" previously enunciated by the CECA in a meeting held on 11 July 2022 and that as main novelty includes an annex with a "guía de la persona evaluadora".

### Evaluation process and outcome

The deadline for submitting applications for evaluation began on 14 October and ended on 9 December, in accordance with the Resolution of 29 September 2022 of the Director of the ACPUA. The call for applications must be signed after the aforementioned Order CUS/1302/2022, of 15 September, which establishes the obligation to relate through electronic means in certain procedures.

Therefore, as of 31 December 2022, the evaluation procedure for this figure had not been completed, pending evaluation by the panel of experts of the teaching and research merits, by SALUD of the healthcare merits and, finally, by the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Teaching Staff, the issuing of the corresponding individual report in terms of favourable or unfavourable on the basis of the technical judgements issued by the panel of experts and SALUD.

However, the following table shows the successful applications.

	Accepted applications	Applications positively assessed	% positive applications	Negatively assessed applications	% negative applications
ANECA accredited persons	1	Pending		Pending	
Persons no accredited by ANECA	43	Pending		Pending	
Totals	44				

*Table 8 Applications admitted, positively and negatively assessed (PCDVC accreditation).*

### **1.3.3. Evaluation of five-year teaching periods of the teaching staff of San Jorge University.**

#### Normative framework and scope of the evaluation

Inspired by state regulations on the remuneration of university teaching staff, San Jorge University has developed a procedure aimed at the recognition of the following

The teaching merits of its teaching staff by means of the evaluation of teaching merits in 5-year periods (five-year periods of teaching excellence).

At the request of the San Jorge University, the ACPUA has been collaborating in this activity by appointing a technical committee of experts who are responsible for the evaluation of the applications for recognition of five-year periods of teaching excellence submitted annually by the teaching and research staff of this university. The San Jorge University assumes the total cost of the evaluations, as the ACPUA does not make any financial commitment in relation to this evaluation.



This activity is carried out under the framework agreement between the Agency for Quality and University Prospects of Aragon and the University San Jorge, to contribute to the implementation of activities to promote the improvement of the quality of the university system of Aragon, published in the BOA by ORDER PRE/2038/2017, of 17 November.

### Evaluation process and outcome

San Jorge University published a procedure for the recognition of the Five-Year Teaching Excellence Award of San Jorge University (pr-004), approved by the Rector Magnificent of San Jorge University and modified in its latest version (revision 6) on 7 April 2022. This procedure, among other issues, includes the purpose, scope, definitions, development, complaints and responsibilities.

Subsequently, by Resolution of 18 April 2022, the San Jorge University summoned all the Research Teaching Staff of the San Jorge University for the purposes of recognition of the Specific Complement for Teaching Merits (Quinquenios).

This call defines the teaching merits to be recognised and establishes, in section 5, that the evaluation body "*will be the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres (Panel of Experts) appointed by the Agency for Quality and University Prospects of Aragon*". Likewise, section 7 establishes the procedure and resolution.

Consequently, in accordance with this call and the procedure (pr-004) set out above, the Director of the Agency, at the proposal of the ACPUA's Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission, in session on 11 July 2022 and after the relevant deadline for recusal, appointed a panel of three experts by areas of knowledge to make the evaluation proposals on each of the applications received.

Once the individual assessment had been carried out by the panel of experts using the information collected in the computer tool (QUED) of the San Jorge University, the Agency's technical team carried out a review of these assessments in accordance with the following methodology:

- a) Review of those criteria of the assessment rubric that can be assessed on the basis of concrete evidence provided by the institution itself.

- b) Review of the results of the evaluation given by the expert panel on the criteria for which evidence is submitted by the applicants

Finally, the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres reached a consensus on the results obtained by each applicant, issuing the corresponding report which includes the list of applicants and the final result for each of them, which can only be favourable or unfavourable.

**There were 4 applications assessed in 2022, all of which were successful.**

## 1.4. University Research Institutes

### 1.4.1. Evaluation prior to the creation of University Research Institutes

In accordance with Article 15 of Law 5/2005, of 14 June, on the Organisation of the University System of Aragon (LOSUA), the Government of Aragon is responsible for the creation, suppression and assignment of University Research Institutes, subject to a report from the ACPUA. Consequently, the Agency launches this evaluation procedure only if the Government of Aragon so requests.

**During 2022 the ACPUA did not receive any request for a report.**

### 1.4.2. Periodic evaluation of University Research Institutes

The LOSUA stipulates that every 5 years the University Research Institutes operating in Aragon must undergo an evaluation by the ACPUA. The corresponding evaluation report is sent to the Directorate General of Universities of the Government of Aragon for its knowledge and effects.

In compliance with these forecasts, throughout 2018 the evaluation of the 9 existing University Research Institutes of the University of Zaragoza was carried out, including, at its own request, the Agri-Food Institute of Aragon (IA2) in the campaign, even though it was an Institute that had not yet completed an accreditation cycle. This second cycle of periodic evaluation of all the Institutes was completed with the issue of the last final reports in February 2019, **so that in 2022 there was no activity in this section.**

## 2. EVALUATIONS OUTSIDE FROM ARAGONESE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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### 2.1. Certification of merits of the teaching and research staff of the University of Cantabria.



Under the **agreement signed between the University of Cantabria and the University Quality and Prospective Agency of Aragon**, which formalises the management assignment for the assessment of individual merits of teaching and research staff at the University of Cantabria, **approved by the Governing Council of the ACPUA in session held on 27 June 2022**, the ACPUA undertook to evaluate during the year 2022 the professors of the University of Cantabria who submit their activity for assessment.

teacher and researcher.

This assessment has been carried out by ACPUA in accordance with the procedure established in the Agreement between the Department of Universities and Research, Environment and Social Policy of the Government of Cantabria and the Trade Unions representing the teaching and research staff of the University of Cantabria.

The University of Cantabria itself sent on 4 May the complete information for the evaluation and the ACPUA has issued 713 individual merit awards for the teaching staff of the University of Cantabria out of an initial evaluation of 740 files.

The preparation of the 740 files was carried out by the Technical and Quality Coordination area of the Agency, which was responsible for reviewing the files and preparing the formulation of the proposal to issue the **713 individual merit awards**, which were issued by the Director of the Agency, Antonio Serrano González, on 30 June 2022 and sent to the University of Cantabria on the same day.

## 3. THEMATIC ANALYSIS AND FORESIGHT STUDIES

### 3.1. ACPUA "Learn" Collection

In the European Higher Education Area, "thematic analysis" refers to studies carried out by the Agency in order to describe, present or systematise the results of its evaluation and quality assurance activities. These analyses, which are based on evaluations but are not in themselves evaluation reports, are subject to a specific European standard (ESG 3.4. Thematic Analysis).

The development of the strategic line **L4 "Foresight: promoting excellence, strategic evaluations and thematic analyses"** of the ACPUA Strategic Plan is materialised in the studies published in the **Collection 'ACPUA Learns'** (available on the ACPUA website). The studies are carried out in collaboration with external experts. This year a new volume has been added to the collection, the **Final Report ACPUA+students programme: post-covid strategic forum**, bringing the number of thematic studies published in the collection to 10.

Document available at [https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/220928\\_informe\\_final\\_focus\\_groups.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/220928_informe_final_focus_groups.pdf)

### 3.2. Cycle of webinars Agencies "Challenges of university studies according to the employer collective".

Since 2017, the Spanish Network of Agencies (REACU) adopted the decision to carry out joint reports that respond to the guidelines established for ESG 3.4. To this end, a specific working group (Working Group 1) was created, coordinated by ACSUCYL and including ACPUA, UNIBASQ, ANECA and AQU.

During 2021, and continuing with the new dissemination activity that arose in 2020 at the initiative of the Catalan agency AQU, consisting of the **cycle of webinars "Challenges of university studies according to the employer community"**, almost all the regional agencies have agreed on the publication of a joint thematic report on the quality of the degree programmes that are the subject of these webinars. Specifically, the report is based on the data extracted from the different reports (verification, modification, monitoring and renewal of accreditation) of the participating agencies, with the aim of identifying the strengths, recommendations and good practices of university quality standards.

January saw the sixth webinar in this cycle organised jointly by the quality agencies of Catalonia (AQU), Andalusia (DEVA-AAC), the Canary Islands (ACCUEE), Castile and Leon (ACSUCYL), the Basque Country (Unibasq), Galicia (ACSUG), Valencia (AVAP) and Aragon (ACPUA). On this occasion, the webinar was dedicated to the **Master's** degree studies.



### **for teachers in Compulsory Secondary Education and Baccalaureate, Vocational Training and Language Teaching.**

During the session, the more than 300 participants were offered a general and updated overview of this university training from the perspective of the employer group, through the synthesis of the **results of a case study** carried out in Catalonia. Likewise, the results of the evaluations of all the organising agencies in this area were shared with the aim of finding out the strong points, as well as the lines of improvement through the university quality standards.

The round table was attended by a list of relevant personalities. The ACPUA facilitated the collaboration of Alejandra Cortés, current Director of Quality and Teaching Innovation of the Vice-rectorate of Academic Policy of the University of Zaragoza and an expert in educational issues, as a speaker at this round table. In addition, a first year graduate student, an Education Inspector and the President of the Deans and Deans of Education at national level also took part.

Both the materials and the recording of the event can be found by following this link: [AQU main site](#)

### **3.3. Labour market integration of graduates of the University System of Aragon**

Among the functions of the ACPUA entrusted by Law 5/2005, of 14 June, on the Organisation of the University System of Aragon, is that of "Monitoring the labour market integration of graduates". The University System of Aragon had been lacking a systematic programme for monitoring university graduates, so that the studies that were being carried out were only occasional, with the consequent loss of comparability. In order to solve this weakness, the Government of Aragon (Directorate General of Universities, ACPUA and the Aragonese Institute of Statistics) signed a Framework Agreement with the Social Council of the University of Zaragoza, the University of Zaragoza and the San Jorge University in 2015 for the promotion and development of a project to monitor the labour market insertion of graduates of the University System of Aragon (SUA). As a result of this agreement, in 2018 a survey was carried out among graduates of the 2013-104 academic year, the results of which were published.

During 2019, the addendum to the aforementioned agreement was finalised and preparatory work was carried out for the next survey, so that in 2020 the working group responsible for the same, when it met on 25/02/20, was finalising the legal and technical tools (specifications, justification report, necessity report) in order to proceed to tender the corresponding fieldwork (carrying out the second survey). The declaration of a state of alarm a few days later led to the interruption of these tasks. On 17/11/20 a meeting was held with the President of the Social Council to coordinate the work to resume the project.

**In 2021, in close collaboration with the Social Council of the University of Zaragoza** (with which several meetings have been held throughout the year), **it was possible to resume the**

**activity.** The corresponding working group updated and completed the questionnaire, selected the new cohort, established the distribution of costs and approved the technical specifications for the tender to carry out the survey.

Once the fieldwork was tendered, the awarded company Chi-Cuadrado, S.L. carried out the survey from 31 March to 27 May 2022. After the study of the database and subsequent exploitation of the graduate survey by the Aragonese Institute of Statistics (IAEST), **a first preview of the data in Excel table format was available in mid-October.**

During the last quarter of the year, the ACPUA has proceeded to **review and validate the data**, detecting some inconsistencies solved by the IAEST, as well as requesting cross-checks of variables necessary to carry out a more complete analysis of certain aspects, among other tasks. A first graphic analysis of the results has been carried out, as well as a first assessment of the indicators obtained. A report is being prepared and is expected to be presented during the first quarter of 2023.

### 3.4. Monitoring of university programming

At the proposal of the Government of Aragon, the Directorate of the ACPUA is part of this Commission, which is chaired by the Director General of Universities. The Director of the Agency participated in the meeting of the Commission which took place on 28 February 2022.

## 4. DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF QUALITY

The development of the social dimension of quality is an important strategic line (L5) of the ACPUA for the period 2019-2022. In 2020, this dimension was given special attention by the Conference of Ministers of the European Higher Education Area Rome 2020, whose preparatory work and holding had the opportunity to be closely followed by the ACPUA as it was represented on the ENQA Board. Annex III of the Rome Ministerial Communiqué ("Principles and Guidelines to Strengthen the Social Dimension of Higher Education in the EHEA") published in November 2020, is expressly dedicated to this issue and guides the implementation of this strategic line of the Agency in 2021 and 2022 in the Agency's evaluation protocols and guidelines.

To this end, in 2020 the Agency incorporated an expert from social entities (Red Cross) and an expert in the study and application of the principle of real equality of opportunities between women and men into the ECSC, which is the committee responsible for the elaboration and approval of evaluation methodologies and protocols.

In 2021, the executive nature of this strategic line was further strengthened with the creation of the Subcommittee on Thematic Evaluations (SETE), which is now the technical committee of the entity responsible for implementing, among others, the two activities listed in this section.

The activities of this Sub-Committee have been fully developed during the year 2022, focusing on the **implementation of the Agency's strategic lines 4, 5 and 6**. In particular, activities have been carried out as part of the **ACPUA\*diversity and equality, ACPUA\*society** and **ACPUA+students** programmes.

### 4.1. Agenda 2030: the ALCAEUS programme

In collaboration with the Andorran agency AQUA, during 2018 and 2019 the ACPUA actively participated in the international project S&QSHE (Sustainability & Quality in Higher Education). This was a pioneering initiative that received support and funding from the global network of university quality agencies INQAAHE (International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education). This project ended in the third quarter of 2019 and its main result was the development of a proposal of indicators that serve universities to introduce sustainability criteria, connecting this proposal with institutional evaluation processes.

Participation in this international project not only allowed Aragonese universities and stakeholders (organisations and companies aware of the Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs) to work hand in hand in the promotion of the university's commitment to the SDGs. He also encouraged the agency to develop its own programme, unprecedented and pioneering both nationally and internationally, for the support and certification of university centres according to their level of commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. This programme, which was presented to the agencies

REACU in the framework of a conference organised by the ACPUA and foreign agencies through the European Consortium for Accreditation (ECA), called ALCAEUS. It is the first concrete contribution to the ODS in Europe from the external university quality assurance sector.

In 2020, a major step forward was taken in the development of this programme, mainly because the evaluation protocol was designed and approved, and training was provided in Spanish and English to experts interested in participating in this activity as ACPUA evaluators (in webinars that were very well attended). In addition, the Aragonese centres that achieved institutional accreditation in 2018 were convened for a pilot evaluation.

In 2021, the pilot evaluation of the School of Engineering and Architecture of the University of Zaragoza and the Higher Polytechnic School of Huesca was carried out and subsequently **in 2022**, and after the certification of both, **the Meta-evaluation was carried out**, through consultation with the experts who formed part of the panels, the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres, the management teams of the certified centres and the Vice-rectorate for Academic Policy of the University (meeting in the Auditorium of the University of Zaragoza on 11 March 2022).

As a result of this meta-evaluation, some modifications were made to the evaluation protocol, taking into account the results of the initial experience and the opinion of the participants in the process (evaluated and evaluators), ending with the approval by the ECSC of the **new version of the ALCAEUS Protocol**, dated 24 June 2022.

The ACPUA has requested the EQAR entity, responsible for the European DEQAR Register, to introduce this new voluntary protocol for the centres and universities, obtaining its approval; therefore, the ALCAEUS Programme reports of the 2 Aragonese centres are currently available in this register, as well as the inclusion of this evaluation activity for all those centres institutionally accredited by a quality agency that is part of this register.

**For all these reasons, the ACPUA's ALCAEUS programme has continued to attract national and international interest**, and the Agency has been invited to present it in different forums and on different occasions throughout 2022, continuing the activity undertaken in 2021:

- Presentation of ALCAEUS at the ENQA Seminar for newly accredited agencies (Cologne, Germany).
- Presentation of ALCAEUS at the I International Scientific Meeting on Healthy Organisations (Healthyorg) in Zaragoza.
- 19/09/22.- SEFI: 50th Annual Conference of The European Society for Engineering Education. The presentation was given by the Director of the School of Engineering and Architecture of the UZ. Paper: Demonstrating Engineering Schools' commitment to the achievement of the SDGs: The ALCAEUS Evaluation Program / 2030 Agenda. A case study
- 10/11/22.- Article "Los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, objetivo de las universidades" written by Antonio Serrano and published in the magazine ESPACIOS de

Higher Education.

- ALCAEUS online presentation at the European Quality Assurance Forum (EQAF) in Timisoara.

## 4.2. Mainstreaming a gender perspective and respect for sexual diversity

Within its scope of action, the ACPUA has been working in favour of the opportunity for equality between men and women, the reduction of the gender gap in higher education, the introduction of the gender perspective and respect for sexual diversity and gender identity. To this end, dialogue is maintained with associations, entities and groups such as AMIT-Aragon (Association of Women Researchers and Technologists of Aragon), EUFEM (University Platform for Feminist and Gender Studies) or the Chair on Equality and Gender of the University of Zaragoza. Understanding that in this field of rights the notion of external stakeholder is linked to the concept of empowerment, in 2020 the ACPUA extended the dialogue to LGBTIQ+ groups, in order to know their vision on action protocols in university centres, training for evaluators and implementation measures in the field of higher education of Law 4/2018, on gender identity and expression and social equality and non-discrimination of the Autonomous Community of Aragon.

In 2021, progress continued to be made in the development of the following protocols: the Agency's Equality Plan, **gender perspective indicators** (for incorporation into the ACPUA evaluation guides) and the basic portal of indicators associated with the ALCAEUS programme to make visible the commitment of the centres that make up the Aragonese University System to respect for sexual diversity and the recognition and protection of the gender identity felt by each person. In this last aspect, the aforementioned creation in 2021 of the Subcommittee for Thematic Evaluations, with competences in the development of this strategic line, has given a decisive boost to the **development of an ACPUA seal of diversity**, aimed at university centres that respect these five dimensions of diversity:

gender / affective-sexual / disability and SEN / culture and religion / social exclusion

At the international level, in 2021 the ACPUA continued its collaboration with the CASPER Project, an international EU project (H2020 GA 872113) coordinated by the Gender and ICT Research Group, which promotes the study and implementation of a *European award/certification system for gender equality for Research Performing Organisations*.

During the year 2022, work has been carried out on **the first phase** of the development of an **evaluation protocol on diversity for centres and universities** (Diversity Seal) which has consisted of the creation of a glossary of common terms on each of the 5 subjects envisaged in this protocol. To this end, a terminology survey was created and completed by experts in the field. The results were used to draw up a report with the aim of obtaining common points of view for

external evaluators and even to be used as training in the universities themselves.

Link from the website of ACPUA from the presentation:  
[https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/seijas\\_dimension\\_social\\_acpua.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/seijas_dimension_social_acpua.pdf)

Key milestones in 2022:

- 31/03/22.- Presentation of the outline and rationale of the Protocol for the evaluation of diversity in university centres. ACPUA Day, Zaragoza.
- 25/04/22.- Meeting of the Diversity Office of the University of Zaragoza for the management of university stakeholders.
- 09/11/22.- Exchange of information on diversity with the Dutch university quality agency NVAO.

## 5. EXCHANGES WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND OPENNESS TO STAKEHOLDERS

The Aragonese legislator wants the ACPUA, through its actions, to enrich reflection on the role of the university and to encourage exchanges of experiences with other university systems (art. 84.2 of the LOSUA). In this regard, the objective of the ACPUA has been to promote exchange actions with agencies operating in other university systems, especially with quality agencies, both Spanish and international, with which institutional links have been strengthened in recent years. Equally important is the collaboration with all the interest groups of the Aragonese university system, including the economic and social agents of the Autonomous Community. This action policy reaches strategic significance with the current Strategic Plan (2019-2022), which has a specific strategic line: L6. "Openness to stakeholders".

### 5.1. Collaboration with other Spanish agencies

#### 5.1.1. Spanish Network of University Quality Assurance Agencies (REACU)

One of the strategic guidelines for the development of the ACPUA's activity is its incorporation into the main national and international knowledge networks in the field of Higher Education. For this reason, the Agency actively participates in the activities of the Spanish Network of University Quality Assurance Agencies (REACU, constituted on 9 October 2006) by attending regular meetings and taking part in the projects proposed within it. The objectives of REACU are:

- Promote and develop cooperation and exchange of experiences and information, especially methodologies and good practices.
- Collaborate in the promotion of quality assurance.
- Act as a forum in which standards, procedures and guidance for quality assurance are proposed and developed.
- Promote the development and implementation of quality assurance and accreditation systems for agencies.

REACU is structured in a General Assembly and a Technical Secretariat, which is exercised on a rotating basis by each of its members. Throughout 2022, the Technical Secretariat has been held by the Canarian Agency for University Quality and Educational Evaluation (ACCUEE).

In 2022, REACU has continued to work on the development of protocols and guidance documents to implement the new Royal Decrees.

Date	Main issue addressed
13/01/2022	Planning 2022.

Date	Main issue addressed
	List of possible evaluation protocols. Catalogue of evaluation protocols. Assessment Protocol for Verification. Assessment Protocol for Modification. Online examinations for qualifications.
03/02/2022	Protocol for the Assessment of Successive Academic Programmes in Engineering and Architecture (PARS) coordinated by AQU-Catalunya. Assessment Protocol for the Verification and Modification of Official Doctoral Degrees. Coordinated by DEVA. Protocol Doctorate_REACU_2022 coordinated by Unibasq. Glossary of key terms RD822/2021.
02/03/2022	Evaluation Protocol for the Monitoring and Renewal of the Accreditation of Official University Degree and Master's Degrees. Debate and approval, if appropriate, of the evaluation protocol for the Monitoring and Renewal of Accreditation of Official University Doctorate Degrees. Discussion and approval, if appropriate, of the protocol for the assessment of the dual mention. Discussion and approval, if appropriate, of the procedure for the evaluation of the cases of degrees taught in several centres within the framework of the protocols for institutional accreditation of centres. university students.
11/03/2022	Issuance of a communiqué condemning the invasion of Ukraine, adopting the proposal of the Bologna Follow Up Group to suspend Russia's representation rights in the EHEA and consequently temporarily suspending ENQA's membership or affiliation. of the country's agencies.
28/04/2022	Evaluation protocol for the inclusion of specific teaching innovation methodological strategies (speaker: ANECA). Di-guidelines and guidelines for the development and evaluation of international joint university degrees according to the Euro- European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs (Rapporteur: DEVA). Discussion and approval, if appropriate, of the Guidelines for the configuration of the IACS of universities for the quality assurance of lifelong learning masters and the preparation of the report for registration in the RUCT (Speakers: UNIBASQ, Madri+d). Specific protocol for the evaluation of university courses under the evaluation systems of foreign higher education (Rapporteur AQU).
27/05/2022	Guidelines in the configuration of the IQAS of the universities for the quality assurance of lifelong learning degrees and the preparation of the report on lifelong learning master's degrees, prior to their approval by the governing bodies and mandatory in order to apply for their registration in the RUCT. Guidelines and orientations for the elaboration and evaluation of curricula modifications for the adaptation of the affiliation to the fields of knowledge. Analysis of the preliminary draft of the LOSU published by the Ministry of Universities.
19/07/2022	Specific protocol for the assessment of university studies in accordance with foreign higher education systems (AQU-Catalonia rapporteur). Guidelines and orientations for the elaboration and evaluation of the modifications for the adaptation of the 180 ECTS to 240 ECTS degrees (speakers ACPUA and ACSUCYL). Meetings of the permanent REACU-MUNI working group.
28/07/2022	Protocol for the evaluation of courses of study leading to foreign university and university-like higher education degrees, revisions to be sent to the Ministry.
21/09/2022	Reporting round of the Spanish Agencies. Latest REACU developments. Strategic outcomes for ENQA. Latest ENQA developments: projects, working groups, next activities.
29/09/2022	Update on the meetings of the permanent REACU-MUNI working group.
21/11/2022	Update of the regulation of the Master's Degree in Compulsory Secondary Education, Vocational Training and Language Teaching. Evaluation of the proposals for a Master's Degree in access to the professions of law and Procurators. Changes and innovations in the DOCENTIA programme.
19/12/2022	Closing of issues and documents of the 21/11/2022 meeting.

Table 9 REACU: meetings and main issues discussed during 2021.



### 5.1.2. Actions and exchanges with other regional agencies

In addition to the meetings held within REACU, the ACPUA maintains in 2022 the line of **bilateral or multilateral collaboration (depending on the cases and topics) with the rest of the Spanish agencies**. This type of collaboration is articulated through the signing of agreements.

In 2022, a new **framework collaboration agreement** was signed **between ACPUA and AVAP**. The two agencies have long maintained close and fruitful collaborative relations, having jointly provided quality training to students from both university systems.

On 3 March, the director and technical coordinator of the ACPUA, Antonio Serrano and Isabel Ortega respectively, **met at the headquarters of the Vice-Rectorate of the Teruel Campus of the University of Zaragoza** with their counterparts from the quality agency of the Valencian Community AVAP: Javier Oliver and Reyes Giner. At this meeting, the **monitoring committee for this agreement** was set up, made up of the two representatives of each agency meeting in Teruel. The two agencies then exchanged information and pooled their ongoing evaluation activities, paying special attention to the development of guidelines and protocols following the entry into force of Royal Decree 822/2021.

## 5.2. Collaboration with institutions and entities in Aragon

During 2022 the ACPUA has continued to strengthen institutional ties and to collaborate with institutions, entities, interest groups and agents related to university quality in Aragon.

Firstly, and as mentioned above, throughout 2022 both the management and the technical team of the Agency have held numerous meetings with the management teams and heads of the quality units of the Aragonese universities, as well as with the heads of the faculties and schools. The evaluation processes for the certification of centres and for institutional accreditation have been the focus of much of the attention during these meetings, but also to assist in the training and **technical advice of those responsible for the drafting of the verification and modification reports** that are subject to verification by the ACPUA and also of the **coordinators of the degrees that have undergone the evaluation processes for the renewal of accreditation**. And finally, the preparation of the assessment protocols corresponding to the new Royal Decrees approved in 2021 referring to degrees and centres.

On 24 February, and at the invitation of the Executive Director of Campus Iberus, Marta de Miguel, the director of the ACPUA, Antonio Serrano, participated in the **meeting of the Vice-Rectors for Academic Policy** of the universities that make up the Campus of International Excellence **Campus Iberus, held in** the auditorium of the University of Zaragoza.

(University of Zaragoza, Public University of Navarra, University of La Rioja and University of Lleida). During the time he was present at this meeting, the director of the ACPUA discussed with the vice-rectors the main advances that are taking place in terms of quality and accreditation of teaching, both at national level (fundamentally, challenges and development of R.D. 822/2021 and accreditation of the doctorate) and international level (international joint degrees, short learning programmes and micro-credentials).

In addition, the following **collaborations of the ACPUA in various actions of the Government of Aragon and other institutions and entities** should be highlighted:

- University of Zaragoza

On 10 February, the Vice-Rector for Digital Education and Lifelong Learning of the University of Zaragoza, Ana Isabel Allueva, met virtually with the director of the Agency, Antonio Serrano. The main reason for the meeting was to jointly address the challenges and new developments brought about by articles 36 and 37 of Royal Decree 822/2021, of 28 September. These precepts, very relevant and in need of specification, are dedicated to university education, lifelong learning (with special attention to the Master of Lifelong Learning) and short or micro-credential degrees. The Director and the Vice-Rector undertook to exchange information on the developments taking place at national level in their respective fields, with the aim of having quality criteria (both internal and external) on these matters as soon as possible.

- Aragonese Agency for Research and Development Foundation (ARAID):

At the request of the ARAID Foundation, the ACPUA in April 2022 provided a list of people in the areas of Astrophysics/Particle Physics, Environment (renewable energies, biocatalysis, chemical engineering) and Agroalimentary, from its bank of evaluators for the evaluation process of the applications submitted to the Extraordinary International Call for the recruitment of researchers (CONINV/2021) that the ARAID Foundation launched in December 2021 to recruit up to one maximum of 11 researchers <https://www.araid.es/es/content/convocatoria-internacional-para-la-contratataci%C3%B3n-de-investigadores-2021>.

In August 2022, the ARAID Foundation again requested the collaboration of the ACPUA to provide experts to carry out the evaluation of the previous call in the area of Social Sciences.

- San Jorge University:

In 2022, and at the request of San Jorge University, the ACPUA provided experts from its pool of evaluators for the external evaluation process of the Bachelor's Degree in Video Game Design and Development, Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, and Bachelor's Degree in Advertising and Public Relations.

- Antonio Gargallo" University Foundation (Teruel campus of the University of Zaragoza):

As in previous years, in 2022 the ACPUA provided a list of expert evaluators in the fields of materials and fluid science and technology, computer science and systems engineering, fine arts, psychology and sociology, and educational sciences to evaluate the call for research project grants at the Teruel Campus of the University of Zaragoza.

### 5.3. Collaboration with institutions and entities outside Aragon

#### ACPUA WEBINAR FOR MEXICO

On 30 August the director of the ACPUA and member of the ENQA Board, Antonio Serrano, gave a webinar organised by the CIIES (Comités Interinstitucionales para la Evaluación de la Educación Superior, Mexico) on the topic "New formats and challenges of evaluation and accreditation of higher education institutions. The European experience". The webinar was chaired by Miguel Ángel Tamayo, General Coordinator of the CIIES, and was attended by more than five hundred professors and quality experts from numerous Mexican universities, as well as institutions from other Ibero-American countries. The speaker focused his presentation on the dynamics of the application of European quality standards (ESG), generating an interesting discussion at the end with the audience.

In Mexico, the CIIES is an important body for the evaluation of university education in that country and its international prestige is accredited by the validation of its good practices by the most important quality agencies at global (INQAAHE) and Ibero-American level (SIACES and RIACES).

#### VISIT OF MIGUEL ÁNGEL TAMAYO, GENERAL COORDINATOR OF THE CIIES, MEXICO

Interested in learning first-hand about the functioning of the ACPUA and the virtualities of the University System of Aragon, our Agency was honoured on 8 and 9 September with the visit of Dr. Miguel Ángel Tamayo, General Coordinator of the CIIES, Inter-institutional Committees for the Evaluation of Higher Education in Mexico. Among other attributions, the CIIES, which enjoy public recognition and funding, are the evaluating body for half of the accreditations of the university degrees that apply for accreditation in Mexico and have earned international prestige, forming part of Ibero-American networks such as SIACES.

On the 8th, Miguel Ángel Tamayo explained the legal framework and the teaching accreditation system in Mexico to the technical teams of the ACPUA and the Vice- Rectorate for Academic Policy of the University of Zaragoza, in an event presided over by the Vice-Rector José Ángel Castellanos. The following day, 9 September, the General Coordinator of the CIIES visited the ACPUA and analysed with its director, Antonio Serrano, the current state of quality assurance in higher education in America and Europe, both exploring promising formulas for joint cooperation.

### 5.4. ACPUA + STUDENTS Programme

In order to consolidate the adaptation of ACPUA to European standards and to complete the participation of students in its bodies and in the evaluation work, in 2022 it has been planned to

continued to boost student involvement in the agency's activity and quality assurance through this student participation programme launched in 2014.

The objectives of this programme are:

- Promotion of communication with Aragonese students, the dissemination of information relevant to them, and the effective collection of their opinions and needs.
- Student participation in the Agency's bodies, culminating in student representation in ACPUA's evaluation bodies and committees.
- To promote the training of Aragonese university students in matters of quality and continuous improvement of teaching.
- Cooperation and stable relations with the student organisations of the institutions of the University System of Aragon.
- Quality culture: student awareness of Quality Agencies.
- Common understanding of student needs (student-centred learning).
- Students' needs in their transition to university (University orientation).
- Student feedback on the impact of the pandemic (Post-COVID Strategic Forum).

#### 5.4.1. Educational Cooperation

Under the agreement approved by the Governing Council of the ACPUA on 30 June 2021, the ACPUA collaborates with the University of Zaragoza by hosting students of the Bachelor's Degree in Law for the development of the subject *Prácticum*. In this way, the ACPUA helps students to apply and complement the knowledge acquired throughout their academic training, favouring the acquisition of skills that prepare them for the exercise of professional activities and facilitate their employability by carrying out, at the headquarters of the ACPUA, external curricular internships with activities of a formative nature and legal content that are carried out under the supervision of the Director of the ACPUA as a tutor. Before starting their internship, students sign the ACPUA Code of Ethics.

On 11 February, the **Faculty of Law celebrated the feast of its patron saint, San Raimundo de Peñafort**. During the event, which was presided over by the Rector of the University of Zaragoza, awards were presented to different institutions, organisations and entities in recognition of their collaboration in the Practicum of the Law Degree, with the ACPUA being one of the **distinguished entities**.

During the **year 2022, 3 students** did internships at the ACPUA.

#### 5.4.2. Student training in quality and evaluation activities

During 2022, the collaboration with CREUP has been strengthened, achieving a dialogue that manages to obtain feedback from the student body at national level on the legal reforms that have been undertaken and above all that has enabled joint actions to be undertaken in the field of quality training and evaluation activities. The ACPUA met again on 23 March 2022 with the aim of launching a Framework Collaboration Agreement and designing and planning collaborative actions in the field of evaluation and quality, such as the joint organisation of quality training days for students.

On the other hand, in 2022, the dialogue with the student representatives of the two universities has continued, through the institutional life of the ACPUA itself (students on the Governing Council and the agency's technical committees) and through specific meetings. In this regard, mention should be made of the creation in 2021 of the Subcommittee for Thematic Evaluations (SETE), which, among other responsibilities, was created with the mission of **creating an action plan for student participation**.

#### 5.4.3. Post COVID-19 Strategic Forum

In 2022, the Agency has been particularly keen to reach out to students to receive feedback on the situation following the pandemic, which is crucial for the ACPUA to understand and measure the short and medium-term impact of online teaching (implemented under emergency conditions, but clearly tending to stabilise with hybrid teaching formats) on the teaching received and learning outcomes.

Building on the foundations created in 2020 and 2021, during this year the ACPUA, as part of its strategy to create the **post-COVID 19 Strategic Forum**, launched a survey of students with the aim of finding out about their teaching adaptations, communication with teaching staff, socio-emotional experiences, as well as the situations generated that should be maintained in the aftermath of the pandemic. The results of this survey will form part of a final document that will include other types of face-to-face actions developed in the coming year within the ACPUA+Students framework.

Following the survey, **4 focus group sessions** were held (in March and April 2022) and the general objective of the activity was maintained: to gather direct feedback from students on their experience of the pandemic and its subsequent evolution in relation to teaching. At the same time, a specific objective was established: to improve the contributions made in the survey through the students' verbalisations in a guided session.

The sessions took place in:

- the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Zaragoza
- the Faculty of Education of the University of Zaragoza
- the University Campus of the University of San Jorge
- at the University Campus of Huesca, also belonging to the University of Zaragoza.

Throughout the sessions, various opinions and suggestions were gathered on the impact of the global pandemic caused by COVID-19 on teaching. The feedback was detailed and thorough, as well as varied.

A **final session** was also organised to **compare** the results and approve the decalogue of recommendations. Although it was not possible to hold sessions in each of the faculties of both the University of Zaragoza and San Jorge University, a selection was made of places and people who could provide the widest possible variety of experiences, thus obtaining a reflection of the real student experience of this period.

The final report is available on the ACPUA website  
[https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/220928\\_informe\\_final\\_focus\\_groups.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/220928_informe_final_focus_groups.pdf).

#### 5.4.4. University orientation

In 2022, work has been carried out to detect the needs of students in their transition to university (University orientation). In this regard, a project has been carried out to create an infographic with complete and comprehensive information on this subject.

Specifically, for this activity in which the SETE Thematic Evaluations Subcommittee has been involved, the following actions have been developed:

- Reality check:
  - a. Rationale and identification of needs
  - b. Aragon and state resources
- Contact with stakeholders: public and private resources
- Establishment of selection criteria:
  - a. Complete, useful, simple and truthful information
  - b. Access for all: free resources
  - c. Selection of categories based on current needs
  - d. Target group: educators and students
- Validation phase
- Attractive design.

Under the slogan "**Inform yourself and decide your education!**", both in Spanish and English, the updated links of 5 relevant topics are detailed, which have been meticulously selected by some public and private interest groups from Aragon and the rest of Spain.

The content focuses mainly on support for the choice of studies, the section on available and transitional degrees (access, levels, institutions, satisfaction reports, scholarships and grants), resources for employability and entrepreneurship, the possibility of freecounselling and other options related to vocational training.

With this **infographic, available on the ACPUA website and disseminated through social networks**, teachers, students and families can find resources to facilitate decision-making, available at the click of a button.

Resource available at website at ACPUA:  
[https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/acpua\\_estu\\_orientacion\\_universitaria.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/acpua_estu_orientacion_universitaria.pdf)

In addition, **a poster with a QR code has been created** and made available to secondary schools, as well as guidance counsellors, families and students to access this information.

Direct access to the poster: [https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/cartel\\_acpua\\_tz.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/cartel_acpua_tz.pdf).

## 5.5. ACPUA + SOCIETY Programme

The cross-cutting ACPUA + SOCIETY Programme was launched in 2018 with the intention of equipping itself with a strategic tool to enable the Agency to take concrete and effective steps in the following directions:

- Integration of external stakeholders (professionals, social and economic actors) into the ACPUA structure.
- Involvement of external stakeholders (professionals, social and economic actors) in ACPUA evaluation activities.
- Raising awareness of the ACPUA's mission and actions among Aragonese society.
- Cooperation and stable relations with social agents, trade unions, business associations, professional associations, associations, chambers of commerce and organisations representing the social and economic sphere in Aragon.

In 2022, external stakeholders have been fully retained on all Agency committees and evaluation panels.

In addition, contacts have been made, meetings held or initiatives planned within this ACPUA + SOCIETY Programme with various companies and agents of the socio-economic fabric of Aragon, mainly related to employability and the training needs of the labour market in Aragon. On 19 December, the ACPUA was invited by the Delegation of Defence to the "**Benchmarking with collaborators**" conference, the aim of which was to obtain feedback from stakeholders in the process of defining the new strategic plan and developing the Delegation's EFQM-certified quality system. The conference was attended by the director of the ACPUA, the technical coordinator and Julio Polo, representing the Agency's Evaluation and Accreditation Commission.

## 6. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

The internationalisation of the Agency and its increased participation in activities within the European Higher Education Area and in other regions of the higher education world is a major strategic line of ACPUA (L7).

### 6.1. ENQA

ACPUA has been a full member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) since 2016 and has been actively participating in its Forums and General Assemblies, as well as in other events, projects and seminars (ACPUA was the host agency of the 2018 ENQA Members' Forum).

On 24 June 2021, the Board of ENQA (The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education), after unanimously agreeing on the Agency's compliance with the European Quality Standards (ESG), renewed the ACPUA as a full member of ENQA for a further 5 years.

Since 2019 the director of the Agency is a member of the ENQA Board and **in 2022 the participation of the director of ACPUA in the ENQA Board has been renewed for a term of 3 years**. In addition, the technical coordinator of ACPUA has acted as an expert member of ENQA in evaluations of European agencies.

ACPUA has participated in the following ENQA activities:

- March 2022, **meeting of the ENQA Board**, led by its Chairman, Douglas Blackstock, with the directors of the member agencies to inform them of the most relevant decisions taken by the ENQA Board at its last meeting on 8 March. Among them, the issuing of a **communiqué condemning the invasion of Ukraine**, adopting the proposal of the Bologna Follow Up Group to suspend Russia's representation rights in the EHEA and consequently temporarily suspending the membership or affiliation of Russian agencies to ENQA. In addition, and among other issues, the meeting was informed about recently funded European projects for which ENQA is the coordinator, as well as projects promoted by the agencies themselves or by other organisations to which ENQA will provide support.
- April 2022, **General Assembly**. The ACPUA participated together with 53 other agencies belonging to the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), which have accredited compliance with current European Standards (ESG).

This General Assembly was held online. ACPUA was represented by its director, Antonio Serrano, and by the quality and internationalisation technician, Belén Serrano. The director, as a member of the Committee and treasurer of ENQA, explained the current state of the entity's accounts, a document that was unanimously approved. During the session, the 2021 report, the 2022 activity plan, as well as the renewal, cessation or modification of positions and agencies were approved.



- May 2022, in the framework of the ENQA Agency Reviews' 3rd seminar for recently reviewed agencies, which took place in Cologne (Germany), **the ACPUA had the opportunity to present its ALCAEUS/Agenda 2030 programme.** This programme, which measures the commitment of universities to the Sustainable Development Goals, is a pioneer in the field of the EHEA, which aroused the interest of the more than twenty European agencies participating in this event organised by ENQA and the German agency AQAS. ACPUA was presented by its director, Antonio Serrano.

At this important seminar, the participating agencies had the opportunity to exchange experiences and information on the results of the international evaluations they have undergone to renew their full ENQA membership and their registration in the European Register of EQAR Agencies. More information and documentation on this event: [ENQA Agency Reviews' 3rd seminar for recently reviewed agencies - ENQA](#)

- June 2022, ENQA **Members' Forum 2022.** After almost three years without being able to do so, ENQA finally brought together in person the delegations of all the agencies that make up the Association on the occasion of the annual forum. The event took place on 22, 23 and 24 June in Cardiff, Wales. QAA (UK) was an excellent host agency, with a record number of participants. The congress participants were welcomed by the Welsh Parliament and entertained at Cardiff Castle. Among the topics discussed during the Forum were: fundamental values and their impact on the quality of education; quality assurance in transnational cooperation; micro-credentials; European universities; digitisation of quality processes; evaluation of research and doctoral studies.

The **ACPUA had an outstanding participation** in the event: its director, Antonio Serrano, was present at the two meetings held in Cardiff by the ENQA Board (on 22 June and also on 23 June with the Agency Review Committee) and also chaired the sessions dedicated to the digitisation of quality processes and given by the Swedish agency UKÄ.

- September 2022, **ordinary meeting of the ENQA Board in Zaragoza.** This is the first time that the Board will meet outside its headquarters in Brussels or in the margins of a General Assembly. ENQA brings together and evaluates more than fifty university quality and evaluation agencies in the European Higher Education Area.

The meeting took place in the Paraninfo of the University of Zaragoza and before the meeting the Rector, José Antonio Mayoral, greeted the Board and said a few words of welcome. The meeting, which dealt with ordinary business of the Association and prepared the ENQA General Assembly that will take place in Stockholm next October, was attended by: Douglas Blackstock (UK, President), Anna Gover (UK, Director), Antonio Serrano (Spain, Treasurer), Doris Herrmann (Germany), Karena Maguire (Ireland), Jolanta Silka (Latvia), Ruben Topchyan (Armenia), Patrick van den Bosch (Belgium) and Elena Cirlan (Moldova, ENQA Secretariat).

- October 2022, **General Assembly**. At the last ENQA General Assembly, which took place in Stockholm on 27 October under the hospitality of the Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ), elections to the ENQA Board took place and ACPUA Director Antonio Serrano was re-elected to the Board, along with the other outgoing members Douglas Blackstock (QAA, UK) and Ruben Topchyan (ANQA, Armenia). Douglas Blackstock continues as ENQA President and Daniela Ghitulica (ARACIS, Romania) and Oystein Lund (NOKUT, Norway) remain as Vice Presidents. **Antonio Serrano was endorsed as treasurer of the Association**. In this way, Aragon continues to enjoy an important presence in the executive body of the university quality agencies of the European Higher Education Area, **being ACPUA the only Spanish agency that is part of the ENQA Board**.



#### MIRANDO AL FUTURO

#### Unprecedented ENQA Board meeting with Spanish agencies

On 21 September, an **unprecedented meeting of directors of Spanish quality assurance agencies** with members of the Board of ENQA (The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) took place in Zaragoza. In the stimulating setting of the Museum of Zaragoza, Jaime Valls (Director of AQU), Eduardo López Pereira (Director of ACSUG), Salvador Rus (Director of ACSUCYL), José Saturnino Martínez (Director of ACCUEE), José Ángel Domínguez (Head of International Relations at ANECA) and Raúl de Andrés (Head of Accreditation at ANECA) took part in this important meeting, Raúl de Andrés (head of institutional accreditation at Madrimasd), Paula Ramis (director of AQUIB), Sebastián Chávez (director of DEVA-AAC), Iñaki Heras (director of UNIBASQ) and Javier Oliver (director of AVAP), Douglas Blackstock (QAA, UK; ENQA President), Cristina Ghitulica (ARACIS, Romania; ENQA Vice-President) and ENQA Board members Antonio Serrano (ACPUA, Spain), Doris Herrmann (AQAS, Germany), Karena Maguire (QQI, Ireland), Jolanta Silka (AIC, Latvia), Ruben Topchyan (ANQA, Armenia) and Patrick van den Bosch (VLUHR QA, Belgium). ACPUA acted as host agency.

The day began with welcoming remarks by Yolanda Sancho, Director General of Universities of the Government of Aragon, which were answered by Douglas Blackstock, President of ENQA. The Director of ACPUA, Antonio Serrano, in his turn, welcomed the colleagues of the ENQA Board on behalf of all the Spanish agencies grouped in the REACU Network. After these initial interventions, a round of presentations by Spanish directors and agencies took place, in which the main characteristics and challenges facing the external assurance of university quality in our country were presented. Next, José Ángel Domínguez, from ANECA, the agency coordinating the Spanish Network this year, presented REACU's methodology and progress in the joint drafting of the protocols that are developing the new Spanish regulations (Royal Decree 822/2021).

In the second part of this meeting, ENQA was the protagonist of the interventions: Douglas Blackstock presented ENQA's main strategic lines and then Elena Cirlan, from the ENQA Secretariat, described the main working groups, projects and activities that ENQA is currently involved in. An interesting final discussion brought the event to a well-deserved conclusion.

## 6.2. EQAR

The ACPUA has been registered since 2016 in the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR), which is the official body based in Brussels that recognises university quality agencies that demonstrate compliance with the quality standards in force in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). This means that our Autonomous Community can continue to exercise, through the ACPUA, the powers granted by Spanish legislation on quality in higher education, given that with the current university reform, only autonomous agencies with this type of European accreditation can carry out official activities recognised at national level.

After passing a demanding international evaluation conducted by ENQA and with the favourable decision of ENQA (described in the previous section), the ACPUA proceeded to register in EQAR (European Register of Agencies) in order to renew its registration in the same, also for 5 more years and on 22 October 2021 it proceeded to the same. This new accreditation is valid until June 2026.

To this end, the ACPUA's evaluations of the Bachelor, Master and Doctoral degrees offered by universities are therefore gaining European recognition and prestige, and the corresponding reports can continue to be incorporated into the large DEQAR database (launched by EQAR) on university degrees.

In relation to EQAR, the actions that have taken place during 2022 have been the following:

### DEQAR database

One of the most interesting quality initiatives within the EHEA is the creation of the European DEQAR database. This database is promoted and managed by the European

European EQAR, with ACPUA being one of the first European agencies to join the initiative. Thousands of evaluation reports on university education, faculties and schools can be found in DEQAR.

In 2022, all the degree and centre evaluation reports issued by the Agency have been published in DEQAR, and this fact is expressly stated in the text of our reports.

On 16 February 2022, the ACPUA attended the first webinar organised by the Hungarian National Agency for Accreditation of University Education in 2022. This webinar on DEQAR system was given by Colin Tück, Director of the European Quality Assurance Register for the Higher Education Area (EQAR) and moderated by Adam Kegler, Secretary General of the organising body, as well as by its President, Prof. Dr. Csêpe Valéria and the Deputy Director of the secretariat, Peter Levente.

The main objective of this webinar, with more than 70 participants of different nationalities, was to learn about the current situation of this register created in 2018, as well as the forecasts for its use in the coming years. Specifically, it has been highlighted its basis on principles of transparency and trust, complying with the European ESG2015 standards, exposing its wide use among university organisations (support in decision-making and contact platform), researchers (search for statistical data) and students (quality knowledge about places of study).

Other issues on which the director responded were: the management of this register for alliances between universities (taking as a reference the latest European Commission document on the subject), the possibility of using the English language in all documents, the possible motivation for international rankings or the foreseen inclusion of micro-credentials. Direct link to the DEQAR link: <https://www.eqar.eu/qa-results/search/>

In addition, ALCAEUS assessment reports will be published in the DEQAR database. The EQAR Register Committee, in its decision of 30 September 2022, has considered that ALCAEUS/Agenda 2030, the newest and most innovative programme of our Agency, which measures the degree of commitment of universities to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), complies with European standards (ESG), and will therefore be added to the list of ACPUA evaluation activities registered in EQAR. This acceptance implies that the evaluation reports issued by the ACPUA on the basis of this programme will be published in the European database DEQAR.

This is excellent news for the Agency, having already been congratulated by the ENQA panel of experts who evaluated us last year ("The panel commends ACPUA for developing ALCAEUS as a pioneering evaluation scheme focused on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which aims to enhance the social dimension of higher education in Aragón").

### 6.3. INQAAHE

ACPUA has been a member of the International Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (INQAAHE) since 2016. INQAAHE is a global network of agencies with a presence in all major higher education regions worldwide.

The ACPUA participates in its activities, and in 2018 already received, together with the AQUA agency of Andorra, a capacity building grant from INQAAHE to develop a project on sustainability indicators for universities.

On 24 November 2022, **the ACPUA requested its alignment with the Guidelines and Good Practices to INQAAHE** with the aim that, after the renewal of the Agency for 5 years by the ENQA body for compliance with the ESG, it can be **homologated with these guidelines and international good practices**. For this assessment, INQAAHE selects a panel of experts to carry out the assessment and will give us its response in 2023.

#### Participation in the General Assembly

As a full member of INQAAHE, the ACPUA participated in **the INQAAHE General Assembly** that took place online on 25 May 2022. First of all, after welcoming the attendees, Deb Adair, President of INQAAHE, presented the Annual Report and the minutes of the General Assemblies that took place in 2021. She recalled the mission, values and strategies driven by activities related to these four important areas: sustainability, quality culture, research and relevance.

Secondly, Anna Prades, the organisation's treasurer, explained the financial situation for 2021, as well as the budgets for the coming years.

During the General Assembly meeting, participants were able to ask questions related to network compliance and finances over the past year.

Direct link to the INQAAHE website: <https://www.inqaahe.org/blog/general-assembly-2022-annual-reporting>.

#### Webinars organised by INQAAHE in which the ACPUA has taken part

The ACPUA has participated in the following webinars organised by INQAAHE:

- On 17 March 2022, the ACPUA attended the webinar: **Reimagining quality assurance in the "new normal"**, organised by INQAAHE and co-organised by ANQAHE, the international network and Arabic network of quality assurance agencies in higher education. In this webinar, followed by more than 40 countries, four papers were presented.

First, Dr. Wafa Almansoori, Director of International Research and Evaluation at the American University of Bahrain, highlighted the importance of investing in infrastructure and training for the improvement of the on-site and virtual campus, listing the challenges for the future.

Next, Mr. Ahmed Ali, director of international digital enrolment at EdPlus at Arizona State University, which had 65,000 students online.

in 2019, presented the technological solutions that improve the quality of university degrees in relation to the improvement of teaching as well as student social life.

Thirdly, Dr. Bethany Simunich is the director of research and innovation at the educational non-profit organisation, Quality Matters. Through her focus on student learning, she explained the fundamental factors for the design of quality online training.

Finally, Dr. Jenny Walker, Consultant to the CEO of Oman's national quality assurance agency, representing 40 institutions, shared the values of adapting to online learning and the characteristics and criteria of international standards.

Direct link to the INQAAHE webinar: <https://www.inqaahe.org/inqaahe-talks- march-17-2022>.

- On 4 November 2022, the ACPUA attended the webinar: "**Quality Assurance in VET (Vocational Education and Training) and Level 5: Supporting Smooth Transitions**". In this webinar, guest speakers from different countries (Canada, USA, Norway, Germany and the Netherlands) reflected on experiences in quality assurance of VET and/or technical and vocational qualifications programming.

Some of the issues discussed were: what makes quality assurance in technical education different from quality assurance at different levels, how quality assurance in VET differs from quality assurance in Higher Education, the importance of flexible pathways as a way to ensure lifelong learning and equal opportunities, and some of the challenges and opportunities in this area.

Link direct to webinar of INQAAHE: [https://www.youtube.com/supported\\_browsers?next\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DY4mZ7F8VIWo&list=PLr1ccDFRnxXA8CD1woCCf2I4AyDg3CvDy&index=5](https://www.youtube.com/supported_browsers?next_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DY4mZ7F8VIWo&list=PLr1ccDFRnxXA8CD1woCCf2I4AyDg3CvDy&index=5)

- On 30 November 2022, the ACPUA attended the webinar "**International standards and guidelines: towards diversification, relevance, transformation and recognition**", where the new standards and guidelines for the higher education area of university education were presented.

The current landscape, methodology, structure and modules and the future of the new ISGs were presented by some members of the INQAAHE Committee, led by its chair, Dr. Deborah Adair.

Link direct to power point y a the presentation at youtube of INQAAHE: <https://www.inqaahe.org/sites/default/files/INQAAHE-ISGs-30th-november-webinar.pdf> y [https://www.youtube.com/supported\\_browsers?next\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DALd-myEnzt8](https://www.youtube.com/supported_browsers?next_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DALd-myEnzt8)

### The ACPUA in the INQAAHE Bulletin

The INQAAHE bulletin of 1 April 2022 publishes in its newsletter a news item on the ACPUA, **highlighting the activity carried out by the ACPUA with students** from the universities of Aragon. Specifically, it pays attention to the focus groups carried out within the Covid Impact Strategic Forum, which is part of the ACPUA+Students Programme; a project that would not have been possible without the students. Direct link to the INQAAHE newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/inqaah.org/inqaah-newsletter-q2-8948177>

## 6.4. ECA

The ACPUA has been a member of the European Consortium for Accreditation (ECA) since 2016, together with other European agencies particularly concerned with the recognition of joint degree accreditations and the promotion of new projects in the field of quality in higher education.

ECA, currently comprising 16 members from 11 countries, is a European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education that aims to improve the mutual recognition of qualifications at international level, promoting transparency to give confidence to students.

On 21 April 2022 the ACPUA participated in the international working group of ECA (European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education): **Joint Programmes, Recognition and Innovation**. The Consortium's proposal was to share the issues of interest of the agencies around joint programmes in the European framework, at a time when the motivation for quality assurance and certification of **European initiatives** is increasing.

The session, chaired by its president Solange Pisarz and moderated by the vice-president, Eva Fernández de Labastida, and in which 16 people participated, dealt with 3 aspects: planning of the activities of the working group, training activities in the European framework, as well as proposals and/or participation in joint projects of the Consortium.

In particular, projects related to artificial intelligence, learning outcomes, the development of a table of qualifications in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), as well as the motivation to develop a mapping of European university initiatives in the fields in which each of the Consortium members are working were discussed.

Information is available on the ECA's direct link: <https://ecahe.eu/>.

## 6.5. EQAF EUROPEAN FORUM ON QUALITY ASSURANCE

The European Quality Assurance Forum (EQAF) is the most important event on quality assurance in higher education in Europe. It is jointly organised by the European associations representing the relevant actors and stakeholders in the European Higher Education Area: universities (EUA), agencies (ENQA) and students (ESU). After the years of pandemic, EQAF has been able to take place

The event took place from 17 to 19 November in the Romanian city of Timisoara. The West University of Timisoara was the host university and played this role with excellence. The event was held under the following theme: "Shaping or sharing? QA in a value-driven EHEA".

ACPUA has had the honour of being invited by the organisation to present **its ALCAEUS/Agenda 2030 programme** (for measuring the commitment of centres and universities to the UN SDGs) on 17 November 2022, in a session that took place on Saturday 19 November from 9:30 to 11:35. The presentation was given by the director of the ACPUA, Antonio Serrano.

More information on the event can be found at: <https://eua.eu/events/123-2022-european-quality-assurance-forum.html>.

The presentation of the paper of ACPUA PAPER:  
[https://eua.eu/downloads/content/paper%207\\_serrano%20gonzalez.pdf](https://eua.eu/downloads/content/paper%207_serrano%20gonzalez.pdf)  
and [https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/221117\\_acpua\\_eqaf.pdf](https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/221117_acpua_eqaf.pdf).

More information at <https://acpua.aragon.es/es/alcaeus-nuestro-programa-para-la-certificacion-2030-de-universidades-y-centros>.

## 6.6. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS OF THE ARAGONESE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

### 6.6.1. UNITA-UNIVERSITAS MONTIUM (Alliance of European Universities)

The ACPUA is an associate partner of the UNITA alliance of European Universities of which the University of Zaragoza is initially a member together with the Universities of Torino (Italy), Vest din Timisoara (Romania), Pau et des Pays de l'Adour (France), Savoie Montblanc (France) and Beira Interior (Portugal).

**ACPUA has been working intensively with UNITA during 2022.** As an associate partner, the Agency is a member of its **Advisory Council**, which is made up of the external stakeholders of the alliance. In addition, the Director of the ACPUA chairs the **Quality & Evaluation Board**, which is a strategic commitment for the future of the Agency, on the understanding that the construction of an IACS of the alliance is one of the main cornerstones of the future model of the European University. In other words, with this action carried out in 2022, the ACPUA is acquiring valuable, first-hand and practically unprecedented experience in one of the most powerful areas of internationalisation of the European Higher Education Area.

At the invitation of the Vice-Rector for Internationalisation and Cooperation of the University of Zaragoza, Francisco Beltrán, on 17 January 2022, the director of the ACPUA participated in the meeting of the working group on micro-credentials of the UNITA alliance. In his speech, our director explained, in relation to micro-credentials, the new Spanish regulations introduced by Royal Decree 822/2021; the recommendations of the European Union and the projects and working groups on micro-credentials of the European Association of Agencies ENQA.



## 6.6.2. Other international collaborations

### ITALIAN NATIONAL AGENCY ANVUR

In 2022 the ACPUA has continued its collaboration with the Italian national agency ANVUR, with both agencies declaring their intention to collaborate in the field of evaluation, particularly with regard to the social dimension of quality, innovation and knowledge transfer (the so-called "Terza Missione of the university").

Different meetings organised by ANVUR - Italy have been held with other quality agencies that belong to ENQA and are interested in managing projects around the social dimension of quality and the Third Mission. The other participants, besides ACPUA have been: NVAO - Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie, Flanders, ACEEU - Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities, Germany, ASFOR - Associazione italiana formazione manageriale, Italy. The aim was to define what is meant by the social dimension of quality and to jointly prepare an international workshop.

In addition, the ACPUA attended online on 20 July the presentation of the Italian national agency (ANVUR) on "Research Quality Assessment Results (VQR 2015-2019)".

The event, chaired by ANVUR President Prof. Antonio Felice Uricchio and conducted by Prof. Alessandra Celletti (VQR coordinator), was one of the most relevant milestones in the context of research in higher education in Italy, during which the results of the third round of the five-year quality assurance exercise were announced.

This rigorous and extensive study has focused, through the evaluation of its fourteen areas, on the Third Mission as a principle of higher education, urging the sharing of this knowledge of universities and other institutions with society.

Direct link to ANVUR website <https://www.anvur.it/news/pubblicati-i-rapporti-di-istituzione-della-vqr-2015-2019/>

### EUROPEAN COMMISSION TECHNICAL WORKSHOP: A COMMON EUROPEAN QUALIFICATION

The ACPUA participated on 3 March in the workshop: pilot project on European degrees. The Commission's proposal was an invitation to Member States to create the right conditions at national, regional and institutional level to enable closer and more sustainable transnational cooperation.

The workshop has been organised as part of a study: "Towards a European Degree: identifying opportunities and investigating the impact and feasibility of different approaches", commissioned by the European Commission, DG EAC and implemented by PPMI.

Three themes were discussed: transnational cooperation, flexibility and innovation, and inclusion and sustainability. Relevant issues such as mobility, multilingualism, the labour market and civic engagement, as well as environmental and digital issues and transnational campuses were addressed.

It is available at link direct link from European Commission:

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_22\\_365](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_365)

### **FINAL CONFERENCE OF THE MICROBOL PROJECT**

The ACPUA attended the final conference of the MICROBOL project online on 8 March. Moderated by the Belgian Minister of Education and Training and in cooperation with its partners, they presented the common framework for micro-credentials in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).

First, the Directorate General for Education, Youth and Culture of the European Commission led the focus on the Council recommendations. Kinga Szuli, policy officer at the Commission, commented on the role of micro-credentials in higher education and how to relate it to the key Bologna commitments, and on the possible supports of this institution.

Secondly, the director of the MICROBOL initiative, Magalie Soenen, presented the results of the project: a common definition, purpose, usefulness and its constituent elements, followed by recommendations from different areas: quality assurance, recognition and the relationship between the qualifications framework and ECTS.

Finally, after another interesting panel discussion moderated by María Kelo, current Director of Institutional Development at the European University Association (EUA), we attended the summary of the conclusions of a project that has only just begun, but with a promising future.

Recording and presentations of the final MICROBOL Conference:  
<https://microcredentials.eu/microbol-final-conference-presentations-and-recording/>

### **WEBINAR ON EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES INITIATIVE**

On 9 March 2022, the ACPUA attended the second webinar organised by the Hungarian Committee on Accreditation of University Education 2022. This webinar on the European Universities Initiative was given by Prof. Daniela Cristina Ghitulica, Vice-President of ENQA and Director of the Romanian agency ARACIS, and Dr. Ferenc Takó, Director of the CHARM European University project and moderated by Adam Kegler, Secretary General of MAB, as well as by its President, Prof. Dr. Csêpe Valéria.

The main objective of this webinar, with more than 60 participants from different countries, was to update the context of European university initiatives. Firstly, ENQA highlighted the characteristics of these programmes and the criteria for quality assurance as one of the current relevant issues. Secondly, and in relation to the master's degree programme made up of 5 European universities, the accreditation procedure was explained, highlighting pros, cons and improvements for the future.

Direct link to ENQA issues of relevance: <https://www.enqa.eu/topics/> Direct link to Master CHARM: <https://www.charm-eu.eu/es/masters/globalchallenges>

## **EVALUATION, AN INDISPENSABLE STEP TOWARDS A EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA**

As part of the activities taking place on the occasion of the French Presidency of the European Union, the French agency HCERES organised a conference on 16 March entitled "Evaluation, an indispensable step towards the European Higher Education and Research Area". The ACPUA attended this interesting event, which brought to the fore the most important challenges currently facing universities and quality assurance agencies in the field of quality assurance in teaching and research. The main associations and networks of EHEA stakeholders were present at the conference. On the agency side, Douglas Blackstock, president of ENQA; Jolanta Silka, from the Latvian agency AIC and member of the ENQA Board; Antonio Uricchio, president of ANVUR (an Italian agency with which the ACPUA has special relations of collaboration) took part in different sessions. The event was chaired by Thierry Coulhon, President of HCERES, the host French agency.

### **NAQA: INTERNATIONAL ONLINE FORUM**

On 24 May, the ACPUA attended the international online forum organised by the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Universities in Ukraine (NAQA). "Quality assurance at university level in times of war" is the title that has served to share their vision on the impact of the war in this area, its internal and external quality, as well as future developments. Through the point of view of the rectors of the institutions of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) in this country, we have learned not only about the different experiences that the universities are undergoing since the Russian invasion, but also about the National Action Plan that can lead the stabilisation of the sector.

Direct link to NAQA events: <https://en.naqa.gov.ua/?p=1870>

## 7. QUALITY CULTURE: SEMINARS AND DISSEMINATION ACTIONS

### 7.1. ACPUA Conference

On 1 April, the **ACPUA 2022 Conference** was held, an initiative of the Aragonese university quality agency which, after two years without face-to-face meetings, prepared a friendly meeting with its national and international collaborators. The main objective was to **share the updating of methodologies and contents** with the evaluators who are part of the different ACPUA committees.

After the director's presentation, the international vision of the evaluation of higher education quality agencies was presented, the new national regulations were discussed through the Royal Decrees approved in 2021, the projects in which ACPUA is involved and which form part of the Subcommittee for Thematic Evaluations (SETE) were updated, and finally the situation in Ukraine was presented by the Red Cross, with which the Agency has a collaboration agreement.

<b>CONFERENCIA ACPUA 2022</b> <b>Zaragoza, viernes 1 de abril</b>	
<b>PROGRAMA</b>	
9:45	Recepción y entrega de materiales.
10:00	La ACPUA desde que se desencadenó la pandemia ( <i>saludo del Director</i> )
10:15	The value of regional frameworks for QA during the pandemic: two case studies ( <i>Fiona Crozier</i> ).
10:40	Las recomendaciones 2021 de ENQA: un plan de actuación para la ACPUA ( <i>Antonio Serrano</i> ).
11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30	RR.DD 822 y 640: desarrollos y retos de las reformas legales ( <i>Isabel Ortega</i> ).
12:15	Novedades y evaluaciones temáticas ( <i>coordina Leonor González</i> ): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ALCAEUS/Agenda 2030</li> <li>- Respeto a la diversidad</li> <li>- Acreditación profesorado PCDVC</li> <li>- Fórum Covid-19</li> <li>- Noticias de ENQA y tendencias del EEES</li> </ul>
13:15	Discusión final.
13:45	<i>Buffet Lunch</i>
La conferencia tendrá lugar en el <i>Caixaforum Zaragoza</i> ( <a href="https://caixaforum.org/es/zaragoza/info-centro#servicios">https://caixaforum.org/es/zaragoza/info-centro#servicios</a> )	

Table 10. ACPUA Conference Programme

## 7.2. ACPUA University Quality Seminars

This activity of the ACPUA, an interdisciplinary place for meeting and exchange of knowledge, methods and experiences around the great theme of the quality of higher education in Aragon, is an open forum for communication with society and the participation of the entire university community.

The seminars held in 2022 were as follows:

- 12/01/2022.- Webinar Criteria for research evaluation in the ACPUA
- 15/03/2022.- Post-COVID Strategic Forum: Focus on the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Zaragoza
- 22/03/2022.- Post-COVID Strategic Forum: Focus on the Faculty of Education of the University of Zaragoza
- 24/03/2022.- Post-covid strategic forum: Focus on the University Campus of the University of San Jorge
- 24/03/2022.- Scope and impact of the COVID-19 context on teaching methodologies: digitisation of education in the Post-Pandemic Era.
- 01/04/2022.- ACPUA Conference
- 25/05/2022.- Training session for PACE programme auditors
- Pre-university quality: ACPUA certification
- 22/09/2022.- REACU ENQA
- 29/09/2022.- Post-covid strategic forum: Focus results.

## 7.3. Conferences, courses and seminars

The following table lists the conferences, seminars and courses with ACPUA participation during 2022.

Date	Holder
12/01/2022	Webinar Criteria for the evaluation of research in the ACPUA
26/01/2022	Forum Universities for the future
27/01/2022	Webinar: The case of the Master's Degree for Teachers of Compulsory Secondary Education and Baccalaureate, Vocational Education and Training and Language Teaching.
03/02/2022	III University Quality Conference: Ensuring the quality of university education in times of uncertainty. OUC (online)
16/02/2022	Universities in the DEQAR System (on line)
16/02/2022	Atheneo EINA
01/03/2022	Teaching Dirygress
02/03/2022	Covid Education-Impact Strategic Forum (course 21-22)
03/03/2022	Technical workshop on a Joint European Degree Label pilot (on line)

Date	Holder
<b>08/03/2022</b>	Microbol Final Conference
<b>09/03/2022</b>	Webinar: The European University Initiative
<b>15/03/2022</b>	Strategic Forum Health Sciences - Covid Impact (course 21-22)
<b>15/03/2022</b>	ORIENTA Training Fair
<b>16/03/2022</b>	Conference "Evaluation, an essential step towards a European education area supérieur et de la recherche".
<b>17/03/2022</b>	Webinar Reimagining Quality Assurance in the 'New Normal'.
<b>24/03/2022</b>	Scope and impact of the COVID-19 context on teaching methodologies: digitisation of education in the Post-Pandemic Era.
<b>25/04/2022</b>	AQU's new verification process
<b>10/05/2022</b>	Seminar "Accountability of Universities".
<b>18/05/2022</b>	UNESCO World Higher Education 2022 Conference
<b>31/05/2022</b>	3rd ENQA Seminar for recently reviewed agencies.
<b>08/06/2022</b>	Training on the ACPUA Certification of Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary Education Centres
<b>10/06/2022</b>	International workshop "What do we talk about when we talk about social impact?"
<b>23/06/2022</b>	ENQA Member Forum
<b>15/07/2022</b>	INQA/AHE-CNA International Certification Renewal Process in Colombia
<b>20/07/2022</b>	Webinar "Results of Evaluation of Research Quality 2015-2019 (VQR 2015-2019)".
<b>20/07/2022</b>	Webinar "Microcredentials: Inclusive training in all formats".
<b>29/09/2022</b>	Participatory Presentation of the Post-Covid Report Results Report
<b>04/11/2022</b>	Webinar "Quality Assuring VET and Level 5: supporting harmonious transitions".
<b>11/11/2022</b>	XI National Conference of University Quality Technical Units
<b>12/11/2022</b>	XV International Virtual Seminar: Building Trust in our universities. New missions of Quality Assurance.
<b>17/11/2022</b>	EUA 2022 European Quality Assurance Forum
<b>01/12/2022</b>	IV TEACHING INNOVATION OBSERVATORY CONFERENCE. Lecturers in the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts and the Assessment-Accreditation processes.
<b>17/11/2022</b>	2022 European Quality Assurance Forum: Shaping or sharing? QA in a value-driven EHEA

*Table 11 Events in which the ACPUA participated.*

## 8. INSTITUTIONAL LIFE: MEETINGS OF ACPUA BODIES

The following is a summary of the meetings of ACPUA bodies and participation in commissions or networks at national level.

### 8.1. Governing Council



The Governing Board is the Agency's highest governing body, chaired by the head of the department responsible for Higher Education and with representation from the Government of Aragon, the University of Zaragoza, San Jorge University, experts, trade unions, representatives of student councils and business organisations.

Meetings held and main agreements reached:

- 21 February 2022.
  - At this session, the Governing Board unanimously approved the Agency's budget for 2022, its Activity Plan 2022 and the proposal for collaboration and exchange with other entities.
- 27 June 2022.
  - At this session, the Annual Activities Report for 2021 and the annual accounts for the aforementioned financial year were approved. It also approved the agreement with the University of Cantabria formalising the assignment of management for the assessment of the merits of its teaching and research staff, a general protocol of action with the Agency for the Quality of the University System of Catalonia (AQU) for cooperation in the fields of quality assessment and monitoring of the labour market integration of university graduates, another with the Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca (ANVUR, Italy) and a memorandum of understanding with the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS, Romania).

### 8.2. Committee of Experts

It is the consultative body of the Agency. This body is provided for in Article 91 of LOSUA, its composition is set out in Article 14 of the ACPUA statutes and its functions, which are listed below, in Article 15.



- Reporting on the Agency's participation in national or international programmes for the evaluation, accreditation or prospective evaluation of the

teaching and research activities of universities.

- Propose organisational innovations in the Agency's structure, based on the experiences of other advanced university systems.
- To propose the development of plans for the improvement of the quality of the university system of Aragon and to report on the development of existing plans.
- Propose to the Director the composition of the evaluation, certification and accreditation commissions to be set up within the Agency.
- Periodically evaluate the Agency's activities, proposing improvements in its functioning.
- Any other functions similar to those established in this section entrusted to it by the Governing Board in accordance with article 91.4 of the LOSUA.

During 2022, the members of the Committee of Experts were consulted on an ad hoc basis, but no face-to-face meeting was held.

### 8.3. Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission (ECAC)



The ECSC is the Agency's technical body responsible for the technical functions of evaluation, accreditation and certification attributed to the Agency. Since 2014, it has delegated the functions of evaluation and issuing evaluation reports to the SET, SEI and SEC sub-commissions and, in 2021, to the SEP with the creation of this new sub-commission.

Its main function is to approve the Agency's evaluation and action methodologies, guidelines and protocols.

The meetings held and main agreements reached during 2022 were as follows:

- 22 February 2022.
  - ALCAEUS Programme interpretation criteria (pilot phase).
  - Proposal to update the document "Guidelines for the design and assessment (verification/modification) of official bachelor's and master's degree programmes in "blended" or "distance" mode.
  - Proposal to adapt the validity of the PACE programme certificate to 6 years (adaptation to Royal Decree 640/2021 of 27 July).
- 28 March 2022.
  - Proposal of assessment panels for the renewal of degree accreditation Call 2022 - 1st semester.
  - Proposal for a research merit assessment panel (sexenios).
  - Proposal for a cybersecurity expert to support the CER of Engineering and Architecture in the evaluation for the verification of the USJ degrees (Degree in Cybersecurity Engineering and Degree in Artificial Intelligence).
- 11 July 2022.



- Meta-evaluation of the ALCAEUS Programme and Modification of the ALCAEUS Programme Framework Document.
- Revision of protocols and evaluation guide associated with Royal Decree 822/2021 of 28 September.
  - Presentation of REACU protocols.
  - Verification of qualifications:
    - Guide for the verification/modification of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees.
    - Guide to the evaluation of teaching modalities.
  - Follow-up of degrees.
  - Renewal of degree accreditation.
- Meta-evaluation of the PCDVC accreditation programme and modification of the Programme Framework Document.
- Proposed panels for the evaluation processes for the second half of 2022.
  - Panel proposal for the renewal of the accreditation of the Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education and the Bachelor's Degree in Teacher Training in Primary Education.
  - Proposal for a panel for the evaluation of the Quinquenio Docente.
- Proposed changes to the evaluation sub-committees.
  - Proposal for new SET members.
  - Proposal for new SEC members.
  - Proposal for new members in the RECs.
  - Proposal for new members in the SC.
- 18 October 2022.
  - Proposal of experts of the visiting panel for the certification of the IACS (PACE programme) of the Faculty of Economics and Business of the UZ.
- 9 December 2022.
  - Proposal of evaluation methodologies in the verification and modification of teachings
  - Proposal for a protocol for the renewal of the accreditation of doctoral programmes.
  - Proposal for the appointment of members of evaluation panels and technical commissions.

#### 8.4. Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Qualifications (SET)



By agreement of 20 February 2014, and in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes, the Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Committee delegated the technical function of evaluation, certification and accreditation to three subcommittees set up for this purpose: the Subcommittees for the Evaluation of Degrees, Research and Centres (SET, SEI and

SEC), with the ECSC being responsible for defining their operating regime and composition.

The Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Qualifications (SET) has the functions of:

- Issue evaluation reports in accordance with the protocols established by the ECSC (our technical body).
- To carry out by its members the exercise of the evaluation activity in the following processes:
  - Process for the renewal of degree accreditation.
  - Degree monitoring process.
  - Degree verification process (after full ENQA membership).
  - Any other technical function of degree evaluation according to the protocols established by the ECSC.

Since 2018, the SET has been meeting regularly. In addition to holding at least two face-to-face meetings per year (coinciding with the months of January and September), this body has established a calendar of ordinary meetings that is rigorously carried out as the Agency's evaluation work was demanding it. Ordinary meetings are held on the 1st and 15th of each month whenever there are reports to be issued (if it is a public holiday, they are moved to the following day; in January, August and December there are usually no meetings). Extraordinary meetings are held whenever necessary.

During 2022, **this committee met 13 times**.

#### 8.4.1. The Branch Evaluation Commissions



As a consequence of joining ENQA, the ACPUA became the Agency responsible for the verification and modification of degrees. The responsibility for this evaluation lies with SET, together with the Branch Evaluation Commissions (CER).

The RECs are collegiate bodies created to assist the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Qualifications of the University of Navarra.

ACPUA. In the Agency's organisation chart, they are on a par with the panels of experts involved in many of the evaluation processes (renewal of accreditation, monitoring, etc.). There are five RECs, one for each of the main areas of knowledge.

- Arts and Humanities Commission.
- Science Branch Commission.
- Health Sciences Branch Commission.
- Social Sciences and Law Commission.
- Engineering and Architecture Branch Commission.

Each REC is made up of four people (president, academic member, professional member and student). These 4 people have different areas of knowledge within the same branch.

The main functions of the RECs are:

- Carry out a first assessment and draft the proposed report for the SET of the verification and modification processes of all degrees.
- To analyse and issue a first report for the SET on possible allegations by the universities on the proposals for SET reports.
- Any other evaluation assignment (preliminary study or information gathering) that may be entrusted to it by the SET.

The presidents of each of the RECs are also members of the SET.

The number of RECs may be increased due to the specific needs of the degree programmes or when deemed necessary by the president of the REC.

The RECs meet at least three times per degree (at three points in time in their evaluation flowchart) on a regular and regulated basis, to be verified or modified by the Agency. The meetings are held in necessary combination with those of the SET. They also meet on an extraordinary basis when necessary.

In 2022 there were **16 meetings of the ACPUA RECs**.

## 8.5. Subcommittee on Research Evaluation (SEI)



By agreement of 20 February 2014, and in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes, the Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Committee delegated the technical function of evaluation, certification and accreditation to three subcommittees set up for this purpose: the Subcommittees for the Evaluation of Degrees, Research and Centres (SET, SEI and

SEC), with the ECSC being responsible for defining their operating regime and composition.

The Subcommittee on Research Evaluation (SEI) has the functions of:

- Issue evaluation reports in accordance with the protocols established by the ECSC.
- To carry out by its members the exercise of the evaluation activity in the following processes:
  - Creation of University Research Institutes (IUIs).
  - Periodic evaluation of IUIs.
  - Evaluation of six-year periods of research activity of contracted teaching staff.
  - Evaluation of research projects of university centres or institutes.
  - Any other technical function of research evaluation according to the protocols established by the ECSC.

During 2022, this committee met **on 5 occasions**: 11 January 2022, 14 March 2022, 1 June 2022 and 6 July 2022 and 15 July 2022.

## 8.6. Sub-Committee on the Evaluation of Centres (SEC)



By agreement of 20 February 2014, and in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes, the Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Committee delegated for all purposes the technical function of evaluation, certification and accreditation to three subcommittees set up for this purpose: Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Degrees, Research, and Centres (SET, SEI and SEC), being

the ECSC responsible for defining the operating rules and composition of the ECSC.

The Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres (SEC) has the functions of:

- Issue evaluation reports in accordance with the protocols established by the ECSC.
- To carry out by its members the exercise of the evaluation activity in the following processes:
  - Creation and affiliation of university centres.
  - Viability of centres attached to universities.
  - AUDIT Programme.
  - DOCENTIA Programme.
  - Certification of schools (CEI, CEP, CES) hosting university students on work placements.
  - Certification of the results of the evaluation of the UZ dedication and teaching allowance.
  - Any other technical function of institutional evaluation according to the protocols established by the ECSC.

During 2022 this committee met on **2 occasions**.

## 8.7. Subcommittee on Teacher Evaluation (SEP)

The Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Teaching Staff (SEP) is a technical committee set up in 2021 by the ACPUA's Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Committee in accordance with the provisions of article 93.3 of the LOSUA and article 17 of its statutes.

The SEP has the following functions according to its rules of procedure:

- a) Issue evaluation reports in accordance with the protocols established by the ECSC.
- b) To carry out by its members the exercise of the evaluation activity, collecting the technical judgements established by panels of experts, in the following processes:
  - Evaluation, accreditation and certification in the field of accreditation of university teaching staff.
  - To advise, within the scope of its competencies, on any matters submitted to it for consideration by the Governing Board or the head of the Agency.

Created in 2021 in order to evaluate the first call for the accreditation of the position of Professor or Associate Professor with Clinical Links to the Public Health System of Aragon, it held 4 meetings in 2022, three of them associated with the evaluation for the accreditation of the position of Professor or Associate Professor with Clinical Links to the Aragon Health System for the 2021 call and one associated with the debate and approval of the document "Guidelines for the application of the Evaluation criteria" and its incorporation as an annex for the next call for evaluation. of the accreditation of the position of Professor to Associate Professor with Clinical Links to the Public Health System of Aragon and the document "Guide for the evaluator" for use by the people who will make up the panel of experts who will carry out the evaluation of the research and teaching merits presented by the people who apply to the call for applications.

### 8.8. Sub-Commission on Thematic Evaluations (SETE)

The Subcommittee on Thematic Evaluations (SETE) is a technical committee set up in 2021 by the ACPUA's Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission under the provisions of article 93.3 of the LOSUA and article 17 of its statutes.

SETE has the following functions:

- a) Adapting evaluation protocols to the new changes.
- b) To systematise and disseminate thematic analyses on quality and employability in the Aragonese University System (SUA).
- c) To develop the social dimension of quality, whose actions include the implementation of the ALCAEUS programme, the transversal application of the principle of real equality of opportunities between women and men, and to contribute to the effective respect of the sexual diversity of all people in the SUA centres.
- d) Promoting excellence and strategic evaluations, making SUA excellence visible.

During 2022, this committee met **8 times**.

### 8.9. Guarantees Committee



The Committee of Guarantees is the Agency's technical body responsible for supervising the correct processing of the Agency's evaluation, certification and accreditation procedures, reporting on appeals lodged against resolutions of the Director. Created by agreement of the Governing Board on 4 May 2015, it was constituted on 19 January 2016.

It meets when complaints or appeals are lodged with the Agency.

As part of the functions entrusted to the Guarantees Committee during 2022, it met **on 3 occasions**.

## 8.10. Monitoring Committee



On 4 November 2019 the ACPUA Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission made a proposal for the appointment of the members of the Agency's Monitoring Committee.

This committee fits into the Agency's organisational structure on a par with the Branch Commissions and the panels of expert evaluators. It is a permanent body as its work is planned throughout the year. It is also a transversal body as its work will be reflected in all the ACPUA's monitoring evaluation processes, both in the evaluation of degrees and in the evaluation of centre monitoring processes. In 2022 this committee was in charge of the evaluation of the improvement plans of the centres certified by the PACE - SIGC programme.

## 9. COMMUNICATION, TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

### 9.1. New ACPUA charter of services

The new ACPUA service charter was published in March (ORDER CUS/380/2022, of 17 March, approving the updating of the service charter of the Agency for Quality and University Prospective Studies of Aragon (ACPUA)), thus renewing the ACPUA's commitments to citizens.

The outcome of the monitoring of commitments in 2022 was satisfactory, with all commitments covered.

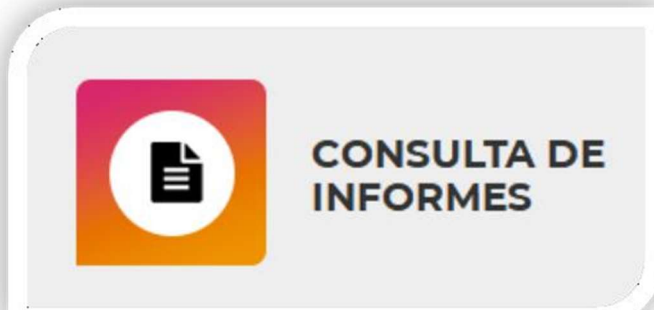
Disseminate the Annual Report of Actions in the first half of the year.	The ACPUA's Annual Report was approved by the ACPUA Governing Board on 27/06/2022 and published the following day, 28/06/2022.  <b>100% compliance</b>
Publish the Annual Action Plan in the first quarter of the year.	The Annual Action Programme was approved by the ACPUA Governing Board on 21/02/2022 and published the following day, 22/02/2022.  <b>100% compliance</b>
Obtain an evaluation higher than 3 out of 4 in satisfaction surveys for all services provided annually by the Agency.	189 satisfaction surveys have been completed. The average satisfaction rating is 3.56 for all services provided annually by the Agency.  <b>100% compliance</b>
Ensure annually the absence of conflict of interest in the appointment of experts in the different evaluation processes.	Of the 8 panels of experts appointed in the different evaluation processes, all have been accepted by the universities.  <b>100% compliance</b>
Organise at least 8 events per year to promote quality culture.	A total of 9 events have been organised to promote quality culture.  <b>100% compliance</b>
Participate in at least 5 events per year to promote quality culture in collaboration with other entities.	10 interventions have been carried out in events to promote quality culture in collaboration with other entities.  <b>100% compliance</b>
Carry out at least two evaluation processes annually outside the Aragonese University System.	3 evaluation processes have been carried out outside the Aragonese University System.  <b>100% compliance</b>
Achieve gender equality among external experts working with the Agency throughout the year.	Out of 131 external experts, 66 are women; 50.38% of the external experts collaborating with the Agency are women.  <b>100% compliance</b>

## 9.2. Policy on publication of reports and protocols

ACPUA's commitment to transparency is so categorical that **all the results of ACPUA's evaluation reports** are published on its website.

With regard to the evaluation of degrees, in 2022 the degree evaluation reports were published (Verification and

modification of study plans, monitoring, renewal of accreditation, etc.). On the other hand, the historical series of results by scientific field can be accessed from the section on evaluation of the teaching staff's research activity on the website. On the other hand, all the report templates are continuously revised with the aim of improving their clarity and accessibility for citizens.



In the same way, all the centre evaluation reports have been published (ACPUA's PACE-SGIC programme, ACPUA's ALCAEUS programme, etc.).

A **report search engine** is available on the website, through which the user can access all the evaluation reports on both programmes (degrees) and centres published by the agency to date. This mechanism, which can be used in both Spanish and English, is easy and simple to use for the user, allowing searches with different criteria (name of the degree, university, field, type of report, etc.) and facilitating the downloading of the files.

It should also be noted that the different evaluation protocols, the composition of the evaluation commissions, the members of **all ACPUA bodies** and the configuration of its staff are also publicly available on the website. The website also contains information on its annual activity plans and reports.



The Agency's annual accounts are published on the website of the Government of Aragon, as part of its General Account, volume VI of the annual accounts of the public law entities of the Autonomous Community of Aragon. On the other hand, this report includes a section on resources where you can see the details of the human and economic resources of ACPUA.

### 9.3. Publication of news

This policy of publishing reports is complemented by the publication of news and other content. Even with the development work on the new website, news on the Agency's current affairs has been published throughout 2022. In fact, most of the content that had been published on the previous website is also available on the current *website*.

In 2022, 50 news items were published. The following two tables show the headline of each of them and the corresponding link to the ACPUA website in English and Spanish respectively.

Date	Holder	Link
12/01/2022	ACPUA OFFERS A TRAINING COURSE ON RESEARCH EVALUATION	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-acpua-imparte-un-training-course-on-research-evaluation">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-acpua-imparte-un-training-course-on-research-evaluation</a>
20/01/2022	MICRO-CREDENTIALS: ACPUA REPORTS TO THE UNITA ALLIANCE OF EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/microcredenciales-la-acpua-informs-the-european-university-alliance-unita">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/microcredenciales-la-acpua-informs-the-european-university-alliance-unita</a>
02/02/2022	CHALLENGES IN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION ON MASTER'S DEGREE STUDIES IN TEACHER TRAINING TEACHING STAFF	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/retos-en-la-university-education-about-master's-studies-about-university-education-about-master's-studies-about-university-education-training-from">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/retos-en-la-university-education-about-master's-studies-about-university-education-about-master's-studies-about-university-education-training-from</a>
04/02/2022	END OF CALL PCDCVC	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/finalizacion-convocatoria-pcdcvc">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/finalizacion-convocatoria-pcdcvc</a>
07/02/2022	CERTIFICATION OF STUDENT TEACHER AND MASTER'S TEACHER TRAINING CENTRES: 331 STUDENT TEACHER AND MASTER'S TEACHER TRAINING CENTRES ARE NOW CERTIFIED ARAGÓN ACCREDITED BY ACPUA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/certificacion-de-teacher-student-practice-placements-and-master's-practice-centres">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/certificacion-de-teacher-student-practice-placements-and-master's-practice-centres</a>
07/02/2022	PRESENTATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE ACPUA TO THE UNITA ALLIANCE OF EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/presentacion-del-director-of-acpua-university-alliance-european-unita">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/presentacion-del-director-of-acpua-university-alliance-european-unita</a>
10/02/2022	FOLLOW-UP OF INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION: MEETING WITH THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/seguimiento-de-la-accreditation-institutional-meeting-with-the-faculty-of-philosophy-and-letters">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/seguimiento-de-la-accreditation-institutional-meeting-with-the-faculty-of-philosophy-and-letters</a>
11/02/2022	OWN DEGREES AND LIFELONG LEARNING: MEETING WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF SARAGOSSA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/titulos-propios-y-training-permanent-training-meeting-with-university-of-zaragoza">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/titulos-propios-y-training-permanent-training-meeting-with-university-of-zaragoza</a>
17/02/2022	STUDENT INTERNSHIPS: RECOGNITION OF THE ACPUA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/practicas-de-students-recognition-accreditation-acpua">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/practicas-de-students-recognition-accreditation-acpua</a>
18/02/2022	THE UNIVERSITY OF ZARAGOZA HAS CREATED A POOL OF INTERNAL AUDITORS WITH EXPERIENCE IN THE ACPUA PACE PROGRAMME	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-universidad-de-zaragoza-creates-an-internal-auditor-bag-with-experience-at">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-universidad-de-zaragoza-creates-an-internal-auditor-bag-with-experience-at</a>
23/02/2022	ACPUA GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-del-consejo-rector-de-la-acpua">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-del-consejo-rector-de-la-acpua</a>
28/02/2022	MEETING WITH CAMPUS VICE-CHANCELLORS IBERUS	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-con-vice-rectors-campus-iberus">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-con-vice-rectors-campus-iberus</a>
01/03/2022	MEETING OF THE COMMISSION FOR MONITORING UNIVERSITY PROGRAMMING	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-la-programme-follow-up-commission-university">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-la-programme-follow-up-commission-university</a>
15/03/2022	MEETING OF THE TEAMS OF ACPUA AND THE VALENCIAN AGENCY AVAP AT THE CAMPUS OF TERUEL	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-los-aquaculture-and-agency-valencian-avap-equipment-at-the-campus-de-teruel">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-los-aquaculture-and-agency-valencian-avap-equipment-at-the-campus-de-teruel</a>

Date	Holder	Link
15/03/2022	VISIT TO THE HUESCA CAMPUS	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/visita-al-campus-de-huesca">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/visita-al-campus-de-huesca</a>
16/03/2022	MEETING OF HEADS OF AGENCIES WITH THE ENQA BOARD: COMMUNIQUE ON THE INVASION OF UKRAINE	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-agency-directors-with-the-enqa-board-communique-about-the-invasion-from">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-agency-directors-with-the-enqa-board-communique-about-the-invasion-from</a>
18/03/2022	SUMMIT MEETINGS: IN SEPTEMBER THE ACPUA WILL HOST THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ZARAGOZA ENQA AND THE ASSEMBLY OF REACU	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reuniones-en-la-summit-in-september-the-acpua-welcomes-in-saragossa-al-board-de-enqa-y-la">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reuniones-en-la-summit-in-september-the-acpua-welcomes-in-saragossa-al-board-de-enqa-y-la</a>
23/03/2022	ACPUA + STUDENTS: MEETING WITH CREUP	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acpua-estudiantes-meeting-with-creup-0">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acpua-estudiantes-meeting-with-creup-0</a>
25/03/2022	IMPORTANT NOTICE- THE CALL FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH ACTIVITY OF THE TEACHING STAFF IS PUBLISHED TODAY IN BOA CONTRACTED OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ZARAGOZA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aviso-importante-published-today-in-boa-the-call-for-activity-assessment">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aviso-importante-published-today-in-boa-the-call-for-activity-assessment</a>
25/03/2022	IMPORTANT NOTICE - PUBLISHED TODAY IN BOA THE CALL FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH ACTIVITY OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH STAFF. RESEARCHER OF THE ENTITIES	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aviso-importante-published-today-in-boa-the-call-for-activity-assessment-0">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aviso-importante-published-today-in-boa-the-call-for-activity-assessment-0</a>
13/04/2022	APPROVAL OF THE UPDATE OF THE CHARTER OF AQUACULTURE SERVICES	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aprobacion-de-la-updated-acqua-services-charter">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aprobacion-de-la-updated-acqua-services-charter</a>
04/05/2022	REACU MEETING AND MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF UNIVERSITIES	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-reacu-y-meeting-with-the-minister-of-universities">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-de-reacu-y-meeting-with-the-minister-of-universities</a>
11/05/2022	SEXENIOS UZ- PUBLISHED PROVISIONAL LISTS OF THOSE ADMITTED, TO BE REMEDIED AND TO BE REINSTATED EXCLUDE	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-uz-published-provisional-lists-of-admittance-admittance-substitute-and-excluded">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-uz-published-provisional-lists-of-admittance-admittance-substitute-and-excluded</a>
11/05/2022	SEXENIOS ENTIDADES- PUBLICADAS LISTAS PROVISIONALES DE ADMITIDOS, A SUBSANAR Y EXCLUDE	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-entidades-published-provisional-lists-of-admittance-admittance-subsidies-and-excluded">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-entidades-published-provisional-lists-of-admittance-admittance-subsidies-and-excluded</a>
13/05/2022	INQAHE'S NEWSLETTER PUBLICISES NEWS FROM THE ACPUA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/el-boletin-de-inqahe-publicita-noticias-de-la-acpua">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/el-boletin-de-inqahe-publicita-noticias-de-la-acpua</a>
03/06/2022	SEXENIOS UZ- PUBLISHED DEFINITIVE LISTS OF ADMITTED AND EXCLUDED	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-uz-published-final-lists-of-admitted-and-excluded">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-uz-published-final-lists-of-admitted-and-excluded</a>
03/06/2022	SEXENIOS ENTITIES - LISTS PUBLISHED DEFINITIVE LISTS OF THOSE ADMITTED AND EXCLUDED	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-entidades-published-final-lists-of-admitted-and-excluded">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/sexenios-entidades-published-final-lists-of-admitted-and-excluded</a>
07/06/2022	ACPUA PRESENTS ITS PROGRAMME TO THE EUROPEAN AGENCIES MEETING IN COLOGNE ALCAEUS/AGENDA 2030	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acpua-presenta-las-european-agencies-meet-in-cologne-its-programme-alcaeusagenda-2030">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acpua-presenta-las-european-agencies-meet-in-cologne-its-programme-alcaeusagenda-2030</a>
28/06/2022	ACPUA GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-del-consejo-rector-of-acpua-1">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/reunion-del-consejo-rector-of-acpua-1</a>
29/06/2022	ACPUA AT THE MEMBERS FORUM OF ENQA 2022	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-acpua-en-el-members-forum-de-enqa-2022">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-acpua-en-el-members-forum-de-enqa-2022</a>
08/08/2022	PRESENTATION OF THE ALCAEUS PROGRAMME EXTRAORDINARY COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ZARAGOZA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/presentacion-del-programme-alcaeus-extra-ordinary-courses-of-the-university-of-saragossa">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/presentacion-del-programme-alcaeus-extra-ordinary-courses-of-the-university-of-saragossa</a>
09/08/2022	ACPUA ATTENDS ONLINE THE EVENT OF ANECA MICRO-CREDENTIALS	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acpua-asiste-online-al-evento-de-microcredenciales-de-aneca">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acpua-asiste-online-al-evento-de-microcredenciales-de-aneca</a>
10/08/2022	THE ANVUR AGENCY PRESENTS THE RESULTS OF ITS LATEST CAMPAIGN TO EVALUATE THE RESEARCH	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-agencia-anvur-presents-the-results-of-your-ultimate-campaign-results-of-your-ultimate-campaign-result-evaluation-at">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/la-agencia-anvur-presents-the-results-of-your-ultimate-campaign-results-of-your-ultimate-campaign-result-evaluation-at</a>
31/08/2022	APPROVAL OF THE NEW EVALUATION PROTOCOL FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF THE POST OF TENURE-TRACK LECTURER WITH DOCTORAL AFFILIATION CLINIC	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aprobado-el-nuevo-protocol-of-evaluation-for-accreditation-of-teacher-accreditation">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aprobado-el-nuevo-protocol-of-evaluation-for-accreditation-of-teacher-accreditation</a>
31/08/2022	ACPUA WEBINAR FOR MEXICO	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/webinar-de-la-acpua-para-mexico">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/webinar-de-la-acpua-para-mexico</a>
08/09/2022	VISIT OF MIGUEL ÁNGEL TAMAYO, GENERAL COORDINATOR OF THE CIIES, MEXICO	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/visita-de-miguel-angel-tamayo-coordinador-general-de-los-ciies-mexico">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/visita-de-miguel-angel-tamayo-coordinador-general-de-los-ciies-mexico</a>
27/09/2022	ZARAGOZA HOSTED A EUROPEAN SUMMIT OF ENQA AND REACU QUALITY AGENCIES.	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/zaragoza-ha-acogido-a-european-summit-of-quality-agencies-of-enqa-y-de-reacu">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/zaragoza-ha-acogido-a-european-summit-of-quality-agencies-of-enqa-y-de-reacu</a>

Date	Holder	Link
27/09/2022	ENQA BOARD MEETS IN ZARAGOZA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/el-board-de-enqa-se-reune-en-zaragoza">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/el-board-de-enqa-se-reune-en-zaragoza</a>
30/09/2022	JOB VACANCY AT ACPUA: POST OF CLERICAL	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/oferta-de-empleo-en-acpua-administrative-positiona">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/oferta-de-empleo-en-acpua-administrative-positiona</a>
30/09/2022	ALCAEUS, OUR ODS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME, ACCEPTED BY THE REGISTRY EUROPEAN EQAR AGENCIES.	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/alcaeus-nuestro-programme-of-assessment-on-the-ods-accepted-by-the-european-register-of">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/alcaeus-nuestro-programme-of-assessment-on-the-ods-accepted-by-the-european-register-of</a>
28/09/2022	POST-COVID STRATEGIC FORUM	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/foro-estrategico-post-covid">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/foro-estrategico-post-covid</a>
14/10/2022	IMPORTANT NOTICE-PUBLICATION IN BOA OF THE PCDVC CALL FOR PROPOSALS	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aviso-importante">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/aviso-importante</a>
14/10/2022	DECISION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE SELECTION BOARD FOR THE POST PUBLISHED CLERICAL	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/oferta-de-empleo-en-acpua-administrative-positiona">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/oferta-de-empleo-en-acpua-administrative-positiona</a>
04/11/2022	INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR: ASSURING QUALITY EFP (VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING) AND LEVEL 5: SUPPORTING THE HARMONIOUS TRANSITIONS	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/asegurar-la-calidad-de-efp-education-and-professional-training-and-level-5-supporting-them">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/asegurar-la-calidad-de-efp-education-and-professional-training-and-level-5-supporting-them</a>
17/11/2022	EQAF 2022: ACPUA PRESENTS NEW VERSION OF ALCAEUS/AGENDA 2030:	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/eqaf-2022-acpua-the-presents-the-new-version-of-alcaeus-agenda-2030">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/eqaf-2022-acpua-the-presents-the-new-version-of-alcaeus-agenda-2030</a>
23/11/2022	ACADEMIC EVENT IN HUESCA	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acto-academico-en-huesca">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/acto-academico-en-huesca</a>
30/11/2022	INQAAHE WEBINAR: STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES INTERNATIONAL (ISGS)	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/inqaahe-webinar-international-isgs-standards-and-guidelines">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/inqaahe-webinar-international-isgs-standards-and-guidelines</a>
02/12/2022	STABLE ACPUA CERTIFICATION NETWORK OF UNIVERSITY INTERNSHIP CENTRES	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/red-estable-de-acpua-certification-of-university-practice-centres">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/noticias/red-estable-de-acpua-certification-of-university-practice-centres</a>
30/12/2022	THE ACPUA ENDS 2022	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/es/la-acpua-termina-2022-renewing-its-presence-on-the-executive-committee-of-the-european-association-of">https://acpua.aragon.es/es/la-acpua-termina-2022-renewing-its-presence-on-the-executive-committee-of-the-european-association-of</a>
30/12/2022	CHRISTMAS GREETING	<a href="https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/felicitacion_acpua_2022_0.jpg">https://acpua.aragon.es/sites/default/files/felicitacion_acpua_2022_0.jpg</a>

Table 12 News published on the ACPUA website.

#### 9.4. The ACPUA in the media

The different activities carried out by the ACPUA, which ultimately contribute to promoting the improvement of the quality of the university system in Aragon by favouring its relationship with the business world, the world of work and society as a whole, are reflected in the media. During 2022, the Agency appeared at least 3 times in the media.

Date	Holder	Medium	Mention
02/06/2022	Aragón celebrates that the new law on Universities will help to combat precariousness on campus and will mean an advance in rights and freedoms	ARAGON TODAY	Another important measure for the Government of Aragon is the establishment of a stable academic career. Once the law is passed, after the four years of the thesis and a 6-year postdoctoral period, staff who have accredited their merits for the permanent positions offered by evaluation agencies such as ANECA or regional agencies such as <b>ACPUA</b> , will be able to access a permanent contract. This will also help to rejuvenate the workforce.

Date	Holder	Medium	Mention
11/04/2022	The new mapadetituciones. aragon.es portal compiles all the university offer in Aragon and centralises information of interest for future students.	ARAGON TODAY	All these new degrees will be added to a constantly evolving offer in the medium term - when they complete their administrative processing, following the respective reports by the Quality and University Prospective Agency of Aragon and the Council of Universities.
06/02/2022	The Government of Aragon promotes the rejuvenation of medical teaching staff	ARAGON TODAY	The Agency for Quality and University Prospective of Aragon (ACPUA) accredits for the first time 77 professors with doctorates //To be able to apply for the positions that the University of Zaragoza calls for this new figure, it is necessary to be accredited before by the Agency for Quality and University Prospective of Aragon (ACPUA), which evaluates the teaching and research merits and also takes into account the clinical and healthcare merits certified by the Health Department. The ACPUA has just completed this important accreditation, for the first time in Aragon, and one of the first of its kind to be carried out in Spain.

Table 13 Most relevant ACPUA appearances in the digital and written press.

## 9.5. On-line strategy

In view of the above, the ACPUA remains convinced that its website and social networks are fundamental tools for the dissemination of information, communication and publication of relevant content for all stakeholders, both national and international.

With the aim of developing transparency also at international level, ACPUA includes relevant documentation and information in English, as well as continuing to actively develop its social media profiles, generating content and reporting in real time on many of its main activities, as well as attending conferences, seminars, etc.

### 9.5.1. Website: renewal, change and continuous updating

From September 2018 and throughout 2019, the ACPUA carried out work to update and improve its website. The previous *website*, inserted in the portal of the Government of Aragon, made the level of content updating that the Agency required very complex and inefficient.

ACPUA considers it crucial to keep its website updated (modify texts, change some images and/or logos, renew documents that must be available on the website, etc.), as it is an essential tool for communicating with stakeholders and for publishing and informing about the evaluation processes it carries out. This means that during 2022 the work carried out previously has been continued. The access address is <https://acpua.aragon.es/>.

In this way, the ACPUA now has a key dynamic tool for its communication, transparency and publication of protocols and results of its evaluation processes that is much more agile for updating content and with an attractive design that makes it easier to consult. Some of the objectives achieved have been:

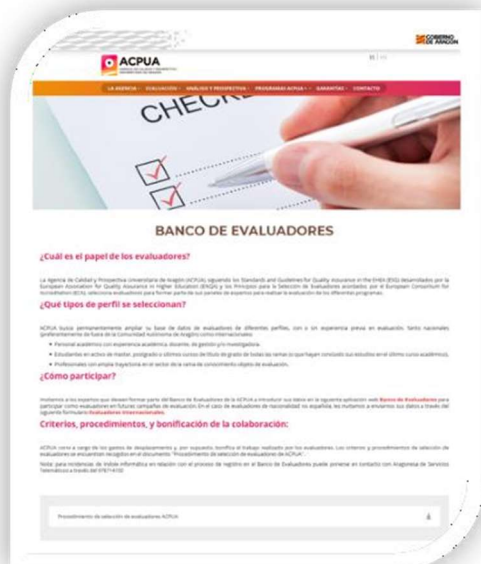
- To facilitate the constant updating of the contents of the website by the technical staff of the ACPUA.
- Update the design of the ACPUA website, in line with the Agency's new corporate image.
- To make more visible certain elements that are strategically important for ACPUA: access to evaluation protocols and results, Bank of Evaluators, ACPUA seminars, social networks, etc.
- Adapt the structure of the website for easy access to all the processes carried out by the Agency as listed in the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR).
- Achieve the Agency's objective of full transparency.
- Contribute to achieving the Agency's internationalisation objective.

### 9.5.2. Applications integrated into the website

The ACPUA has three computer applications integrated into its website, which were developed in collaboration with the Entidad Aragonesa de Servicios Telemáticos (AST). They are

- The EMI platform to manage the call for evaluation applications for the research allowance,
- The BAEV platform for managing the bank of evaluators and
- The application for consulting the degree report database.

### New pool of evaluators



The bank of evaluators is an essential tool for the ACPUA, as all its external collaborators, both potential and current, must be registered in it. In collaboration with AST, some work was carried out in 2017 to improve this application, which was followed by a request to update the data of all the people registered in it.

In 2018, taking advantage of the development project of the new ACPUA website, the initial access to this application was improved. In addition, a temporary solution was sought to enable the registration of international evaluators, by means of a simple free tool that generated a questionnaire (a

(international evaluators' bank mode).

During the first half of 2022, the process of defining the technical-economic report for the development of the evaluators' bank application, which had begun in 2021, culminated, so that by Resolution of 14 June 2022 of the Director of the ACPUA, it was agreed to commission the necessary work to Aragonesa De Servicios Telemáticos (AST) for the development of the evaluators' bank application and the expenditure for its execution was approved, being expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2023.

The new application solves the problems of the previous version, facilitating access to international evaluators and ensuring the registration of national evaluators by identifying them through a login system based on the ACPUA system and Social Networks.

### 9.5.3. ACPUA and Social Media

The ACPUA team is firmly committed to the values of innovation, participation and creativity in the improvement of its activities. Therefore, aware of the importance of new technologies to promote the dissemination of information and participatory communication with all stakeholders, both Aragonese, national and international, the ACPUA launched in 2014 its Communication Plan in Social Networks (RRSS).

The following three social media profiles, launched in mid-2014, have been gaining more and more notoriety within the agency's sectoral scope of activity year by year:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ACPUA.Aragon>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ACPUAAragon>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8130734/>

The ACPUA's activity on social media has continued to develop intensively since 2014, as they have continued to serve the Agency to promote communication and active participation in its field of action at national and international level. The ACPUA makes a positive assessment of the evolution (in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022) of followers **through social networks**, confirming, after a growth during the first four years, a stabilisation of followers in each of the social networks.

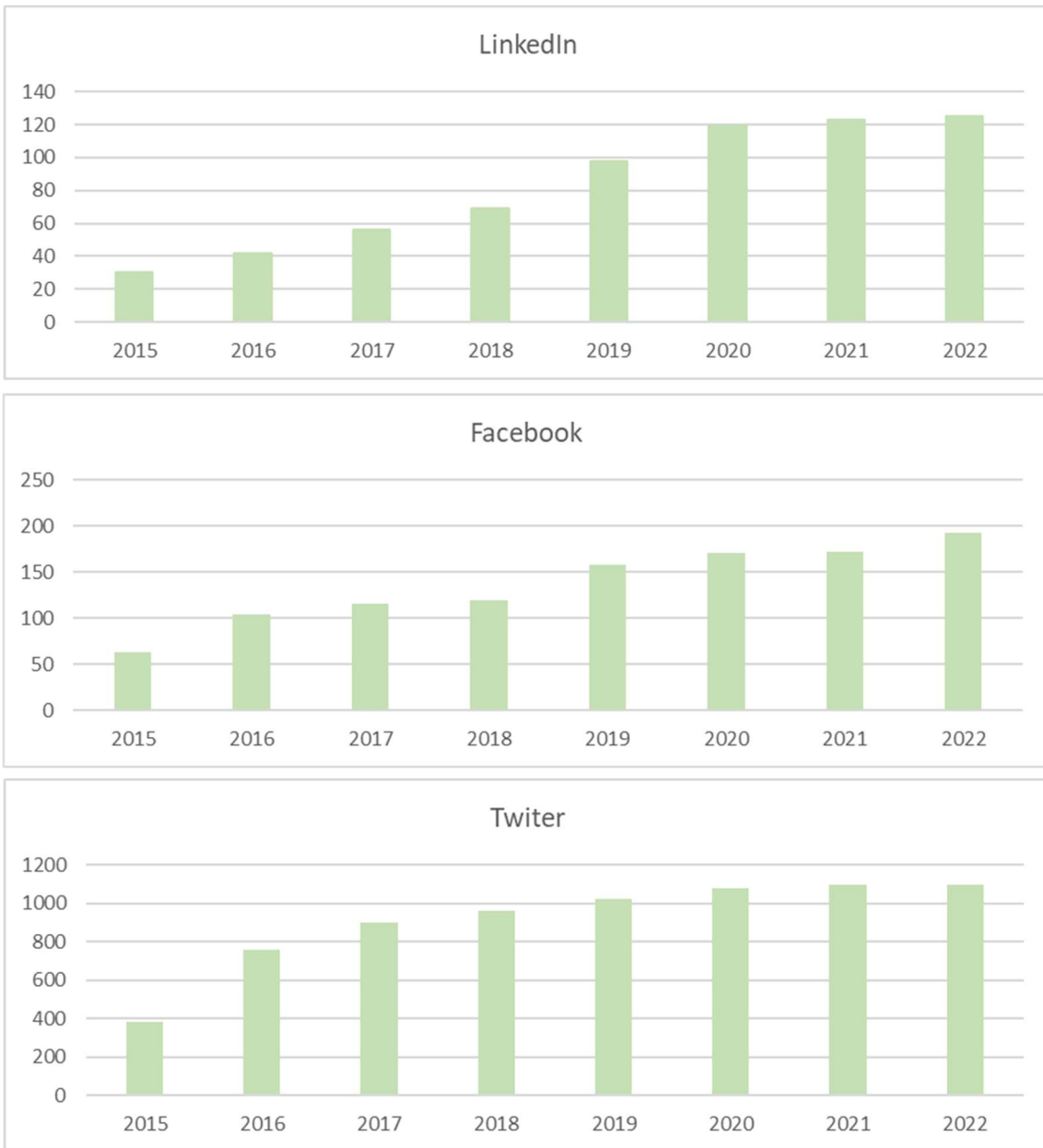


Table 14 Evolution of the number of followers of the ACPUA in RRSS (period 2015 - 2022).

## 10. HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES

### 10.1. Human Resources

The Agency has its own staff, approved by the Agreement of 18 July 2017 of the Government of Aragon<sup>2</sup>, made up of labour staff governed by the Collective Agreement for the Labour Staff of the Administration of the Autonomous Community of Aragon, as well as civil servant staff.

The following table shows the list of civil servant posts and employment staff as at 31 December 2022.

Area	Post	Name	Contractual relationship
Address	Director	Antonio Serrano González	Contract from high address
	Management Secretary	Raquel Gadea Mallada	Labour
Area of Administration	Head of Administration	Rocío Pueyo Chaparro	Civil servant interim (from 12/12/2022)
	Administrative	María Belén Sampérez Vidal	Labour (from on 2/11/2022)
Technical Area	Technician Quality Coordinator	Isabel Ortega Pardos	Labour
	Teaching Quality Technician	Jesús Fernando Morea Roy	Civil servant (on temporary secondment from 05/10/2021)
	Quality and Internationalisation Technician	M <sup>a</sup> Belén Serrano Valenzuela	Official (on secondment since 05/10/2021)
	Quality Technician for Research, Innovation and Foresight	Diana Monaj León	Official (seconded from 18/12/2022)
	Administrative Assistant	Miriam Alda Sebastián	Labour (from 1/09/2022)

Table 15 ACPUA staff.

### 10.2. Infrastructure

The ACPUA offices are located in the Dinamiza building, within the Expo Zaragoza Business Park (Av. de Ranillas, 5 D, first floor). Its modern facilities are located close to the Delicias station (train and bus), which ensures an easy access to the city centre, quick access to the

<sup>2</sup><http://www.boa.aragon.es/cgi-bin/EBOA/BRSCGI?CMD=VEROBJ&MLKOB=980067224242&type=pdf>



high-speed trains that connect Zaragoza with, among other cities, Madrid, Barcelona, Cordoba, Malaga, Seville, Nimes and Marseille. The Business Park also has numerous parking spaces, both paid and free.

The ACPUA offices have ten equipped workplaces, of which eight are currently occupied, amply meeting both accessibility and comfort requirements. In the event that ACPUA expands its staffing levels in the future, there is capacity on the premises to integrate these two additional people.

On the other hand, the ACPUA, for the holding of meetings and seminars, has its own small meeting room and the right to use larger rooms with computer equipment and videoconferencing support, in the rest of the existing rooms in the facilities of the Department of Education, as well as in the available spaces of the Government of Aragon.

With the declaration of the state of pandemic alert, the Agency's staff switched to a teleworking regime as of 14/03/20. This regime was partially maintained during 2022 due to the distances to be maintained between workstations for health reasons. For the same reasons, the meeting room within our premises cannot accommodate meetings of more than 2 persons and face-to-face visits to the Agency are restricted.

### 10.3. Financial resources

	Final Budget	Executed	Executed %
<b>CHAPTER I STAFF COSTS</b>			
(101000) SALARY	13.411,91	13.880,76	103,5%
(101001) DESTINATION ALLOWANCE	15.126,40	15.655,80	103,5%
(101002) SPECIFIC ALLOWANCE	37.203,53	38.505,60	103,5%
(101005) THREE YEARS	1.682,53	1.741,68	103,5%
(101006) EXTRA PAYMENTS	4.072,59	4.215,02	103,5%
(120000) SALARIES OF OFFICIALS	53.318,79	32.487,33	60,9%
(120005) THREE-YEAR ALLOWANCES FOR CIVIL SERVANTS	8.540,50	8.720,04	102,1%
(120006) EXTRA PAYMENTS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS)	19.946,62	14.647,66	73,4%
(121000) C. ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICIALS	33.301,24	23.929,35	71,9%
(121001) C. SPECIFIC OFFICIALS	57.969,35	44.639,53	77,0%
(121009) OTHER RET.C. OFFICIALS	10.000,00	0,00	0,0%
(130000) BASIC SALARY FOR PERMANENT EMPLOYEES	107.242,01	92.817,58	86,5%
(130001) SENIORITY	8.588,69	7.137,23	83,1%
(130002) EXTRA PAYMENTS	26.927,89	24.428,03	90,7%
(130003) OTHER REMUNERATION	53.062,70	46.618,20	87,9%
(160000) S. S. TO BE BORNE BY THE COMPANY	105.323,93	70.611,85	67,0%

	Final Budget	Executed	Executed %
(162000) FCION. AND FURTHER TRAINING OF P.LAB.	5.624,24	899,37	16,0%
(165000) SOCIAL ACTION	3.936,97	597,22	15,2%
(165001) OTHER SOCIAL EXPENDITURE P.LAB.	1.687,27	0,00	0,0%
TOTAL	566.967,16	441.532,25	77,9%
<b>CHAPTER II EXPENDITURE ON CURRENT GOODS AND SERVICES</b>			
(202000) LEASING OF BUILDINGS AND OTHER CONS.	18.000,00	0,00	0,00%
(212000) BUILDINGS AND OTHER CONSTRUCTIONS	100	0,00	0%
(216000) INFORMATION PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	100	0,00	0%
(219000) OTHER TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	200	0,00	0%
(220000) ORDINARY NON-INVENTORIABLE	1.000,00	1.667,66	167%
(220002) PRESS,MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS	600	646	108%
(220003) BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS	765	0,00	0%
(220004) COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	100	0,00	0%
(221000) ELECTRICAL ENERGY	500	0,00	0%
(222000) TELEPHONE	5.705,53	401,07	7%
(222001) POSTCARDS	750	66,92	9%
(223000) TRANSPORT	500	0,00	0%
(224003) OTHER RISKS	50	0,00	0%
(226001) PROTOCOL AND REPRESENTATIVE SERVICES	1.200,00	154,92	13%
(226002) DISSEMINATION AND PROMOTION COSTS	1.000,00	1000	100%
(226005) MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES	10.000,00	9.877,49	99%
(226008) EXPENDITURE ON EVALUATION ACTIVITIES	90.000,00	110.499,48	123%
(226009) OTHER MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	0	3,5	N
(227000) CLEANING AND CLEANING	100,00	0,00	0%
(227006) STUDIES AND TECHNICAL WORK	51.914,84	16.985,06	33%
(230000) PER DIEMS	1.000,00	0,00	0%
(231000) LOCOMOTION	1.000,00	0,00	0%
TOTAL	184.585,37	141.302,10	76,6%
<b>CHAPTER VI REAL INVESTMENTS</b>			
(605000) FURNITURE AND FURNISHINGS	2.000,00	0,00	0,00%
TOTAL	2.000,00	0,00	0,00%
TOTAL	753.552,53	582.834,35	77,34%

Table 16 Summary of ACPUA Financial Resources

## 11. ANNEX I: STRUCTURE OF THE ACPUA

The figure below shows the structure of the ACPUA as at 31 December 2022.

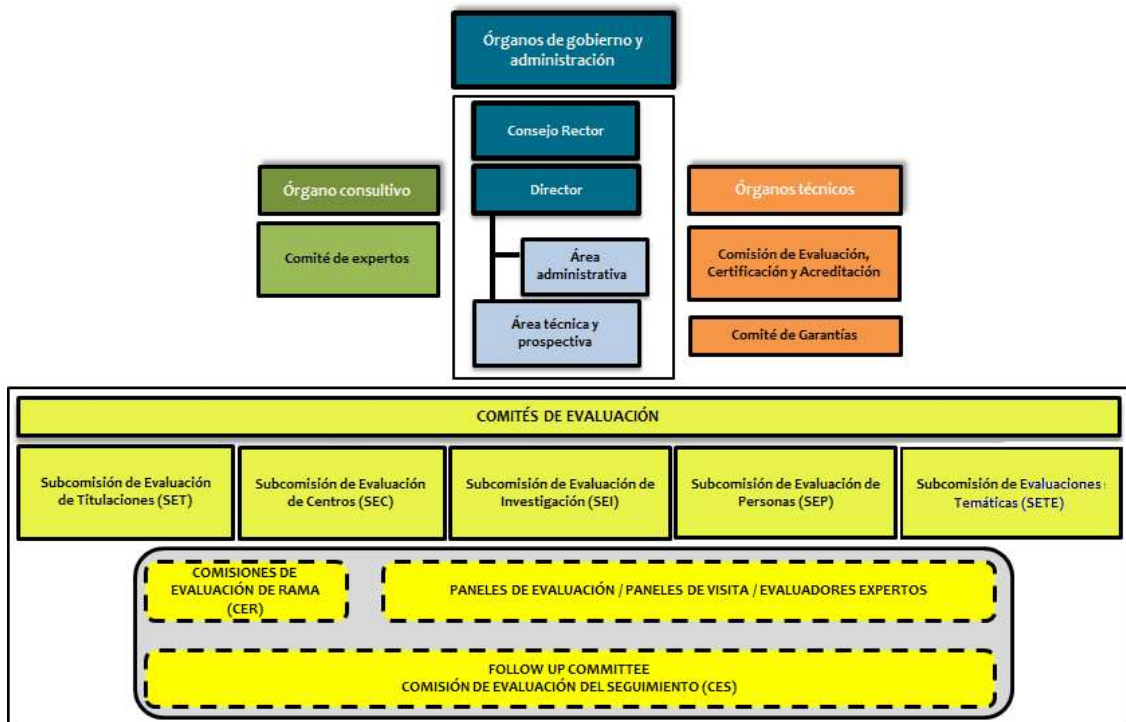


Table 17 Structure of the ACPUA.

As can be seen, it consisted of:

- The Governing Board (governing body)
- The Committee of Experts (advisory body),
- The Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission (technical committee responsible for approving methodologies and protocols),
- The Guarantees Committee (body dealing with complaints and appeals)
- Five Evaluation Subcommittees (SEC, SEI, SEP, SET and SETE), responsible for issuing evaluation reports.
- The Monitoring Committee (the body that evaluates the monitoring of all processes).

In addition to these bodies, there are the Branch Evaluation Commissions (RECs) and the evaluation panels for official courses, centres, individuals and other programmes.

The composition of the bodies and committees of the ACPUA as at 31 December 2022 is as follows:

### 11.1. Governing Board

Position	Name
President: Councillor for Science, University and Culture Knowledge Society of the Government of Aragon	Maru Díaz Calvo
Vice-President: Director General for Universities of the European Commission Government of Aragon	Yolanda Sancho Serrano
Secretary: Director of the ACPUA	Antonio Serrano González
Rector of the University of Zaragoza	José Antonio Mayoral Murillo
Rector of San Jorge University	María Berta Sáez Gutiérrez
President of the Social Council of the University of Zaragoza	Aurelio López de Hita
Director General for Research and Innovation of the Government of Aragon	Ramón Guirado Guillén
Vice-Rector for Academic Policy of the University of Zaragoza	José Ángel Castellanos Gómez
Vice-Rector for Academic Policy and Teaching Staff at San Jorge University	Carlos Cetina Englada
Two members of the ACPUA Committee of Experts	Fiona Crozier Eva Ferreira García
Two representatives of the most representative trade union organisations	Ana Gargallo Castel (CCOO) Josefina Jiménez Villar (UGT)
Two representatives of the most representative business organisations	Juan Carlos Dehesa Conde (CREA) Carmelo Pérez Serrano (CEPYME ARAGON)
President of the Student Council of the University of Zaragoza	Eduardo Serrano Ibáñez
Student elected by the body higher body of participation of the students of the University of St. Jorge	Manuel Mas Ferrer

### 11.2. Director

Antonio Serrano González.

### 11.3. Committee of Experts

Composition	Name	Institution
Presidency		
International Member	Fiona Crozier	International expert (Ireland)
Vocal	Carlos Martín Montañés	Professor at the University of Zaragoza
Vocal	Máximo Valenciano Arranz	Chairman of INYCOM
Vocal	Eva Ferreira García	University of the Basque Country

#### 11.4. Guarantees Committee

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Gabriel Morales Arruga	Abogado del Estado, member of the Aragon Advisory Council
Vocal	Manuel Cachón Cadenas	Autonomous University of Barcelona
Vocal	Carmen Ocal García	Barcelona Institute of Materials Science
Vocal	Cristina Rodríguez Coarasa	King Juan Carlos University
International Member	Cosimo Cascione	University of Naples Federico II
Student Member	Patricia Cifredo Ortiz	University of Seville
Secretary	Jesús Fernando Morea Roy	Teaching Quality Technician of the ACPUA

#### 11.5. Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission (ECAC)

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Antonio Serrano González	Director of the ACPUA
Vocal	Patricia Espejo Megías	University of Castilla-La Mancha
Vocal	María Leonor González Menorca	University of La Rioja
Vocal	Francisco García Navarro	University of Cordoba
Student Member	Laura Peiró Márquez	University of the Basque Country
Professional Member	Teresa Sánchez Chaparro	Polytechnic University of Madrid
External Stakeholder	Luis A. Polo Rubio	Spanish Red Cross
International Member	Erika Soboleva	University Quality Agency AKKORK (Russia)
Secretary	Ana Isabel Ortega Pardos	Quality Coordination Technician of the APUA

#### 11.6. Evaluation Subcommittees

The ACPUA's Assessment, Certification and Accreditation Committee (CECA) may appoint ad-hoc assessment sub-committees to assist it in the assessment, certification or accreditation programmes it deems necessary. To this end, in 2014 the ACPUA proceeded to the creation of three Evaluation Subcommittees: Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Degrees (SET), Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Research (SEI) and Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres (SEC) and, subsequently, in 2020 it proceeded to the creation of the Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Teaching Staff (SEP) and Subcommittee for Thematic Evaluations (SETE).

The sub-committees are made up of experts of recognised prestige who meet the selection criteria imposed by CECA for each process.

The composition as at 31 December 2022 is detailed below:

### Sub-Commission on the Evaluation of Centres (SEC)

Composition	Name	Institution
Presidency		
Vocal	Gaspar Ros Berruezo	University of Murcia
Vocal	Miguel Valero García	Polytechnic University of Catalonia - Barcelona Tech (UPC)
Vocal	Gloria Zaballa Pérez	University of Deusto
Student Member	María Jesús Blanco Sánchez	Pablo de Olavide University
Professional Member	Ana Rosa Gómez Arroyo	Valencia
International Member	Berta Fernández Álvarez	Leiden University (The Netherlands)
Secretary	Ana Isabel Ortega Pardos	ACPUA Quality Coordination Technician

### Subcommittee on Research Evaluation (SEI)

Composition	Name	Institution
Chairman (Engineering and Architecture)	Enrique Mirambell Arrizabalaga	Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya)
Member Academic (Art and Humanities)	Fernando López Alsina	University of Santiago de Compostela
Academic Member (Social Sciences and Legal)	Eloísa Carbonell Porras	University of Jaén
Academic Member (Health Sciences)	Elías Fernando Rodríguez Ferri	University of León
Vocal Academic (Science)	Antonia Garrido Frenich	University of Almeria
Secretary	Ana Isabel Ortega Pardos	ACPUA Quality Coordination Technician

### Subcommittee on Teacher Evaluation (SEP)

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Francisco Gracia Navarro	University of Cordoba
Academic Member	Ana María Obeso Cáceres	University of Valladolid
Academic Member	Jaume Farrés Vicén	Autonomous University of Barcelona
Academic Member	Luis Grande Posa	University Autonomous at Barcelona- Hospital del Mar
Secretary	Jesús Fernando Morea Roy	ACPUA Teaching Quality Technician

### Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Qualifications (SET)

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Jordi Suriñach Caralt	University of Barcelona (Sciences Social and Legal Sciences)
Academic member	Jorge Fernández López	University of La Rioja (Arts and Humanities)
Academic Member	Celso Rodríguez Fernández	University at Santiago at Compostela (Science)
Academic Member	Andrés Prat Marín	University of Barcelona (Health Sciences)
Academic Member	Elena Valderrama Vallés	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Engineering and Architecture)
Vocal de Enseñanzas Artistic	María Josefa de la Torre Molina	University of Malaga (Teaching Higher Artistic)
Student Member	Beatriz Atienza Carbonell	University of Valencia
Professional Member		
International Member		
Secretary	Ana Isabel Ortega Pardos	Technical Quality Coordinator of the ACPUA

### Sub-Commission on Thematic Evaluations (SETE)

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Leonor González Menorca	University of La Rioja
Vocal	Pilar Figuera Gazo	University of Barcelona
Vocal	María Jesús Blanco Sánchez	Pablo de Olavide University
Vocal	José María Gómez Sancho	University of Zaragoza
Vocal	Sonia Seijas Ramos	University of A Coruña
Professional Member	Irene Melchor Laclea	Stakeholder (IES Miguel Catalán)
Student Member	Laura Peiró Márquez	University of the Basque Country
International Member	Julio Gaitán Bohorquez	University of Rosario (Bogotá)
Secretary	María Belén Serrano Valenzuela	Technique Quality Internationalisation of the ACPUA

## 12. ANNEX II: EVALUATION PANELS 2022

### 12.1. Branch Evaluation Commissions (REC) for study plans (verification and modification of degrees).

The composition of the different Branch Evaluation Committees as at 31 December 2022 was as follows.

#### Arts and Humanities Evaluation Committee

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Jorge Fernández López	University of La Rioja
Academic Member	César Fornis Vaquero	University of Seville
Student Member	Esther Alós Ordiales	Complutense University of Madrid
Professional Member	Clara Mateo Sabadell	CREACADEMIA

#### Science branch evaluation committee

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Celso Rodríguez Fernández	University of Santiago de Compostela
Academic Member	María del Mar Reguero de la Poza	Rovira i Virgili University
Student Member	Diego José Sánchez Martín	Complutense University of Madrid
Professional Member	Diego Marín Sánchez	Sacred Heart School (Corazonistas La Mina)

#### Health Sciences Branch Evaluation Commission

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Andrés Prat Marín	University of Barcelona
Academic Member	Librado Carrasco Otero	University of Cordoba
Student Member	Beatriz Atienza Carbonell	University of Valencia
Professional Member	Agustín Acosta Gallego	International University of La Rioja

#### Engineering and Architecture Evaluation Commission<sup>3</sup>

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Elena Valderrama Vallés	Autonomous University of Barcelona

<sup>3</sup> In the verification of the degrees in Cybersecurity Engineering and Artificial Intelligence, both from the University of San Jorge, the CER of Engineering and Architecture was supported by the cybersecurity expert Sergi Robles Martínez (Autonomous University of Barcelona).



Academic Member	Jesús Félez Mindán	Polytechnic University of Madrid
Student Member	María from Mar Fernández Antolín	CEU San Pablo University (Madrid)
Professional Member	Elena de Mier Torrecilla	AECID - ACS Foundation

### Social and Legal Branch Evaluation Commission

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Jordi Suriñach Caralt	University of Barcelona
Academic Member	José Antonio Caride Gómez	University of Santiago de Compostela
Student Member	Cristina Soria Gallardo	University of Valencia
Professional Member		

## 12.2. Evaluation of Official Education

The following is a list of the composition of the Official Teaching evaluation panels appointed during the year 2022 by Resolution of the Director of the ACPUA.

### Panel 1.

- Degree in Marketing from the University of San Jorge (1st renewal of accreditation) - Escuela Superior de Gestión de Empresarial y Marketing (ESIC) Aragón.

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Oscar González Benito	University of Salamanca
Academic Member	Juncal Cuñado Eizaguirre	University of Navarra
Student Member	Gabriel Lozano Reina	University of Murcia
Professional Member	Eva Otero Sorigué	Freelance Consultant
International Member	Anca Prisacariu	Freelance Consultant

### Panel 2.

- PhD Programme in Logistics and Supply Chain Management at the University of Zaragoza (2nd renewal of accreditation).

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Gabriel Pinto Cañón	Polytechnic University of Madrid
Academic Member	Rodolfo de Castro Vila	University of Girona
Student Member	Andrea Fernández Gorgojo	Carlos III University of Madrid

### Panel 3.

- Teaching Degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Zaragoza (2nd year).

renewal of accreditation) - Faculty of Humanities and Education in Huesca, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences in Teruel and Faculty of Education in Zaragoza.

- Teaching Degree in Primary Education by the University of Zaragoza (2nd renewal of accreditation) - Faculty of Human Sciences and Education of Huesca, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences of Teruel and Faculty of Education of Zaragoza.

Composition	Name	Institution
President	María Luisa Sanz de Acedo Lizarraga	Public University of Navarra
Academic Member	Alfredo Pérez Boullosa	University of Valencia
Student Member	Luis Miguel Vioque Galiana	University of Castilla La Mancha
Professional Member	Eva Jaroszewski	Agence pour l'Evaluation de la Qualité de l'Enseignement Supérieur (Agence pour l'Evaluation de la Qualité de l'Enseignement Supérieur) (AEQES)
International Member	Elvira Congosto Luna	Mirabal International School

### 12.3.ACPUA PACE-SGIC Programme. Assessment for the Certification of the Implementation of the Quality Assurance System.

Listed below is the composition of the institutional accreditation evaluation panels of Centres appointed during the year 2022 by Resolution of the Director of the ACPUA.

Panel 1.

- Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Zaragoza.

Composition	Name	Institution
President	Javier González Benito	University of Salamanca
Academic Member	Gemma Durán Romero	Universidad Autónoma De Madrid
Student Member	Ana Munárriz Iriarte	Public University of Navarra
Professional Member	Marta Aguado Tetilla	CIRCE Foundation
International Member	Francisco Aracena Bernal	Andrés Bello University

### 12.4. Evaluation of research activity (Sexenios of research)

The composition of the research activity evaluation panels appointed during the year 2022 by Resolution of the Director of the ACPUA is listed below.

Panel 1.

- Contracted teaching staff at the University of Zaragoza.
- Teaching and research staff of the Centro Universitario de la Defensa, the Escuela Universitaria Politécnica de La Almunia and the Escuela de Turismo de La Almunia.

Zaragoza, as well as the Centro de Investigación y Tecnología Agroalimentaria de Aragón, the Instituto Aragonés de Ciencias de la Salud, and the research personnel contracted by the University of Zaragoza both within the Ramón y Cajal aid programme and in the "Contract for access to the Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System" modality.

Committee	Name	Institution
Committee 1: MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS	Inmaculada Higuera Sanz	University of Navarra
Committee 2: CHEMISTRY	Manuela Hidalgo Muñoz	University of Girona
Committee 3: MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND CELLULAR	Francisco Solano Muñoz	University of Murcia
Committee 4: BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES	José Augusto García-Agúndez Pérez-Coca	University of Extremadura
Committee 5: SCIENCES DE LA NATURE	Jesús Damián de la Rosa Díaz	University of Huelva
Committee 6: ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE		
Subfield 6.1: TECHNOLOGIES MECHANICAL AND PRODUCTION	María del Carmen Martín González	University of Valladolid
Subfield 6.2: COMPUTER, COMPUTER AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING	Leopoldo Acosta Sánchez	University of La Laguna
Subfield 6.3: ARCHITECTURE, CIVIL ENGINEERING AND URBAN PLANNING	Eva María García Alcocel	University of Alicante.
Committee 7: SOCIAL, POLITICAL, BEHAVIOURAL AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES		
Subfield 7.1. SOCIAL, POLITICAL, BEHAVIOURAL AND GENDER STUDIES SCIENCES	María José Blanca Mena	University of Malaga
Subfield 7.2. SCIENCES FROM THE EDUCATION	María José León Guerrero	University of Granada
Committee 8: ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS SCIENCES	Francisco González Rodríguez	University of Oviedo
Committee 9: LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE	Ana Tobío Rivas	University of Vigo
Committee 10: HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY AND ARTS	Maria Victoria Vivancos Ramon	University Politècnica from València
Committee 10: HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY AND THE ARTS	Paul from on Cruz Díaz Martínez	University of Salamanca
Committee 11: PHILOSOPHY, PHILOLOGY AND LINGUISTICS	Olga Fernández Soriano	Autonomous University of Madrid

## 12.5. Evaluation of five-year periods of teaching excellence (Universidad San Jorge)

The following is the composition of the evaluation panels for teaching excellence (University of San Jorge) appointed during the year 2022 by Resolution of the Director of the ACPUA.

Composition	Name	Institution
Vocal	Agustín Acosta Gallego	University of Catalonia International at

## 12.6. Evaluation of the accreditation of the position of Professor to Associate Professor with Clinical Links to the Public Health System of Aragon (PCDVC).

The following is the composition of the evaluation panel for the accreditation of the position of Professor to Associate Professor with Clinical Attachment to the Public Health System of Aragon appointed during the year 2022 by Resolution of the Director of the ACPUA<sup>4</sup>.

Composition	Name	Institution
Vocal	Jaume Farrés Vicén	Autonomous University of Barcelona
Vocal	Francisco Gracia Navarro	University of Cordoba
Vocal	Luis Grande Posa	Hospital at Mar - Autonomous University of Barcelona
Vocal	Alfonso María Lechuga Sancho	Puerta del Mar University Hospital - University of Cadiz
Vocal	Ana María de la Luz Obeso Cáceres	University of Valladolid
Vocal	Juan Diego Pedrera Zamorano	University of Extremadura
Vocal	Manuel Pereiro Ferreirós	Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago at Compostela - University at Santiago de Compostela
Vocal	Francisco Pérez Jiménez	University of Cordoba
Vocal	Juan José Segura Egea	University of Seville
Vocal	Rosa María Solá	Sant Joan de Reus University Hospital - Universitat Rovira i Virgili

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<sup>4</sup> The appointment took place in January 2023, but for the sake of consistency with previous reports, it has been included as it is the call for the year 2022.

## 13. ANNEX III: REPORT FROM GENDER REPORT ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE ACPUA

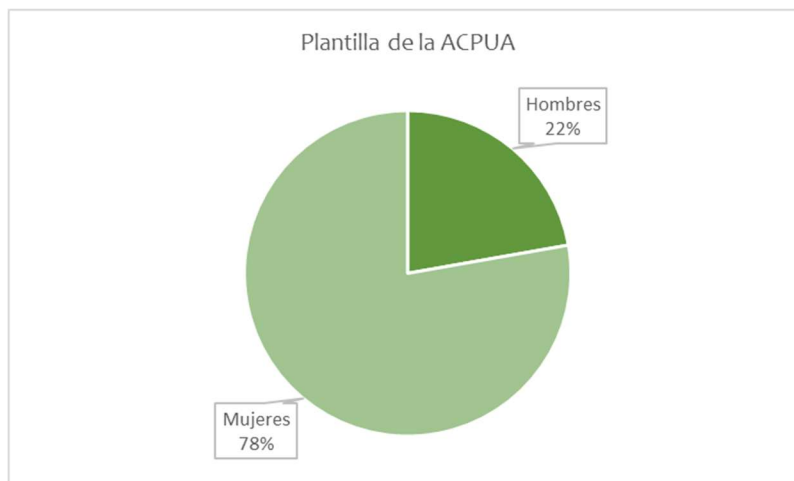
As an integral agent of the Aragonese R&D&I system, and in accordance with article 44 of Law 17/2018, of 4 December, on Research and Innovation in Aragon, it is the ACPUA's policy to promote a balanced presence of women and men in the composition of its bodies (governing, advisory, technical) as well as in the evaluation panels.

The methodology used in this annex is as follows. A person is counted as many times as he/she is present on different assessment bodies or panels. By way of example, if two panels have been set up to assess two degree programmes and a person has been a member of both panels, he/she is counted twice. Similarly, if the same panel has assessed more than one degree programme, each of the persons on the panel is counted only once. Likewise, in the Agency's bodies, the people who are members of the ACPUA are counted, whereas in the evaluation panels they are not.

Finally, it should be noted that all references contained in this report for which the generic masculine form is used should be understood to apply indistinctly to women and men.

### 13.1. Agency Staff

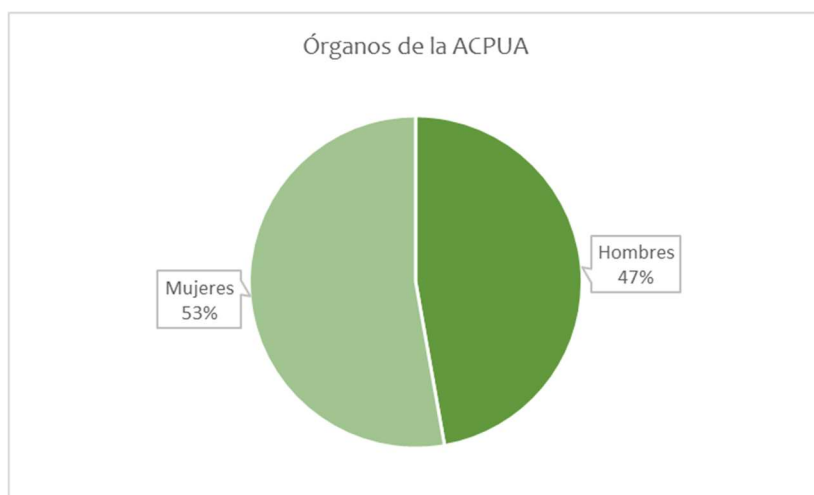
For the exercise of its functions, the ACPUA has a Director and its own staff of 9 persons. As of 31 December 2022, the staff consisted of 7 women and 2 men.



## 13.2. Bodies of the ACPUA

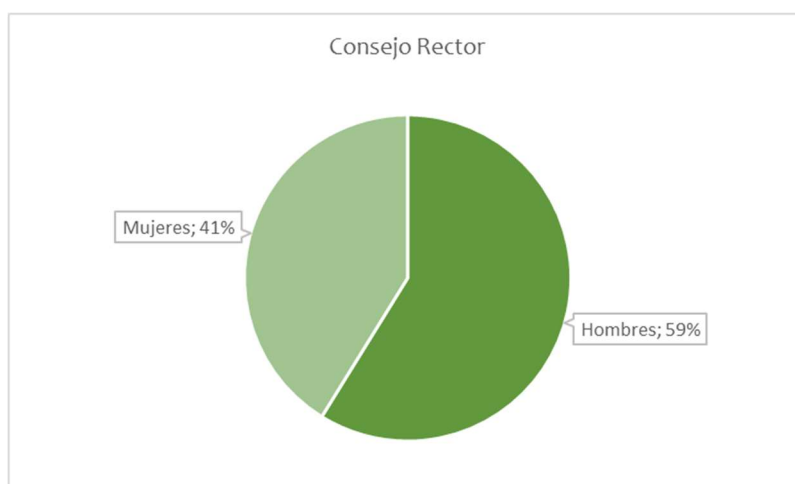
The different bodies that make up the Agency are the Governing Board, the Committee of Experts, the Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission, the Committee of Guarantees and the Evaluation Subcommissions (SEC, SEI, SEP, SET and SETE). The composition and functions of these bodies have been described above. Information on all of them can also be found on the ACPUA website.

Of its total composition (77 posts including chairmanships, memberships, secretariats) as of 31 December 2022, 38 posts were held by women, 34 by men and 5 posts were vacant.



### Governing Council

The Governing Board is the highest governing body of the Agency. As of 31 December 2022, it was composed of 17 persons, of whom 7 were women and 10 were men.



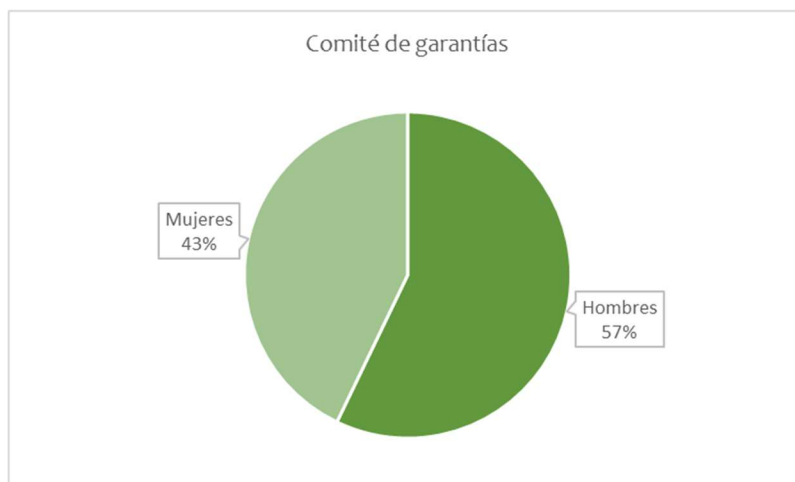
### Committee of Experts

The Committee of Experts is the advisory body of the Agency. Composed of 5 persons, as of 31 December 2022, 2 were women, 2 men and 1 post was vacant.



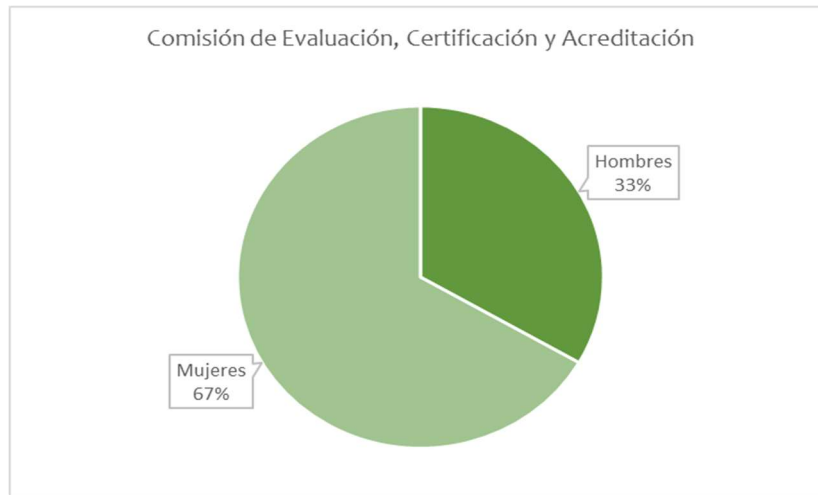
### Guarantees Committee

This is the Agency's technical body responsible for supervising the correct processing of evaluation, certification and accreditation procedures, reporting on all complaints and appeals. It is made up of 7 people, 3 women and 4 men as of 31 December 2022.



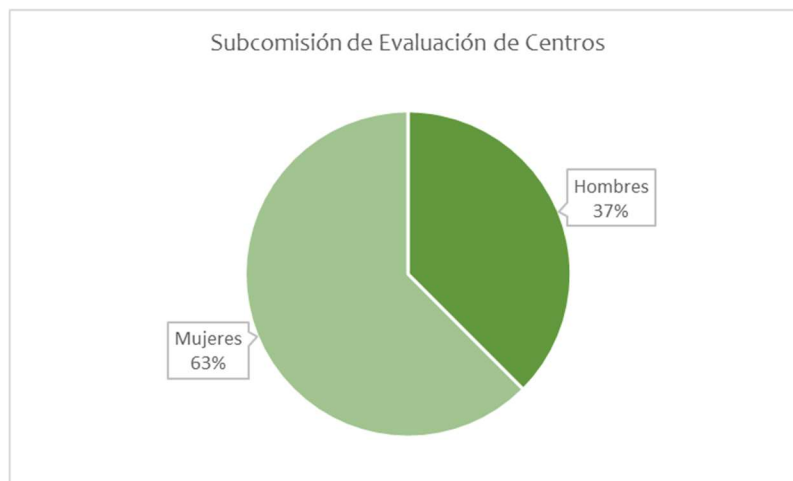
### Commission for Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation (CECA)

The Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation Commission is the technical body that develops and approves the Agency's evaluation methodologies, protocols and procedures. Composed of 9 people, as of 31 December 2022, 6 were women and 3 men.



### Sub-Commission on the Evaluation of Centres (SEC)

Composed of 8 persons, as of 31 December 2022 5 were women, 2 men and 1 post was vacant.





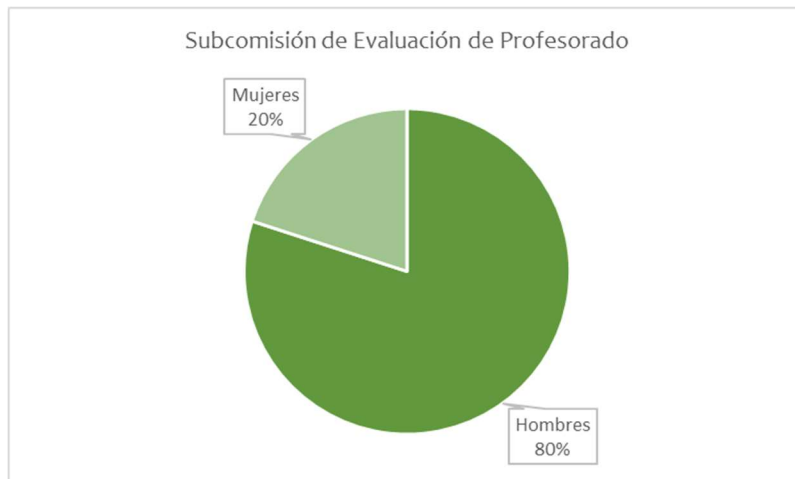
### Subcommittee on Research Evaluation (SEI)

Composed of 6 persons, 3 women and 3 men as of 31 December 2022.



### Subcommittee on Teacher Evaluation (SEP)

Composed of 5 persons, 1 woman and 1 man as of 31 December 2022.



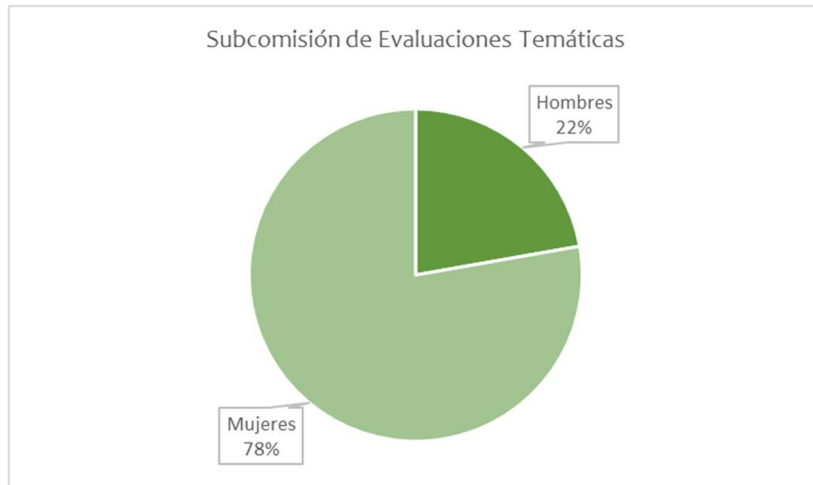
### Sub-Committee for the Evaluation of Qualifications (SET)

Composed of 10 persons, as of 31 December 2022 4 were women, 4 men and 2 positions were vacant.



### Sub-Commission on Thematic Evaluations (SETE)

Composed of 9 people, as of 31 December 2022 7 were women, 2 men.



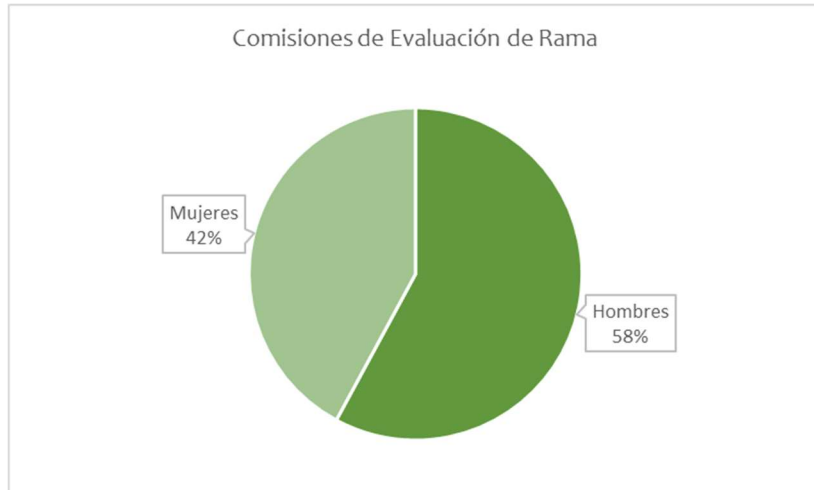
## 13.3. Assessment panels for official university studies

The evaluation activity of official teaching (bachelor's, master's, doctoral programmes) through the different quality assurance procedures (verification, modification, monitoring, accreditation) involved the intervention of the

different branch evaluation commissions as well as the ad hoc composition of different evaluation panels. Their composition, according to gender, is shown below.

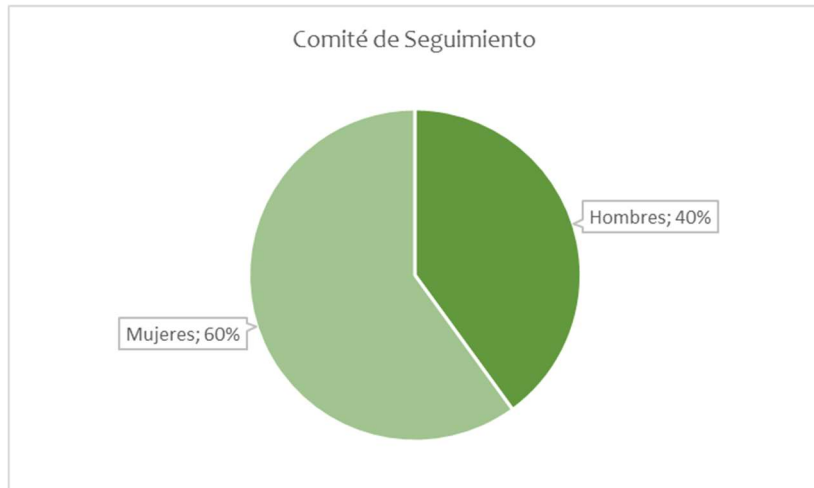
### Branch Evaluation Commissions (RC)

The branch committees, the composition of which is set out in Annex II, see the verification and amendment procedures. As at 31 December 2022, 8 posts were occupied by women, 11 by men and 1 was vacant.



### Monitoring Committee

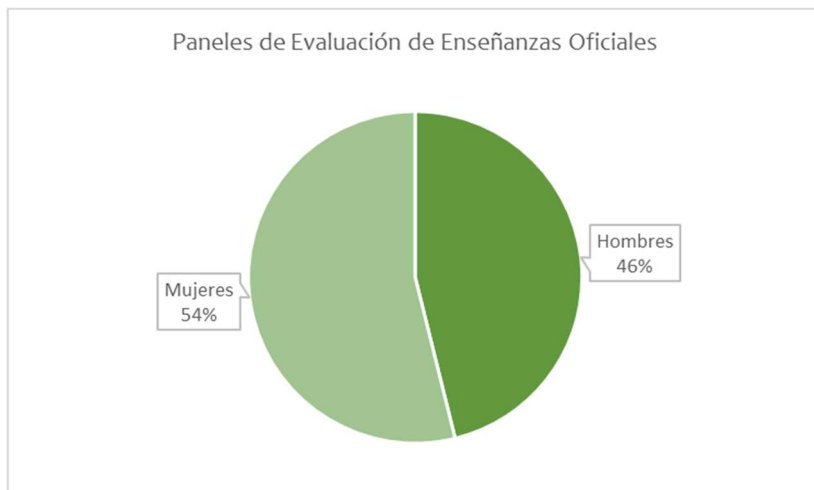
This committee is involved in the evaluation of the monitoring of all the Agency's processes. It is composed of 10 people, 6 women and 4 men as of 31 December 2022.



### Official Education Evaluation Panels

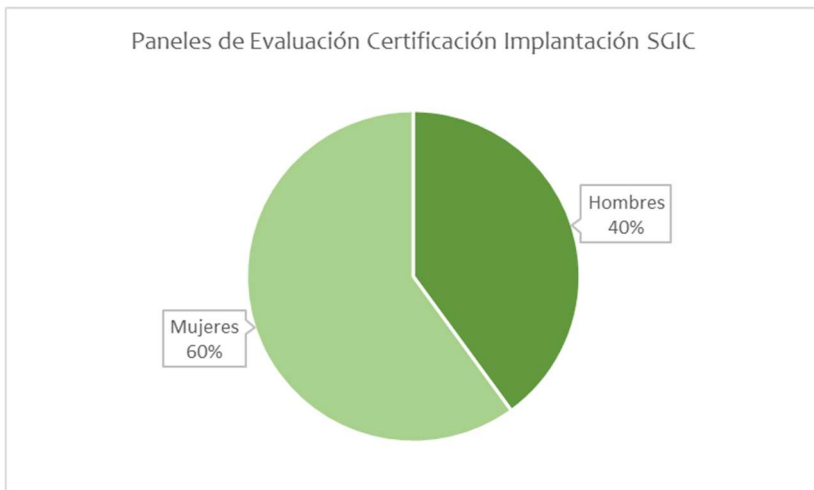
The procedures for monitoring and renewing the accreditation of the different official courses of study that were heard during the year 2022 involved the constitution of 3 evaluation panels, some of which evaluated more than one degree programme.

On this occasion, there were persons participating in more than one evaluation panel. Of the total composition of the 3 panels, 7 persons were women and 6 men<sup>5</sup>.



### 13.4. Assessment Panels for the Certification of the Implementation of the Quality Assurance System in Centres

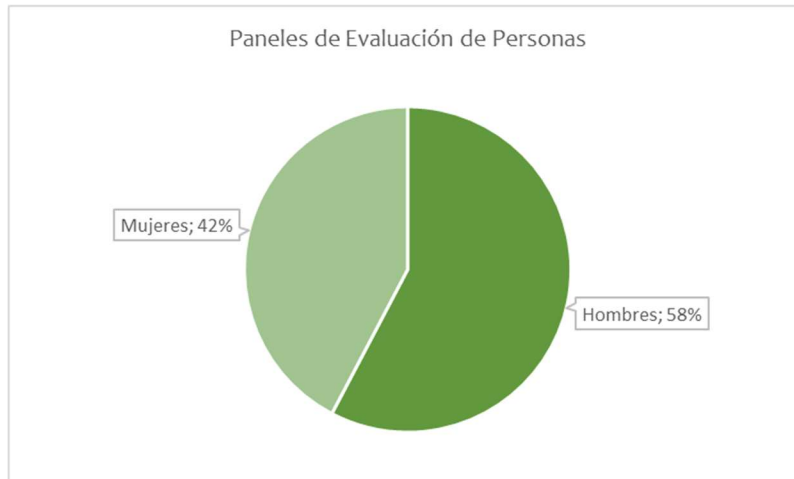
To certify the implementation of the quality assurance system in centres, a panel of 3 women and 2 men was set up in 2022.



<sup>5</sup> Following the methodology used in previous years, and as stated above, if a panel has assessed more than one degree, it has been counted only once, and if a person has been a member of several panels, it has been counted as many times as the number of times he/she has participated in different panels. ACPUA staff who have been members of these panels, acting in the secretariats, have not been counted.

### 13.5. People Assessment Panels

The evaluation activities of persons (research activity, five-year teaching periods and Professor to Associate Professor with Clinical Links to the Public Health System of Aragon) during the year 2022 involved the creation of 3 panels made up of 26 persons, of which 11 were women and 15 men.



## 14.ANNEX IV: ACRONYMS, CODES, ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

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AAC	Andalusian Knowledge Agency.
ACCUEE	Canarian Agency for University Quality and Educational Assessment. ACPUA
ACSUG	Agency for Quality Assurance in the Galician University System. AIC
AKKORK	Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Career Development (Russia). ANECA
	Agencia Nacional de Evaluación de la Calidad y Acreditación (National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation).
	ANVUR
	Agencia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca.
AQAS	Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes (Germany).
AQU	Agency for Quality Assurance in the University System of Catalonia. AQUIB
	University Quality Agency of the Balearic Islands.
ARACIS	Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (Romania).
ARAID	Aragonese Agency for Research and Development Foundation (ARAID).
AVAP	Valencian Agency for Assessment and Foresight (Agencia Valenciana d'Avaluació i Prospectiva).
BOA	Official Gazette of Aragon. BOE
	Boletín Oficial del Estado.
ECAC	Commission for Evaluation, Certification and Accreditation (of the ACPUA). CEIP
	School of Infant and Primary Education.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer.
REC	Branch Evaluation Commission(s) (of the ACPUA). CITA
	Centre for Food Research and Technology.
CNEAI	National Commission for the Evaluation of Research Activity.
CRA	Grouped Rural School.
CREUP	Coordinating Committee of Student Representatives of Public Universities.
CS	Monitoring Committee (of the ACPUA).
CSMA	Conservatorio Superior de Música de Aragón.

CUD	University Defence Centre of Zaragoza.
CURSA	University Commission for Monitoring and Accreditation (CURSA).
CUS	Science, University and Knowledge Society (department of the Government of Aragon).
DEQAR	Database of External Quality Assurance Results.
ECA	European Consortium for Accreditation.
EHEA	European Higher Education Area.
EFQM	European Foundation Quality Management.
ENQA	European Network for Quality Assurance (in Higher Education).
EQAR	European Quality Assurance Register (for Higher Education).
EQAF	European Quality Assurance Forum.
ESCYRA	School of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage.
ESG	European Standards and Guidelines (for Quality Assurance of Higher Education).
ESDA	Aragon School of Design.
ESU	European Student's Union.
ETUZ	Zaragoza University School of Tourism.
USA	European University Association.
EURASHE	European Association of Institutions in Higher Education.
EUPLA	Polytechnic University School of La Almunia.
EUPT	Polytechnic University School of Teruel.
FCM	Madri+d Foundation for Knowledge.
GA	Government of Aragon.
HAC_R	Higher Design Centre of Zaragoza.
HCERES	High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (France).
IACS	Aragon Institute of Health Sciences.
INQAAHE	International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education.
R&D&I	Research, Development and Innovation.
LOSU	Organic Law of the University System.
LOSUA	Law 5/2005, of 14 June, on the Organisation of the University System of Aragon.
LOU	Organic Law 6/2001 of 21 December 2001 on Universities.
MECES	Spanish Qualifications Framework for Higher Education.

NCEQE	National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement (Georgia).
SEN	Specific Educational Support Needs.
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals.
OEI	Organisation of Ibero-American States.
PCDVC	Professor or Associate Professor with Clinical Attachment. QAA Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (United Kingdom). QQI Quality and Qualifications Ireland (Ireland).
REACU	Spanish Network of University Quality Agencies.
RIACES	Ibero-American Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.
RUCT	Register of Universities, Centres and Degrees. S&QSHE Sustainability & Quality in Higher Education. HEALTH Aragonese Health Service (SALUD).
SEC	Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Centres (of the ACPUA).
SEI	Subcommittee on Research Evaluation (of the ACPUA).
SEP	Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Teaching Staff (of the ACPUA). SET Subcommittee for the Evaluation of Degrees (of the ACPUA). SETE Subcommittee for Thematic Evaluations (of the ACPUA).
IQAS	Internal Quality Assurance System.
SIACES	Ibero-American System for Quality Assurance in Higher Education. SUASistema Universitario Aragonés.
SUNEDU	National Superintendence of University Higher Education. ICT Information and Communication Technologies. THEQCTurkish Higher Education Quality Council (Turkey).
UNIBASQ	Euskal Unibertsitate Sistemaren Kalitatea Ebaluatu eta Egiaztatzeko Agentzia.
VSA	Verification-Monitoring-Accreditation (computer tool used by ANECA for the evaluation of the official courses offered by the universities).