

Advisory Committee

10 October 2017

Minutes of the

meeting

The ANVUR Advisory Committee's meeting took place on Tuesday, 10 October 2017, at 12.00, at the Via Ippolito Nievo, 35 offices in Rome.

The following are present:

Institution	Member of the Advisory Committee	Present	Connected via video conferencing	Excused absence	Absent
Conferenza unificata Stato-regioni, città ed autonomie locali	Adriana Agrimi	X			
European Research Council	Claudio Bordignon			X	
Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del Lavoro	Maria Castriotta	X			
Consiglio Nazionale degli Studenti Universitari	Nicola D'Ambrosio	X			
Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del Lavoro	Michele Dau	X			
Consiglio Nazionale degli Studenti Universitari	Pietro De Ponti			X	
Consiglio Nazionale degli Studenti Universitari	Mario Donadio	X			
European Students' Union / ESIB	Fernando Miguel Galan Palomares		X		
European Research Council	Belen Gavela				X
Accademia dei Lincei	Renato Guarini	X			
Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del Lavoro	Costanzo Jannotti Pecci				X
Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del Lavoro	Andrea Lapicciarella	X			
Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Italiane	Gaetano Manfredi				X
Consiglio Universitario Nazionale	Alessandra Petrucci	X			
Convegno permanente dei Direttori Amministrativi e dirigenti delle Università	Antonio Romeo			X	
European Students' Union / ESIB	Mattia Sguazzini	X			
European University Association	Rolf Tarrach			X	
Segretario generale OCSE	Dirk Van Damme			X	

President Graziosi (at the meeting's opening); Governing Board members Professor Checchi and Professor Rumiati; Tiziana Maselli, head of Technical Secretariat/Legal Affairs; Vittorio Leproux, who assisted the Chairperson with the minutes; Research Area officers Carmen Nappi and Tindaro Cicero participated in the

Meeting.

After having noted that the meeting was quorate (10 present, one via video conferencing), the meeting regularly started by examining the agenda as follows:

1. Communications
2. ISPD Contributions, ENQA accreditation process and Committee regulations
3. New Teco
4. Student opinion survey
5. ANAC - 2017 National anti-corruption plan
6. Basic research activity fund - FFABR
7. PhD Accreditation
8. Advisory Committee work plan (ex-art. 3 of the Advisory Committee Regulations)

Chairperson Petrucci opened the meeting by thanking President Graziosi for his presence. Petrucci proposed to revise the agenda item order, which was reorganised and approved unanimously (the discussion on the PhD accreditation was postponed until the next Committee meeting):

1. ANAC - 2017 National anti-corruption plan
2. Communications
3. ISPD Contributions, ENQA accreditation process and Committee regulations
4. Advisory Committee work plan (ex-art. 3 of the Advisory Committee Regulations)
5. Basic research activity fund - FFABR
6. New Teco
7. Student opinion survey

1. ANAC - 2017 National anti-corruption plan – remarks

The Chairperson introduced the first item on the agenda and gave the floor to President Graziosi, who reminded the Committee that the National Anti-corruption authority was approving the 2017 National Anti-Corruption Plan. A working table was set up for the section dedicated to Universities and in which the agency belatedly took part. Graziosi said that this collaboration offered a general, but thorough, view of Italian universities and ANVUR's operation profiles, related to corruption as it is broadly understood and to define its risk. Graziosi underlined that while ANAC addresses general Public Administration, Universities have aspects that need particular attention, and an underlying continuously improving system. Having noted the reference version of NAP 2017 published on the ANAC website, Director Momigliano submitted his comments, which were approved by the Governing Board and posted on the ANVUR website.

The discussion opened among those attending, from which some emerging points required analysis such as: merit processes, the number of qualifications issued by the Universities; the reduced mobility of academic careers; the correlation between academic commitment, research and a free profession.

Graziosi said it was crucial to continue to ensure the Universities' autonomy and highlighted how some ANAC procedures which could be implemented to increase transparency and tackle corruption, could result in the interruption of research. Chairperson Petrucci thanked President Graziosi, who left the meeting, then proceeded to the next item.

2. Communications

Chairperson Petrucci made the following communications:

- The next Committee meetings will be convened on the following dates:
 - 16.01.2018
 - 10.04.2018
 - 03.07.2018
 - 09.10.2018.
- The Chairperson told the Advisory Committee that on 9 August MIUR published the Ministerial Decree defining the 2017 Ordinary Financing Fund (FFO) allocation criteria.
- The Chairperson said the OECD published and presented the "National Skills Strategy Diagnostic report – Italy" on 5 October. This report could initiate future considerations and proposals for the Committee's work.

The Committee noted these communications. There being no further communications or observations, the Chairperson ruled the item exhausted and proceeded on to the next.

3. ISPD Contributions, ENQA accreditation process and Committee regulations

The Chairperson informed the Committee that during the last meeting it was decided to resume the debate on issues discussed then.

On the first item, "ISPD contributions", a previously circulated document written and introduced by Lapicciarella, was shared. This opened the debate on the ISPD's premises and purposes and on the technical aspects of the department's compilation of what is necessary to access the resources. While acknowledging that ANVUR had complied with MIUR's request to define a legally acceptable index (ISPD), the Committee formulated the following considerations. The established procedure should allow all departments to know their strengths and weaknesses so that they can enact improvements for subsequent evaluations. An increase in the quality and volume of the scientific work and appealing to young and valuable scientists is undoubtedly a function of the research funds which are available to the individual department. In this circumstance, the importance of didactics, which is one of the essential institutional functions assigned to the departments, was not taken into account. The Committee considered that it will be useful to assess the outcome once the approved fund data is available.

The Chairperson introduced the "ENQA accreditation process" item and gave the floor to Galan, who agreed to send the Committee a European comparative analysis by the mid-January meeting.

The Chairperson proposed postponing the discussion on amending the "Committee Regulations", until the next meeting. The amendments will regard, principally, the procedure for election of the Committee Chairperson and the administrative transparency legislation compliance.

4. Advisory Committee work plan (ex-art. 3 of the Advisory Committee Regulations)

The Chairperson suggested greater proactivity on the Committee's work plan issues under the Agency's attention. The Committee could adopt some National Anti-Corruption Plan recommendations such as those relating to the establishment of the GEV, the AVA expert evaluators committees, the magazine expert groups and specific issues pertaining to telematic universities. A document which will be discussed at the next meeting was shared.

5. Basic research activity fund - FFABR

The Chairperson introduced the topic by saying that the 2017 Stability Law established a Fund for financing the basic research activities. In implementing the legal provisions, ANVUR published a public notice for the allocation of such funding, to be disbursed in favour of researchers and associate professors. Professor Checchi was invited to detail the phases of the procedure and the most recent developments and share any related issues. The Advisory Committee took note and thanked Professor Checchi for his presentation. The meeting then proceeded to discuss the next item on the agenda.

6. New Teco

The chairperson briefly introduced the topic and gave the floor to Professor Rumiati who detailed the ongoing processes and the new Cross-Competence Test that allowed the comparison of different types of courses. After the process description, professor Rumiati explained some of the preliminary results, pointing out that, although a broader database was needed, it is already clear that some acquired skills, if not practised, may be reduced, highlighting some degree of heterogeneity. The discussion focused on some technical aspects such as the sampling method and the possible developments and future uses of the TECO results. Chairperson Petrucci, after an exhaustive discussion, declared the topic closed and proceeded to the next.

7. Student opinion survey

The Chairperson introduced the item on the agenda and gave the floor to Professor Rumiati, who reported that during the AVA review, there was a need to have up-to-date student opinion survey forms and described the proposals that have been developed.

The debate focused on many aspects of the proposal, such as any resistance to the introduction of these types of tools, their possible use, the scale used for the surveys, the different functions of the various forms and the importance of a correct compilation timing. The Committee thanked Professor Rumiati, and reserved the right to formulate further comments in the light of the application of the proposed amendments, noting that they have already been approved by the ANVUR Board of Directors.

Once the agenda has been exhaustively discussed, Chairperson Petrucci thanked all the participants and closed the meeting at 16.30 p.m.

Alessandra Petrucci

(Chairperson of the ANVUR Advisory Committee)