

DGII/EDU/ETINED(2025)11
Original: English
Strasbourg, 25 September 2025

Council of Europe Platform on Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Education (ETINED)

2022-2027 Terms of Reference for ETINED

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ETINED PLATFORM

Valid from: 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2027

MAIN TASKS

Under the authority of the Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice (CD- EDU), and bearing in mind the:

- Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec (2022)18 to member States on countering education fraud;
- Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)9 to member States on fostering a culture of ethics in the teaching profession, and support the effectiveness of ethical codes in education in the member States;
- Council of Europe's Education Strategy "Learners First – Education for Today's and Tomorrow's Democratic Societies" 2024-2030, launched at the 26th session of the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education held in September 2023 in Strasbourg;
- Final Declaration of the 24th Session of the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education on "Governance and Quality Education" held in April 2013 in Helsinki;
- Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec (2012)7 to member States on the responsibility of public authorities for academic freedom and institutional autonomy;
- Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec (2012)13 to member States on ensuring quality education;

The Platform on Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Education (ETINED) is invited to:

- Identify and implement the tasks assigned by the CDEDU in its current programme of 2022-2027 to promote a culture of trust and integrity through the Platform on Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Education (ETINED), develop policy instruments to combat education fraud and foster integrity in higher education through encouraging the exchange of best practices among higher education institutions;
- Contribute to the development of good and transparent governance, a culture of democracy and participation in education by promoting ethics, transparency and integrity in education;
- Promote and facilitate co-operation, coordination and understanding among member States in these fields;
- Develop policies (opinions, recommendations, guidelines) related to the issues of ethics, transparency and integrity in education and, more generally, raise awareness on these questions;

- Provide a mechanism for international exchanges and data collection/analysis among educational stakeholders on the topics of ethics, transparency and integrity;
- Support the establishment of national and regional pilot projects and develop expertise to support interested countries;
- Identify promising practices in the field of ethics, transparency and integrity;
- Contribute as appropriate to projects undertaken by Co-operation and Capacity-building programmes.

SPECIFIC TASKS

- Contribute to the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2022)18 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on countering education fraud and of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019) 9 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on fostering a culture of ethics in the teaching profession, and support the effectiveness of ethical codes in education in the member States, through thematic research, highlighting recommended practices and developing guidelines;¹-
- Foster integrity in higher education through the development and dissemination of policy framework documents and instruments for measuring integrity and transparency in higher education institutions across member States;²-
- Contribute to the design of an Implementation Action Plan of the new Strategy of the Education sector of the Council of Europe and the identification of strategic indicators to measure its successful implementation in national contexts.

COMPOSITION

Governments of the States Parties to the European Cultural Convention represented at the CDEDU are invited to designate **one representative** and **one substitute**, having relevant expertise, knowledge and/or experience in the fields covered by the ETINED Platform. States Parties may appoint one further representative if they so wish.

WORKING METHODS

Plenary meetings

- 1 meeting a year

The ETINED Platform shall meet at least once a year for a Plenary Session of two days.

Governments should ensure that students voices are heard through designating students' representatives at the meetings and conferences organised by the Platform.

Bureau meetings

The ETINED Platform shall designate a Bureau up to six members from among its members, of whom one Chair and two Vice-Chairs and one observer among the representatives of the students. The nomination of the Chair and the Vice-Chairs will take place at the first Bureau meeting.

The Bureau will, among other, liaise with the Secretariat, identify and propose priorities to the Platform, report to the Plenary and plan the next meetings.

Working Group meetings

Dedicated Working Groups may be appointed to work on specific themes and meet in-between the Plenary Sessions. Experts can be appointed by the Secretariat if need be.

Balanced representation

In appointing members to the Bureau and the Working Groups, a balanced representation should be sought, in accordance with a balanced distribution of posts, taking into account in particular geographical distribution, gender and representation of different functions (representatives of students, teachers, Member States).

Travel and subsistence expenses

The Council of Europe budget will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of one representative from each State Party to the European Cultural Convention to the Plenary Sessions. If a country designates more than one representative, the rule of bearing the costs for one member only still applies.

All States Parties to the European Cultural Convention and all observers to the CDEDU may send additional representatives to the Plenary Sessions without defrayal of expenses.

The Council of Europe budget will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of members of the Working Groups and Bureau to the Working Group, and of Bureau meetings.

Plenary sessions shall as far as possible be held as physical meetings. The Bureau and the Working Groups shall work through physical and/or online meetings as appropriate.

Working languages

English and French simultaneous interpretation will be provided at Plenary Sessions.

English will be the working language for the working group meetings. It may be possible to use both English and French in groups, provided that all members have a working understanding of both languages.

Appendix

Recommended profile

Experience

Members of the Platform should have relevant expertise, knowledge and/or experience in the fields covered by the Platform: ethics, transparency and integrity in education and the fight against education fraud.

They may be representatives of:

- Ministries of Education;
- Relevant national boards;
- Higher Education bodies, such as universities involved in programmes relating to ethics, transparency and integrity in education, or representatives of the administration or university staff;
- Anti-corruption bodies or agencies;
- Civil society;
- Relevant international institutions and INGOs;
- ENIC-NARIC representatives;
- Education and other relevant staff;

Education

Higher education degree or relevant work experience in Education, Social Sciences, Humanities, Law, Public Policy, Political Science, International Relations or proven interest and involvement in the topics addressed by ETINED.

Writing and presentation skills

Good written and oral presentation skills in English and/or in French;

Ability to organise and present information, views and concepts in a concise and understandable way for a variety of audiences and to listen and respond to information, questions and requests from others;

Ability to present complex realities in a structured and understandable way.

Interpersonal and communication skills

Ability to liaise and communicate with policy-making actors at different levels as well as with other stakeholders and practitioners at the international and non-governmental level;

Ability to establish and maintain good working relations at all levels in a multicultural context and with respect for diversity;

Ability to communicate effectively in English and/or French.

Operational skills

Ability to make effective and appropriate use of professional/technical knowledge and skills in their particular field or discipline and to use related methods, procedures, techniques, tools or infrastructure.