



# ACPUA

Aragon Agency for Quality Assurance and Strategic Foresight in Higher Education



**ACPUA**

AGENCIA DE CALIDAD Y PROSPECTIVA  
UNIVERSITARIA DE ARAGÓN

*ACPUA in the world*



**GOBIERNO  
DE ARAGON**

Departamento de Innovación,  
Investigación y Universidad



## Aragon Higher Education Act

(Law 5/2005, of June 14, on Universities)

Created in its Title IV the Aragon Agency for Quality Assurance and Strategic Foresight in Higher Education (ACPUA) as the external QA Agency in Aragon.

Double purpose of ACPUA : an evaluation, certification and accreditation mission, as well as the promotion of continuous enhancement, reflection and innovations in the Aragon university system.

This non-evaluating mission is an important distinctive feature of ACPUA.

### Aragon Higher Education Act, art. 84 « Purpose»

1. ACPUA is an instrument of Aragon to promote the improvement of the quality of the Aragon university system favouring its relationship with the business and labour world and the society as a whole.
2. With its activity, the Agency must promote and disseminate a culture of quality in the university and higher education area of Aragon, that enables enriching the reflection on the role of universities with regard to the society and favour the exchange of experiences at this level with other university systems.

## Quality assurance:

Quality assurance evaluations and reviews in three fields: programmes, institutions and research. Progressively, ACPUA has developed new evaluation tasks within each of them; programme evaluation is the most relevant one.

## Strategic foresight:

ACPUA develops different types of reports and studies to support higher education policy decisions upon request of the Aragon Government, as well as research studies on key topics upon the authority's request.

## Outreach activities:

ACPUA supplements its QA and strategic foresight activity through a complementary mission: promoting quality in higher education by organizing seminars, collaborating with other entities through networks, participating in higher education events, etc. Among these, the international activity, started in 2013, is especially relevant.





# The ACPUA spirit...



All reviewers external to Aragon...

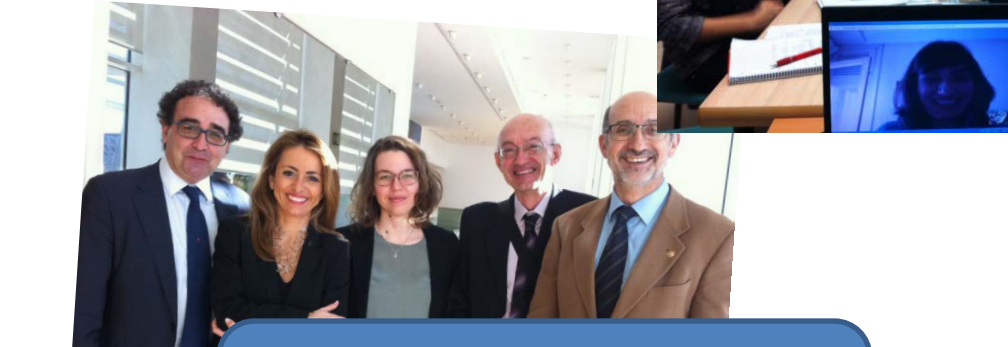
Stakeholder feedback and involvement in methodology design



Students as "partners"



Vision for dissemination and internationalization



...and new structure to reinforce transparency and independence of procedures



- Proactive, agile and creative team spirit
- Deep process of change and enhancement since 2012
- **1<sup>st</sup> European Agency** reviewed and fully compliant to the new European Standards and Guidelines





ACPUA is full member of the most important international Associations and Networks of Quality Assurance in Higher Education.



Members of ACPUA staff have conducted higher education audit and programs evaluations in **Germany** and **Andorra** (Europe) and **Kazakhstan** (Asia). A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between ACPUA and the Independent Kazakhstan QA Agency (**IQAA**) in 2015.

Staff of the National **Panama Agency** CONEAUPA has been trained by ACPUA.

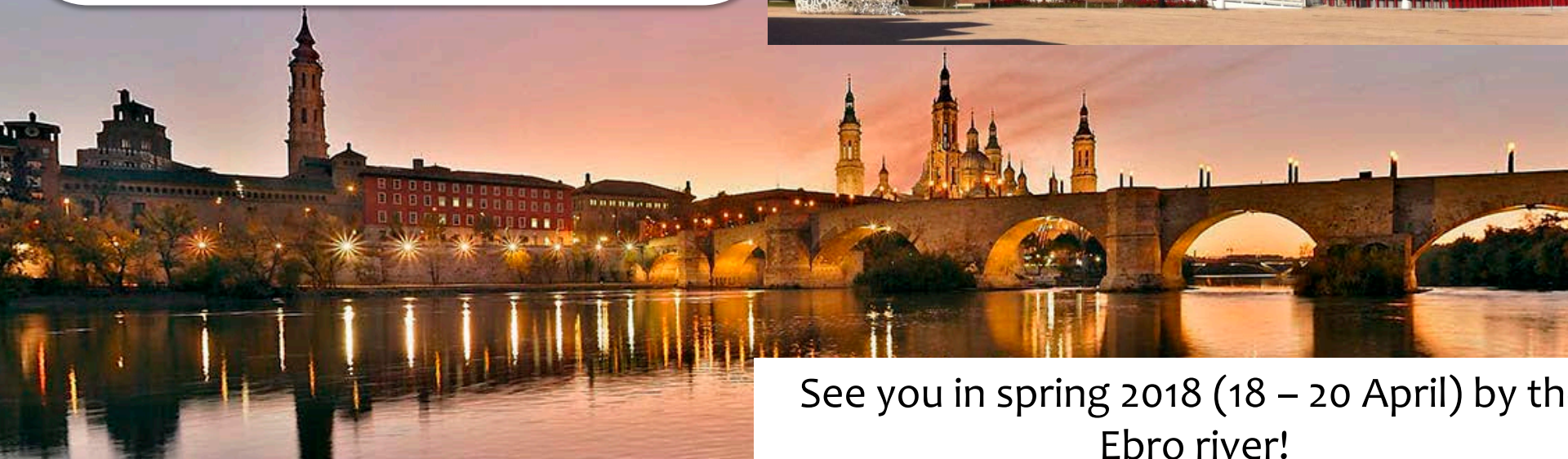
In 2017 ACPUA organized in Zaragoza with the **Seoul National University** (SNU) the international workshop “*Legal Education today: global challenges*”.



# ACPUA will host the ENQA Members' Forum 2018

Representatives belonging to at least 40 agencies and countries of the European Higher Education Area are expected to be present.

**ZARAGOZA (Aragón,  
Spain), the friendly and  
welcoming european  
capital of Quality in  
Higher Education in 2018**



See you in spring 2018 (18 – 20 April) by the  
Ebro river!