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## Trends IV: European Universities Implementing Bologna

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*The EUA Trends IV report, the latest in the influential Trends reports series produced every two years for each of the Ministerial meetings of the Bologna Process, is now available. The report sets out the challenges faced by European higher education institutions in implementing the Bologna reforms at the mid-term point to 2010.*

Trends IV presents an analysis of the implementation of degree structures, recognition and quality issues, as well as the link between teaching and research, particularly in relation to doctoral programmes. By examining how institutions with very different profiles are managing implementation in different national contexts, the report provides a snapshot of the current state of play in all these areas. It reveals widespread support for the Bologna Process and explores its practical implementation, while also identifying the challenges that remain.

Trends IV highlights the commitment of universities to the reform process and its long-term implementation. However, to ensure that reforms are sustainable the report stresses that more support, including financial, from governments is essential as goals cannot be achieved simply by changing legislation. Trends IV reveals the link between the functional autonomy of an institution and its success in implementing reform and recognises this issue as a fundamental condition for achieving change. The report

also outlines concern voiced by academics that the necessary focus on implementing the reforms, such as through restructuring curricular or designing new programmes, reduces the time that they have to spend on research activities.

EUA's recent Glasgow Convention and the findings of Trends IV have shaped the Glasgow Declaration, the position of Europe's universities to be delivered by EUA to the Ministers of Education meeting in Bergen, 19-20 May. The Glasgow Declaration also sets the policy agenda for the higher education community for the next two years.

- [Trends IV - Executive Summary](#)
- [Trends IV: European Universities Implementing Bologna](#)
- [Glasgow Declaration: Strong Universities for a Strong Europe](#) (including French, German, Spanish and Italian versions)

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The European University Association, as the representative organisation of both the European universities and the national rectors' conferences, is the main voice of the higher education community in Europe. EUA's mission is to promote the development of a coherent system of European higher education and research.

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