

Alexander Kohler



PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Sex male | Date of birth 08/07/1967 | Nationality Austrian

WORK EXPERIENCE

February 2014 – present

Senior Expert and Advisor

- Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF), Vienna;
- National Quality Assurance Council for Teacher Education (QSR), Vienna
- co-ordination of federal initiatives to raise the relevance and quality of learning and teaching: monitoring of HEIs strategies, co-ordination of national initiatives (conferences, national award, national website on good practice), participation European working groups (incl. BFUG)
- monitoring the implementation of tri-annual performance agreements with public universities (performance based funding of universities)
- support and advice to the ongoing reform of teacher education in Austria (creation of co-operations between universities, implementation of new curricula)

[Higher education](#)

March 2004 – January 2014

Managing Director

Austrian Agency for Quality Assurance (AQA)

- start-up of the agency, strategic development, business management
- entry of the new agency in ENQA and EQAR as well as other international networks and projects
- development and management of quality assurance procedures in teaching and research (audits, accreditation, peer reviews, system analysis)
- consulting services for higher education institutions in Austria and other countries
- representation of the agency in international networks (ENQA, EQAR, INQAAHE, CEENQA)
- international relations and management of international projects
- entry of the Agency to the German accreditation scheme and implementation of accreditation in Germany
- member of review panels
- organisation of international conferences and seminars on quality assurance
- co-operation with national authorities and interest groups

[Higher education](#)

June 2012 – January 2014

Head of Sector

Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria (AQ Austria)

- development and implementation of audits for public universities and universities of applied sciences
- consulting services for higher education institutions in Austria and other European countries (incl. South Eastern Europe)
- international accreditation of study programmes (esp. in Eastern European countries)
- international relations and management of international projects (incl. Tempus partnerships)
- member of the Executive Board of the Network of Central and Eastern European Quality Assurance Agencies (CEENQA)
- member of the Accreditation Commission of the Public Accreditation Agency of Higher Education in Albania (APAAL/PAAHE)
- member of the Steering Committee of the European Quality Audit Network (QAN)
- member of the International Advisory Board of the Finnish Higher Education and Evaluation Council (FINHEEC)

[Higher education](#)

October 1999 – February 2004

Head of Agency

Austrian Agency for International Mobility and Cooperation in Education, Science and Research (ÖAD) – National Agency for the EU lifelong learning programme ‘Leonardo da Vinci’, Vienna

- overall co-ordination of the EU funding programme ‘Leonardo da Vinci’
- allocation and administration of European and national funds, monitoring and controlling
- dissemination activities, public relations
- representation of the agency at the European Commission
- establishment of partnerships between Austria and the (then new) member countries in Central and Eastern Europe

[Education](#)

July 1997 – September 1999

Seconded National Expert

European Commission, Directorate for Education and Culture, Brussels

- preparation of policy concepts on education and employment
- research and documentation on investment in human resources
- co-operation with national authorities and interest groups

[Education](#)

February 1996 – June 1997

Seconded National Expert

European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP), Thessaloniki

- research on the funding of education and training
- co-operation with ministries, social partners and research institutions

[Vocational education](#)

July 1993 – February 1996

Researcher and Head of Research Area

Institute of Industrial Sciences, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Vienna

- analysis of start-up higher education institutions
- consulting to founders of universities of applied sciences
- partnership in European consortia

[Educational research](#)

- 1993 **Attendant to persons with disabilities**
Community service at Jugend am Werk, Vienna
- Assistance to people with mental and physical disabilities
- [Health and Social Care](#)

PARTICIPATION IN PROJECTS AND COMMITTEES

[since 2014](#)

- June 2020 –
June 2021 **Consultancy to Russian Authorities on the internationalisation of higher education**
On behalf of the World Bank
- consultancy on evidence-based policymaking and internationalisation of the Russian higher education system

- June 2020 –
present **Consultancy to TAIEX beneficiary countries**
On behalf of the European Commission (DG Enlargement)
- survey on e-education in practice of TAIEX beneficiary countries
 - support through thematic online seminars on aspects of e-education in different fields of education (Moldova), performance-oriented funding (Armenia), Erasmus co-operation (Sudan)

- January 2019 –
June 2019 **Consultancy to Ugandan Authorities in Education and Training**
On behalf of Learning Avenue, Paris ; funded by the Belgian Development Agency (Enabel)
- consultancy for setting up and improving institutional structures of national authorities for quality assurance and national examinations
 - support to the development competence based examinations in line with labour market needs

- November 2016 –
November 2017 **Consultancy to the Moroccan Accreditation Agency**
Programme de coopération Maroc – Union Européenne “Appui à l’opérationnalisation de l’Agence Nationale d’Evaluation et d’Assurance Qualité de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche (ANEAQ)
- support to the implementation of accreditation schemes in higher education
 - support to the development of human resources of the agency
 - training schemes for review experts

- September 2013 – September
2015 **Project Leader**
Twinning Partnership “Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Quality Assurance in Bosnia and Herzegovina” (BA11-IB-OT-02)
- development of criteria and procedures for the accreditation of higher education institutions and their programmes in BiH
 - support to networking of HEIs at national and international level
 - advice to the BiH quality assurance agency (HEA) for setting up internal processes and procedures (strategy development, human resource development, operational structures, communication policies)

- 2013 – present **International Member of the Accreditation Board**
Albanian Quality Assurance Agency in Higher Education (ASCAL)

2018 – present **International Member of the Consultative Group to the Ministry of Higher Education in Luxembourg**
Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Luxembourg (MESR)

Spring 2014 **Member of ENQA Review Panel**
International review of the Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency

2014 - present **Evaluator of project proposals to the Erasmus+ Programme**
Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD)
National Agency for International Education Affairs (AIBA), Liechtenstein

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

1985 – 1993 **Diploma in business economics**
Vienna University of Economics and Business, Vienna

February – June 1989 **Study term in Business Administration**
Ecole Supérieure de Commerce ESCAE, Montpellier (France)

June – September 1988 **Study term in Economics**
Wright State University, Dayton (USA)

1985 **Graduation certificate (Matura)**

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue German

Other languages

| | UNDERSTANDING | | SPEAKING | | WRITING |
|---------|---------------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| | Listening | Reading | Spoken interaction | Spoken production | |
| French | C2 | C1 | C2 | C1 | C1 |
| English | C2 | C2 | C2 | C1 | C1 |

Communication skills

- Understanding of cross-cultural characteristics
- Team-oriented spirit

- Organisational/
managerial skills
 - Project and process management
 - Implementation of organisational development and changes
 - Financial management and controlling
 - Human resources management

- Job-related skills
 - Moderation and presentation skills
 - Service and client oriented
 - Flexible in changing environments

- Computer skills
 - Practical knowledge of MS Office and Apple programmes

- Other skills
 - Experience in cross-cultural co-operation
 - Theoretical and practical knowledge of different quality assurance approaches and higher education systems throughout Europe

- Driving licence
 - A,B

September 2021