



KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



„University–Community Engagement through the Lens of Quality Assurance: The Georgian Experience and the ESG“

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Engagement as a Mutual Partnership

University Partners

- ✓ **Academic Knowledge:** Rigorous theories
- ✓ **Student Talent:** Active course involvement
- ✓ **Research Methods:** Evidence generation



CO-CREATION

Community Partners

- ✓ **Local Knowledge:** Lived context
- ✓ **Community Priorities:** Real challenges
- ✓ **Practical Feedback:** Direct evaluation

“Partners define the issue together and learn from the outcome.”



Connecting Engagement to Core University Work

01



Institutional Strategy

Set priorities with internal and external partners.

Strategic Alignment



02



Teaching & Research

Build community questions directly into courses and research.

Curriculum Integration



03



Reflection & Evaluation

Ask students and partners what changed; use the findings.

Impact Assessment



Authorisation: Institutional Connection

Standard 1.1

Mission

Define the university's explicit role in society.

Standard 1.2

Strategic Development

Contribute to social development, share knowledge, and support lifelong learning.

Standard 6.1

Research Activities

Demonstrate regional and societal contribution through research or creative work.



Accreditation: Programme Route to Relevance

Sections 1.1 & 1.2 Programme Objectives

Show a clear contribution to the academic field and wider society.

Section 1.4 Programme Design

Involve employers and stakeholders in defining learning outcomes.

Section 5.3 Periodic Review

Collect external stakeholder input and systematically use findings to improve.



Employer Input Growing into Community Engagement

Employer Involvement

- Professional needs identification
- Feedback on programme aims
- Applied learning opportunities



Wider Community Partnership

- ✓ Shared definition of a public issue
- ✓ Students and staff work with partners
- ✓ Partner feedback shapes the next step

Key Inquiry: How each partner contributes and benefits mutually.



ESG 2015 and the Proposed ESG 2027 Revision

ESG 2015

Higher education serves active citizenship. **ESG 1.9** asks programmes to respond directly to the needs of students and society.

Draft ESG 2027

Public draft connects learning and teaching with **research, innovation and societal engagement**.

Closing Thought



Georgia's authorization standards provide a direct institutional connection through mission, strategic development and research. Accreditation standards show how societal relevance and stakeholder participation can be reflected in educational programmed. The proposed ESG revision may make these links more visible in the European quality assurance framework.



Thank you for your attention!