

Decision on the Substantive Change Report by Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC)

Register Committee
23 March 2026

Ref. RC49/C158

Ver. 1.0

Date 2026-03-25

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Decision of:	2026-03-23
Result:	Take a note
Report received on:	2026-02-27
Agency registered since:	2022-10-01
Last external review report:	2025-04
Registration until:	2030-04-30
Absented themselves from decision-making:	Eltjo Bazan
Attachments:	1. Substantive Change Report, 2026-02-27

1. The Register Committee considered the Substantive Change Report of 2026-02-27.
2. The Register Committee noted that following the last external review THEQC and renewal of registration on EQAR, the agency revised its Evaluation Programs Guide in order to improve some of its processes.
3. The Register Committee, learned that the agency revised its processes for its mid-term evaluations (follow-up) with the main change affecting follow-up procedures for higher education institutions that were granted full accreditation.
4. Furthermore, the Committee learned that the agency introduced additional mechanism in order to improve the consistency amongst review reports, by adding additional layer where draft reports are being checked by THEQC secretariat for consistency and quality prior the same being sent to the institutions for factual check.
5. Based on the detailed information provided in the Substantive Change Report, the Register Committee had no *prima facie* concerns that the ESG are complied with.
6. The Committee however, expects that the next external review of the agency looks into how these changes have been implemented in practice and whether they are fit for purpose (ESG 2.2, ESG 2.3 and ESG 2.5).

EQAR Substantive Change Report

Agency #1	Turkish Higher Education Quality Council
Agency acronym	THEQC
Expiry date #1	30/04/2030
Contact #1	Dr Aysegul Kozak Cakir
Phone #1	+90 312 266 38 22
Email #1	theqcsecretariat@yokak.gov.tr
Other organisations?	No
A. Has the organisational identity of the registered agency changed?	No
B. Has the organisational structure changed?	No
C. Changes in EQA activities	2. Substantive changes carried out to one or several existing external QA activities (e.g. changes to their methodology, criteria or procedures)
Description new/changed	<p>In 2024 THEQC applied to ENQA to renew its membership and EQAR registration. That experience led us to update Evaluation Programs Guide Version 3.1.1 document to Evaluation Programs Guide Version 3.2 in 2025. Specifically the changes focus on making THEQC's consistency work more aligned with ENQA's consistency procedure by adding preliminary review step to the Institutional Accreditation Program process. In the 3.2 version, when the first draft of evaluation report is submitted by the evaluation team to THEQC, a preliminary review of the report to make sure the internal consistency of the report before sending it to the HEI. The aim of this new step is to improve quality of the evaluation reports.</p>

Additionally, another noteworthy change came about through stakeholder feedback meetings and benchmarking studies. THEQC regularly conducts with evaluation team leaders and rectors of HEI after each evaluation cycle. In this respect, there was a consensus between the stakeholders that five-year full accreditation of should not be terminated by follow-up review (mid-term evaluation), which is conducted two year after grant of full accreditation. This idea was put into work with other agencies' procedures and finally adopted by the Council on 24.01.2025, which means that the change has been applied to the 2025 evaluation cycle whose results haven't been published yet.

2. Changed EQA activity

1	Institutional Accreditation Program
ESG 2.1	N/A
ESG 2.2	Through stakeholder feedback meetings.
ESG 2.3	
1	https://www.yokak.gov.tr/en/documents-of-national-evaluation-programs/
ESG 2.4	N/A
ESG 2.5	A consistency check module has been added to THEQC's QA management information system to ensure that this new step is consistently and timely applied.
ESG 2.6	
1	https://mis.yokak.gov.tr/Report/KarRapor
D. Activity outside the scope of the ESG	No
Submit form?	I am ready to submit the change report form