

## **Global Academic Integrity Network (GAIN) aims to combat contract cheating and academic fraud**

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Contract cheating and other forms of academic fraud have the potential to cause significant damage to our national qualifications systems. These are global issues that require a collaborative, cross-border approach to combat.

In recognition of this, the **Global Academic Integrity Network (GAIN)** was co-founded by [Quality and Qualifications Ireland \(QQI\)](#) and the [Australian Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency \(TEQSA\)](#) and [launched by Simon Harris, Irish Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in October 2022](#).

GAIN is a collective of regulators and quality and integrity agencies that aims to maintain existing connections between regulators and to establish new ones. Through the network, members disseminate new developments and research on contract cheating and academic fraud across jurisdictions; members also consider how common, global approaches to combatting these challenges can be developed and implemented.

GAIN currently has 28 members from across the globe who aim to disrupt the business models of contract cheating service providers and other bad actors, thereby protecting learners, education providers, and national qualifications systems.

Countries represented include Australia, Canada, France, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Lithuania, New Zealand, South Africa, the UK and Zambia. The network is endorsed by the European Network for Academic Integrity (ENAI), the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and the Council of Europe.

GAIN meets online, once per quarter. The most recent meeting was in July, with representation from 20 members from across three continents. Key points of focus for the meeting were the implications of generative artificial intelligence for academic integrity and policy and regulatory responses within member organisations' jurisdictions. The next meeting will take place in September.

Interested in finding out more about the network or joining us? Visit <https://globalacademicintegrity.network/>.

The current membership list is as follows:

Australian Skills Quality Authority – ASQA (Australia)	Office of the Ombudsman for Academic Ethics & Procedures (Lithuania)
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency – TEQSA (Australia)	New Zealand Qualifications Authority – NZQA (New Zealand)
National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency – NEAA (Bulgaria)	Ecctis – UK National Information Centre/UK ENIC (UK)
High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education – HCÉRES (France)	Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board – PEQAB (Ontario, Canada)
National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement – NCEQE (Georgia)	Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education – ARACIS (Romania)
Hungarian Accreditation Committee – MAB (Hungary)	South African Qualifications Authority – SAQA (South Africa)
UNESCO	Valencian Agency for Assessment and Forecasting – AVAP (Valencia, Spain)
Quality and Qualifications Ireland – QQI (Ireland)	Agency for Scientific and University Quality of Andalusia – ACCUA (Andalusia, Spain)
Academic Equivalence Mobility Information Center – CIMEA (Italy)	Balearic Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education – AQUIB (Mallorca, Spain)
Independent Agency for Quality Assurance in Education – IQAA (Kazakhstan)	ENIC-NARIC Sweden (Sweden)
Commission for University Education (Kenya)	The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education – QAA (UK)
Kosovo Accreditation Agency – KAA (Kosovo)	National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance – NAQA (Ukraine)
Zambian Higher Education Authority (Zambia)	Zambian Qualifications Authority – ZAQA (Zambia)

Council on Higher Education of South  
Africa

Department for the Economy,  
Northern Ireland