

# + QUALITY RECOGNITION PROGRAMME

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*13 March, 2026*

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AESOP HoS meeting, NMBU

Tijana Dabovic  
Chair of the Excellence in Education Board

# Outline

- I. General info
- II. Revisions
- III. Dissemination
- IV. Reflections
- V. Invitation



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## 2015 – 2026 QR Programme Evolution

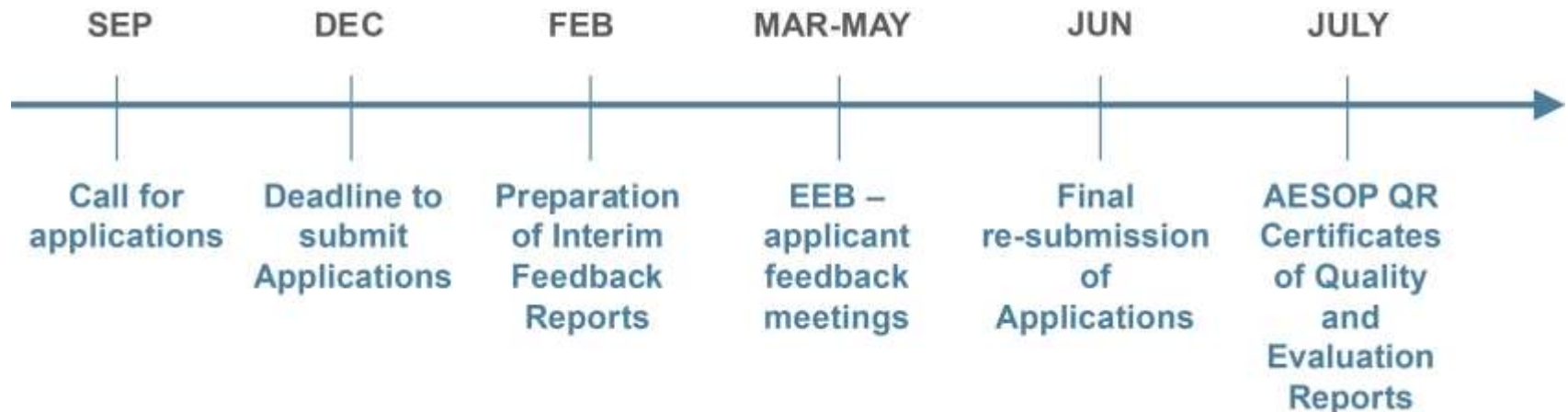
- 2015 QR Programme Pilot Phase
- 2017 Excellence in Education Board (EEB)
- 2019 Standard Phase
- 2017–2020 & 2020–2023 terms:
  - Mission, Ethos, Timeline
  - Application = Criteria + Guidance (Rationale, Questions, Examples).

# Mision, Ethos and Timeline

**MISSION:** To safeguard the quality of planning education and enable continual quality support to AESOP member schools under constantly changing demands.

**ETHOS:** Peer learning, Reflexivity, Creativity, Deliberation, Openness to trigger change in response to changing conditions, Recognising and showcasing practises.

## AESOP QUALITY RECOGNITION TIMELINE



# 2023 – 2026 Framework





# 2023 – 2026 Excellence in Education Board



**Tijana Dabović**  
Tijana Dabović is Associate Professor in the Department of Spatial Planning at the University of Belgrade.



**Mina Di Marino**  
Mina Di Marino is Associate Professor at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences.



**Zeynep Enli**  
Zeynep Enli is Professor at the Yildiz Technical University.



**Alenka Fikfak**  
Alenka Fikfak is Head Chair of Urbanism in the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Ljubljana.



**Declan Redmond**  
Declan Redmond is Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at University College Dublin (UCD) and a chartered Member of the Royal Towns Planning Institute.



**Federica Scaffidi**  
Federica Scaffidi is Assistant Professor at the Leibniz Universität Hannover.



**Patrick Witte**  
Patrick Witte is Associate Professor at the Utrecht University.



**Anna Kaczorowska**  
Anna Kaczorowska is Professor at the Department of Architecture and Planning Norwegian University of Science and Technology - NTNU.



**Chris Maidment**  
Chris Maidment is a Lecturer in planning in Henley Business School at the University of Reading.



**Juliana Martins**  
Juliana Martins is Associate Professor at the University College London.



**Ana Peric**  
Ana Peric is a Lecturer and Senior Researcher in the Institute for Spatial and Landscape Development at ETH Zürich.



**Paulo Silva**  
Paulo Silva is Assistant Professor at the University of Aveiro, Department of Social Political and Territorial Sciences.



**Angelique Chettiparamb**  
Angelique Chettiparamb is Professor at the University of Reading.



**Daniel Galland**  
Daniel Galland is Associate Professor at the Aalborg University.

## Safeguarding the quality of the QR Programme and actively adhering to the Mission



# II Revision - Grouping of Criteria

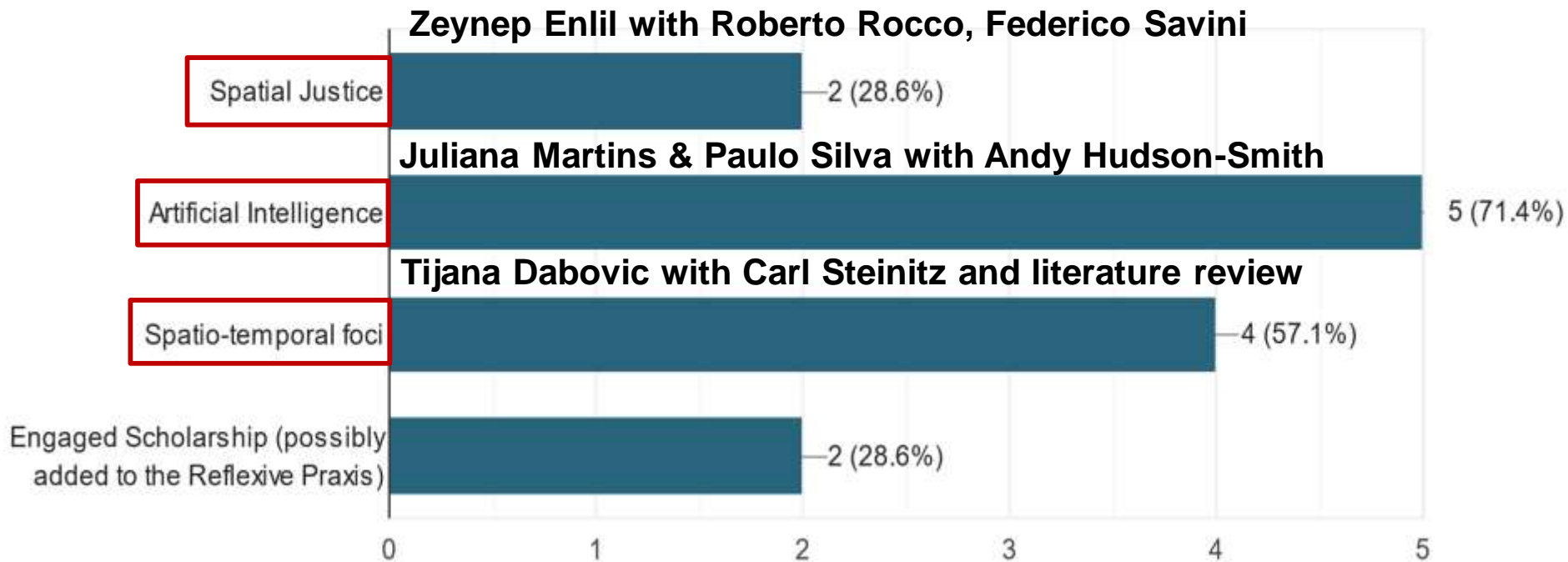
## QR CRITERIA

Planning perspectives	1. Programme distinctiveness
	2. Spatial foci
	3. Cross-disciplinarity
Themes / contents	4. Global context
	5. Contemporary socio-spatial challenges and opportunities
	6. Professional ethics
Skills development	7. Research and inquiry
	8. Independent learning and group learning
	9. Practical reasoning and judgement
	10. Reflexive praxis
Institutional/ programme settings	11. Student diversity
	12. Recognition and promotion of excellence
	13. Engagement in the development of the programme curriculum
14. Showcase practices	

# II Revision of Guidance

I have interest in exploring the topic of:

7 responses



## **TOP TIPS**

### **for completing a high quality QR application form**

#### **➤ QR is a collective process**

QR is an opportunity for collective reflection on the quality of the programme (not an accreditation process). Applications should be developed through the collective effort of the programme team.

#### **➤ It's about learning-oriented pedagogies**

QR aims to highlight where learning-oriented pedagogies are used in planning education. We want applicants to focus on how and where learning-oriented pedagogies are embedded in their programmes.

#### **➤ Illustrative Examples are crucial**

Following from above, it is essential that evidenced-examples are provided of how and where different learning-oriented pedagogies are being used.

#### **➤ QR aims to disseminate showcase practices**

QR aims to disseminate 'showcase practices' to the wider AESOP community. Applicants should tell us about their practices in enough detail to enable wider dissemination.



QUALITY  
RECOGNITION  
AESOP

# III Dissemination



# AESOP Digital Archive

Institutional Repository of AESOP | Association of European Schools of Planning

- easily ingest documents, articles, PhD theses, reports, datasets and their corresponding Dublin Core metadata
- open up this content to local and global audiences, thanks to the OAI-PMH interface and Google Scholar optimizations
- issue permanent urls and trustworthy identifiers through the integration with handle.net

Search the repository ...

## Communities in the AESOP Digital Archive

Select a community to browse its collections.

Now showing 1 - 7 of 7

### I - AESOP | Association of European Schools of Planning

Promoting Excellence in Planning Education and Research

### II - Events

Congresses, Workshops, Meetings, Lectures and Summer School Events

### III - Excellence in Planning Education

Safeguarding the development of AESOP's Quality Recognition Programme

### IV - Awards

Awards in Teaching, Best Published Paper, Best Congress Paper

### V - Journals

International, peer-reviewed, open-access journals

### VI - YA Network | AESOP Young Academics Network

Encouraging the active participation and exchange of academic work from PhD students and Early-Stage Researchers

### VII - Thematic Groups

Working groups on specific themes, established in order to create more effective platforms for debate and discussion amongst AESOP members

Communities & Collections All of AESOP Eprints Statistics

Home • II - Excellence in Planning ... • I - Quality Recognition (Q... • Yıldız Technical University


## Yıldız Technical University

Permanent URI for this collection <https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14235/2701>


### Browse

Recent Submissions By Issue Date By Author By Title By Subject By Subject Category


Now showing 1 - 6 of 6

 [View](#) [Open Access](#)

Master of Science in Urban Regeneration and Planning (Department of City and Regional Planning Faculty of Architecture, Yıldız Technical University)  
(AESOP: 2024) Fikrik, Alenka; Scaffidi, Federico; Dabović, Tijana; Cotella, Giancarlo  
The MSc in Urban Regeneration and Planning delivered at Yıldız Technical University is distinctive in its focus on courses in urban regeneration and planning with a specific focus on the socio-spatial, economic and political issues for urban transformation. It brings together the following aspects of quality in planning education:  
▼ Show more

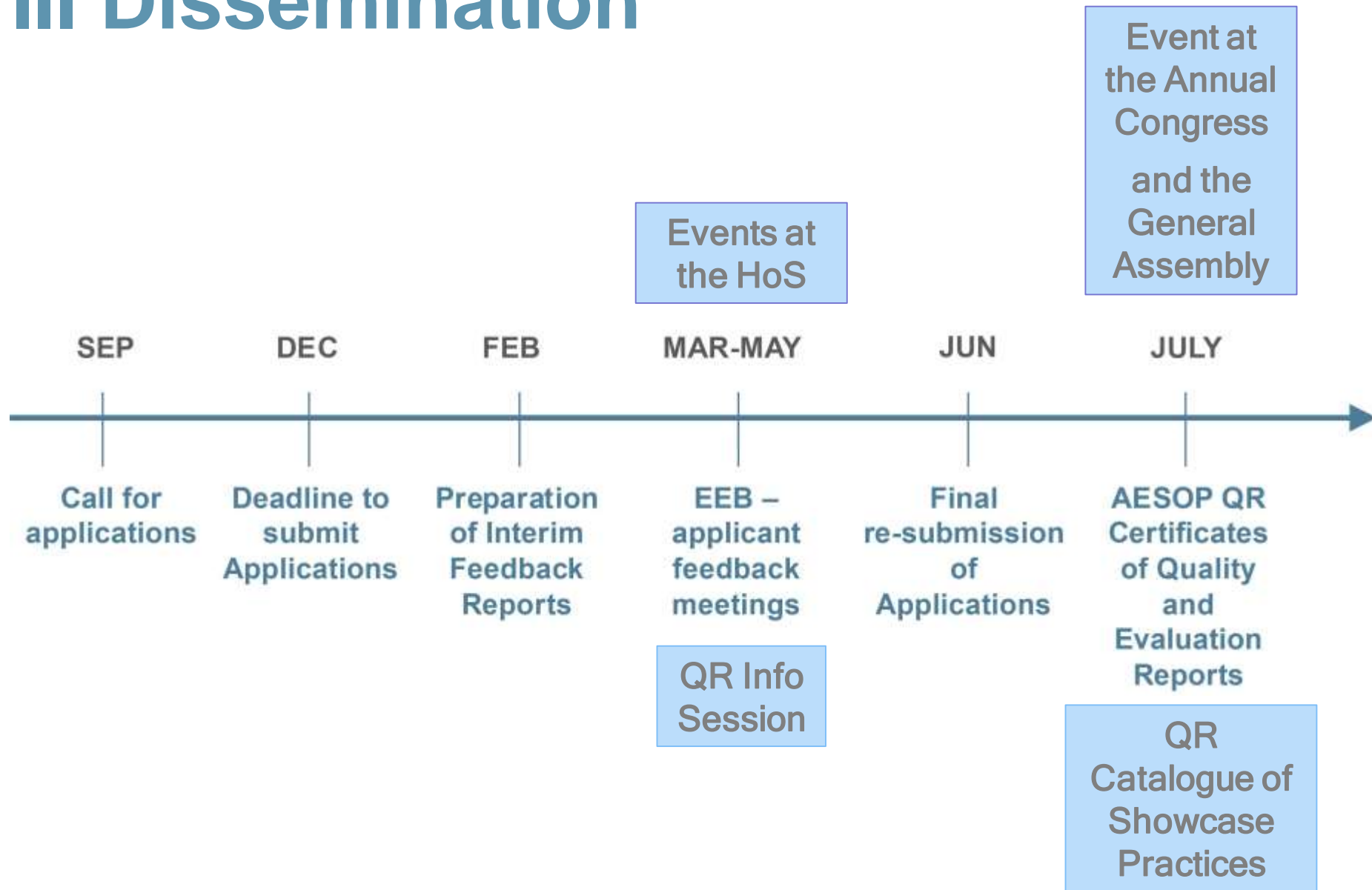
 [View](#) [Open Access](#)

Bachelor programme in Urban and Regional Planning (Faculty of Architecture Yıldız Technical University)  
(AESOP: 2023) Dabović, Tijana; Perić, Ana; Fikrik, Alenka  
The BSc in Urban and Regional Planning delivered at the Yıldız Technical University is distinctive in its focus on theoretical and methodological courses, interdisciplinarity and regional science. It brings together the following aspects of quality in planning education:  
▼ Show more

 [View](#) [Open Access](#)

Master Programme in Regional Planning (Yıldız Technical University)  
(AESOP: 2020) Galland, Daniel; Silva, Paulo; Chethiparamb, Angelique  
The Master Programme in Regional Planning delivered at the Yıldız Technical University is distinctive in its focus on

# III Dissemination



# QR CATALOGUE OF SHOWCASE PRACTICES (2019 - 2025)

- **General and contextual information about the Programme**
- **SHOWCASE PRACTICES** - More detailed information
- **Elements in place:** 20 Contributions, 1<sup>st</sup> Review, Foreword authors, Editors, Design Team, Proofreading, Publishing
- **Mid June – publishing physical and digital version**

**July – presentation of the Catalogue at the**

**WPSC**

# QR CATALOGUE OF SHOWCASE PRACTICES (2019-2025)

## Bachelor's in Urbanism

University of Ljubljana  
Faculty of Architecture

Author of the contribution:  
prof. dr. Alenka Fafek  
[alenka.fafek@fa.uni-lj.si](mailto:alenka.fafek@fa.uni-lj.si)

Authors:  
Associate Professor, Mila Pogacar  
Teaching Assistant, Bojan Krizaj

Assessor(s):  
Associate Professor, Declan Redmond, University  
College Dublin

Name and level of the programme  
BSc in Urbanism

Name of the school  
University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Architecture

City, Country  
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Website:  
<https://www.fa.uni-lj.si/en/home/>

Official representative  
Name

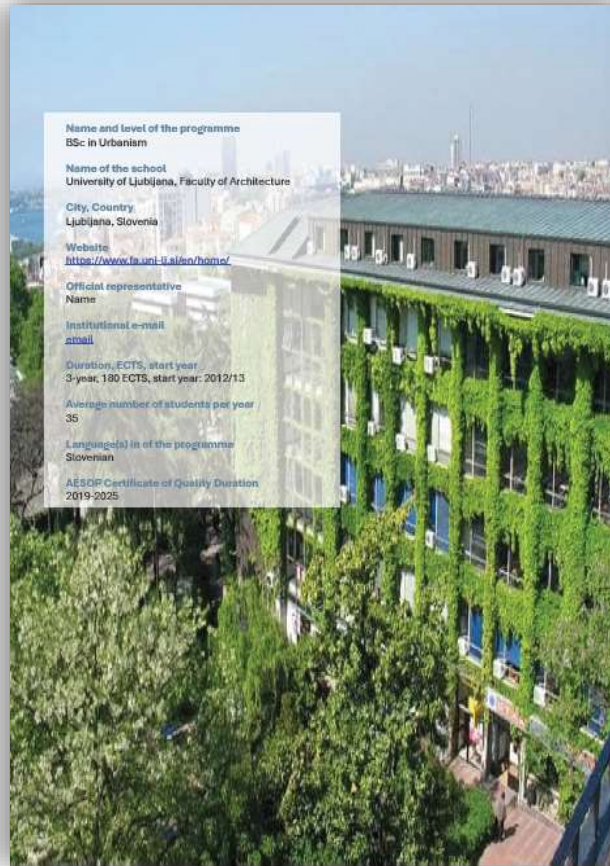
Institutional e-mail  
[afafek](mailto:afafek@fa.uni-lj.si)

Duration, ECTS, start year  
3-year, 180 ECTS, start year: 2012/13

Average number of students per year  
35

Language(s) in of the programme  
Slovenian

AESOP Certificate of Quality Duration  
2019-2025



## Programme's Key Characteristics

### Programme Highlights

- Purpose**  
A foundation of programme that builds strong skills in urban design, landscape planning, and sustainable development.
- Focus Areas**
  - GIS & mapping
  - Spatial and mobility planning
  - Environmental policies
  - Community-focused design projects
- Regional & National Context**  
Aligned with: Urban planning regulations, European sustainability goals, and national case studies from urban in Practices.

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# QR CATALOGUE OF SHOWCASE PRACTICES

## Showcase Practices

### Showcase Practice 1

QR 1 – Programme Distinctiveness | QR 6 – Cross-disciplinarity | QR 8 – Practical Reasoning and Judgement | QR 12 – Student/Alumni/Employer Engagement

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### Showcase Practice 2

QR 1 – Programme Distinctiveness | QR 6 – Cross-disciplinarity | QR 8 – Practical Reasoning and Judgement | QR 12 – Student/Alumni/Employer Engagement

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## Showcase Practices

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# QR CATALOGUE (2019 - 2026) – 19 CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED, ONE PENDING, ONE WITHOUT RESPONSE

University	Name of the Programme	Validation	1st subm	1st revie w	Assessor
University of Ljubljana	BSc Programme in Urbanism	2019-2025	y		Declan Redmond
University of Ljubljana	MSc Programme in Spatial Planning	2019-2025	y		Declan Redmond
Utrecht University	MSc Programme in Spatial Planning	2019-2025	y	y/y	Tijana Dabović
Adam Mickiewicz University	BSc Programme in Spatial Planning	2021-2027	y		Anna Kaczorowska
Politecnico di Milano	MSc Programme in Urban Planning and Policy Design	2021-2027	y		Federica Scaffidi
University of Lisbon	MSc Programme in Architecture - Spec. in Urbanism	2022-2028	y	y/y	Juliana Martins
Istanbul Technical University	MSc Programme in Regional Planning	2022-2028	y		Zeynep Enlil
Norwegian University of Life Sciences	MSc programme in urban and regional planning	2023-2029	y		Christopher Maidment
Technical University of Madrid	MSc programme in Urban and Regional Planning	2023-2029	y	y/y	Alenka Fikfak
Yıldız Technical University	BSc Programme in Urban and Regional Planning	2023-2029	y	y/y	Ana Perić
Krakov University of Economics	BEng Programme in Spatial Management	2024-2030	N		Anna Kaczorowska
Warsaw University of Technology	BSc Programme in Spatial Planning	2024-2030	y	y/y	Patrick Witte
Warsaw University of Technology	MSc Programme in Spatial Planning	2024-2030	y		Christopher Maidment
Polis University	MSc Programme in Urban Planning and Management	2024-2030	y	y/y	Alenka Fikfak
Politecnico di Torino	MSc Programme in Urban and Regional Planning	2024-2030	y	y/y	Mina Di Marino
IUAV	MSc Programme in Urban and Regional Planning	2025-2031	y	y/y	Juliana Martins
University of Palermo	BSc Programme in Urban Design for City in Transition	2025-2031	y		Federica Scaffidi
University of Palermo	MSc Programme in Spatial Planning	2025-2031	y		Mina Di Marino

# EEB at the 2026 HoS

## Workshop 3

### Showcasing pedagogies and learning environments:

Yildiz University, **Zeynep Enlil**

### Showcasing institutional settings

NMBU – Programme Committee, **Mina Di Marino**

16:00 - 17:30

### ***Parallel workshops***

***Workshop 3: Showcasing Pedagogical Practices of Awarded AESOP QR Planning Programs and NMBU's Role in Tackling Environmental and Technological Challenges***  
***Location: Admiralen, Bikuben***



# IV Reflections - EEB Meetings



# IV Reflections - Meetings with Applicants, Reports

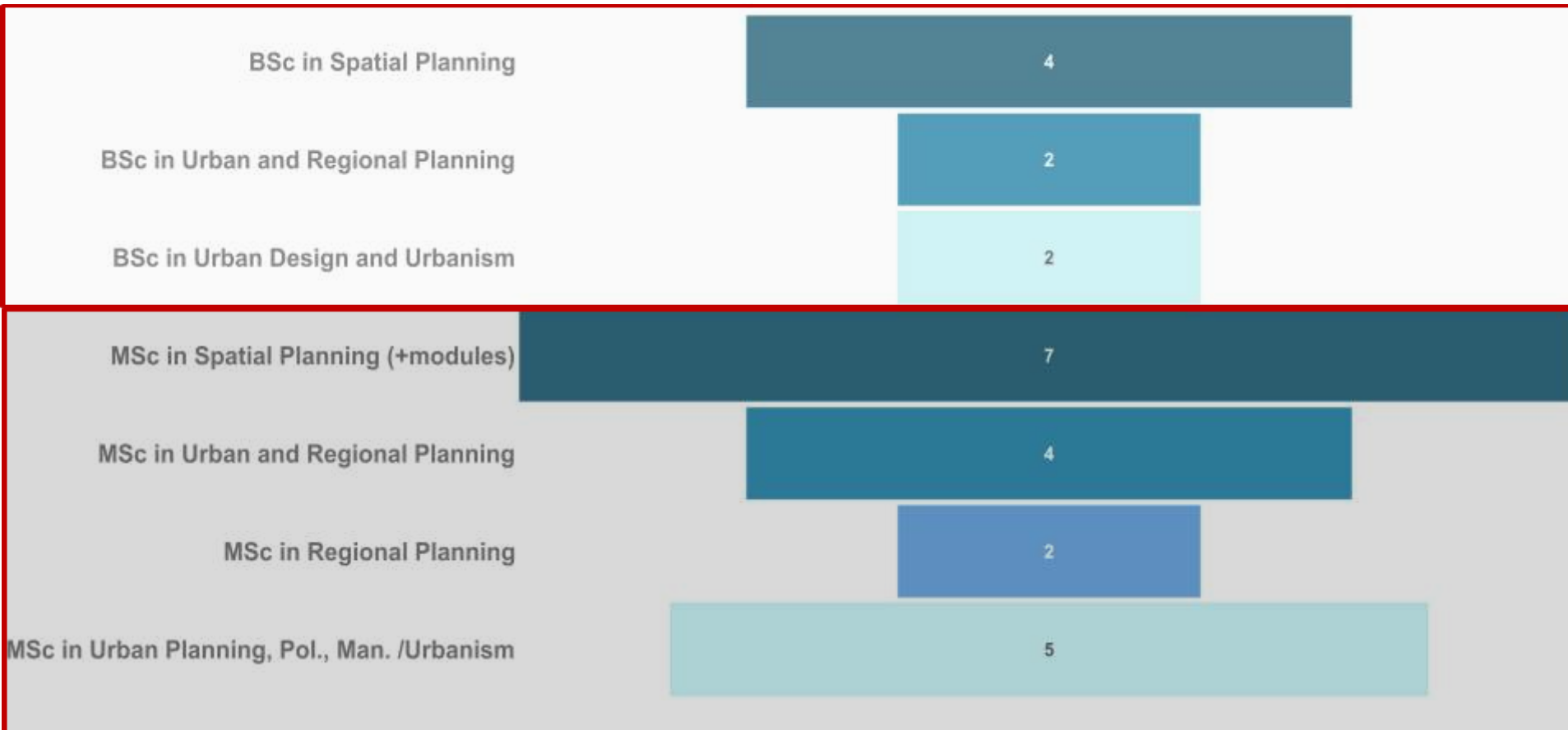
- **Interim Reports** - offers suggestions and questions about the Programme and guides the revision of the application.
- **Feedback Meetings** - serve to **clarify points in the Interim Report**, opportunity to **jointly discuss aspects of programme's quality**, and **decide on the SHOWCASE practices**.
- **Evaluation Reports**: explain why the Certificate of Quality was awarded & what are key aspects of quality.

University	Name of the Programme	Contact person	Assessor	Assessor
Linköping University	<b>MSc in Strategic Urban and Regional Planning</b>	Johan Niskanen	Anna Kaczorowska	Tijana Dabovic
University for Business and Technology	<b>MSc in Urban Planning and Sustainable Development</b>	Skender Kosumi	Anna Kaczorowska	Christopher Maidment
University of Florence	<b>BSc in Urban, Territorial, and Landscape Planning</b>	Valeria Lingua	Alenka Fikfak	Christopher Maidment
TU Istanbul	<b>BSc in Urban and Regional Planning</b>	Ferhan Gezici	Zeynep Enlil	Patrick Witte
University of Porto	<b>MSc in Spatial Planning and Urban Project</b>	Sara Cruz	Juliana Martins	Ana Peric
University of Florence	<b>MSc Urban and Regional Planning for Sustainability</b>	Camilla Perrone	Mina Di Marino	Declan Redmond
Blekinge Institute of Technology	<b>MSc in Strategic Spatial Planning</b>	Sabrina Fredin	Patrick Witte	Federica Scaffidi

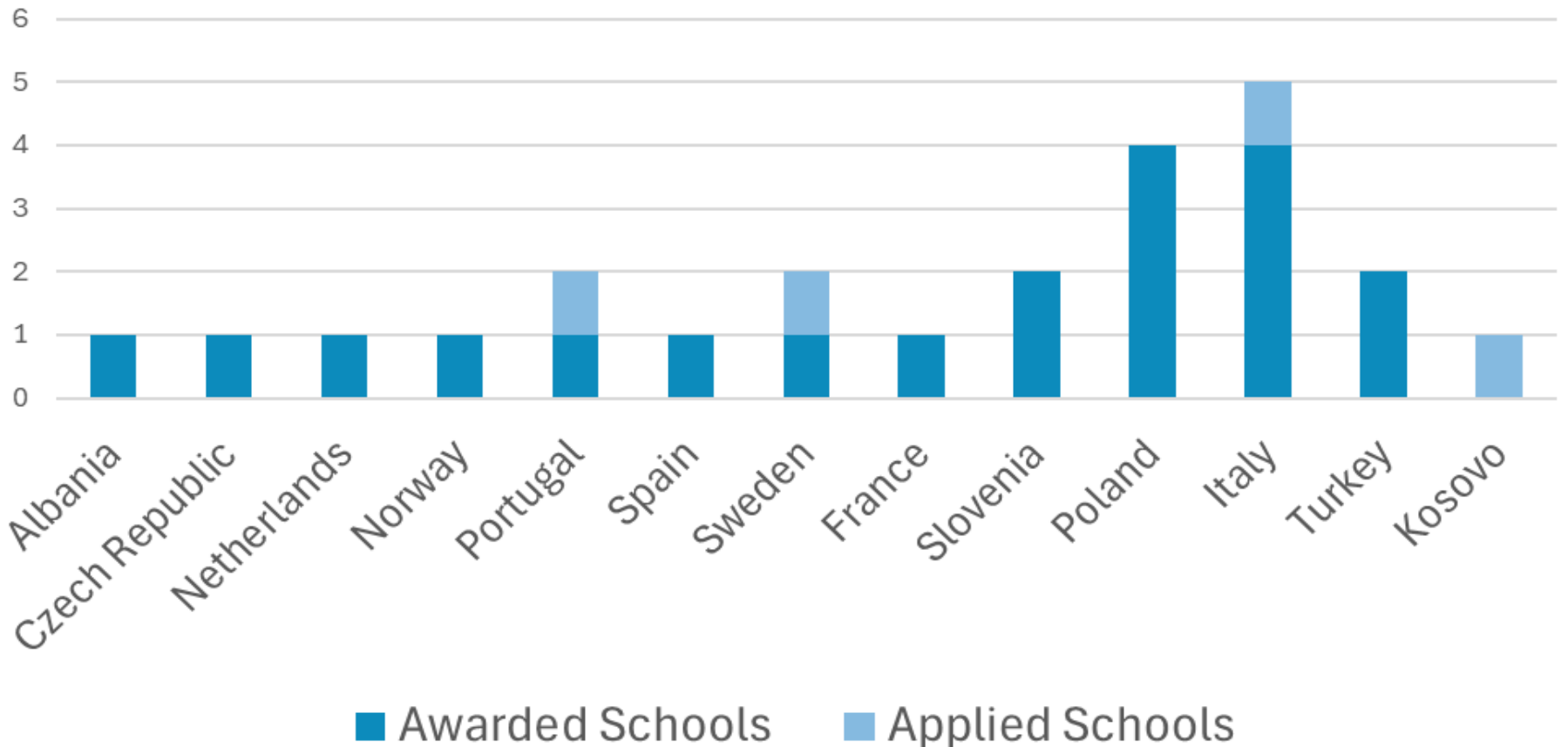


# IV Reflections on the Standard Phase Results

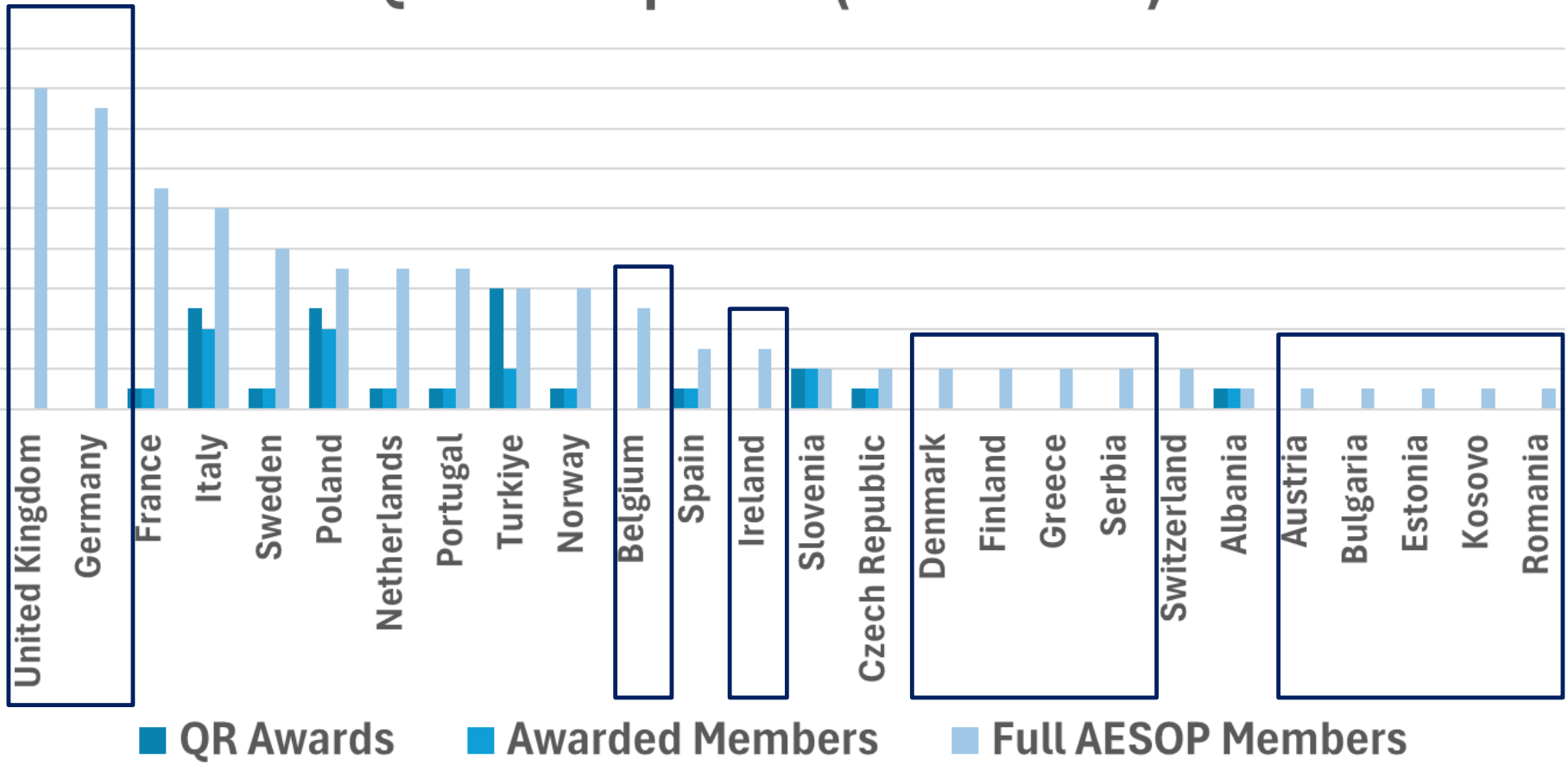
## Level and Focus of Awarded Programmes



# Awarded and Applied Schools per Country 2019-2025



# Differences among countries in the QR Participation (2019-2025)





# V. INVITATION

## **NOT ACCREDITATION**

**Voluntary** activity

**Free** of charge

**Friendly recognition of aspects of quality**

Structures the **conversation and offers new perspectives to**  
about the programme

**Fosters an ethic of quality enhancement**

It takes a **couple of joint meetings** of (interested) programme  
staff **familiar with the QR criteria and Guidance**

**Mid-career academics** (not chasing promotion) can steer the  
process?



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*THANK YOU*

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