History of EQALM



Gro Gidske
EQALM: President
Noklus: Head of EQA control material production


1997
1989
1994
TURNING
TIME
BACK TO
1989



1989

EQA organizers agree to collaborate - **but** not enough support for a formal organisation

(Eurolab, Milan)

1989

1989 -

Collaboration /Meetings

Brussels (1989)

Berlin (1990)

Barcelona (1990)

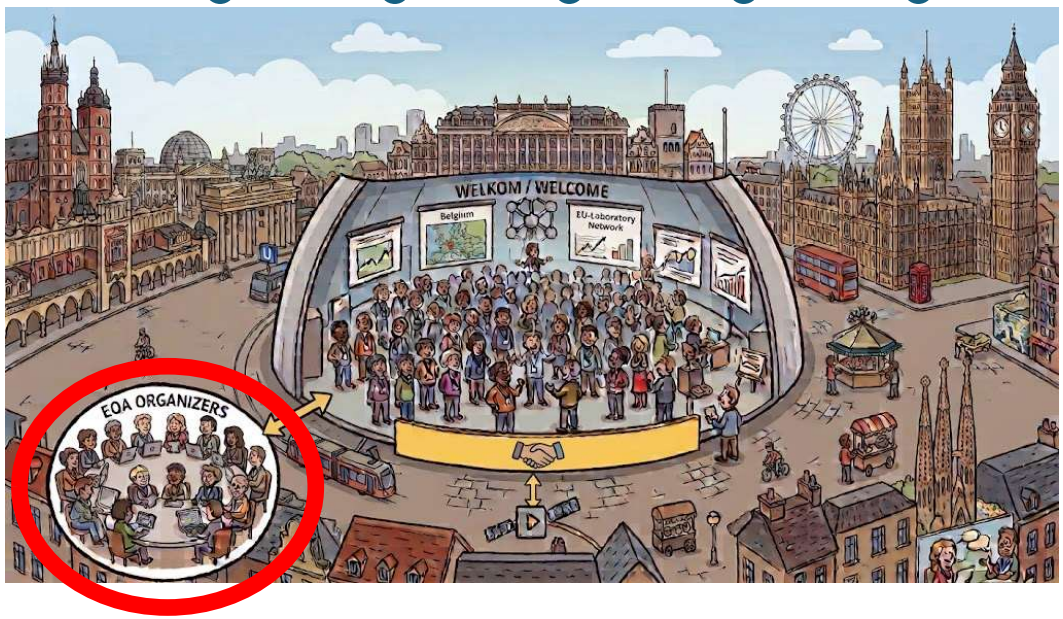
Cracow (1991)

Berlin (1994)

Tampere (1995)

Leipzig (1995)

London (1996)

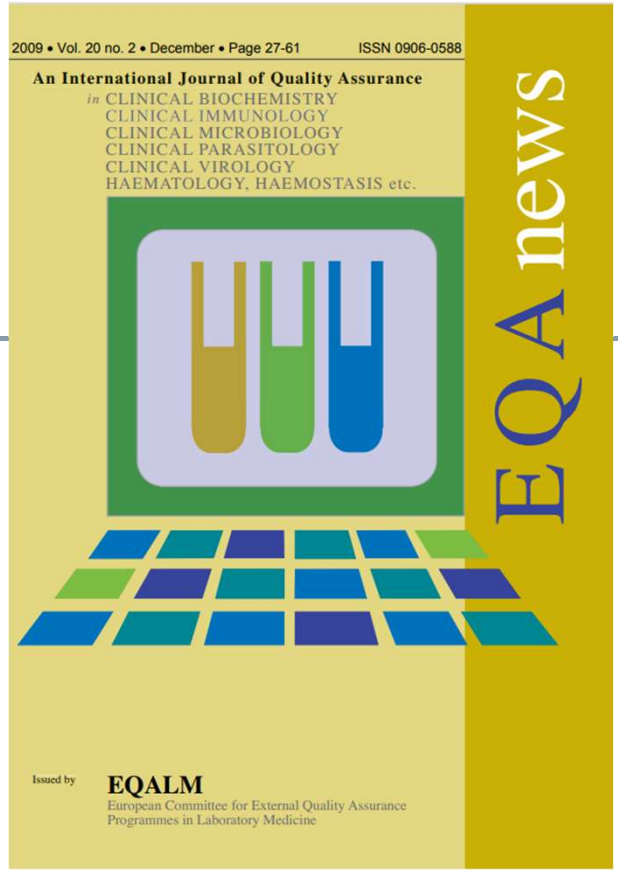


1989 1989 - **1990**

EQAnews

- Meeting invitations / minutes
- Lists of key persons in EQA
- Scientific publications

=> Cooperation and knowledge sharing





EQA Working Groups (WG)

WG A: "Goal"
(Chair: Per Hyltoft Petersen)

WG B: "Target values"
(Chair: Linda Thienpont)

WG C: "Serum"
(Chair: Jonathan Middle)

9 Publications on EQA for Clinical Chemistry

(Cracow)

EQAnews 1994; no 3: 5

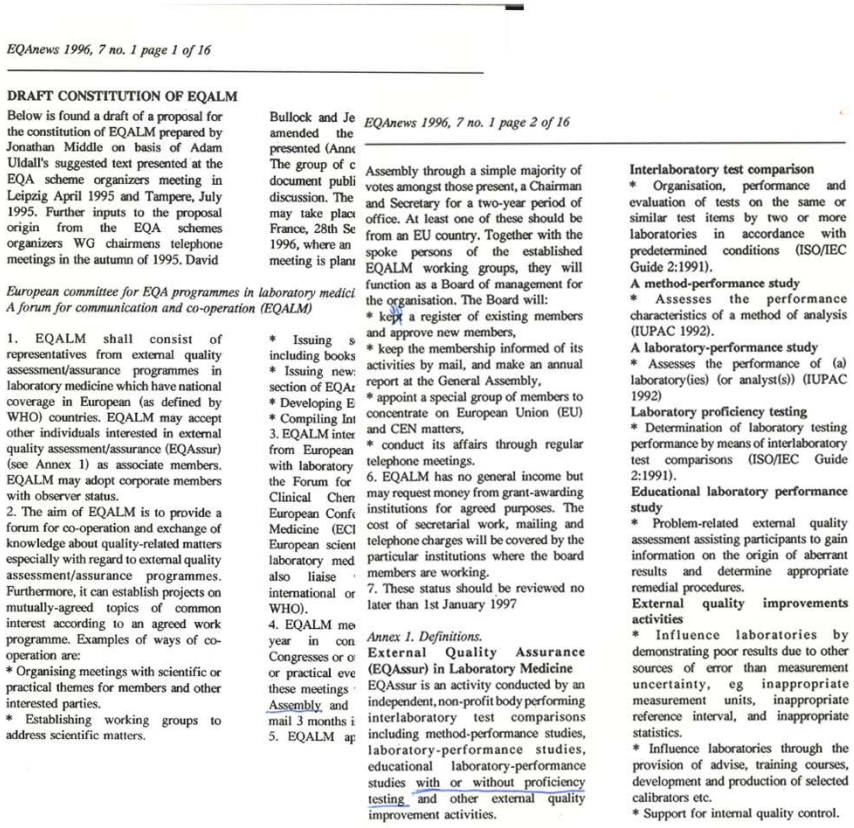


Decision to establish EQALM

Draft Articles of Association

(Leipzig)

Articles of Association



EQAnews 1996, 7 no. 1 page 1 of 16

DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF EQALM

Below is found a draft of a proposal for the constitution of EQALM prepared by Jonathan Middle on basis of Adam Uldall's suggested text presented at the EQA scheme organizers meeting in Leipzig April 1995 and Tampere, July 1995. Further inputs to the proposal origin from the EQA schemes organizers WG chairmens telephone meetings in the autumn of 1995. David Bullock and Je amended the presented (Anne The group of c document publi discussion. The may take place France, 28th Se 1996, where an meeting is plan

European committee for EQA programmes in laboratory medici
A forum for communication and co-operation (EQALM)

1. EQALM shall consist of representatives from external quality assessment/assurance programmes in laboratory medicine which have national coverage in European (as defined by WHO) countries. EQALM may accept other individuals interested in external quality assessment/assurance (EQAssur) (see Annex 1) as associate members. EQALM may adopt corporate members with observer status.
2. The aim of EQALM is to provide a forum for co-operation and exchange of knowledge about quality-related matters especially with regard to external quality assessment/assurance programmes. Furthermore, it can establish projects on mutually-agreed topics of common interest according to an agreed work programme. Examples of ways of co-operation are:
* Organising meetings with scientific or practical themes for members and other interested parties.
* Establishing working groups to address scientific matters.
* Issuing s including books
* Issuing new section of EQAr
* Developing E
* Compiling Int
3. EQALM inter from European with laboratory the Forum for Clinical Chem European Confe Medicine (ECl European scient laboratory med also liaise international or WHO).
4. EQALM me year in con Congresses or o or practical eve these meetings Assembly and mail 3 months i
5. EQALM ap

EQAnews 1996, 7 no. 1 page 2 of 16

Assembly through a simple majority of votes amongst those present, a Chairman and Secretary for a two-year period of office. At least one of these should be from an EU country. Together with the spoke persons of the established EQALM working groups, they will function as a Board of management for the organisation. The Board will:
* kept a register of existing members and approve new members,
* keep the membership informed of its activities by mail, and make an annual report at the General Assembly,
* appoint a special group of members to concentrate on European Union (EU) and CEN matters,
* conduct its affairs through regular telephone meetings.
6. EQALM has no general income but may request money from grant-awarding institutions for agreed purposes. The cost of secretarial work, mailing and telephone charges will be covered by the particular institutions where the board members are working.
7. These status should be reviewed no later than 1st January 1997

Annex 1. Definitions.
External Quality Assurance (EQAssur) in Laboratory Medicine
EQAssur is an activity conducted by an independent, non-profit body performing interlaboratory test comparisons including method-performance studies, laboratory-performance studies, educational laboratory-performance studies with or without proficiency testing and other external quality improvement activities.

Interlaboratory test comparison
* Organisation, performance and evaluation of tests on the same or similar test items by two or more laboratories in accordance with predetermined conditions (ISO/IEC Guide 2:1991).
A method-performance study
* Assesses the performance characteristics of a method of analysis (IUPAC 1992).
A laboratory-performance study
* Assesses the performance of (a) laboratory(ies) (or analyst(s)) (IUPAC 1992)
Laboratory proficiency testing
* Determination of laboratory testing performance by means of interlaboratory test comparisons (ISO/IEC Guide 2:1991).
Educational laboratory performance study
* Problem-related external quality assessment assisting participants to gain information on the origin of aberrant results and determine appropriate remedial procedures.
External quality improvements activities
* Influence laboratories by demonstrating poor results due to other sources of error than measurement uncertainty, eg inappropriate measurement units, inappropriate reference interval, and inappropriate statistics.
* Influence laboratories through the provision of advise, training courses, development and production of selected calibrators etc.
* Support for internal quality control.

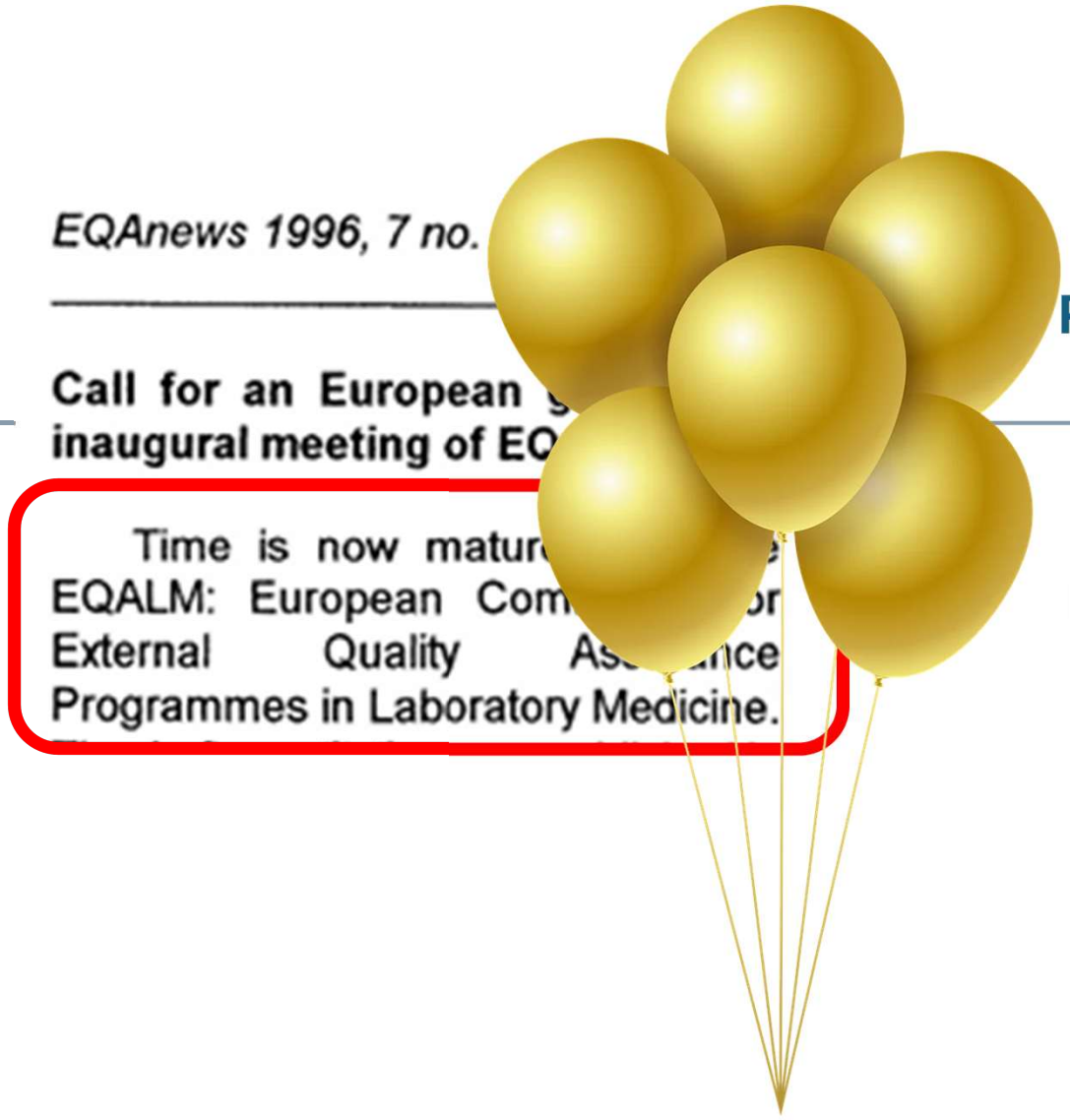
EQAnews 1996; no 1:1-2

1995 - 1996

WG Chairs

telephone meetings

1989



1996
Pont à Mousson

September 30

Inaugural meeting

The first EQALM General Assembly Düsseldorf November 22nd 1996

EQALM Board	Name
President	Jean-Claude Libeer (B)
Secretary	Paolo Brambilla (I)
Treasurer	André Deom (CH)
«Past President» & Editor of EQAnews	Adam Uldall (DK)
Spokesman of the sub-committees	Erich Kaiser (DE)
Spokesman of the Working Groups	Jonathan Middle (UK)

EQAnews 1996; no 4: 72

Adam Uldall – founder of EQALM



'He is a master in the education of people and in the development of new visions'

-Jean Claude Libeer

EQAnews 2003; no 1: 10

Adam Uldall – founder of EQALM





- Coordinated Meetings



- Established EQAnews

A: "Goal"
B: "Target values"
C: "Serum"

- Initiated Working Groups



- First draft of Articles of Association

Adam Uldall Award

‘to a person that has spent much of their career persuing better quality across laboratory medicine and is a well-known and respected international advocate on quality’



Christoph Buchta 2025



Anja Kessler 2024



Barbara De la Salle 2023



Piet Meijer 2022



Annette Thomas 2019

Awarded	Year
Jonathan Middle	2008
Jean-Claude Libeer	2009
Gunnar Nordin	2010
André Deom	2011
Carmen Ricos	2012
Linda Thienpont	2013
Dietmar Stöckl	2013
David G Bullock	2014
Sverre Sandberg	2015
Per Hyltoft Petersen	2016
Mauro Panteghini	2017
Greg Miller	2018
Annette Thomas	2019
Piet Meijer	2022
Barbara De la Salle	2023
Anja Kessler	2024
Christoph Buchta	2025
Dagmar Kessler	2026
Xavier Albe	2026

Interview with Gitte M. Henriksen (DEKS)



Board (1996-2026)







Adam Uldall
André Deom
Annette Thomas
Anja Kessler
Anne Stavelin
Barbara De la Salle
Christoph Buchta
Erika Sárkány
Erich Kaiser
Finlay MacKenzie
Gitte M. Henriksen
Gro Gidske
Gunnar Nordin
Jean-Claude Libeer
Jonathan Middle
Minna Loikkanen
Paolo Brambilla
Piet Meijer
Pierre-Alain Morandi
Rachel Marrington
Rob Jansen
Samantha Jones
Stéphanie Albarède
Sverre Sandberg
Vivienne James
Wim Coucke
Xavier Albe

Interview with the first EQALM President Jean-Claude Libeer by Wim Coucke


Jean Claude Libeer

EQALM
European Organisation For External Quality Assurance in Laboratory Medicine

Interview with member of the first board Jonathan Middle by Rachel Marrington

Microsoft Teams

EQALM Interview

2026-09-16 15:07 UTC

Recorded by
Rachel Marrington

Organized by
Rachel Marrington

Symposium



Scientific Programme



Paris 2002



Athens 2022


Lyon 2023


Ljubljana 2019


Szeged 2011


Dublin 2017


Leiden 2025

Social events / networking













Scientific Committee & Working Groups

Read more:
www.eqalm.org

You're welcome to join!

2026
Emerging Technologies
EQA for POCT
EQALM Central Database
EQALM COMET project (TFG)
Frequency
Haematology
Haemostasis
Immunohaematology
Immunology
Infection Diagnostics
ISO Standards
Performance Specifications in EQA
Pre-post-analytics



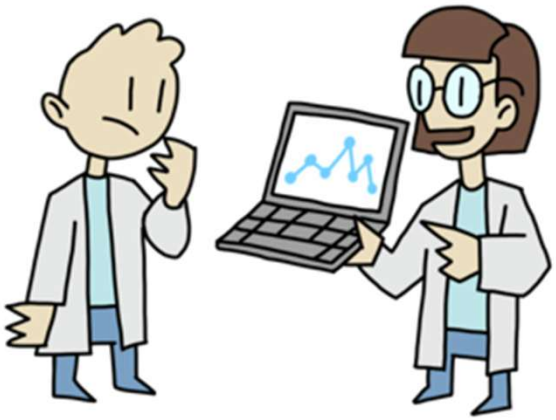
Achievements (EQALM Goals)

- ☑ Forum for cooperation and knowledge exchange
- ☑ Promote the quality of laboratory medicine and patient safety
- ☑ Represent EQA providers at the European level vis-à-vis political, professional, scientific and other bodies

▪ Working groups ▪ Symposium ▪ Publications ▪ Workshops ▪ COMET ▪ ISO standards ▪ Guidelines, Recommendations ▪ Cooperations with and Representatives to other organisations

Achievements

- ☑ Evolved from a focus on “goals”, “target values”, “serum”, to covering a broad range of disciplines
- ☑ Created Virtual Microscopy and EQALM Central Database
- ☑ Well functioning EQALM Office
- ☑ Engaged people and friendly atmosphere
- ☑ And much, much more…



Noklus/Magnus Vegum

EQALM cooperation with international organisations

- IFCC
- EFLM
- JCTLM
- EA-EUROLAB-EURACHEM (EEE-PT)
- International Consortium for Harmonisation of Clinical Laboratory Results (ICHCLR)

Greetings from IFCC President Tomris Ozben



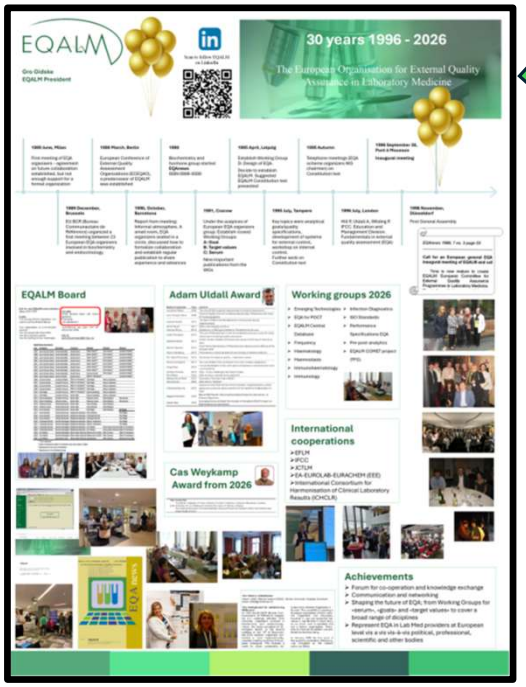

ifcc
International Federation
of Clinical Chemistry
and Laboratory Medicine
Advancing
excellence in
laboratory medicine
for better healthcare
worldwide
ifcc.org
Prof. Tomris Ozben
IFCC President
2026-09-27 15:54:00

Greetings from EFLM President Tomáš Zima

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY
AND LABORATORY MEDICINE


MANUAL
SEVENTEENTH EDITION
CENTENNIAL EDITION
Tomáš Zima
LÉKAŘ ZDRAVÉHO ROZUMU
CELL BIOLOGY
Laboratory Test Handbook
Tomáš Zima
hlavní autor a pořadatel
LABORATORNÍ DIAGNOSTIKA
Čtvrté, aktualizované a rozšířené vydání
Galén

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We are here to create new history!



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