

## Education & Training Platform for Laboratory Animal Science (ETPLAS)

### Background

The Education & Training Platform for Laboratory Animal Science (ETPLAS) has been established to enable information sharing and communication between Member States' Authorities (MS), accrediting/approval bodies and training providers involved with all aspects of education and training (E&T) in laboratory animal science (LAS).

### Harmonisation

Although arrangements for LAS E&T are at the discretion of the MS, there is the risk that different requirements for assuring the quality of E&T courses may arise. This could also lead to a variable quality of animal welfare and the science using live animals. There is the need, therefore, to develop common principles for E&T programmes on which MS could agree in order to achieve mutual recognition based upon confidence in the quality of E&T and its assessment process. Such principles could also be beneficial to aid programme providers in setting up courses of agreed quality and content.

One of the assignments of ETPLAS is to facilitate the process of good communication between all stakeholders in order to agree on these common principles thereby aiding harmonization and mutual recognition.

***Are you involved in providing laboratory animal science education and training?***

***Become a contact and help ETPLAS in information sharing***

***CONTACT ETPLAS***

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***URL: <http://www.etplas.eu>***

### Aims

E&T is an important contributor to the 3Rs and is aimed at increasing the quality of both animal welfare and science.

The Platform provides a forum for exchanging information on laboratory animal science E&T therefore helping to establish mutually recognised training courses.

Successful completion of such a harmonised course enables working with laboratory animals and promotes free movement of competent personnel in the EU.

### To provide:

- a forum for exchanging information on LAS E&T for all stakeholders
- training providers with the necessary information to establish E&T courses
- the user community with information on available E&T courses
- authorities/employers with the necessary information to facilitate the process of mutual recognition of E&T to promote free movement of personnel involved in LAS

