

SICI – The Newsletter

February 2026

We support the improvement of education

through improving inspection processes

From the President

As we begin a new year of collaboration, I am pleased to share this refreshed edition of the SICI newsletter. Over recent months, we have made important progress across our governance, strategic planning, and professional learning activities, and this edition brings together the key developments shaping our collective work.

The publication of our new Strategic Plan marks a significant milestone for SICI. It reflects the contributions of many members and sets a clear direction for the years ahead. Alongside this, the Executive Committee has begun the early stages of reviewing our statutes to ensure that our governance remains strong, modern, and aligned with our ambitions.

This edition also offers a look back at the General Assembly, including the Business Meeting Report, the host's reflections, and the evaluation summary. These insights are invaluable as we continue to strengthen the quality and impact of our events.

We are also deepening our engagement with partners across Europe, including recent work with ERI SEE on regional quality assurance cooperation. Such exchanges reinforce the importance of our shared mission and the value of international dialogue.

Finally, I am delighted to introduce our new monthly newsletter rhythm. This will allow us to share updates more regularly and highlight the breadth of activity across our network. I warmly encourage members to contribute articles, reports, and reflections in the months ahead.

Thank you for your continued commitment to SICI. I look forward to the year of collaboration and learning that lies ahead.

With warmest wishes,

Janie

Governance and Strategic Direction

Reviewing our statutes

The Executive Committee held a focused working session recently to review our statutes and prepare the next steps in SICI's governance modernisation. This marks the early stage of a wider, carefully sequenced process to ensure our statutes remain fit for purpose.

At this point, this is simply to let members know about the review. A dedicated communication will follow shortly, setting out the full timeline, the consultation process, and how each member organisation will be invited to engage with the draft statutes before they are put to a vote.

Strategic Plan 2026–2030 Published

Our new Strategic Plan has now been published. It sets out SICI's priorities for the coming years and provides a clear framework for strengthening our collective work. Members can access the full document on the website.

The new Strategic Plan, 2026–2030, presented to the General Assembly 2025, is the outcome of a full revision process involving member feedback, with several adjustments made based on contributions from across the network.

The plan will carry forward the spirit of collaboration, professional growth, and international engagement that has defined our work to date. It also invites us to think boldly about the future.

The Strategic Plan 2026–2030 was approved unanimously by all SICI members at the General Assembly.

You can access the [full Strategic Plan](#) here:



General Assembly: Reports and Reflections

Business Meeting Report

A full copy of the Business Meeting Report from the General Assembly is included with this newsletter. It provides a clear record of the decisions, discussions, and actions agreed by members, and underpins several of the governance and strategic developments highlighted in this edition.

You can access the [full report](#) here.

General Assembly Report

We are grateful to our hosts, the Dutch Inspectorate of Education, for preparing a thoughtful report capturing the key points from the presentations, panel sessions, and discussions that shaped this year's General Assembly. Their reflections offer a warm and insightful perspective on the programme and provide a valuable record of our time together.

You can access the [full report](#) here.

We extend our sincere thanks to the Dutch Inspectorate for their generosity, professionalism, and the care they brought to the organisation of the General Assembly.

Evaluation and Reflections

Thank you to all members who took the time to complete the evaluation following the General Assembly. Your reflections provide an important insight into what worked well and where we can continue to strengthen the experience for participants.

The feedback shows strong appreciation for the organisation and hospitality of our hosts, the relevance and quality of the thematic sessions, and the opportunities for professional exchange. Members also highlighted areas where we can refine future events, including pacing, clearer signposting of parallel activities, and creating more space for country-to-country dialogue.

These reflections will directly inform the planning of future Assemblies and workshops, ensuring that our events continue to support meaningful learning, collaboration, and engagement across the network.



Member Engagement and Professional Learning

Call for Contributors to SICI Workshops - Member Survey Now Open

As we plan our programme of workshops for the year ahead, we are inviting members to express their interest in contributing. A short survey has been issued to gather names of colleagues who would be willing to lead, co-lead, or support sessions across our thematic areas.

Your expertise is central to the strength of our professional learning offer. If you or members of your organisation would like to be involved, please take a moment to complete [the survey](#).

Estyn Workshop – Questionnaire for Registered Delegates

Members will also have received a separate communication from the Secretariat regarding the upcoming SICI Workshop hosted by Estyn in Wales this April. Estyn has asked registered delegates to complete a short organisational questionnaire to help tailor the workshop sessions. We encourage colleagues to respond by the stated deadline, as this will support the hosts in shaping an engaging and well-targeted programme.

External Engagement – ERI SEE Regional QA Cooperation Meeting

In December, I was invited to contribute to the *Future Directions and Planning of Regional QA Cooperation* meeting organised by the Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe (ERI SEE). The event brought together colleagues from across the region, alongside representatives from the European Training Foundation (ETF), to explore emerging developments in quality assurance and opportunities for deeper regional collaboration.

I presented on contemporary developments and challenges in quality assurance for general education, offering insights from SICI's work and the wider European landscape. This engagement strengthens SICI's relationships with regional partners and reinforces our shared commitment to improving inspection, evaluation, and quality assurance.

A copy of my presentation delivered at the meeting can be accessed [here](#).

Communications and Member Contributions

Newsletter Revamp

As part of strengthening our communications, we are refreshing the format of the SICI newsletter and moving to a regular monthly publication cycle. This new rhythm will allow us to share updates more consistently, highlight activity across the network, and ensure members have a clear and predictable point of contact each month.

Guidance for Member Articles

We warmly welcome contributions from member organisations. Articles should ideally be **150–200 words**, though shorter pieces are also very welcome. We are happy to include photographs to accompany submissions, such as images from events, visits, workshops, or other relevant activities. These contributions help showcase the breadth of work taking place across the network and strengthen our shared learning.

Submission Process

To support the monthly schedule, contributions should ideally be submitted by the **15th of each month** to **contact@sici.international**.

Depending on the volume and balance of articles received, submissions may appear in that month's edition or be carried forward to the next. This helps us maintain a coherent and well-paced publication while ensuring all contributions are included.

Links to Member Reports

We also welcome links to member reports or publications, which can be featured alongside articles to highlight recent work, or national developments. These additions enrich the newsletter and provide valuable insight into the diverse activity across our membership.

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