



EXAM APPRAISALS

Prof. dr. Danny G.P. Mathysen

UEMS-CESMA Meeting (Brussels)

December 8th-9th, 2023



"The first commandment is: Thou shalt not shoot the messenger."

UEMS-CESMA Appraisal schedule usually starts with many volunteers ...



... of whom some are better in keeping their personal diary than others ...



... and so far there have been quite some cancellations by appraisers ...



Are you sure you would like to cancel?

Cancel

Confirm

... which forces UEMS-CESMA to come up with back-up solutions ...



... so the message to recruit more volunteers for appraisals is still valid! ...



Can't you see she's drowning?

She's just doing it for attention.

Someone should help her.

If we acknowledge her, shewon't stop.

I think she's in danger.

She's just feeling sorry for herself.

It's too late now. She's gone.

Why didn't she ask for help?

UEMS-CESMA Appraisals: current situation

Prior to COVID pandemic:
many applications

+

several new applications
during COVID pandemic

+

numerous re-appraisals
to be performed

=

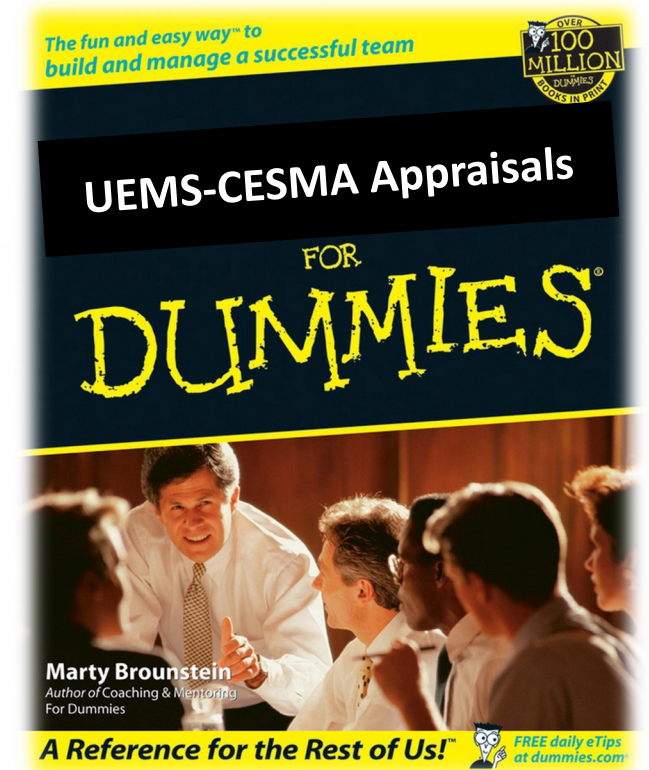
WE NEED YOUR HELP

UEMS-CESMA Meeting: Friday May 3rd, 2024 and Saturday May 4th, 2024

KAVA Congres Centrum – Consciencestraat 41 A – 2018 Antwerpen

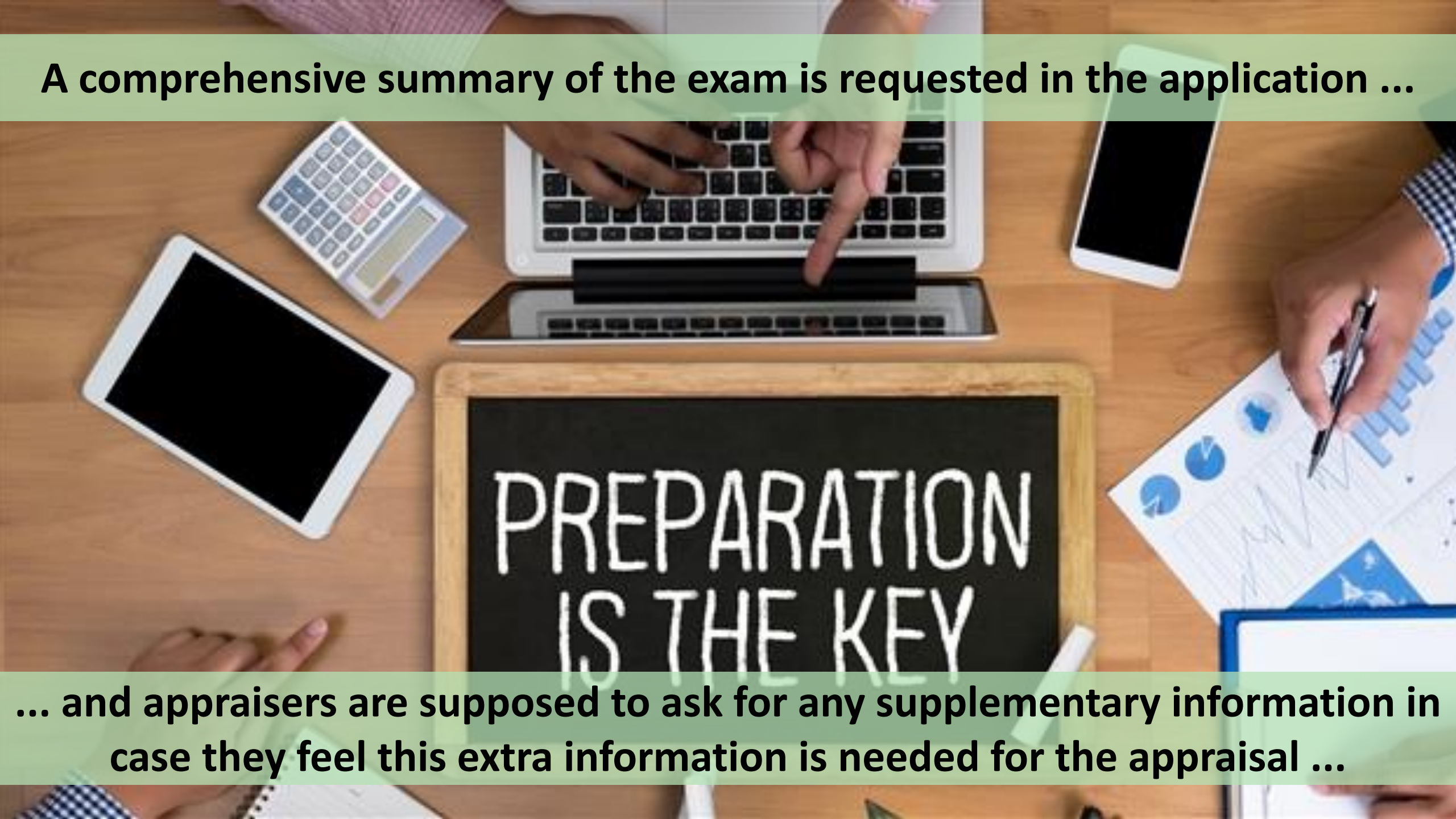


including a **training workshop for new/experienced appraisers** (May 3rd)



A comprehensive summary of the exam is requested in the application ...

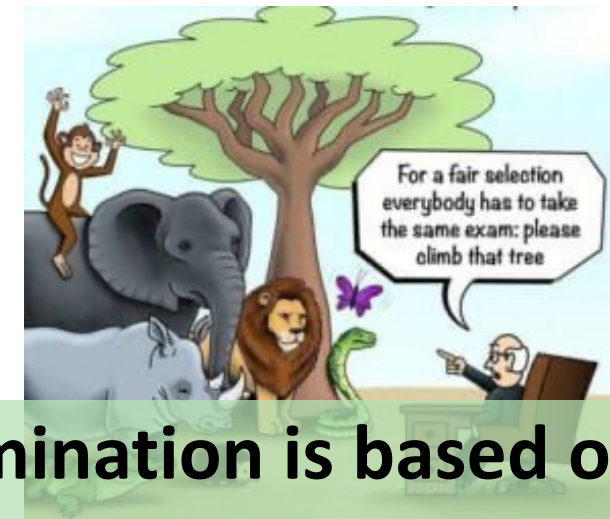
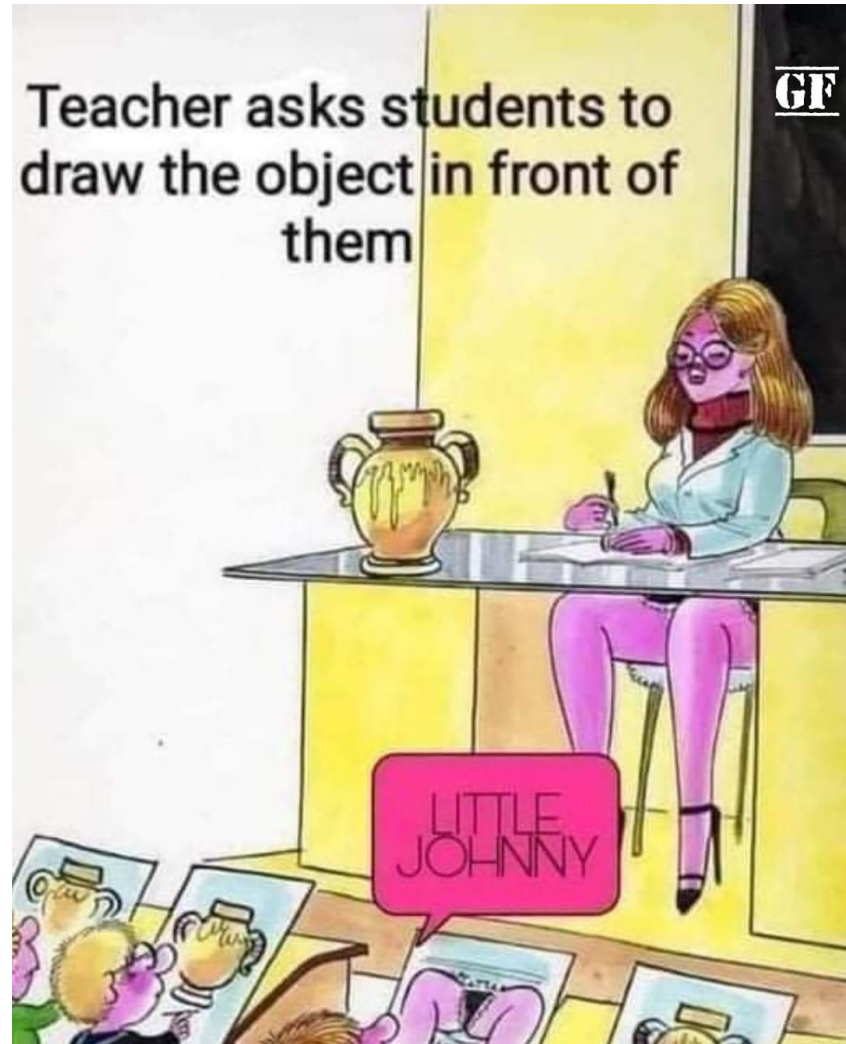
... and appraisers are supposed to ask for any supplementary information in case they feel this extra information is needed for the appraisal ...



... during an appraisal it is important to observe as much as possible ...

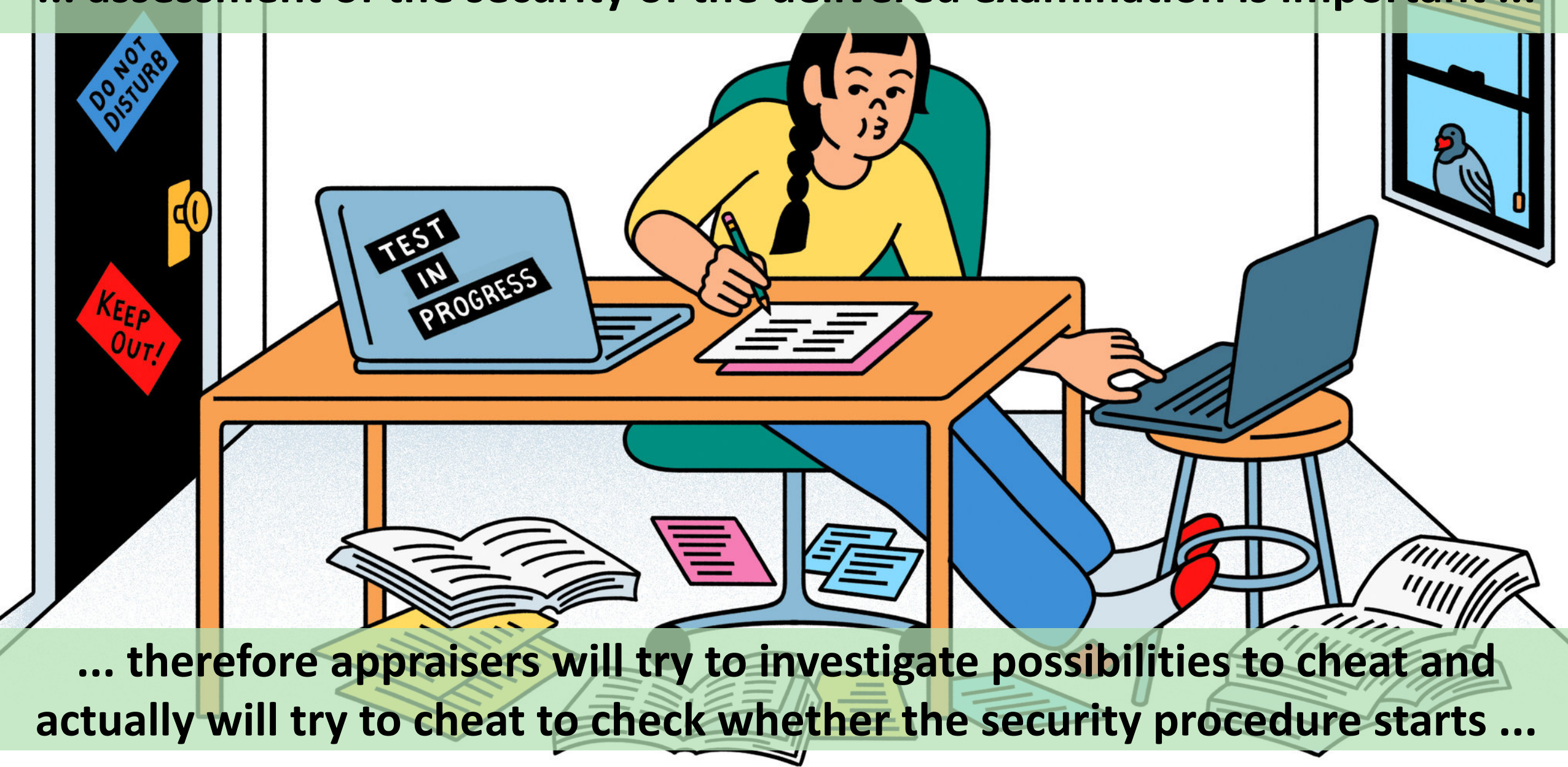


... and appraisers are supposed to write down in their notes everything they see and hear during this observation while remaining on the background ...



... in order to evaluate whether the appraised examination is based on clear questions, has a fair selection process and is free of misunderstanding ...

... assessment of the security of the delivered examination is important ...



... therefore appraisers will try to investigate possibilities to cheat and actually will try to cheat to check whether the security procedure starts ...

... evaluation of personal experiences is also very crucial in appraisals ...



... and as a result appraisers will try to look for spontaneous opportunities to speak with candidates and examiners participating in the exam ...



CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD REPORT

... all of these elements of appraisal will allow the UEMS-CESMA Observers to write a clear and comprehensive appraisal report on the examination ...



... which will be returned to the organisers upon payment of the UEMS-CESMA Appraisal invoice and reimbursement of costs to appraisers ...



... in case no major remarks have been formulated by the UEMS-CESMA Observers, a diploma will be awarded with a validity period of 5 years.





Standards settings document for examinations *(Albert Mifsud leading on this document)*

+ Document on how to perform an appraisal *(Danny Mathysen leading on this document)*

= Guidance for UEMS-CESMA Appraisals in the future (workshop training at May 2024 meeting)

Update on development of Standards for European Examinations

Albert Mifsud & Danny Mathysen

CESMA meeting

Brussels

8th / 9th December 2023



Plan: 2021

- Build on existing guidelines and approved documents

UEMS-CESMA GUIDELINES

- UEMS-CESMA - Guideline on Quality Control of European postgraduate medical
- UEMS 2015.15 - UEMS CESMA -Guide to successfully writing MCQs
- UEMS 2015.16 - UEMS CESMA - Guideline for Organisation of European Postgraduate Medical Assessments
- UEMS 2015.17 - UEMS CESMA - Guideline for Examiner Selection for European Postgraduate Medical Assessments
- UEMS 2015.36 - UEMS CESMA - Guideline on Appeal Procedure

- Document 1: Standards for European examinations
- Lead: Albert Mifsud
- Document 2: Guidance on process for appraisals by CESMA
- Lead: Danny Mathysen

Working Group on CESMA Examination Standards document



Albert
Mifsud
CESMA
Exec



Andrew Brittlebank,
Psychiatry



Vesna Kusec,
Laboratory Medicine



Danny
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Standards for European Specialist
Medical Examinations

DRAFT

History

- First version written June 2021
- Circulated to CESMA membership Jul 21
- Circulated to CESMA Exec x2
- Presented CESMA meeting Dec 22
- Volunteers for subgroup invited
- Circulated to CESMA Exec x2
- Circulated to CESMA membership Apr 23
- Comments received & reviewed Autumn 23



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

The European Council for Accreditation of Medical Specialist Qualifications

Since its creation in 1958, the UEMS ambition is to promote patient safety and quality of care through the development of the highest standards of medical training and health care across Europe. The UEMS is addressing these issues through the harmonisation of medical specialists' qualifications

In line with its [Strategy](#) adopted in 2008, the UEMS established the European Council for Accreditation of Medical Specialist Qualifications (ECAMSQ®) with a view to assess the competence of European medical specialists according to these high standards of medical training. When fully implemented, this competence-based approach aims to achieve a common background for the assessment and certification of medical specialists' competence all over Europe, based on the core curricula developed by the Specialist Sections of the UEMS. In a context of increased competition for medical specialists, this approach aims to guarantee the delivery of

with a view to assess the competence of
European medical specialists according to these
high standards of medical training.

Key points

- These are Standards on how a good exam should be organised & run
- Scope is limited to exams not the whole of assessment
- Without detailed Standards it is not possible to assess / appraise an examination
- Once Standards are in place, and appraisals are being undertaken effectively, the process should be termed Accreditation

Document content

- 2 Forward
- 3 Introduction
- 4 Scope
- 5 Corporate arrangements
- 6 The Examination
- 7 Application for the examination
- 8 The curriculum
- 9 Examination design
- 10 Question design and examination bank
- 11 Examination delivery
- 12 Psychometric analysis and cut-score determination
- 13 Appeals

Main outcome of consultation

- Increase flexibility
- Make document more accessible
- Reconsider criteria for admission to UEMS examinations and award of Diplomas / Fellowship

Next steps with milestones

- Further updates in light of comments received and discussion at CESMA 23 meeting (Brussels)
- Slim down document, transferring guidance elements to procedural document
- Prepare for final approval by CESMA membership Feb-Mar 24 and ratification May 24.
- Submit to UEMS Council Autumn 2024

Guidance on appraisal process

- Document current processes for
 - Applications for exam appraisals
 - Communication between Exam Committees and CESMA
 - Arrangements pre-appraisal
 - Conduct of appraisals
 - Report content and delivery
- Responsibilities of Applicant Exam Committees

[illegible]