

Real European Degrees !

Envision a European Higher Education Area free of obstacles...

- Where students and professionals can enjoy full study opportunities and have full access to the labour market
- An internal European market of Degrees in higher education like the Schengen Pact to move without border controls

Soon to be a reality with REAL EUROPEAN DEGREES

Passport to mobility for students and professionals

What? Real European Degrees

Advantages / Merits:

- Passport for mobility with portable degrees – both students and professionals can use their Real European Degree in other (Bologna participating) countries because quality is assured.
- Guaranteed recognition everywhere – diploma's don't need to be evaluated afterwards but are guaranteed recognized. Real European Degrees are comparable in quality throughout Europe and qualify guaranteed for entering study programmes and the labour market.
- Based on unified learning outcomes: equal in value (all cycles)
- Smooth mobility worldwide – Real European Degrees will have stronger value outside of Europe as well because other countries can better relate to them.
- Stronger European degrees: both within Europe as well as on a global scale

Why do we need REAL European Degrees?

EHEA – enforcement of a European Higher Education Area

The European Higher Education Area is in the making. On all levels efforts are made to ensure a stronger European higher education area. Initiatives to enforce this include European cooperation in higher education under the wings of the European Union and in the framework of the Bologna process. The key ideas behind the EHEA are to make European higher education:

- More competitive
- More attractive worldwide
- Progress is made but the EHEA is not a reality yet

The EHEA is still a patchwork of national higher education systems

One unified degree structure

Objective: a unified degree structure to increase the compatibility of different national higher education systems in particular in order to make the EHEA a space in which student and graduate mobility will be increased.

Reality? A common European level degree structure in higher education is in with the Degree cycles: Bachelor, Master, Dr.

Nice idea but it's a paper tiger! National differences continue to exist.

One degree structure is not a reality yet to students, professionals, and the labour market

- Different study lengths
- Different learning outcomes
- National obstacles

How to ensure value / quality? Unified Quality Assessment in Europe

Degree gets delivered with:

- Guarantee to study admission officers (for continued study) and to employers (universities, professions, companies large and small) that graduate competencies and other learning outcomes uniformly fulfil the European qualifications framework.

- Guarantee of basic quality given through uniform European quality assessment, by a European watchdog **BoQQCA** - a single, Bologna-based Quality & Qualifications Compliance Agency.

- We will not go into the "details" of how a single agency validly can check all competencies actually taught in all study programmes in Europe. One option: samples of student final works/theses, or sitting in on public hearing/exam of random students in "at risk" study programmes, while going lightly in programmes/institutions that have earned trust, e.g. by showing trustworthy, external, double marking of final works/theses.

ISSUED BY **CHERS**
UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE
11 MARCH 2011

Smoothen the bumpy road and create a highway for mobility in Europe!

