

Classification and the European Research Area

Transparency in Diversity
Towards a Classification of European Higher
Education Institutions
Berlin, 10-11 July 2008

Dr. Christiane Gaehtgens

Classification and the ERA:

- Transparency for Research in Europe?



Classification and the ERA

- The European Research Area...
 - is a vision born in 2000, not a reality
 - is meant to influence the way in which research is organised in the EU-member-states
 - aims to coordinate, even integrate the diversity of European research to
 - increase competitiveness of European research in a global context
 - enhance the impact of research on economic growth in the EU
-

Classification and ERA

- ERA through FP7
 - supports individual (ERC) and programme-driven research
 - supports PPP (EIT)
 - strives to balance structural differences (structural fund)
 - funds mobility
-

Classification and the ERA

- In the future ERA plans to coordinate and integrate diversity in the fields of
 - connecting research institutions and programmes
 - conditions for staff mobility (Charta)
 - public-private partnership (Lisbon 2000)
 - funding schemes (Ljubljana May 2008)
 - knowledge transfer/ European Patent
 - mapping centers of excellence in research
 - analysis of quality and effectiveness of national politics in R&D
-

Classification and the ERA

- Can classification/mapping diversity help to build the European Research Area?
 - Yes, but....
-

Classification and the ERA

- Classification is different, because it:
 - involves all countries and HEIs of EHEA
 - sees diversification as the driving force
 - encourages diversification of HEIs
 - puts institutions and their strategic planning first
 - does not aim to overrule diversification of (national) systems nor institutions
-

Classification and the ERA

- Classification, however
 - helps all stakeholders to understand diversity
 - creates transparency at institutional level throughout EHEA despite increased diversity
 - provides a basis for mission-driven quality assurance, funding, even ranking
-

Classification and the ERA

- Mapping diversity of HEIs by profile aims at:
 - teaching profile (programmes, numbers etc.)
 - student body
 - staff profile
 - size
 - funding
 - research profile
 - research intensiveness
 - internationalisation
 - outreach/regional involvement...
 - ERA aims to:
 - facilitate mobility of researchers
 - encourage cooperation between institutions
 - facilitate PPP, share and improve use of knowledge
 - improve the basis for accountability and QA
 - map centers of excellence in research all over Europe
 - create a common structure for European research in global competition
 - open up and coordinate all research funding schemes
 - improve knowledge transfer (European Patent)
-

Classification and the ERA???

Conclusions

- ❑ Understanding diversity is beneficial, even essential to ERA
 - ❑ Classifications creates transparency that helps all stakeholders
 - ❑ Mapping diversity is particularly geared to empower the main actors in the field: institutions and researchers
 - ❑ Mapping diversity enables all parties responsible for HEIs to form a common strategy, both for individual institutions and research/HE-systems
-

The Future of
Classification and the
ERA **is** out there!

Thank you!

