





























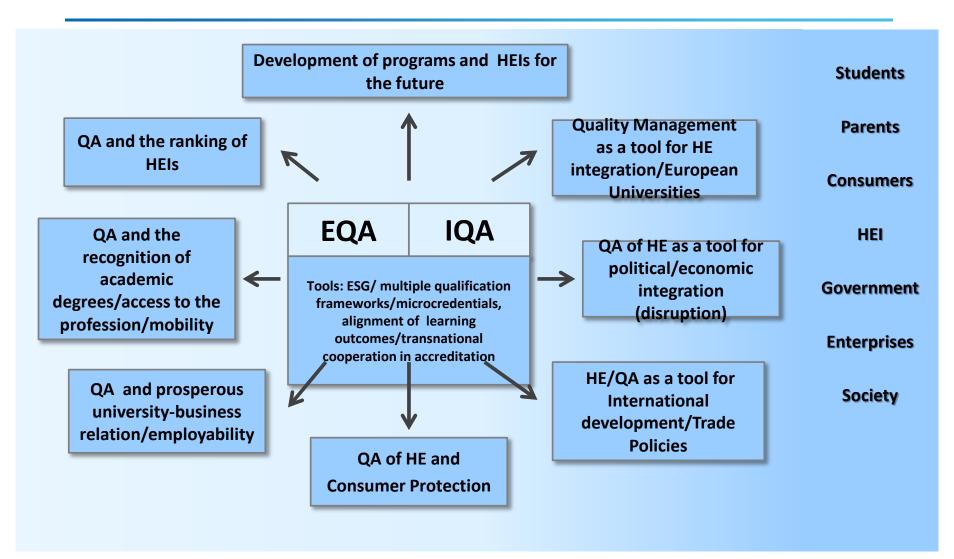
E Pluribus Unum: exiting European Quality Assurance perspectives for the **European Higher Education Area provided by EASPA**

Webinar, 14. July 2024,

Dr. Iring Wasser, General Secretary EASPA



EASPA and Quality Assurance in Higher Education





European (International) Instruments for QA in HE - what is currently in place? (1)



- ✓ European (International) Qualification Frameworks (Dublin Descriptors for Bachelor/Master; ECTS as Academic Currency and Diploma Supplement for all European graduates)
- ✓ European criteria for Quality Assurance of doctoral schools and programs (2005 + 2010 the EUA "Salzburg criteria")
- ✓ European criteria for Joint Programs ("European Approach"); new challenge: the QA of European Degrees and European Universities
- ✓ 5th European Framework for Quality Assurance of Microcredentials
- ✓ Database of External QA Results (DEQAR) as the central point of recognition (ERIC/NARICs) Development of a Global Database under the umbrella of UNESCO/INQAAHE by 2027.



European (International) Instruments for QA in HE as point of orientation - what is currently in place (2)



- ✓ Since the 1990s: Tuning Educational Structures Definition of g fieldspecific Intended and Achieved Learning Outcomes on the Disciplinary Level (AHELO, CALOHEE etc.)
- ✓ Since the 2000s: European Disciplinary Qualification Frameworks come into place, many run by EASPA members, as a central prerequisite for academic and professional mobility; European Quality Seals introduced
- ✓ **Since the 2020s**: European Criteria on the "Subdisciplinary level" (AI, Software Engineering), frequently encompassing criteria for all qualification levels (not only 6-8).
- ✓ Currently, establishment of European Skills Councils (Engineering, Informatics etc.); Professional Cards on the Individual level



Introducing the European Alliance of Professional and Subject Specific Accreditation (EASPA) – where is SILVA?



EASPA is uniting European/International bodies which are engaged in professional accreditation/QA based on cross-national Learning Outcomes/disciplinary competence profiles

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EASPA: Joint Statement ("Düsseldorf Declaration") of the field-specific accreditation European networks to the Ministers of Education in London 2011

The European Label Associations undersigning this statement represent accreditation bodies, higher education institutions, professional and scientific associations and other relevant stakeholders in higher education in the respective discipline.

Aiming at:

- Securing and improving the quality of higher education;
- Facilitating trans-national recognition of academic qualifications through a recognized label;
- Facilitating recognition of academic qualifications by the competent authorities;
- Protecting consumers against false information and lowquality university degrees and other qualifications;
- and
- Considering the "European Quality Assurance Standards" and the "Framework of Qualifications for the European Higher Education Area" adopted by the European Ministers Responsible for Higher Education,

the members represented by the European QA Associations have undertaken the development of disciplinary criteria and procedural guidelines based on which the European Quality Label in the respective discipline may be awarded.







EASPA - Milestones

2011

Creation of EASPA in the ASIIN Headoffice in Düsseldorf, Germany and signing of the "Düsseldorf Declaration" on the Importance of Professional Accreditation

2015

Memorandum of Understanding with the Tuning Academy



Cooperation
Agreement with the
American Alliance of
subject specific
professional
accreditation (ASPA)

Currently
Negotiations with
the Asian
stakeholder for the
Creation of an
Asian ASPA

(Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia...)



EASPA - Milestones

2025

Integration of remaining European Field Specific Quality Assurance Networks

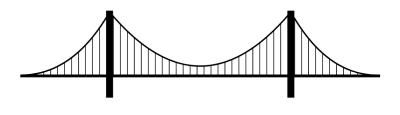
Future Partners:

- Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)
- European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD)
- European Council for Business Education (ECBE),
- European Council on Chiropractic Education (ECCE)
- European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE)

- European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE)
- European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE)
- European Federation of Geologists (EFG)
- International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA Europe)
- European Council for Theological Education (ECTE)
- The ICE International Center of Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education)
- SILVA

2022

A bridge has been built to the general accreditation system



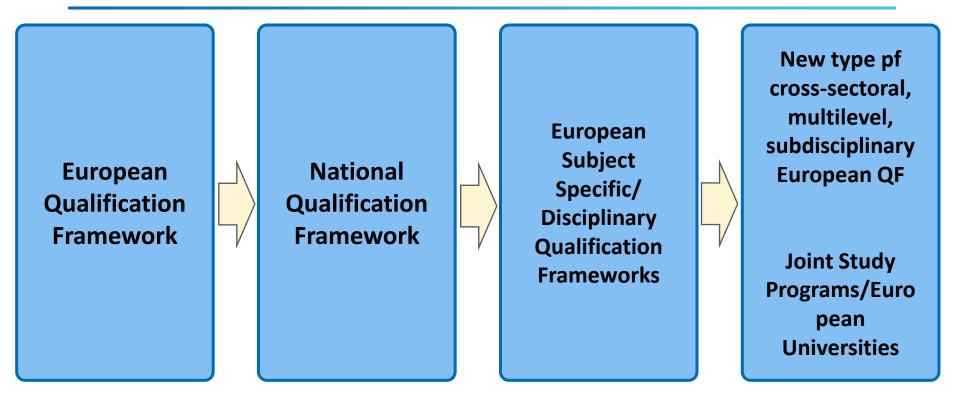
EASPAs "TOP Up"
Excellence
Procedures;
Invitation for
general Quality
Assurance

Accesion to Inin



What are EASPA's core priorities? The Alignment of LO and Professional qualification frameworks in Europe – disciplinary, cross-national, cross-sectoral







Description and Measurement of Learning Outcomes processes are at the core of manifold international alignment projects and a core EASPA competence used for IQA and EQA and creation of new study programs



What are EASPA's core priorities? The Assessment of Achieved Learning Outcomes in the EHEA as central focus



Do students enrolled in higher education develop the competences they need?

Are study programmes delivering on their promises?

Can we learn to compare students' achievements in different countries in a meaningful way?

And: Do applicants for international Master programs have the prerequisites to be successful in their studies abroad?



EASPA: The development of International Quality Labels/Seals within European QA-networks as a means for facilitating academic and professional mobility

EQANIE

IFA Assurance Network
International Food for Informatics
Association Education

ECTNA

European Chemistry
Thematic Network
Association

ENAEE

European
Accreditation
Network
Engineering
Education

AMSF

Association of Medical Schools in Europe



















Integrated top-up procedures for disciplinary program accreditation

- Valid accreditation reports in line with ESG
- Module handbook,
- Self-Alignment of program and module LO with EASPA members standards
- Examples of achieved LO (e.g. BA/MA theses, final project work

- Defined
 Deadlines for
 Application (e.g.
 4x per year)
- Compilation of a group of field specific experts (language clusters)
- Desktop review of a cluster of applications in one discipline

Introduction of a homogeneous

European-wide report structure of top-up accreditation reports demonstrating the compliance level with European LO

Simultaneous
publication of
accreditation decisions
in the DEQAR and
professional databases successful bridging of
the gap between state
accreditation and
professional
accreditation

1,000 - 1,500 € per program



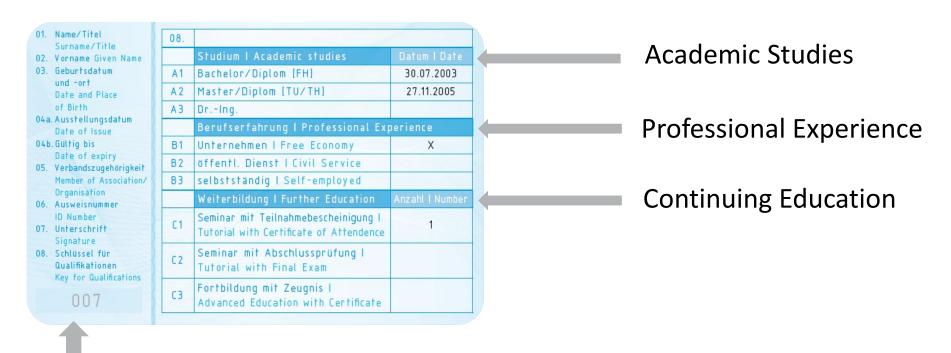
ASIIN/EASPA and the introduction of professional cards for fostering individual mobility?

- 1 Given Name
- 2 Surname
- 3 Date and Place of Birth
- 4a Date of Issue
- 4b Date of Expiry
- Member of Association/Organisation
- 6 ID Number
- 7 Signature
- 8 Key for qualifications





engineerING card: Back



Legend of classification of the front of the card



EASPA and its Services to the European Higher Education Area

Development of comprehensive databases of existing study programmes in the field

Construction of Europeanwide disciplinary pools of experts Development and Modernization and of disciplinary crossnational LO for Bacheor / Master / PhD level

Criteria for Microcredentials

Development
Implementation of
International
Quality Seals

Certification of
Continuous
Education on the
basis of
microcredentials

Creation of European Skills Councils

Development of Professional cards Integration of QA
Results in
DEQAR/UNESCO
Database

Close connection to Professional Recognition Authorities

Close connection to ERIC/NARICs

Creation of the EASPA Academy for Certified Continous Education

Content

- Provision of Continuous Education offers by EASPA members and others (individual courses, short cycle courses, summer schools, teacher training)
- Joint Marketing via the ASIIN-EASPA Academy Platform

Quality Assurance/Recognition

- Certification of these offers by EASPA members Integration of the results in DEQAR
- Connection to the development of professional cards
- Source of income for EASPA members

European Qualification Framework for Microcredentials

Creation of the EASPA Eurolecturer Academy for Innovative Teaching

Content

- Provision of offers of excellent innovative teaching – ECTN and its European summer schools
- Digital Learning Hubs (EASPA engaged in EU projects)

Quality Assurance/Recognition

- Certification of these offers by EASPA members Integration of the results in DEQAR
- Source of income for EASPA members



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