

Update:

The European Approach for QA of Joint programmes

New Legislation Joint programmes

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The European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes

Definitions in the European Approach

Joint programme:

An integrated curriculum coordinated and offered by different HEIs from EHEA countries, and leading to a joint or a double/multiple degree.

Joint degree:

A single degree, attested by a single document, awarded by HEIs offering the JP, and nationally acknowledged as the recognised award of the JP.

Double / multiple degrees:

Separate degrees awarded by HEIs offering the JP, attesting the successful completion of this JP.

The European Approach: what is it?

1. One single programme accreditation, recognised in all EHEA countries involved
2. By a QA agency on the list of EQAR-registered agencies
3. This agency uses the agreed standards and procedures
4. The accreditation decision is to be accepted & recognised in all EHEA countries where the JP is offered
5. Countries may **not** apply any additional national criteria

Formal agreement needed on:

- The degree(s)
- Partner coordination and responsibilities
- Admission and selection procedures
- Student and staff mobility
- Examination, recognition of credits, degree awarding procedures



In practice:

- Not yet much used
- Not all countries have adapted their legislation

Additional national criteria problematic

(Source: ECA's JOQAR project)

Too many national criteria and national requirements in external QA/accreditation of JPs

- Sometimes not about quality
- Not suited for joint programmes
- Contradict each other

Very long list of examples:

- The assessment report (expert report) is required to be in the national language;
- National QA agencies not always allowed to coordinate an international procedure / undertake a site visit abroad;
- Master thesis: “max. 30 ECTS credits” vs. “at least 35% of the total nr of credits”;
- Very detailed, national staff requirements
- ...

Latest initiative:

- International Peer Learning Activity (Oct 2017):
 - to identify obstacles & formulate action points
 - urging ministries to change legislation
- Dutch education ministry and NVAO are strong supporters of the European Approach
- EC: EA preferred option in next round of EMJMDs

<http://www.erasmusplus.nl/faboto---facilitating-the-use-of-bologna-tools> (PLA report)

<http://www.eqar.eu/topics/joint-programmes> (details European Approach)



Portal:Joint programmes



The Joint programmes portal provides information on the quality assurance of joint programmes, on the recognition of degrees awarded by joint programmes and on Erasmus+ funding opportunities. In addition, the portal provides a check-list for joint programmes.

Terminology

A clear presentation of the joint programme terminology and its concepts, with background information and agreed upon definitions.

The Check-list

The Check-list provides the lessons learnt from quality assurance as good practices for developing and managing joint programmes.

Key publications

An overview of the most relevant publications with for each a link to a dedicated article and the download page.

Quality assurance

How to deal with specific internal and external quality assurance and with varying national quality assurance regimes.

Possibilities JP accreditation in the Netherlands

Existing programme to a Joint Programme

- Regular programme accreditation (DD / MD)
- Regular accreditation + Protocol JD accreditation (JD)

OR:

- European Approach (DD / MD)
- European Approach + Protocol JD (JD)

New Joint Programme

- TNO (DD / MD)
- TNO + Protocol JD (JD)

OR:

- TNO + European Approach (DD / MD)
- TNO + European Approach + Protocol JD (JD)

TNO = Toets Nieuwe Opleiding

Dutch Protocol JD accreditation

1. Within existing accreditation, you may change up to 40% of your programme, without submitting a TNO.
2. This 40% may be an added foreign track (JP)
3. Criteria:
 - The core of the programme remains the same
 - Partners legally recognised in their own country
 - JD between HBO and WO possible as long as the JP is at HBO / WO level
 - The jointness of the JP is assessed.
 - Substantial Dutch participation required

New Legislation Joint Programmes

New Dutch legislation - joint programmes

1. **Broader definition** 'joint programme': from JD to DD/MD
2. **Partner agreement:** curriculum content and division, degree allocation, student registration, tuition fees
3. **Student registration:**
Dutch HEIs allowed to require a student to register at the Dutch institution for the full JP duration
4. **Tuition fees:**
Dutch HEIs allowed to set tuition fees lower than the regular legal fee (to € 0). Consequences for funding!

Consequences for government funding

If a JP student is registered **at a lower tuition fee** (than the regular fee), the institution receives:

1. **no registration funds** (inschrijvingsbekostiging)
2. **diploma funds** (diplomabekostiging)

Current law: the 25% regulation

In the case of a **4-year** DD bachelor programme offered with a foreign institution,

the student needs to be registered at the Dutch institution for **at least 1 year**.

Training

1 February 2018



Joint & double degrees

Maar hoe dan?

Ontwikkeling & management van joint programmes

Het opzetten van een *joint programme* is makkelijker dan ooit, dankzij nieuwe wetgeving. Zo'n samenwerking levert veel voordelen op, maar toch houdt iets je misschien tegen. Waar moet je in vredesnaam beginnen? Hoe vind je een partner? En hoe kom je aan geld? Volg onze interactieve training en je zult zien: met de juiste aanpak weet jij je met gemak een weg te banen door het dichte struikgewas! Meld je aan via www.nufficacademy.nl.