

SOME BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

- 1 The Bologna Process will have a decisive influence on the development of individual universities and on international co-operation**
- 2 Key phrases in the Bologna declaration of direct relevance to European/international co-operation**
 - **convergence of structures**
 - **establishment of a system of credits (transfer & accumulation)**
 - **student mobility – study, training, related services**
 - **mobility of teachers, researchers, administrative staff**
 - **European co-operation in quality assurance**
 - **promotion of European dimensions in HE**
 - **inter-institutional co-operation**
 - **mobility schemes**
 - **integrated programmes of study, training, and research**
- 3 European / international co-operation will be driven by competition**
- 4 European / international co-operation will become more structured in years to come**

Vision One

STUDENT MOBILITY WILL BE FURTHER DEVELOPED BOTH WITH REGARD TO QUANTITY AND QUALITY

- **ERASMUS student mobility has become a success story in spite of peanuts money – regarded by students as an essential qualification**
- **mobility of vital importance to employability in an integrated Europe**

new first-cycle programmes

- **study periods abroad PLUS placements**
- **more and more non-language related programmes will have obligatory mobility (1 semester study stay plus placement)**
- **introduction of credit accumulation will facilitate credit transfer -> fully integrated modules**
- **this in turn will lead to stricter selection of partner institutions -> issue of matching quality**

new masters programmes

- **integrated study programme - > joint or double degrees**
- **periods of one year of more spent at partner institution(s)**
- **virtual mobility + structured teaching staff mobility**
- **programmes designed to produce professionals for the international labour market**

- **(increasingly, professionals will be called in to complement academic staff)**

Vision Two

CREATION OF EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY CONSORTIA INCLUDING PARTNERS OUTSIDE EUROPE

- **possibly under the umbrella of institutional networks, such as UNICA, linking universities that are similar in regard to their environment, academic experience, and quality**
- **including bilateral co-operation (as against multilateral co-operation promoted under SOCRATES)**
- **areas of joint activity:**
 - **integrated (postgraduate) programmes (including distance education modules)**
 - ~ **professional orientation**
 - ~ **research orientation**
 - **continuing education programmes**
 - **co-operation with public and private non-university partners**
- **quality enhancement initiatives**

MOBILITY OUTSIDE FORMAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS

- **vertical mobility (BA -> MA -> PhD -> post-doc)**
- **students completing a course of studies in another country**

students doing a complete first-degree course in another

Vision Three

THE ROLE OF THEMATIC NETWORKS AS AREA-SPECIFIC THINK-TANKS WILL BECOME MORE IMPORTANT

- **universities will come to appreciate the TNPs' contribution to curriculum development, now that they are obliged to develop new curricula**

- **in addition to their traditional objectives, TNPs will, even more than in the past, be focusing on**
 - **developing core curricula / course profiles for the new structures**
 - **reflecting on employability / relevance to the professional environment**
 - **reflecting on lifelong learning**
 - **developments outside Europe (linking up with similar initiatives in other parts of the world)**

- **universities engaged in unilateral or joint curriculum development will find information on**
 - **general trends in Europe and beyond**
 - **new demands**
 - **developments in other countries**
 - **potential partners**

Vision Four

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WILL INCREASINGLY BECOME INTERNATIONALISED

- **R&D in the hard sciences has reached a high level of internationalisation, and this trend will continue**
- **R&D in other areas will follow this trend**
- **European funding will becoming increasingly important**
- **not necessarily undertaken by institutions belonging to the consortia referred to above**

Vision Five

IROs WILL PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ALONG THE LINES INDICATED

- **as service units**
 - **enhancing the quality of mobility**
 - **providing information about new initiatives / opportunities**
 - **advising academics in applying for and carrying out co-operation projects**

- **as strategic units**
 - **providing input for the university's internationalisation policy**
 - **helping to decide on priority areas in international co-operation**
 - **identifying people for specific co-operative ventures**

- **IRO staff will increasingly co-operate with colleagues in consortium member institutions**
 - **mobility!**