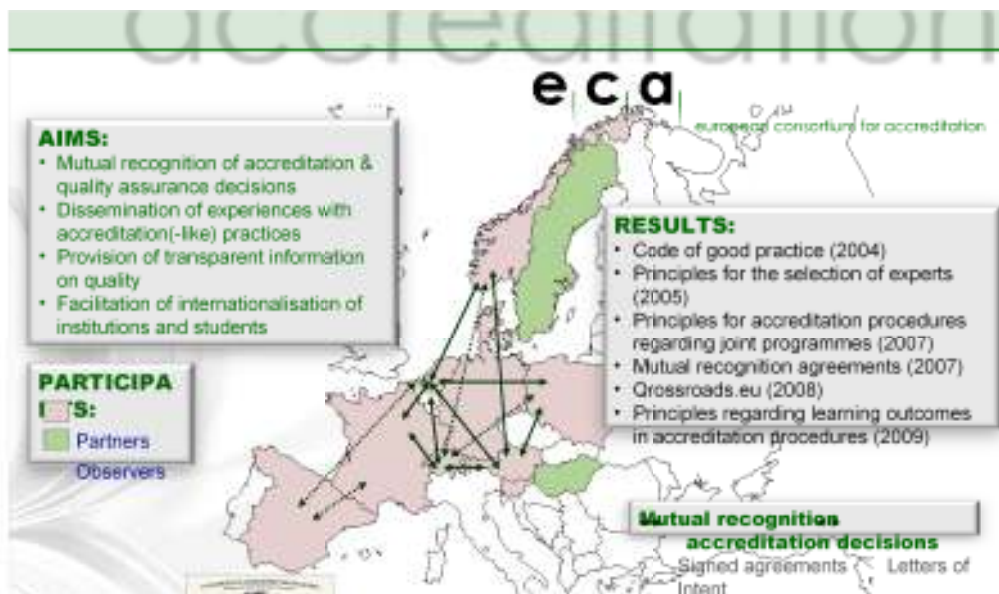


Award conditions of degrees awarded by joint programmes with EU and non-EU countries

Axel Aerden

Accreditation Organisation of The Netherlands & Flanders (NVAO)

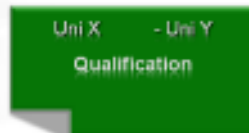


Some terminology

- Different types of degrees
 - Single, double, multiple degrees



- Joint degrees



- But complex mix of the above is possible

Joint degree: example & definition

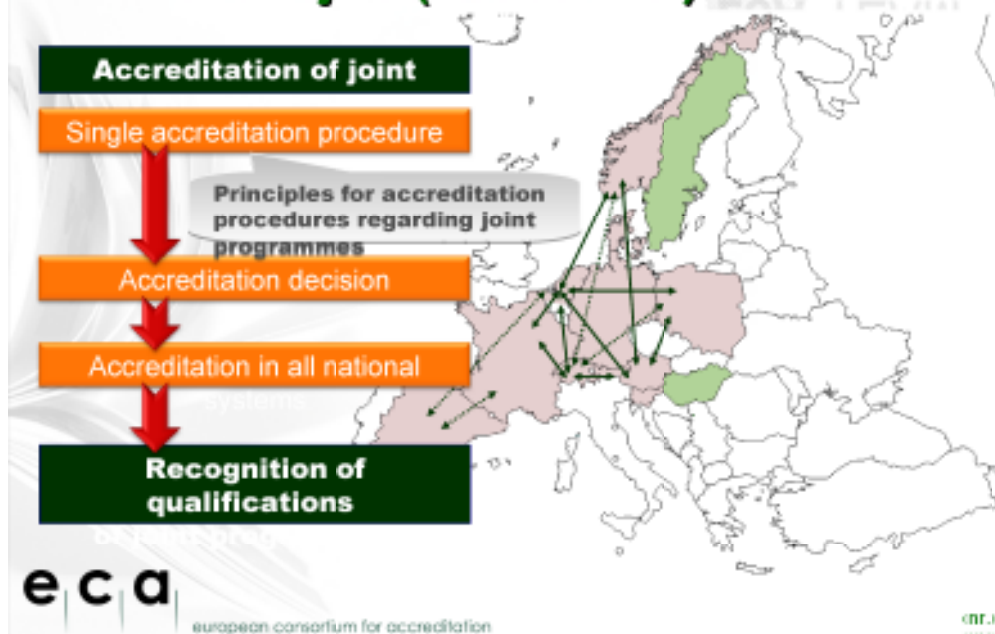
A recognised degree awarded by the higher education institutions that offer the joint programme, attesting the successful completion of this joint programme.

Single document

Signed by the competent authorities of the institutions involved in the joint programme

Replaces the separate (institutional/national) degrees

TEAM² Project (2008 – 2010) ECA TEAM²



Action Line 1: Overview



Action Line 1: Activities

- Assessment of differentiated joint programmes:
 - EM Master Journalism and Media within Globalisation
 - Bachelor European Teacher Education for Primary Schools
 - European Master in Comparative Local Development
 - European Master in International Humanitarian Action
 - Research Master Geosciences of Basins and Lithosphere -
- Assessments test different methodologies:
 - Existing / new / joint standards
 - Experts from some of the relevant / all relevant countries
 - One / two site visits
 - Decisions based on ordinary / new / joint criteria

Action Line 1: Reports

Joint programmes:
Too many cooks
in the kitchen?



How to assess
and accredit joint
programmes in Europe



Action Line 2: Overview

Recognition bodies
(i.e. ENIC-NARICs)

Credential evaluators
of HE institutions

Exploration of recognition issues
related to qualifications awarded by
joint programmes

Transparent information provision by QA & A
Agencies

eca

european consortium for accreditation

enr
2017

Action Line 2: Reports

The recognition of
qualifications awarded
by joint programmes



eca

european consortium for accreditation

The recognition
of qualifications awarded
by joint programmes

The perspective of higher
education institutions



eca

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eca

eun

eca

european consortium for accreditation

eca

european consortium for accreditation

enr
2017

Action Line 2: Results

• Observations:

- These qualifications /degrees are not treated differently
- Legal aspects are a serious obstacle towards recognition.
- Joint programmes and joint qualifications need to be better incorporated into the national higher education systems
- ENIC-NARIS are aware of the fact that some institutions use joint programmes to escape national legislation
- The degree and the diploma supplement do not provide the necessary information about the joint programme
- All ENIC-NARICs agree that a joint programme needs to be quality assured and/or accredited

Example

Recognition will be denied

- An unrecognised institution figures on the awarded degree
- The unrecognised institution is seen as making use of joint programme arrangements to flee the national regulatory framework.

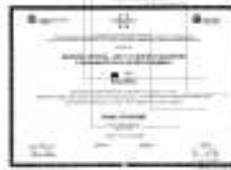
Example

Recognition may be denied

- One of the institutions involved in the programme is not recognised
- This unrecognised institution is seen as making use of joint programme arrangements to flee the national regulatory framework.

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Recognised

Recognised

Recognised

Not recognised

Example

Recognition may be denied

- IF one of the institutions involved in the programme cannot award Master of Science degrees (e.g. not accredited)
- THEN this institution is seen as making use of joint programme arrangements to flee the national regulatory framework.

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Recognised

Recognised

Recognised

Recognised

A way forward

- HEIs offering joint programmes should:
 - Award qualifications/degrees in such a way that recognition is facilitated
 - Be able to know what is expected of them
- A need for guidelines perhaps?
 - Conformity to national legislation re. HEI, JPs and (J)Ds
 - Transparency and clarity from but also for
 - national authorities, QAAs and HEIs
 - Essential and required information provided by:
 - the degree
 - the Diploma Supplement

JOQAR Project (2010 – 2013) JOQAR

- Quality assurance and accreditation
 - The development of a multilateral recognition agreement regarding QA and accreditation results
 - The establishment of a European coordination point for external QA and accreditation of joint programmes
- Recognition
 - Awareness-raising among higher education institutions and joint programmes about ENIC-NARICs' expectations
 - joint programmes, degree design, diploma supplement
 - ENIC-NARIC principles regarding the recognition of degrees awarded by joint programmes
 - Transparent information provision regarding Erasmus Mundus programmes



All relevant publications:

<http://www.eacaconsortium.net/main/documents/publications>

a.aerden@nvaio.net | www.eacaconsortium.net | www.grossroads.eu



European Consortium for Accreditation

ENR
2015