

IBAR

Identifying barriers in promoting European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance at institutional level

A transversal international project in the EU Lifelong Learning Programme (2011 - 2013)

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Assuring the quality of teaching and learning activities is the most important task that higher education institutions must face in an increasingly competitive national and international environment. It is also one of priorities of the Bologna Process.

Adoption of the **Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG)** in 2005 has been among the most important initiatives in this domain. In its Part 1, the ESG give a checklist of issues to be covered in each higher education institution's internal quality assurance system.

This international research project (IBAR) aims to identify drivers and barriers relating to the implementation of the ESG Part 1 and, based on that, to provide recommendations for bringing the document up to date. The research is being done in 7 European countries.

COUNTRIES IN IBAR

Czech Republic (CZ)

Latvia (LV)

The Netherlands (NL)

Poland (PL)

Portugal (PT)

Slovakia (SK)

United Kingdom (UK)

Project website

www.ibar.-llp.eu

On the website, you can find:

- a detailed description of the project
- the theory and methodology used
- information related to activities in the project
- results (case studies, national studies, comparative studies)

PARTNERS

Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES),

Prague, Czech Republic

www.csvs.cz



Durham University,

Durham, United Kingdom

<http://www.dur.ac.uk>



University of Latvia,

Riga, Latvia

www.lu.lv/eng



Centre for Research in Higher Education Policies (CIPES),

Matosinhos, Portugal

www.fup.pt/old/cipes



Warsaw School of Economics,

Warsaw, Poland

www.sgh.waw.pl



Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra,

Nitra, Slovakia

www.ukf.sk



University of Twente, Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies (CHEPS),

Enschede, The Netherlands

www.utwente.nl/mb/cheps



MAIN PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- **identification of barriers** of the ESG Part 1 implementation at institutional level in the following domains: access, student participation, institutional governance and management, employers including private sector, teaching staff, information systems, quality and secondary education;
- **comparison** across institutions and countries of similarities and differences in the ESG Part 1 implementation;
- **analysis** of the impact of the ESG Part 1 implementation on secondary education;
- **formulation of recommendations** on ESG Part 1 modification, including the pertaining guidelines.

STRUCTURE OF THE PROJECT

Coordinator: Helena Šebková, CHES, Czech Republic

The project is comprised of 8 thematic areas, with each partner having the responsibility for one of them:

- Survey of Internal Quality Assurance Systems
- Quality and Access
- Quality and Students
- Quality and Management/Governance
- Quality and Employers Including Private Sector
- Quality and Teaching Staff
- Quality and Information
- Quality and Secondary Education

For a given area, each partner elaborates 4 case studies about surveyed HEIs and one national report. On the basis of these national reports the partner responsible for the area draws up the comparative study. These results (which are made public on the project websites) constitute the basis for the final outputs of the project:

- **A book** exploring aspects of the research findings;
- **A final synthesis report** including recommendations for stakeholders.

Project outputs (expected in 2013) will aid in informed policy-making in the quality assurance domain. Examples of effective practice will be made available to the general higher education public.

ALREADY ACHIEVED RESULTS

Thematic area:

Survey of Internal Quality Assurance Systems

7 national studies and a comparative study

Quality and Access

7 national studies and a comparative study

Quality and Students

7 national studies and a comparative study

Quality and Governance

7 national studies and a comparative study

Quality and Employers

7 national studies and a comparative study

Quality and Teaching Staff

7 national studies and a comparative study

Quality and Information

7 national studies and a comparative study

Quality and Secondary Education

7 national studies and a comparative study

USEFUL INFORMATION

Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG):

The publication can be downloaded from the IBAR website at:

<http://www.ibar-llp.eu/assets/files/public/ESG.pdf>

FOR FURTHER CONTACT

csvs@csvs.cz



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