

# **Two years after Yerevan: progress so far (continued) in students' eyes**

**Vilnius, May 30th 2017**

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## ESU's policy on joint programmes

programme?

# 2014 Kaunas declaration



ESU expresses its support for the further development of transnational joint degrees, however tuition fees in these programmes are just as harmful as in traditional programmes.

ESU believes that quality assurance agencies in the countries involved in managing transnational joint programmes should cooperate on the quality assurance of those, which will also result in the additional benefit of increased cooperation and experience sharing between quality assurance agencies.

# 2014 Kaunas declaration



support for the further development

no tuition fees

cooperation of agencies

# 2013 Policy paper on mobility and internationalisation of higher education



Instead, transnational education should benefit the local community and the learning environment by providing students with opportunities for quality assured education, free of charge. ESU is strongly opposed to the marketisation and commodification of higher education and stresses that **students'** rights must remain at the core of the internationalisation process.

## Joint Degrees

Joint and double degrees need to be held accountable by all participating countries and follow national regulation. Higher education institutions should therefore be legally banned from receiving income from fees charged through the programme consortiums. Students should not be subject to paying fees in countries where no fees are in place. All courses offered through joint degrees programmes should be accredited by one or all hosting countries in accordance with all regular quality standards. The provision of transparent information on available grants and costs of the degree must be ensured in the marketing of joint degree programmes and especially the Erasmus+ Grants for Joint Master Courses.

# 2013 Policy paper on mobility and internationalisation of higher education



benefit the local community and the learning environment

quality assured education, free of charge.

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# **2016 Policy Paper on on public responsibility, governance and financing of higher education**

accessibility

# 2

## Joint programmes in students' eyes

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# Joint programmes



Rare, but progressive

We are in a comparable HE systems, but problems of recognition limits us from offering more joint programs

Lack of information

Fear of complicated procedures

Misusing the concept of internationalization

# Joint programmes



The fundamental question - are joint programmes accessible?

- Financial burden
- Rarity of offering institutions
- Students' support
- Different approach to local and international students
- Commercialization of studies

# Joint programmes



## Quality Assurance of joint programmes

- Unknown and unclear procedures
- Diverse community of students
- Language challenge
- Honesty of procedures
- SCL as a basis

# 3 European Approach for QA of Joint Programmes

# What we like



- Procedures of admission for students
- Mobility of students and teachers
- Assessment methods corresponding with learning outcomes
- Achievability of the curriculum
- Diversity of students' needs in learning and teaching methods
- Students support
- Transparency of procedures
- Participation of students in QA activities

# What we like



- Common responsibility of institutions
- Social dimensions of studies
- Students' participation guaranteed
- Clear QA procedures

# What we don't like



- Accessibility not mentioned - joint programmes out of access for students of lower economic background
- Prevention from misuse of the concept of the joint programmes
- Joint programmes should promote European and democratic values

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# Conclusions



ESU has received financial support from the European Commission through Erasmus+ Programme: KA3, Support for Policy Reform- Civil society cooperation in the field of education and training.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
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