EU priorities in Higher Education

- A new HE modernisation agenda
- The HE internationalisation strategy

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Reviewing the EU agenda for the modernisation of higher education systems
The EU's role in higher education

"To support the action of Member States" (art. 165)

1. Evidence-based agenda setting: pinpointing problems and effective solutions
2. Policy cooperation and support: peer learning, review and counselling involving governments and institutions
3. Programme funding to individuals and organisations

Modernisation agenda
Participation in Bologna Process
Studies, analysis, data
ET 2020 working group, DG HE
Individual mobility actions (KA 1)
Cooperation projects (KA 2)
Other support for policy reform (KA 3)
Erasmus+
Horizon 2020 (researchers, research and innovation)
European Structural and Investment Funds (ESF)
The 2011 modernisation agenda

5 key priorities for higher education in the EU:
• Quantity: widening access, reducing drop-out (headline target of 40%)
• Quality and relevance: programmes, teaching and teachers
• Promote international cooperation and mobility
• Linking education, research and innovation (knowledge triangle)
• Ensuring adequate, efficient funding and tailoring governance
2017: Main priority areas

Work progressing around three main priorities:

1. **Enhancing skills development for all** – curriculum design, graduate tracking etc

2. **Supporting teachers and researchers** – training, career structures, incentives and funding etc

3. **Strengthening local and regional innovation** – economic and social innovation, building links etc
EU added value

- Providing **comparable information and evidence** (for transparency & policy-making)
- Cooperation and **peer exchange** between governments
- Directing **EU programme funding** towards the identified priorities of the revised agenda
- Calls for **additional mobility** of students, staff and researchers
- Better **academic recognition**
Next steps in process

- Review of overall **objectives and priorities** in light of consultation and other evidence
- Reviewing and refining EU-level **actions** to ensure they address these objectives
Internationalisation priorities of European Higher Education
Internationalisation: the context

- 2030: three times as many students as 2000
- 2020: 7 million internationally mobile students
- 33% of mobile students are from East Asia/ Pacific
- Knowledge powers/hubs and global race for talent
- European students → sharply diminishing %
- Europe remains preferred destination for international students
- Shifting the balance of internationalisation from cooperation towards more competition
Internationalisation: the benefits

- A tool to improve quality, international profile, provide global skills
- "Knowledge gain" and skilled migration to boost job creation
- A key role in international development policy
- An instrument of soft diplomacy (alumni)
- A source of income
Comprehensive internationalisation strategies

• Significance and visibility
• More global cooperation between universities, new forms of partnerships
• Positive impact of mobility but need for institutional too:
  • Student and staff mobility, joint degrees, strategic partnerships, capacity building projects, internationalisation at home...
• Need to keep coherence with other policies (development, migration...)
Study in Europe

• Promotes Europe as study destination
• Fairs, social media, promoters, portal:
  http://ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe/
EU programmes contributing to internationalisation

Programmes:
- Erasmus+
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie
- EIT & KICs

Actions:
- Credit mobility
- Degree mobility - Joint Masters & PhDs
- Capacity building
- Policy support
Key issues in Erasmus+

- Geographic priorities = EU external action
- Mobility in both directions, students and staff
- Credit mobility - to avoid brain drain
- Bottom up approach, no pre-defined discipline
- Development of expertise through mobility that can be used afterwards
- Need for more institutional approaches
- Development cooperation – beneficial for both sides
Key issues in Erasmus+ (2)

• Strong focus on hard sciences, not enough on social sciences (link with political priorities: democratisation, rule of law, fight against corruption, inter-cultural dialogue...)
• Involvement of employers, civil society
• Large variety of options that can lead to other type of cooperation (research)
• Policy dimension: high interest for EU policies and instruments; need support for policy frameworks
• More inclusive development: need to involve new HEIs, in more remote areas, from less favoured backgrounds
Credit mobility
Credit mobility

• International strand to fund 135,000 scholarships for mobility to / from with partner countries
• Short-term studies (3-12 months) abroad that count to a degree back home
• At bachelor, master and doctoral level...
• ...and for staff (5 days – 2 months)
• HEIs from Programme countries may apply to their National Agency
ICM 2017 Call budget
Total estimated budget: EUR 138 million

- ENI East: 15%
- ENI South: 20%
- Tunisia: 2%
- DCI Asia: 13%
- Russia (ENI & PI): 9%
- PI USA & Canada: 4%
- PI Asia Industrialised: 5%
- IPA Western Balkans: 17%
- DCI Central Asia: 4%
- DCI Latin America: 4%
- DCI Middle East: 2%
- DCI South Africa: 2%
- EDF: 4%
ICM management

- Inter-institutional agreement embodies ECHE commitments
  - "ECHE – make it work for you"
  - Self-assessment tool
- Agreement for student or staff member
Erasmus Mundus
Joint Master Degrees
Erasmus Mundus
Joint Master Degrees

• Excellent integrated Master courses offered by consortia of 3+ HEIs from Programme (and Partner) Countries
• Attract best students worldwide through EU-funded scholarships
• 12 – 24 month courses with study in 2+ countries; joint or multiple degrees
• Programme-Country institutions may submit a proposal on behalf of an international consortium
Capacity Building for Higher Education
Capacity-building for higher education

Joint project focus on HEI capacities
Structural projects focus on HE reform
2-3 year Partnerships of HEIs from programme and partner countries

Southern Mediterranean, Eastern Europe, Western Balkans, Russia, Asia & Central Asia, Latin America, Africa, Caribbean, Pacific (ACP)
Regional budgets & priorities

Capacity-building

- Neighbourhood South (ENI)
- Neighbourhood East (ENI)
- Russia (ENI)
- Latin America (DCI)
- Asia (DCI)
- C Asia (DCI)
- Iran Iraq Yemen (DCI)
- South Africa (DCI)
- ACP States (EDF)
- Western Balkans (IPA)
Jean Monnet Activities
Jean Monnet Activities

- Focus on European integration studies
- Teaching and research (Modules, Chairs, Centres of Excellence)
- Policy debate with academic world (Networks, Projects)
- Support to activities of institutions or associations