

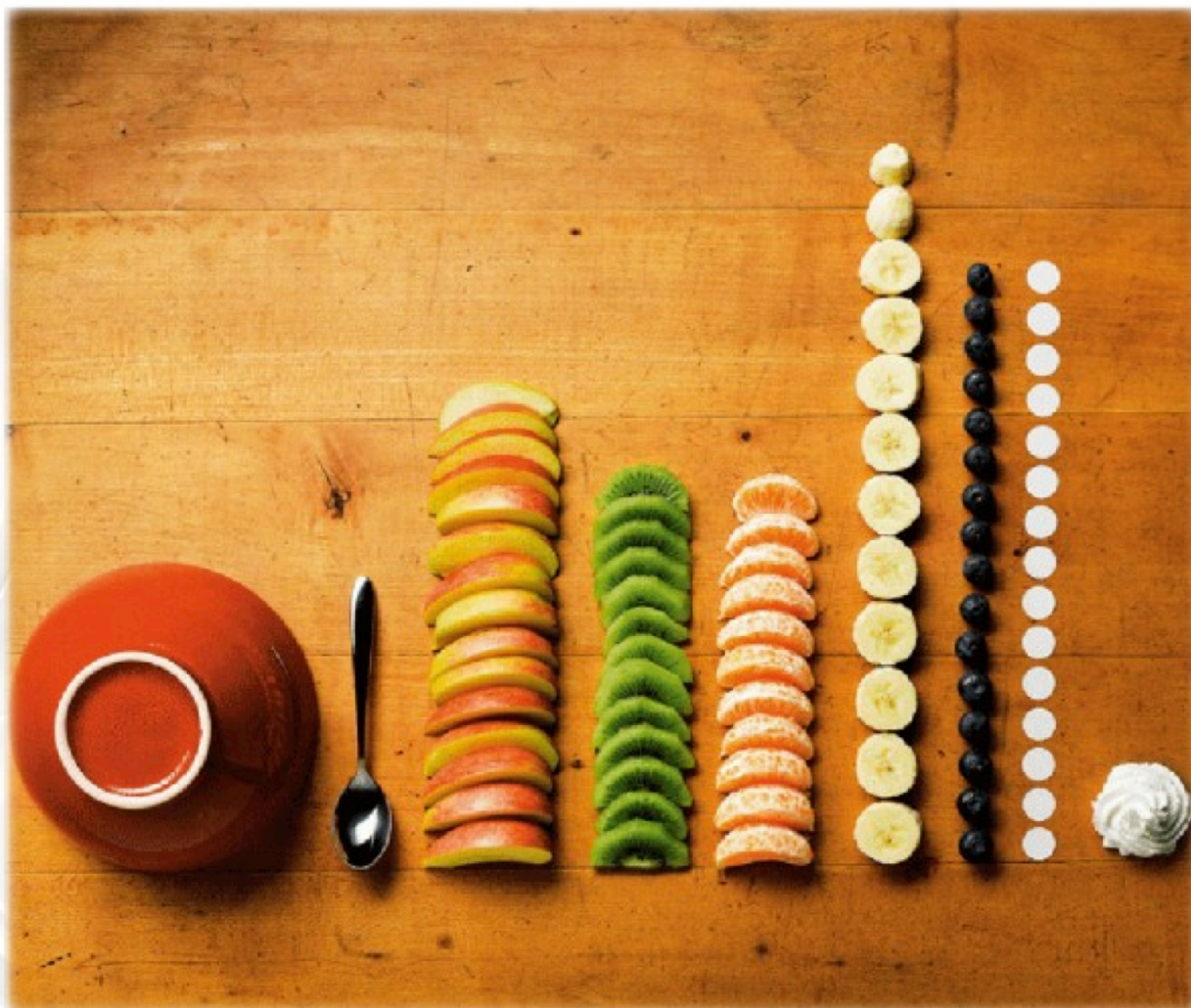
The logo for JOQAR is displayed in a white rounded rectangle. The letters 'J', 'O', 'A', and 'R' are green, while the 'Q' is dark blue and features a stylized graphic of three vertical lines of varying heights to its right.

# Joint programmes: recognition and quality assurance

Axel Aerden & Cecilia Ruiz

The logo for the European Consortium for Accreditation (ECA) consists of the lowercase letters 'e', 'c', and 'a' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Each letter is separated from the next by a thin vertical line.

european consortium for accreditation



# Recognition of degrees awarded

Recognition of degrees awarded

# TEAM<sup>2</sup> Project (2008-2010)

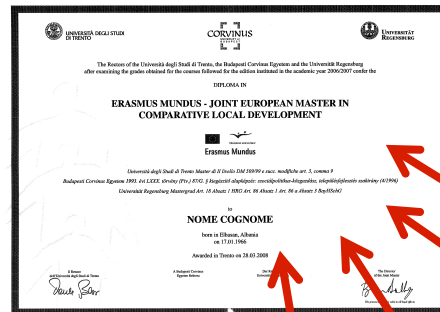


Exploration  
of  
recognition  
issues

The recognition of  
qualifications awarded  
by joint programmes

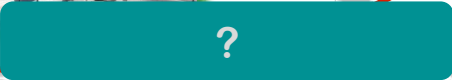


# Recognition practice and challenges



Recognition may be denied

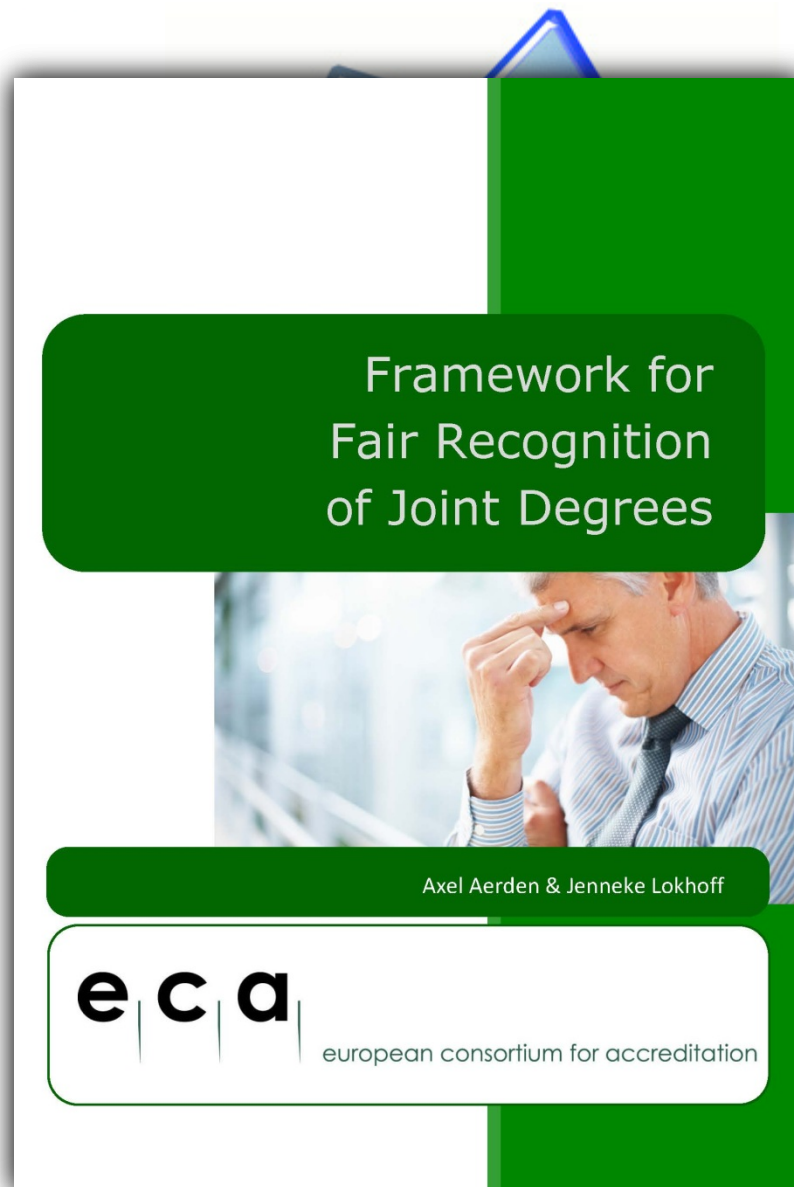
- An unrecognised institution figures on the awarded degree
- One of the institutions involved in the programme cannot offer the joint programme (yet)
- ...



# Challenges overcome

Guidelines for Good Practice  
for Awarding Joint Degrees

Framework for Fair Recognition  
of Joint Degrees



Framework for  
Fair Recognition  
of Joint Degrees

Axel Aerden & Jenneke Lokhoff

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Guidelines for Good Practice for Awarding Joint Degrees



Axel Aerden & Hanna Reczulska

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The consortium

The joint programme

The joint degree

The diploma supplement

Other documentation

Framework for Fair Recognition of Joint Degrees



Axel Aerden & Jenneke Lokhoff

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# So many challenges left, and all national

Many national requirements make the award of joint degrees & joint Diploma Supplements difficult/ impossible

Touches on the issue of HE autonomy

## Examples:

- Joint degrees are still not legally allowed in all countries in all cases;
- Not all HE institutions are allowed to sign their own degrees;
- National degree designs/templates don't accommodate international joint degrees;
- National implementation of the Diploma Supplement: not the original template, mandatory content (without international perspective);
- ...





# Quality assurance



## Bucharest Communiqué

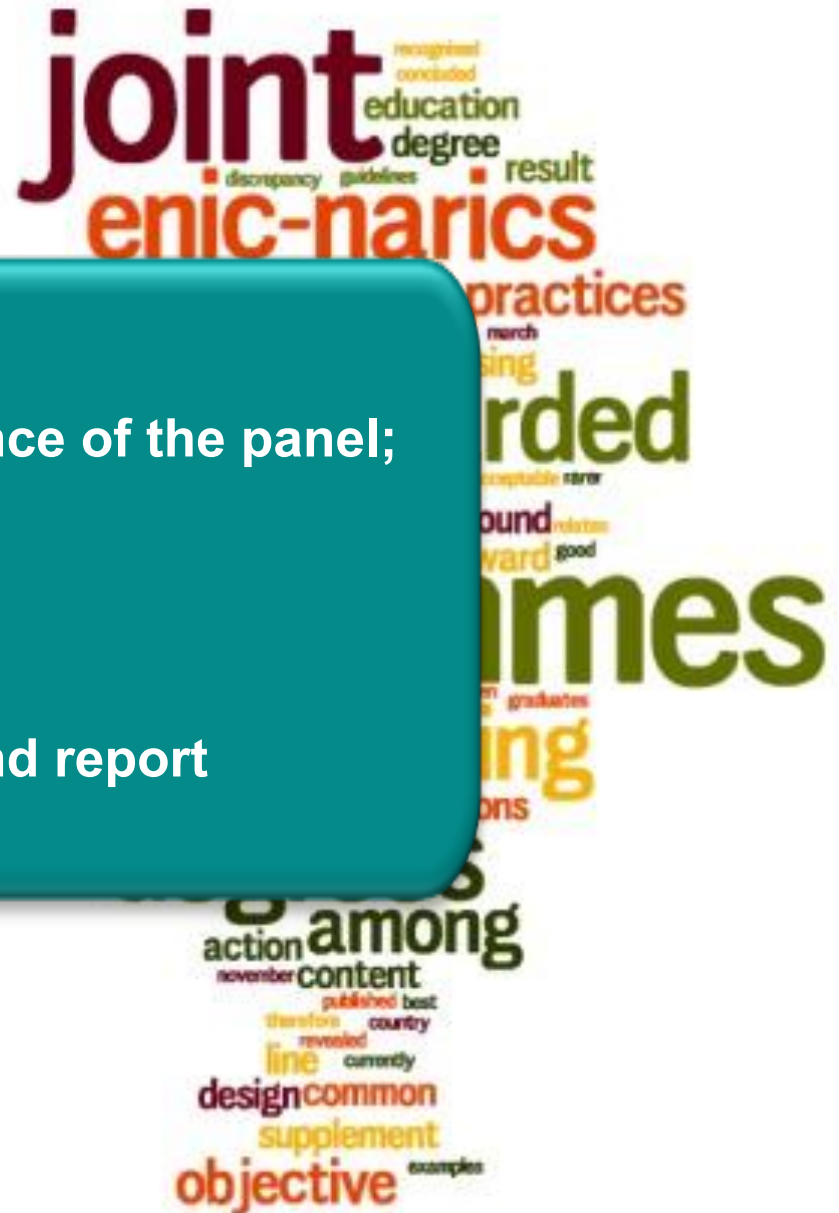


**Quality assurance is essential for building trust and to reinforce the attractiveness** of the EHEA's offerings, including in the provision of cross-border education. We commit to both maintaining the public responsibility for quality assurance and to actively involve a wide range of stakeholders in this development. We acknowledge the ENQA, ESU, EUA and EURASHE (the E4 group) report on the implementation and application of the "European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance" (ESG)<sup>1</sup>. We will revise the ESG to improve their clarity, applicability and usefulness, including their scope. The revision will be based upon an initial proposal to be prepared by the E4 in cooperation with Education International, BUSINESSEUROPE and the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR), which will be submitted to the Bologna Follow-Up Group.

We welcome the external evaluation of EQAR and we encourage quality assurance agencies to apply for registration. We will allow EQAR-registered agencies to perform their activities across the EHEA, while complying with national requirements. In particular, we will aim to recognise quality assurance decisions of EQAR-registered agencies on joint and double degree programmes.

# Quality assurance

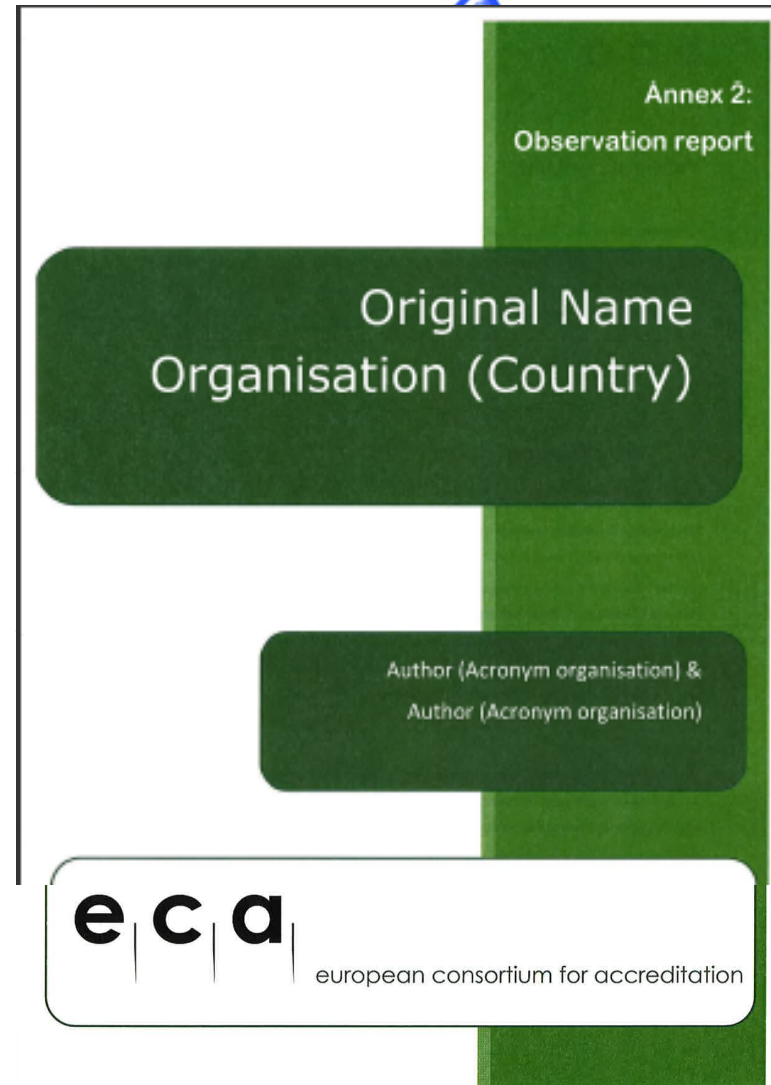
- A. Composition and independence of the panel;
- B. Standards;
- C. Basis for the evaluation
- D. Site visit;
- E. Outcome and consequences;
- F. Publication of the outcome and report



# Regarding of Quality Assurance

The Observation should provide evidence if the accreditation procedures and standards are free of significant differences

MULTRA Agencies acceptance



# Regarding of Quality Assurance

Expert Panel

ECA TEAM<sup>2</sup>

 Alfa  
PUENTES

JOQAR

EXPERTISE	INCLUDED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• experience in quality assurance in higher education</li> </ul>	<Yes/No>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• appropriate academic qualifications and scientific or professional reputation in the relevant area(s)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• relevant international experience that provides a basis for making international comparisons</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• knowledge on teaching and learning methods</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expertise in development, design, provision and evaluation of higher education programmes</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• knowledge of the country-specific system of higher education, institutions and applicable legislation</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• student representatives in the respective area(s)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• representatives from the labour market</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a significant proportion of panel members from outside the country</li> </ul>	

# Regarding of Quality Assurance

STANDARDS

Similar Standards in all countries

ECA TEAM<sup>2</sup>

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**JOQAR**

# Regarding of Quality Assurance

Basic for the Evaluation

**ECA TEAM<sup>2</sup>**

Importance of self-analysis.  
Guidelines for self evaluation report

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Internal Quality Assurance System

**JOQAR**

# Regarding of Quality Assurance

SITE VISIT

ECA TEAM<sup>2</sup>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVEMENT

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# Regarding of Quality Assurance

Outcome and consequences

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Avoid Overbureaucratisation

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# Regarding of Quality Assurance

Publication of the outcome and report

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PUENTES

Transparency

JOQAR

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE**

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE

**JOQAR DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE**

JOQAR DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE

**20 & 21 JUNE, MADRID**

20 & 21 JUNE, MADRID