

ECA Workshop

17 January 2013, The Hague

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european consortium for accreditation

Welcome to 16th ECA workshop



10th anniversary of ECA in 2013



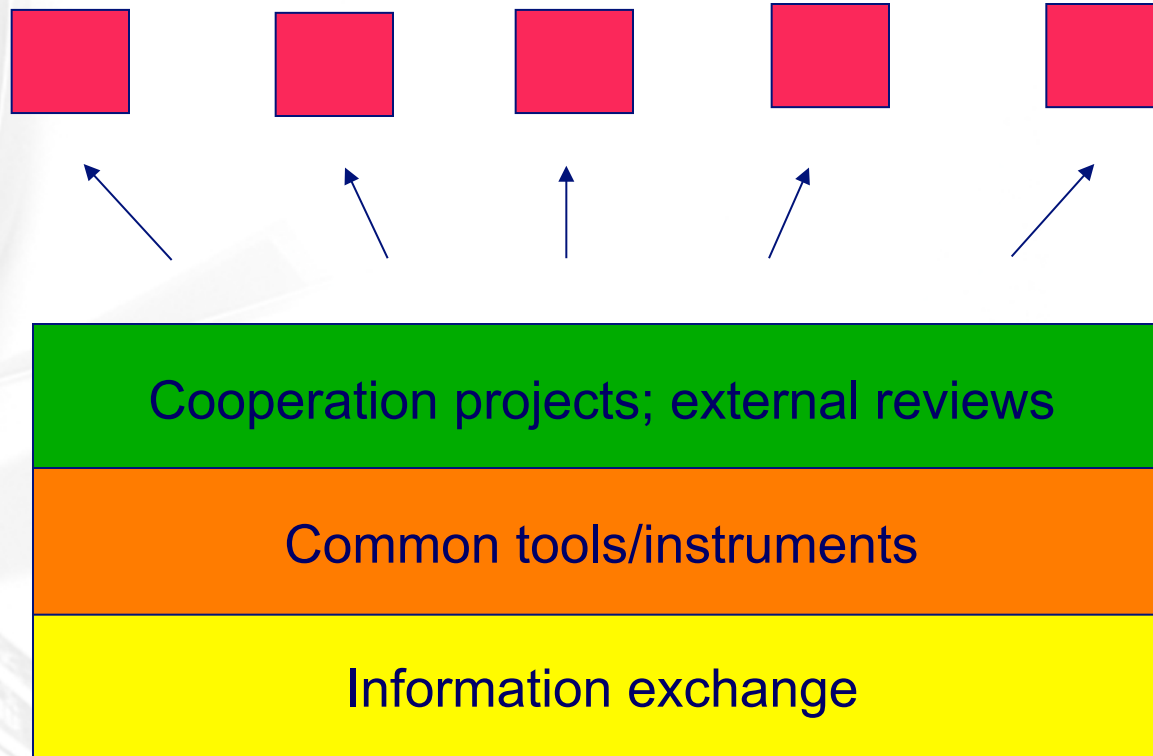


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ECA – Trust building process

Bilateral Mutual Recognition Agreements



Introduction to Seminar

- Recognition of academic + professional qualifications is a cornerstone of international mobility
- Recognition barriers still exist (despite Bologna instruments and LRC)
- Over the past five to ten years new instruments and tools have been developed for better recognition
- These tools are not yet systematically interlinked and used by HEIS and governments

Programme of the Seminar

- Introduction to topic
- Viewpoints of different HE stakeholders
- Work in QA (mutual recognition initiative of ECA) and Recognition Area (EAR manual of ENIC/NARICs)
- Different Models of recognition discussed
- Summary and conclusions
- Reception

**The long
and winding
road to
recognition**



Questions of the seminar

- What are the major recognition obstacles ?
- How can we reduce these barriers ?
- Is an automatic recognition of qualifications desirable and is it feasible ?
- How can we increase mutual trust in the EHEA ? Who can contribute to this trust and how?
- How to intertwine the attempts of the various HE stakeholder groups to simplify recognition ?

Some statements to vote/comment on (I)

- „We should shift from equivalence of individual diplomas to a more generic recognition „ (a bachelor is a bachelor)
- „ QA information should be part of all recognition decisions“
- When case to case decisions in recognition of qualifications would have the value of 1 and pure automatic recognition of qualification in the EHEA would have the value of 10; which value would you choose ?

Models of academic recognition

Case by case recognition

↓
Bologna
tools

↓
Value 1

MR based recognition
Trust/Evidence

↓
EAR manual
MR ECA

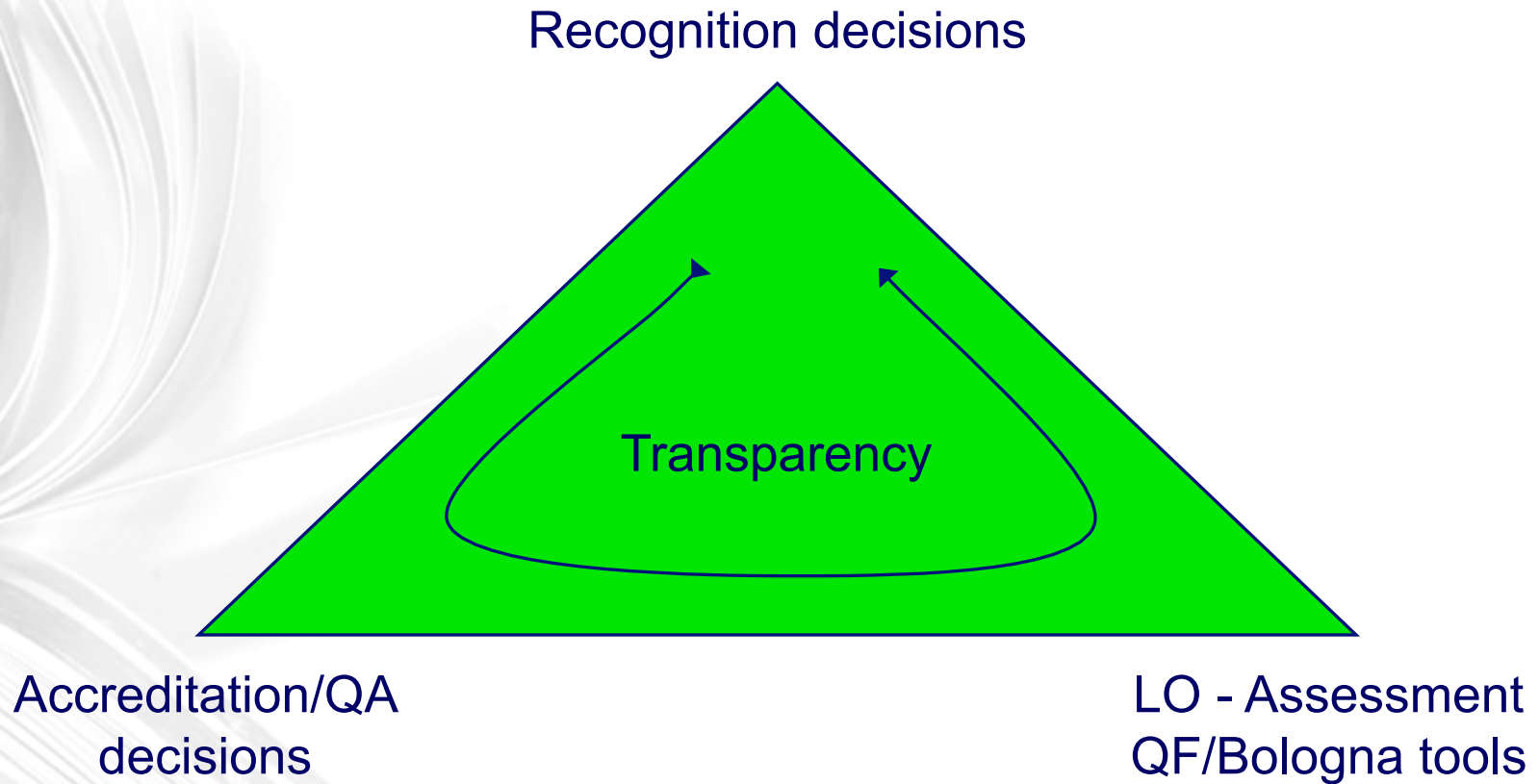
↓
Value 5

Automatic recognition

↓
Political
decision

↓
Value 10

The „magic triangle“ of recognition



Some statements to vote/comment on (II)

- „Mutual recognition of qualifications, based on earned trust in QA, is a promising concept to simplify the recognition of qualifications“
- „External and/or internal QA processes should check how HEIs tackle recognition of foreign qualifications“
- „Credential evaluators at HEIs need to get professionalized and organized“



Summary and Conclusions of the Seminar (I)

- Recognition is important for promotion of international education and cross-border mobility of students and staff
- Recognition problems still exist but tools and models have been developed to overcome existing obstacles
- An evidence and trust based mutual recognition model might presently be the most suitable solution
- Triangle „LO/QF“, „QA, „Recognition“ should be highlighted and the elements should be interconnected

Summary and Conclusions of the Seminar (II)

- The EAR manual of ENIC/NARICs and the MR Agreements of ECA have the potential to be used in real world; they need support from HEIs and governments
- Close collaboration between HEIs, Recognition bodies, QAAs and governments is needed in order to solve recognition problems

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Many thanks !



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