

Philipps



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# The Erasmus and Bologna Experience in European Education

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## The Bologna Process as part of European Integration

Europeans cooperate and they are mobile.

ERASMUS mobility	1987	
	1965	European Communities (economical)
	1951	European Coal and Steel Community

## The Bologna Process as part of European Integration

# Compatible Structures through Transparency

ECTS = integral part of ERASMUS	1995	
European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pilot project	1992	European Community (political)
ERASMUS mobility	1987	
	1965	European Communities (economical)
	1951	European Coal and Steel Community

## The Bologna Process as part of European Integration

# Act as One

European Higher Education Area comprising ECTS and ERASMUS	2010	
	2007	European Union
Bologna Declaration	1999	Euro € Zone (monetary union)
ECTS = integral part of ERASMUS	1995	
European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pilot project	1992	European Community (political)
ERASMUS mobility	1987	
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# *European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students (ERASMUS)*

- study abroad, linguistic preparation, practical placements (10 % once intended, 200,000 students each year)
- institutional cooperation ► curriculum development
- staff mobility
- opening of some programme actions to external partners outside the EU (ERASMUS Mundus:  
[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus\\_mundus/programme/about\\_erasmus\\_mundus\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/programme/about_erasmus_mundus_en.php))



Erasmus (1465-1536)  
by Holbein

# ERASMUS

## In order to participate, a university will ...

- develop an institutional European policy statement (and receive an ERASMUS Charter in return)
- develop an ECTS Information Package (catalogue of modularised course offer and more; module = self contained unit of learning)
- agree to full recognition of credits achieved abroad
- negotiate exchange conditions with partner universities („mobility windows“)
- agree with EU on exchange volume and terms (institutional contract)
- apply *European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)*

# ECTS Idea: Promote Mobility by Recognition

	Home University in Country A	Partner University in Country B
4th year of studies	60 ECTS Credits	
3rd year of studies	full recognition	60 ECTS Credits
2nd year of studies	60 ECTS Credits	
1st year of studies	60 ECTS Credits	

## „Fair Recognition“ rather than Perfect Equivalence

*"Recognition of credits is the process through which an institution certifies that certain learning outcomes achieved and assessed in another institution satisfy certain requirements of one of the programmes they offer. Given the diversity of programmes and higher education institutions, it is unlikely that the credits and learning outcomes of a single educational component in different programmes will be identical. Therefore, a flexible approach to recognition of credits obtained in another context is recommended. 'Fair recognition' rather than perfect equivalence is to be sought. Such 'fair recognition' should be based on the learning outcomes – i.e. what a person knows and is able to do – rather than on the formal procedures that have led to the completion of a qualification or its component. [...] The recognition process should be transparent."*

(ECTS User's Guide, p. 22)

# ECTS Basics

- 60 ECTS credits = student workload of a fulltime year of formal learning
- 1 ECTS credit = 25 to 30 hrs of work (contact hrs + individual preparation such as library work etc.)
- **allocation to modules for defined learning outcomes**  
(*cf. Bloom's Taxonomy*)
- modular structure + ECTS ► **learner centredness**
- ECTS is awarded for **successful completion** of the module
- ... aims at promoting **transparency** of study programmes
- ... aims at **shortening study periods** through recognition
- ... provides a method for the conversion of grades

## ECTS key features

<http://www.eua.be/eua/jsp/en/upload/ECTS%20Key%20Features.1068807879166.pdf>

## ECTS User's Guide

[http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/ects/guide\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/ects/guide_en.pdf)

# ECTS Instruments used in ERASMUS Mobility Scheme

ECTS Information Package	describes learning outcome and credit allocation of modules
ECTS Application Form	includes ECTS transcript of records
ECTS Learning Agreement	trilateral agreement on learning outcomes and credits to be achieved abroad
ECTS Transcript of Records	lists all credits achieved at home and abroad
Diploma Supplement	states learning outcomes, level and scope of the degree programme with reference to national qualification frame work

# The Bologna\* Process

1999 Bologna Declaration (30 countries > EU)

- stipulates *European Higher Education Area (EHEA)* by 2010
- requires to serve the employability needs of a knowledge based society
- stipulates length, workload and qualification level of study cycles (1st + 2nd cycle = 3 yrs + 2 yrs or 4 yrs + 1 yr = 300 ECTS credits)
- requires internationalisation on all levels:
  - institution
  - international mobility
  - teaching of international issues

\* Bologna, Italy, home of the oldest European university, founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century

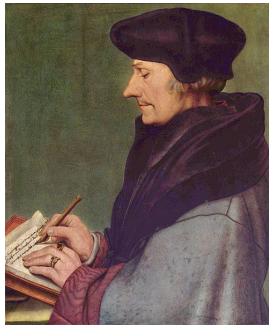
# Issues of the Bologna Follow up Conferences:

- *Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area (QF/EHEA)*
- *student participation and the social dimension*
- *quality assurance*
- *Lifelong Learning*
- *inclusion of the doctoral phase*
- *....*

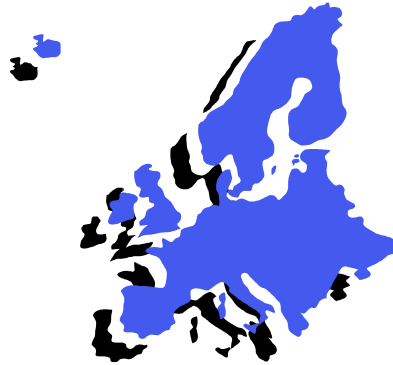
# The Bologna Experience

- Modularisation and recognition are key elements of curriculum development and mobility in the Bologna process.
  - Modularisation requires high precision in terms of learning outcome and administrative legibility.
  - Recognition depends on transparency and quality of module descriptions.
  - Knowledge about competence teaching and assessment should be increased.
- More transparency is achievable.
  - Institutions discover their strengths and weaknesses through transparency.
  - ... get involved in development of international quality standards.
  - The international cooperation between universities sums up for the necessity to prepare students for an international job market.
- The B-process reveals a strong need for change management.
- Second decade of the Bologna process has just started ...

# Thank you for your attention



Erasmus by Holbein, 1523



Welcome to the European Higher Education Area  
<http://www.ehea.info/>

