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## **BOLOGNA PROCESS**

**TOWARDS A EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA**

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# WHY?



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## Bologna Process and Lisbon Objectives / Europe 2020

Political Perspective: strong concerns about ...

- European Economic Area not underpinned by EHEA
- Competitiveness of European economy at world level
- European labour force not sufficiently flexible

One European  
Economic Area/  
Internal Market

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# WHY?

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# WHY?



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## Bologna Process and Lisbon Objectives

Higher Education Institutions Perspective: strong concerns about .....

- attracting sufficient students for degree programmes
  - high drop out rate in many countries
  - social responsibility regarding under-represented groups
  - transparency of educational offers (degree programmes)
  - Mismatch of content of programmes and needs of society (accountability and responsiveness)
  - transnational cooperation and recognition issues
  - competitiveness of European HE degree programmes in global perspective
  - quality of degree programmes
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# HOW?

**47 European countries involved ....**

“The overarching aim of the Bologna Process is to create a European Higher Education Area (EHEA) that promotes mobility; attracts students and staff from Europe as well as from other parts of the world; and is internationally competitive. It aims to do this by facilitating greater comparability and compatibility between the diverse higher education systems and institutions across Europe and by enhancing their quality.”





# HOW?



## **BOLOGNA (Ministerial) PROCESS**

- Sorbonne Declaration (1998)
  - Bologna Declaration (1999)
    - Prague Communiqué (2001)
    - Berlin Communiqué (2003)
    - Bergen Communiqué (2005)
    - London Communiqué (2007)
    - Leuven / Louvain-la-Neuve Communiqué (2009)
    - Vienna – Budapest Declaration (2010)
    - Bucharest Communiqué (2012)
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We love to travel and visit nice places .....



1999 Bologna



2001 Prague



2003 Berlin



2005 Bergen



2007 London



2009 Leuven /  
Louvain-la-Neuve



## Official 'Bologna' Action Lines

1. Qualifications Frameworks / Three-cycle System
  2. Joint Degrees
  3. Mobility
  4. Recognition of Qualifications (ECTS and Diploma Supplement)
  5. Quality Assurance:
    - Standards and Guidelines (ESG) (2005)
    - European Quality Assurance Register for HE (EQAR) (2008)
  6. The Social Dimension and Equal Opportunities
  7. Employability
  8. Life Long Learning
  9. European Higher Education in a Global Context
  10. Stocktaking
  11. Bologna Beyond 2010
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## “Bologna” Priorities

- social dimension: equitable access and completion
- lifelong learning
- employability
- student-centred learning and the teaching mission of higher education
- education, research and innovation
- international openness
- mobility
- data collection
- multidimensional transparency tools
- funding



# **BOLOGNA PROCESS**

Three levels:

1. European
  2. National / Regional
  3. Institutional
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# 1. European Level Organisational Structure

Meeting of European Ministers responsible for Higher Education

## Bologna Follow-up Group (BFUG)

**Chair:**  
rotates with the EU Presidency,  
Currently: Spain

**Vice-chairs:**  
the host country of the next ministerial  
meeting, Currently: Austria & Hungary

### Members:

Representatives of all countries participating in the Bologna Process, Currently: Albania, Principality of Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium – Flemish Community, Belgium – French Community, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom. And a representative of the European Commission.



## Official activities at European level

- Bologna Seminars
  - Meetings of Bologna Follow-up Group / Board
  - **Bologna Working Groups** (Social Dimension, Qualifications Frameworks, International Openness, Mobility, Recognition, Reporting on the implementation of the Bologna Process, Transparency mechanisms)
  - Reports
  - Bi-annual / Three-annual Ministerial Meetings
  - Bologna Policy Forum (since 2009) – involving other countries in the world
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## Related processes

- Lisbon Strategy / Europe 2020 (knowledge based society and economy) EU + Associated Countries
  - Copenhagen Process (vocational education and training) EU + Associated Countries
  - Lisbon Recognition Convention (the wider Europe)
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## Related initiatives

- Tuning Educational Structures in Europe (and beyond)
  - Joint Quality Initiative (Dublin Descriptors)
  - EUROPASS
  - European Programmes: Life Long Learning (Erasmus) , Tempus, Erasmus Mundus, Jean Monnet
  - Introduction Diploma Supplement (UNESCO-CEPES)
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## Challenges for the HE Institutions

- Reform curricula into two/three cycle programmes
  - Change from input to output based programmes:
    - Student centred
    - Based on Learning outcomes expressed in terms of competences
    - Using ECTS Credits
  - Develop a Quality Culture
  - Organise and increase recognized mobility
  - Issue the Diploma Supplement to all graduates
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Thank you for your attention !

