EBLIDA
Estoril
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European Higher Education Area (EHEA)

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Content

- Motivations for the Bologna Declaration (and Sorbonne)
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Motivations for the Bologna Declaration (and Sorbonne)

- Lack of competitiveness and attractiveness of the EHEA (e.g. as compared with US)
- High diversity of programmes – durations, objectives, approaches, … (confusion)
- Difficulties in the recognition of qualifications and mobility

European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
Overall aim

Build the European Higher Education Area by 2010
- 40 countries
- Multilateral process larger than the EU
- The Declaration is not a law or a treaty
- Tension between...
Major issues

- From the Bologna Declaration (1999)
  - Competitiveness of EHEA
  - Mobility
  - Employability
- From the Prague Communiqué (2001)
  - Lifelong learning
  - Social dimension
- From the Berlin Communiqué (2003)
  - Links with the European Research Area (ERA)
Instrumental objectives

- Easily readable degrees
- System of two main cycles
- European credit system (ECTS based)
- Promotion of mobility
- Quality assurance
- European dimensions
- Information
- Recognition of qualifications
- Qualifications framework

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Berlin commitments for 2005

- Two cycle system in implementation
- Diploma Supplement being issued
- Quality evaluation or accreditation
  - Definition of responsibilities
  - Evaluation of programmes or institutions
  - Accreditation, certification or equivalent

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Agreements

- Responsibility
  - Public responsibility for HE
- Quality assurance
  - Common criteria
- Qualifications framework
  - Common (working group created)
  - National

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Agreements (cont.)

- **Degrees**
  - 1st degree (Ba): 180 to 240 ECTS units;
  - 2nd degree (Ma): 90 to 120 ECTS units (minimum of 60 ECTS units of post-graduation level)

- **Transparency and recognition**
  - European credit system (ECTS units for accumulation and transfer)
  - Diploma Supplement
  - Lisbon Recognition Convention
Paradigms

- Outcomes oriented
- Learner centred education
- Organised diversity
What needs to be done

- Work together by subject area at European level
- Identify common core learning outcomes (knowledge, competencies, skills, …)
- Adapt programmes to the common learning outcomes
- Apply ECTS
- Issue Diploma Supplement
- Apply the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention
Thank you!

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