

A3ES

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Agência de Avaliação
e Acreditação
do Ensino Superior

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Education and Training (Erasmus+)
Internationalization Meeting

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- **Most universities currently include internationalization in their strategies;**
- **Since Middle Ages, academics, scholars and professors were encouraged to circulate through European universities;**
- **However, in recent years, internationalization has expanded extraordinarily and has taken different approaches within each institution.**

- European agencies for assessments and accreditation are committed with the Standards and Guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- The adoption of these standards allows national higher education systems to be mutually recognized (inside European Higher Education Area) and guarantee students, academics and staff mobility, as well as the recognition of academic paths.

ENQA standards rightly focus on student-centred learning strategies, on the qualification of teaching staff, on the public information that institutions must provide, etc.

ENQA standards do not make explicit any reference to internationalization!

However, Agencies have increasingly integrated this component into the parameters of evaluation of institutions and their programmes.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people deeply desire to meet new people, to contact with new realities, to understand new ways of life, be embedded in new cultures.

What are the criteria to evaluate the effort of each institution to achieve these goals?

- Mobility's that promote cooperation programs and thematic partnerships;
- Mobility's that contribute to structure networks to design research projects and dynamize strong consortium;
- Political institutional strategy to advise students to chose institutions with which they have high levels of cooperation;
- Internship bank to propose solutions to recent graduates;
- Mobilize additional funds to support mobility.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students: students who do not have European nationality and who propose to get a degree at a Portuguese university or a Portuguese polytechnic.

Results: the choice of the institution will be based on the credibility of the institution and on the way it is perceived from the outside (crediting in terms of quality, areas of excellence, working languages, local involvement, etc.). In short, that characteristics reveals an institutional policy aimed to attract this type of students.

TALENTS

Talent attraction: an activity that promotes an enormous competition between institutions. Institutions do their best to offer an unique working conditions that can make the difference.

Results: the evolution registered in terms of foreign researchers or professors in the most important scientific areas of the institution or in emerging areas. Therefore it is a good indicator of the strength of the institutions' internationalization policy

JOINT PROGRAMMES

Design and organization of joint programs between institutions from different countries

Results: it fosters the teaching teams to discuss each contribution, to debate together the topics to be included in the programs, to define and share the pedagogical model and to outline the model for students and teachers mobility. It's another aspect of internationalization policies, which will include programs, student attraction, career opportunities, outputs as thesis, patents or other research results.

NATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFERED IN THIRD COUNTRIES

Another component of the institutional policy of internationalization

It is based on bilateral agreements (between governments) but it makes possible to contribute to the development of local skills, to value local talents and to develop innovative methodologies and new teaching procedures.

Reinforces the ability to create new methodologies, to dialogue with new realities and the openness to global problems.

JOINT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Joint scientific research projects, mobilizing mixed and integrated teams

Knowledge creation cannot be carried out in a closed environment. It needs collaborative networks, peer discussions, cooperation between research groups. Science is a global enterprise that will only advance if there is close collaboration between laboratories, centers and research teams. The institutions' strategies will also be evaluated by the intensification of research projects and by the implicit strategy in their implementation (partners, thematic areas, budget, etc.).

- **The idea is to demonstrate that internationalization cannot (should not) be reduced to student mobility, as it's assumed by many institutions;**
- **but it depends on a global strategy, with the identification of the various aspects of the internalization, which must be evaluated (qualitatively and quantitatively) and accredited within the mechanism of institutional evaluation.**

- **The internationalization strategy has a transversal impact on the functioning of institutions and corresponds to a institutional framework that is no longer limited to the region or even the national space, but need to project itself in the global space**
- **The agencies of evaluation in higher education must prepare themselves to analyze all aspects of internationalization and contribute, through their accreditation procedures to:**
 - **consolidation of their strategies**
 - **better identification of institutions networks**
 - **value what can be developed through the partnerships**
 - **help institutions to make good use of their resources.**

- To finalize, let me mention a Portuguese humanist Damião de Góis that lived in century XVI and attended to the university of Louvain, Padua and Freiburg. In this last city, he met Erasmo de Roterdão, becoming his close friend.
- The majority of his life was traveling between several European cities, writing scientific documents and translating texts to Latin about Portuguese history.
- Damião de Góis was part of the global movement, that anticipated what we see today with a great expression. Erasmo used to say to Damião that “we learn a lot with educated conversations”.
- From that time (1554), there is a book written by Damião de Góis, called “Descrição da cidade de Lisboa”, which is a guide that he offered to his invited friends to visit Lisbon city.

Damião de Góis

DESCRIÇÃO DA
CIDADE DE LISBOA



LIVROS HORIZONTE

Thank you