



# Introduction to the Joint Programmes

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**EUA**

European University Association

**STRONG UNIVERSITIES FOR EUROPE**

## Introduction to EUA

- Membership organisation of 850 members: universities and national rectors' conferences in 46 countries
- Mission: To ensure that universities have the means to fulfill their three-fold public mission (research, teaching and service to society)
- Activities: Policy development, projects, membership services, research and publication
- Active in EU and in a wider Europe: Unique overview of different processes that take place at different levels



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## What Is a Joint Programme?

- Programmes jointly offered by different HEIs
  - ✓ Usually also developed in co-operation
- Degrees awarded can be either joint, multiple or double



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# EUA Work in the Field of Joint Programmes

- EUA Joint Masters Project (2002 – 2004)
- EMNEM – European Masters New Evaluation Methodology 2006
  - ✓ Guidelines for Quality Enhancement in European Joint Masters Programmes
- EUA Survey on Master Programme in Europe 2008 - 2009
- Policy work
  - For example as regards to the external QA arrangements, recognition of qualifications



## Some results from Trends 2010 survey I

- Does your institution offer joint programmes with other institutions in a different country?
  - ✓ Yes, there are examples of joint programmes in all cycles 19%
  - ✓ Yes, there are examples of joint programmes in the second cycle (master) 42%
  - ✓ Not yet, but some departments are planning joint programmes 30%
  - ✓ No, we do not see the need for joint programmes 3%



## Some Results from Trends 2010 survey II

- Does your institution offer joint programmes with other institutions in your country?
  - ✓ Yes, with institutions that are similar to ours (e.g., if you are a university, your joint programme is with other universities) 57%
  - ✓ Yes, with higher education institutions that are different from ours (e.g., if you are a university, your joint programme is with a polytechnic, further education college) 31%
  - ✓ No, we do not see the need for joint programmes 21%

# Master Survey in Europe

- Most joint programmes second cycle programmes
- Increasing in numbers
- Course coordination challenging, not less due to incongruent national legislations on
  - ✓ variable entry points
  - ✓ credit weighting
  - ✓ Workloads
  - ✓ learning outcomes
- Variety of forms, at times strong element of ad hoc compromise and approximation

# Principles for QA of Joint Programmes

- Same principles as for regular provision
  - ✓ Main responsibility lies within HEI(s)
  - ✓ European Standards and Guidelines (ESG) apply
  - ✓ Primary goal of QA processes should be to enhance quality
  
- But some additional challenges do exist



## To conclude

- Increasing interest towards joint programmes
- Joint programmes are a challenging form of provision, but can be rewarding if well planned
  
- EUA publications and further information available at [www.eua.be](http://www.eua.be)