

National HERE Seminar

“Challenges Toward Successful Joint Degrees Implementation”

Date: 25 September 2020

Location: Online platform of ASPA

CONCLUSIONS

- ‘Joint Degree’ is an institutional, professional and cultural bridge. It is the most efficient, complex and the quickest tool to the internationalization of the national HE toward the Higher Education Area.
- The Law on HE 80/2015 allows and creates conditions for the creation of Joint Degrees.
- In our country the Government acts and guidance make it difficult the process of creating double degrees – a centralisation and a move away from the autonomy.
- In our country there are higher costs, in opening and implementation of Joint Degree, compared to the cost of Higher Education Institutions in EU countries.
- In our country the number of Joint Degrees is very low.
- Most ‘Joint Degrees’ programs coming from the sector of non-public university.
- There are few incentives to create a Joint Degree in Albania.
- The implementation procedure requires consensus and a fair decision-making process. It is necessary for:
 - additional financial resources;
 - additional infrastructures, facilities and labs;
 - greater executive effort from the HEIs;
 - more human resources, from both institutions, in coordinating

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ‘Joint Degree’ should be seen as a strategic development of Higher Education in the country – a fast and guaranteed improvements of standards (National legislation needs to be more flexible, for the implementation of Joint Degree programs).



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- It is necessary to implement the European approach to quality assurance for Joint Degree, which would facilitate the accreditation procedures of these programs and at the same time would enable the implementation of European Quality Standards in our country.
- Joint Degree programs should be part of initiatives in the region.
- The Government should reduce the “red tape” and improve the process of opening Joint Degrees.
- There should be financial incentives from the Government for HEIs that would like to create Joint Degrees.
- A need for role models – sharing the “good” experiences, implemented at the country.
- There should be a need to involve business in financial support for Joint Degrees – it will create a better link to the labor market.