

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MISSION

Conclusions of the National Seminar on:

"ECTS for the design, delivery and monitoring of study programs"

Organized by

Erasmus + Office / Albania in cooperation with the Albanian Higher Education Reform
Expert Group (HERE)

Today's seminar focused on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) as a student-centered system, and considered as one of the main tools of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) for design, description, delivery and comparison of programs and awarding qualifications, we think it will be an aid and impetus for the continuation of this process in Albanian HEIs.

Hoping that this seminar has served as an incentive for other activities focused on the same issue, we bring the following in the form of conclusions and recommendations some of the key issues identified.

1. Student-centered learning, should be an important notion, embraced by all teachers to make them knowledgeable and capable. To achieve this, the training of academic staff is necessary
2. The design of programs should be based on the descriptors of the Qualification Reference Framework, in order for them to meet international standards.
3. Formulation of Learning Outcomes in order to be measurable and Use of the ECTS user guide will enable security for their full harmonization.
4. HEIs should enable the training of academic and administrative staff for the use of ECTS and have the responsibility to raise awareness of students and staff about the advantages of their use.
5. The application of ECTS in Albanian HEIs has facilitated the work for the design of study programs by making them comparable, measurable, changeable (refresh / reorganization)

6. The transfer of students from one HEI to another or from one program to another within the same institution has also been facilitated, as well as the mobility of students within the Erasmus + projects.
7. On the other hand, the international recognition of diplomas is having a positive impact, making them more easily transferable between countries, a fact that makes possible the better inclusion of Albania in the European Higher Education Area.
8. Also, the planning of mobility periods for the academic staff in the framework of the international cooperation in the Erasmus + Program or other joint projects is now more flexible and facilitated.
9. Currently HEIs make an assessment of the realization of the teaching load but not an assessment of learning outcomes. In order to have measurable indicators of this indicator, appropriate mechanisms and ways reflected in the documentation must be found.
10. In the framework of Transparency, Higher Education Institutions should publish monitoring procedures, as well as update the publication of step-by-step improvements.
11. Regarding the continuity of all this process, there is a need to Review the appropriate guidelines and harmonize the legal framework regarding the procedures for monitoring the allocation of credits in the Albanian higher education system.
12. The drafting of national legal acts and those within the university is a necessity.

Reporter: Prof.Asoc Fatmira Shehu (HERE)

Elbasan, 26/11/2021