

Joint programmes from A to Z – A reference guide for practitioners

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JDAZ: Joint Degrees Programmes from A to Z

Reference guide

Project team

EMNS: Netherlands, Finland, Austria, Poland, Norway
and Lithuania

External experts: NVAO and JOIMAN
+ JOI.CON

Duration

September 2012 – April 2015



Definition (according to the Bologna documents)

Joint programmes: coordinated, integrated curriculum offered jointly by different HEIs which lead to a multiple or a joint degree:

- Multiple degree: separate degrees awarded by HEIs issued as separate multiple diplomas. If two degrees are awarded by two institutions, the obtained degree is a 'double degree'.
- Joint degree: a joint degree as evidenced in a single diploma document awarded by HEIs, nationally acknowledged as a recognised award of the joint programme.

Context

- Various European initiatives
 - > separate aspects of joint programmes
- Not centrally available
- Not integrated from A to Z

Aim

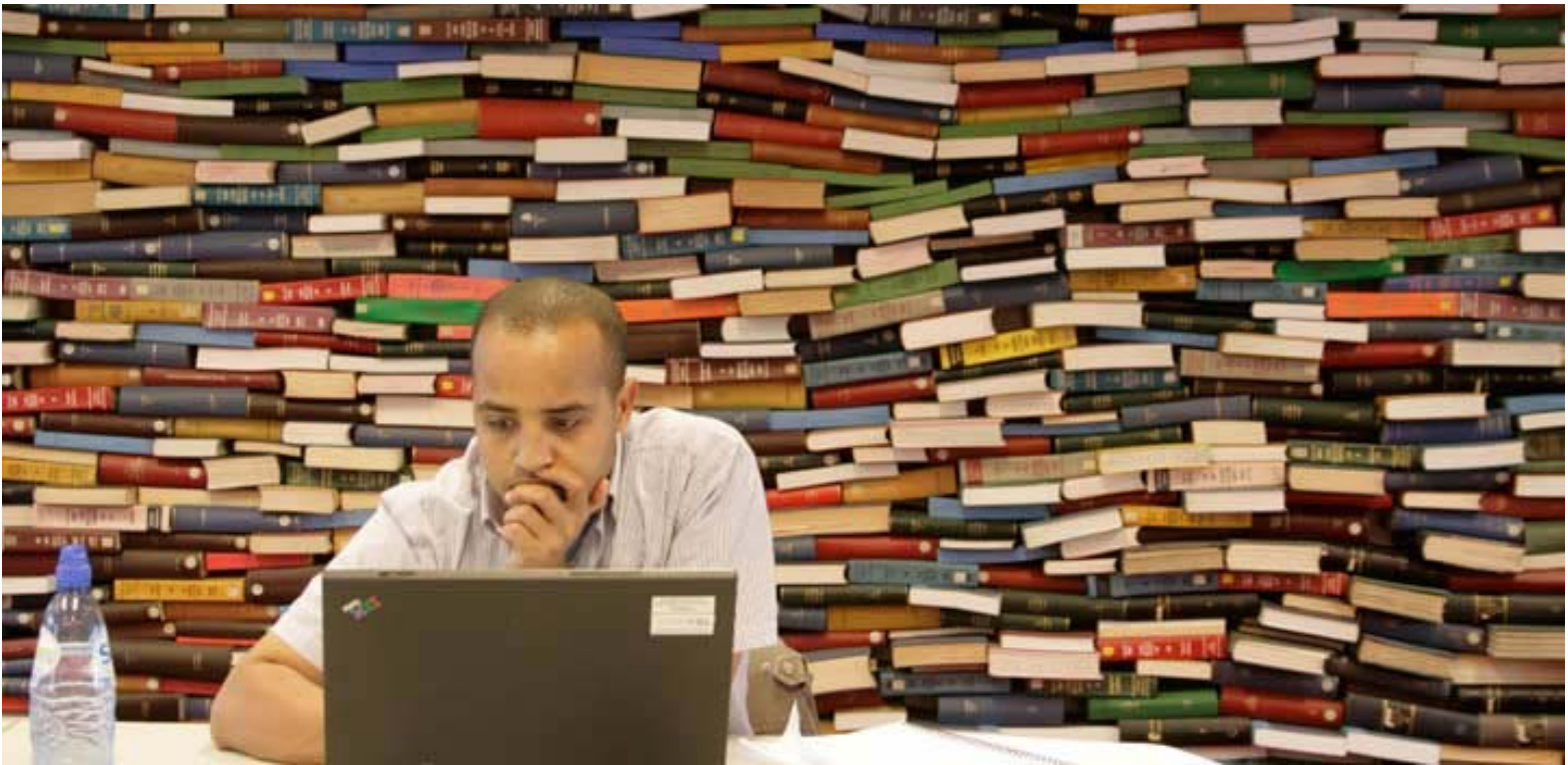
- Produce reference guide
- All aspects joint degree programmes
- Overview of good quality sources
- Practical guidance

For whom?

Target group

- HEI's & coordinators
- Erasmus+ national offices (former Erasmus Mundus National Structures)
 - Support in their advisory role
- Current coordinators of EMM's and other JP's
 - To improve their current practice
- Other stakeholders interested in JP's

Approach and timeline (I)



Approach and timeline (II)

- Desk research
- Project meetings
- Blueprint and beta versions of the reference guide
 - Online surveys among EMNS network and end users in EHEA
- Seminar with practitioners to test the guide
 - Collect examples of good practice
- Online consultation actors EHEA (Autumn 2014)
- Publication and dissemination JDAZ guide from February 2015

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Importance of joint programmes

Increasing strategic importance, at all levels:

- Bologna Process
- EU-Level: Erasmus+
- National level: several Bologna countries implemented legislation to allow and encourage joint programmes, with students numbers in these programmes increasing

Consider the added value of joint programmes

The legal framework

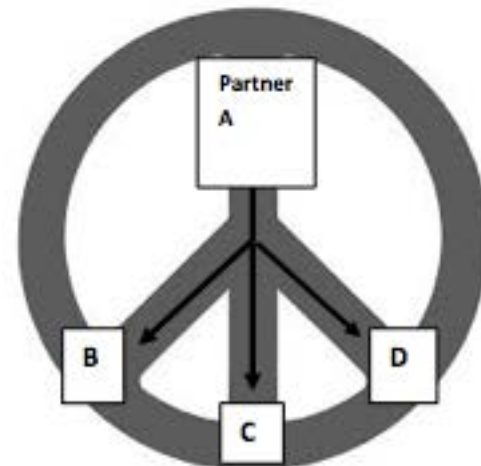
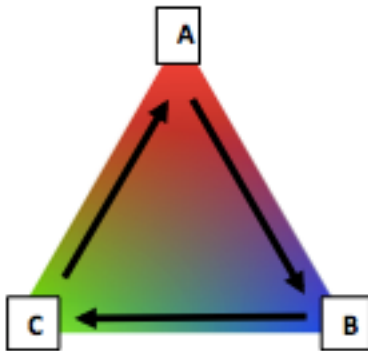
Joint programmes have an international character, but the legal power lies within:

- (Sub-)National legislation
- Institutional guidelines

→ Consult the ENIC-NARIC offices for information on national legislation

Development

- Know your reasons
- Know yourself and where you stand
- Know your partner and your target group
- Design the programme and cooperation, including a suitable mobility path



Management

- **Management models to fit context**
 - Consider context, develop suitable model and consider pros and cons of different models in cooperation
- **Management structures for joint tasks**
 - Establish the management structure based on the set of tasks for which joint programmes are needed
- **Cooperation agreement**
 - As soon and as flexible as possible
- **Financial management**
 - Set up arrangements for financial affairs
- **Labour market involvement**

Quality assurance

- Define quality and how to measure it
- Establish reference points to monitor quality
- Be(come) fully aware of national accreditation legislation
- Seek single accreditation if possible
- Use alumni for monitoring

Recognition

- Consult the national ministries of education, ENIC and NARIC networks
- Consult existing good practices: Lisbon Recognition Convention, EAR manual, ECA



Joint doctoral programmes



- The basics

- Get to know the partners and national regulations, jointly develop a vision and strategy, including an employability strategy

- Selection of doctoral candidates

- Develop a joint recruitment and selection method

- Supervision

- Make agreements to cover quality assurance, assessment and diplomas

- Doctoral support

- Provide relevant training and research tools and facilities

Conclusions

- Literature and information sources: continuous political and institutional interest towards collaborative study programmes
- IAU Survey 2014: internationalised curricula third most important internationalisation activity
- Increased interest of funding organisations

However:

- None of the available sources gives information on the scope of the entire phenomenon
→ More studies needed on extent, numbers, characters and sustainability

Does the joint programme model provide a cost-efficient way of obtaining certain internationalisation goals?



Download the guide at <http://www.nuffic.nl/en/expertise/jdaz>

JDAZ Guide on ECpedia via <http://ecahe.eu>



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