

**ProDeJIP - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference  
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**PARALLEL SESSION 3:  
PARTNERSHIPS BEYOND THE EU BORDERS**

Moderator: Luca Lantero  
Chair: Krzysztof Ostrowski

**Introduction:**

A global association like ProDeJIP should work on today's challenges concerning partnerships and have global objectives. Development and promotion in ProDeJIP's name mean that ProDeJIP should act as a facilitator and a structure to formulate judgements on international cooperation.

Stronger contacts between EU partners and neighbouring countries show a positive development.

Definition of "International Programmes" should be broad: teaching, research and contact between HEIs.

The future of education is to attract students from Asia and Africa -> growing markets

Today there are 48 countries that adopted the Bologna Process (+ Belarus since 2015)

Today other funds than the European ones are possible -> e.g. Ecuador gives scholarships to their students to go abroad

We lack promotion and sustainability of Joint Programmes after the EU funding ends

Insert ENIC-NARIC centres into projects to profit from their experience

**Obstacles for partnerships:**

E.g. Poland is worried about the situation between Russia and Ukraine. The Ukrainian Ministry tells their university rectors not to participate in projects with Russia -> that kind of restrictions stop international cooperation.

Also the participation of Turkey is limited to some EU funded cooperation.

Problems between Brazil and Italy and Brazil and France because of the length of programmes -> often the possibility to find solutions and to be more flexible with countries outside Europe is given than with European partners

**Role of ProDeJIP:**

ProDeJIP as association should be aware of these situations and the Executive Committee should express opinion.

Cooperation with several other organisations active in this field should be established also with research oriented structures as there is not enough exchange of information.

Direct participation of ProDeJIP in projects or independent judgements of experts from outside.

ProDeJIP should spread information about the potential and possibilities of JIPs = cross border education: Joint = together, International = not national, not the same rules and legislation, Programmes = study

**Comments from the participants:**

- The problem between Russia and other countries is physical security: Georgia has VISA problems with Russia. It would be helpful to have recommendations from the ProDeJIP Association
- Important to spread the culture of JIPs: not possible to have the same national rules as JIPs are no national programmes

- African countries look at internationalisation as a risk and also other countries, like Belarus, see internationalisation as a way to escape -> important to show positive aspects to these countries
- In Slovenia there is a lack of recognition and accreditation and it is very difficult to establish a JIP because of the national rules. There should be a push to the Ministry to change the national rules.
- Suggestion to ProDeJIP to invite ENQA etc.
- From the African side mutual respect is needed in cooperation. European arrogance is usual and Africa always has to follow
- Concerning the sustainability of JIPs it would be helpful to produce manuals and provide training inviting experts from outside the EU as well