

ASIIN – Programme Accreditation with Regard to Special Aspects of European Co- operation

<http://www.asiin.de/>



Programme accreditation and international/European co-operation



Overview:

1. Mobility and quality; Requirements of international cooperation in accreditation
2. Co-operation between HEIs: Joint Programmes and Different Types of Accreditation
3. Co-operation between agencies: Joint requirements and procedures
4. Success factors for the accreditation of international study programs

**Mobility and quality –
Requirements of
international co-operation in
accreditation**

Aims of international accreditation

- Allowing for maximum **flexibility**, to
- facilitate **mobility**, while

balance

- ensuring **quality** and
- compliance with national legislation.

Mobility requirements



Students and HEIs:

- Flexible curricular structure
- Recognition of study at other HEIs (national/international)
 - => rules for certification of module outcomes
 - => agreements for inter-HEI recognition
 - => joint quality assurance procedures

Graduates, Employers and HEIs offering higher education:

- Comparability of qualifications/degrees:
 - => certification of programme outcomes
 - => national and international recognition

Legal requirements



The German Example

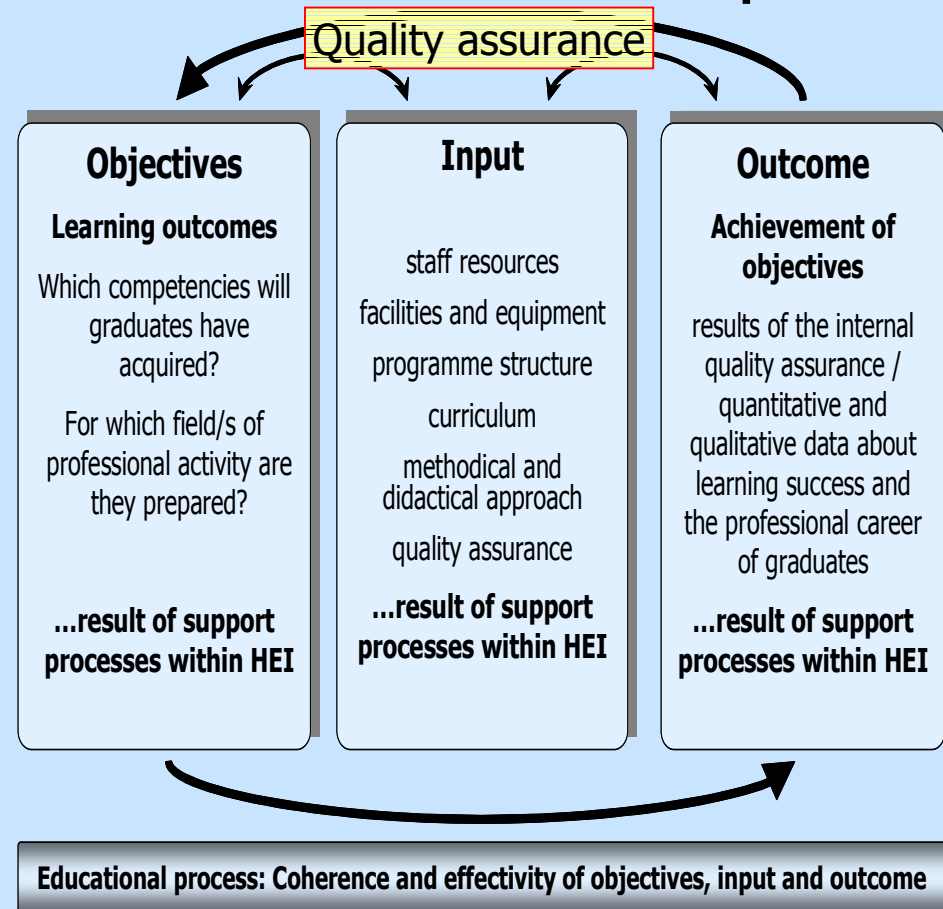
Directive of the German Accreditation Council (*Akkreditierungsrat*) of December 9, 2004 ("Akkreditierung von Studiengängen mit Doppeldiplomabschlüssen und Joint Degrees"):

- Accreditation of joint degree programmes should be guided by the principle of acknowledging diversity of approaches to HE.
- Appropriate quality assurance according to the respective national legislation must be ensured.
- Agencies should use the results of quality assessments carried out by actors in other countries **and** should organise joint accreditation procedures together with agencies in other countries.

Methodological requirements: Focus on the educational process

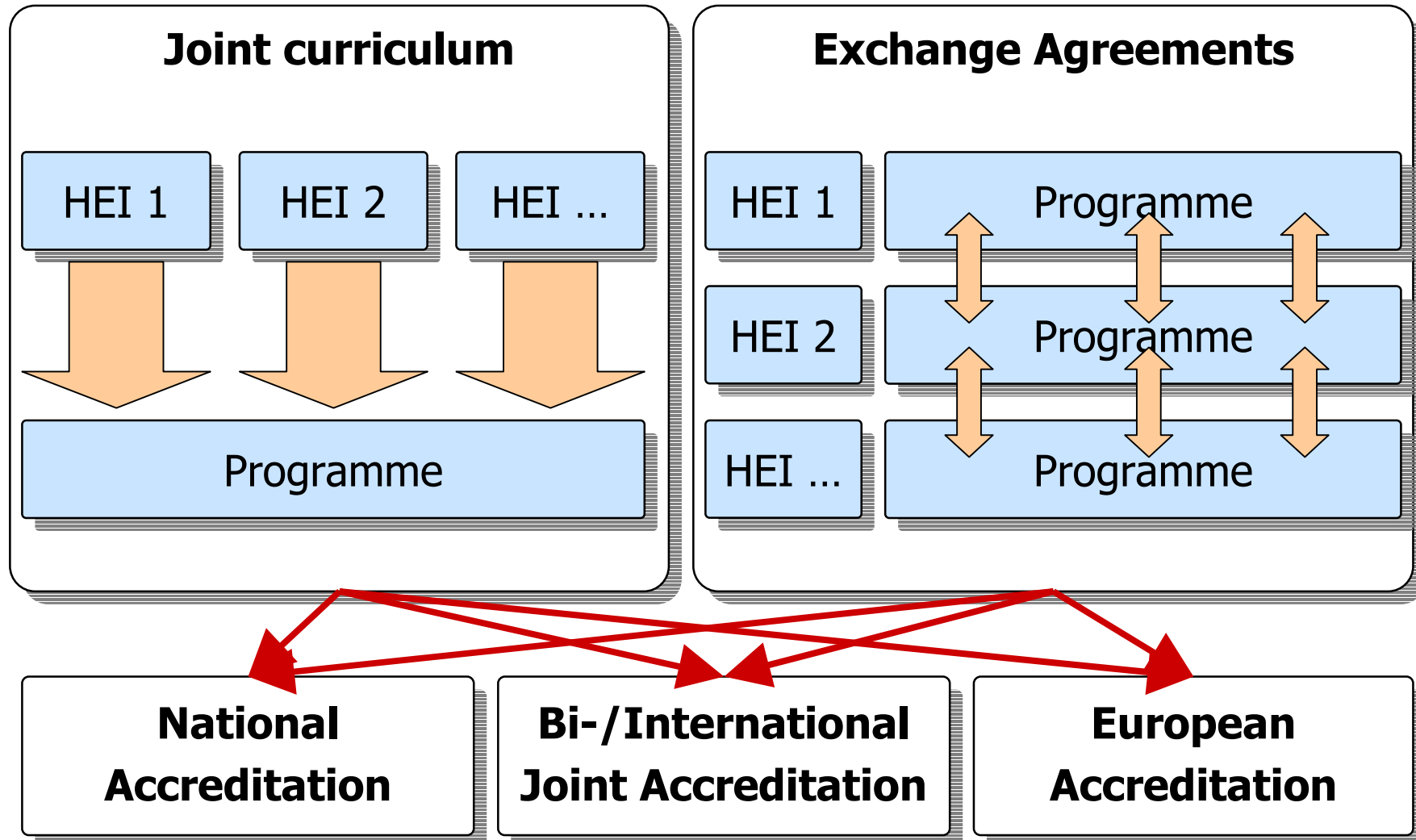
Accreditation checks the **coherence of the entire educational process**:

- Both the **input** into an educational process and the **outcome** of this process are mutually influential and are factors responsible for the quality of the education being provided.
- Individual characteristics of a degree programme cannot be viewed in isolation, but must instead be evaluated in terms of their function within and effect on the educational process.

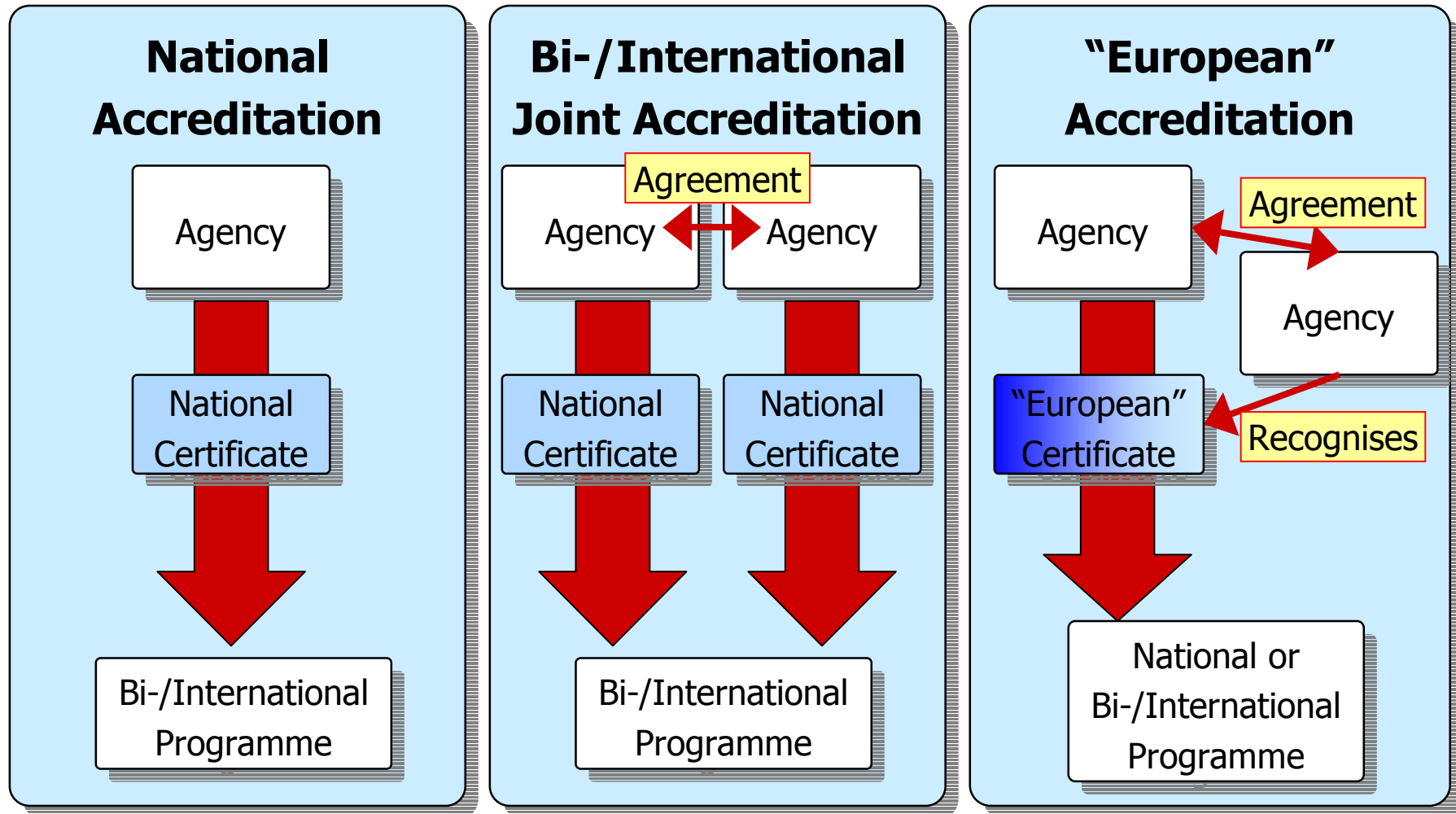


Co-operation between HEIs: Joint Programmes

Accreditation practice: Types of co-operation



Accreditation practice: Types of accreditation



Accreditation practice: External quality assurance for the entire programme



Conditions for ASIIN Accreditation of International Degree Programmes

- All (other) parts of the programme are accredited by a nationally recognised body applying internationally accepted standards and procedures.

- Competent representatives from **all** partner HEIs are present during the accreditation visit.
- At least one ASIIN auditor may visit the partner institution(s) to confirm the quality of the corresponding course of studies.

**Co-operation between
agencies: Joint
requirements and
procedures**

For example: ASIIN (D) – CTI (F)



- The Commission des Titres d'Ingénieur is responsible for the accreditation of engineering degree programmes in France.
- Formal cooperation agreement ASIIN-CTI in February, 2005.
- Mutual agreement on criteria and procedures facilitated by co-operation in the framework of the EUR-ACE Project.
- Cooperation in the accreditation of bi-national engineering degree programmes:
 - Joint, bi-lingual audit team for each accreditation process.
 - Joint accreditation report and, if successful, joint certificate.
 - Quality Assurance: Review of the procedures and criteria for the joint accreditation process at regular intervals.

For example: ASIIN (D) – NVAO (NL)

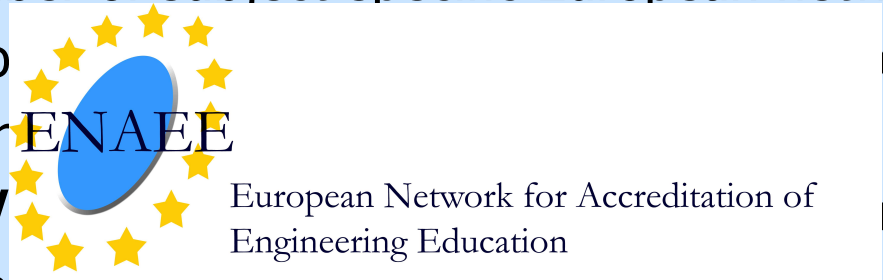


- The Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO) is responsible for assessing and accrediting programmes.
- While the accreditation decision is taken by NVAO, the assessment may be carried out by authorised assessment agencies.
- After a review of its requirements and procedures, ASIIN has been authorised to conduct accreditation visits to higher education institutions in the Netherlands by NVAO since January 1st, 2006.
- Facilitation of joint accreditation of Dutch-German degree programmes -> one agency, one audit team, one report.

For example: Subject-specific European networks



ASIIN is member of subject-specific European networks of accrediting bodies and professional associations in



informatics/

European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education

ing aims:

- Development of **accreditation standards** (-> procedures) and **qualifications framework** (-> outcomes/competencies)



degrees by implementing competence outcomes and a recognized European quality-label



Success factors

Success Factors



The following factors contribute to a successful accreditation of international programmes

For HEIs:

- Joint / co-ordinated quality assurance mechanisms

For Agencies:

- Formalised cooperation agreement
- Reference framework for comparison of standards and procedures (ESG, Qualifications Frameworks, Subject-specific standards)

The End



Thank you for your kind interest!





European Network for Accreditation of
Engineering Education



Accreditation Agency
for Degree Programmes in
Engineering, Informatics,
Natural Sciences and
Mathematics e. V.

Founding date:

- October 2005
- Statutes ratified in February 2006

Founding members - European associations:

FEANI – Fédération Européenne d'Associations Nationales d'Ingénieurs

SEFI – Société Européenne pour la Formation d'Ingénieurs

EUROCADRES – Conseil des Cadres Européens

Founding member - national bodies:

Engineering Council UK

CTI – Commission des Titres d'Ingénieurs

ASIIN

OE – Ordem dos Engenheiros

CoPI – Conferenza dei Presidi delle Facolta' di Ingegneria Italiane

UAICR – Uniunea Asociatilor Inginerilor Constructori din Romania

EI – Engineers Ireland

RAEE – Russian Association for Engineering Education

UNIFI – Università degli Studi di Firenze

IDA – The Danish Society of Engineers

BBT - Bundesamt für Berufsbildung und Technologie

(UK)

(France)

(Germany)

(Portugal)

(Italy)

(Romania)

(Ireland)

(Russian Federation)

(Italy)

(Denmark)

(Switzerland)



European Network for Accreditation of
Engineering Education



Goals

- To build **confidence** in systems of accreditation of engineering degree programs within Europe
- To **promote the implementation** of accreditation practice for engineering education systems in Europe.

Activities

- Facilitating the free **exchange of information** and providing an effective communication channel for those bodies and individuals concerned with educational and professional standards in Engineering throughout the European Higher Education Area.
- Providing such information as already exists within each country on topics and issues connected with educational and professional engineering standards
- Participating in the **creation** and ultimately the **administration** of a **European accreditation framework** for engineering education programs.



European Network for Accreditation of
Engineering Education



EUR-ACE Framework Standards and Procedural Guidelines:

Facts

- Framework standards for first and second cycle qualifications in engineering
- Outcome of the EUR-ACE Project
- Approved 17 November 2005

Structure

1. program outcomes (differentiating between First Cycle and Second Cycle graduates)
2. Criteria and Quality Requirements for Accreditation
3. Accreditation Procedure
4. Template for Publication of Results

Further information:

www.asiin.de/Internationales ⇨ **EUR-ACE** or ⇨ **ENAE**

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The European Chemistry Thematic Network Association (ECTNA)

- Non-profit association registered in Belgium;
- outcome of six years of network activity;
- developed as part of the EU project „Tuning Educational Structures in Europe“.

Members

- Higher education institutions, national chemical societies and chemical and software companies
- currently over 120 members from 30 different European countries
- associate members world-wide.

Activities

- European expert groups work on a range of topics and produce reports with European dimension.



Eurobachelor® and Euromaster Label

Facts

- Framework Standards for a first cycle qualification in chemistry
- approved in 2003 by the Assembly of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences EuCheMS and in 2004 by the Bologna Process Seminar "Chemistry Studies in the European Higher Education Area";
- pilot project for the introduction of a Euromaster Label launched in July 2006.

Requirements on

- Outcomes
- Curricular structure and contents
- Mobility (credit points, modules, recognition, diploma supplement)
- Methods of teaching, learning and assessment

Further information:

www.eurobachelor.eu

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Euro-Inf Framework Standards

Objectives:

- Development of
 - **accreditation standards (-> procedures)** and
 - **qualification framework (-> outcomes/competencies)**
 for the accreditation of informatics / computer-science education reflecting established best practices.
- Promotion of students' and graduates' **mobility** through trans-European acceptance of informatics / computer science degrees by implementing competence outcomes and a recognized European quality-label.

Methods for designing the standards:

- Review of existing standards:
 - national informatics standards
 - European subject-specific and general standards
- Expert workshops
- Input from national informatics societies, academic associations etc.

Project Partners:

- **ASIIN** (Project coordination)
- **Council of European Professional Informatics Societies (CEPIS)** representing 36 informatics societies from 32 countries
- **Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (HAW)** with eight partner universities in other European countries
- **University of Paderborn (UPB)** with partner universities in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Spain (Project: Quality Assurance of Curricula through Accreditation)

Project-Sponsor:

- European Commission, Directorate-General for Education and Culture

Duration:

- October 2006 through the end of 2007

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