BLUEPRINT FOR A EUROPEAN DEGREE

WHAT A EUROPEAN DEGREE IS:

- A new type of degree awarded after transnational Bachelor, Master, or Doctoral programmes delivered at national, regional, or institutional level
- Automatically recognised everywhere in the EU
- Awarded jointly and on a voluntary basis by a group of universities across Europe
- Based on a common set of criteria agreed at European level

WHY DO WE NEED A EUROPEAN DEGREE?

For students
- More opportunities to study across multiple universities in Europe
- Innovative and transdisciplinary learning opportunities across campuses
- Future-proof skills that Europe needs
- Simplified job applications with a degree that is recognised across the EU

For employers
- Certified highly-skilled graduates and easier understanding of qualifications
- Enhanced attractiveness of Europe as a place to study and work for talented students
- Increased possibilities to work with universities at European scale

For higher education institutions
- Simpler to create joint degree programmes with several universities across Europe
- Wider and better opportunities offered to students and staff
- Increased competitiveness and attractiveness of EU universities by offering a truly European experience of learning

For the European Union and Member States
- Reinforced sense of European identity and belonging
- Closing a gap to achieving the European Education Area
- Balanced student and talent mobility within the EU
- Attract talent globally
- Strengthening EU open strategic autonomy
**HOW TO GET THERE: STEPS TOWARDS A EUROPEAN DEGREE**

1. **27 March 2024** The Commission proposes European criteria co-developed with the higher education sector as a basis for the European degree, for adoption by the Council of the EU.

A preparatory European label certificate is given to students of joint degree programmes meeting the European criteria, together with their national or regional degree.

**Development of implementation guidelines towards a European degree by a European degree Policy Lab**

Member States to choose their entry level into the pathway towards a European degree and work towards integrating the European degree in their national or regional legislation as a new type of qualification.

The European degree is awarded to students as a qualification following a transnational education experience either jointly by a group of universities across Europe or by a possible European legal entity established by several universities from different countries.

**HOW MEMBER STATES AND THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR WILL BE SUPPORTED:**

- A **European degree Policy Lab** to develop detailed guidelines and action plans to guide the implementation of a European degree with experts from Member States, higher education institutions, quality assurance/accreditation agencies, students, and economic and social partners.

- A **new annual European degree Forum** to monitor progress and provide guidance, gathering high-level representatives from Member States, key organisations in quality assurance and recognition, education social partners and representatives from economic and social partners.

- **New Erasmus+ support**: for European degree Pathway Projects enabling Member States, together with their accreditation and quality assurance agencies, universities, students, economic and social partners, to navigate the pathway towards a European degree, and for European degree Design Measures to enable higher education institutions to adapt existing joint programmes or to create new ones leading to a European degree.