

The ESG: a key element in the modernisation of universities

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Higher Education (HE): a very complex service

Training skilled and qualified labour means “**sophisticated technology**”

HE needs incorporation of **social values**

HE producers are still subject to certain **protectionism**

Clash of interests between public and private spheres

The **internationalisation** (promoted by Bologna Process)

The European Standards a breakthrough (1)

- 1) Promote of **institutional autonomy**
- 2) Encourage correct **product specification**
- 3) Modernise **HE management**
- 4) Invite **external actors** to say about quality

The European Standards a breakthrough (2)

- 5) Mobilise **students** in QA procedures
- 6) Adopt **new values** such as accountability
- 7) Facilitates **international mutual understanding** on quality assurance
- 8) Generates a “**democratic**” quality assurance

Critical aspects of ESG (1)

A European tool adopted by national authorities.

Learning outcomes yes but...

Do ESG allow preferential treatment to inputs?

Do national authorities make their main policies according inputs?

Critical aspects of ESG (2)

ESG is about quality assurance but... what kind of graduates should be trained in our national universities?

The labour market is becoming international.

Some international stakeholders look for something more than national QA.

Critical aspects of ESG (3)

ESG are about quality assurance for all.

ESG as a tool to be implemented programme by programme, institution by institution.

Do ESG need to consider systemic strategies on QA? Smart QA.

Critical aspects of ESG (4)

ESG are flexible and easy to be adapted to national contexts.

But why national QA systems become so complicated to international reviewers?
What makes national systems difficult?
Inputs? Process? Outputs?

Looking into the future (1)

European QA is proposed at institutional/programme level.

But new technologies pave the way for individuals to manage learning beyond traditional structures.

The proposal of new ESG includes the concept of

“Student-centered learning” (complex topic!)

Looking into the future (2)

European students face an unprecedented range of new courses, growing internationally.

ESG need to consider new elements on:

- Cost-benefit analysis (including costs of opportunity)
- Shape of institutions in 2020 or 2030.
- Role of public policies

ESG a story of success

A solid building is there for institutions and stakeholders.

But quality is dynamic, also public policies for higher education.

The future of ESG is linked to their role in safeguarding the interests of our societies, and of course the citizens.



Thank you!

