

22.7.2024

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**Title**

External quality assurance of joint programmes : policies envisaged by the Bologna Conference in Yerevan / Achim Hopbach

**Publication year**

2017

**Source/Footnote**

In: Journal of the European higher education area. - 7 (2017) 1. - S. 1 - 17. Auch in: Handbuch Qualität in Studium und Lehre / Hrsg.: Jürgen Kohler ... - 2017, 59. - F 7.6. - S. 53 - 70

**Inventory number**

45337

**Keywords**

Qualitätssicherung ; Akkreditierung ; Ausland : Europa : Hochschulwesen allgemein

**Abstract**

The article presents an overview of the European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes as adopted at the EHEA ministerial conference in Yerevan 2015, which aimed at facilitating the implementation of joint programmes in the EHEA. In the second part, it analyses the main features of the European Approach and explains why its relevance goes beyond practicalities of external quality assurance. The European Approach contributes not only to defining joint degree programmes but introduces a quality assurance approach that might directly replace national regulations. Finally the article deliberates on necessary framework conditions for the successful implementation of this tool at the national level. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)