



M A B
HUNGARIAN
ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE



Polska
Komisja
Akredytacyjna



Národní akreditační úřad
pro vysoké školství



SLOVAK ACCREDITATION AGENCY
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

the National Accreditation Bureau for Higher Education (NAB), Czech Republic

and

the Polish Accreditation Committee (PKA)

and

the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (SAAHE)

and

the Hungarian Accreditation Committee (MAB).

The National Accreditation Bureau for Higher Education is an independent body established in the Czech Republic. NAB applies the Standards for Accreditation, on which its activities are based, with attention to relevant principles of standards for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area. NAB provides methodological support related to quality assurance for educational, creative and other related activities of higher education institutions and their internal quality evaluation systems. NAB is an Affiliate of ENQA and CEENQA.

The Polish Accreditation Committee is an independent statutory body established by the Higher Education Act in Poland. The Polish Accreditation Committee carries out its mission by conducting obligatory programme evaluations and by giving opinions on applications for the authorisation to provide degree programmes submitted by higher education institutions. The overriding value guiding the work of PKA is common good, because the quality and effectiveness of education significantly contribute to the development of intellectual capital and civil society. PKA is a member of ENQA, CEENQA, INQAAHE, ECA and listed in EQAR as well as contributing to DEQAR.

The Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education is a newly established public institution whose task is to perform external quality assurance activities in higher education in the Slovak Republic. The mission of the Agency is to contribute to enhancing the quality of higher education with the use of modern instruments following the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ESG). SAAHE is an Affiliate of ENQA.

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and

The Hungarian Accreditation Committee is a national expert body for monitoring, safeguarding and evaluating the quality of teaching, scientific research and artistic activities in higher education. The MAB conducts ex ante evaluation of programmes, doctoral schools and institutions and ex post accreditation of doctoral schools and institutions. Ex ante evaluation of programmes includes issuing opinions on the national-level educational and learning outcome requirements (which are framework requirements for all degree programmes in Hungary and appear in a ministerial decree), and new programmes to be launched at institutions. The MAB is a member of ENQA, CEENQA and listed in EQAR while also contributing to DEQAR.

Recognising the importance of quality assurance and accreditation in the development and enhancement of higher education,
Mindful of each Party's achievements in the Higher Education field; and

Desiring to strengthen and broaden cooperation and mutual assistance in the provision of the quality of higher education in their respective countries in accordance with the principle of equality and mutual benefit;

Have reached the following understanding *inter alia*:

CLAUSE 1

The Parties enter into this Memorandum to foster the achievement of their strategic objectives. The basic objective of the cooperation is that the Parties use their theoretical and practical knowledge base and network of relationships for their joint professional objectives.

CLAUSE 2

The Parties aim for expert cooperation, in particular, the participation of experts in each other's procedures. All Parties undertake to provide an opportunity for participation in institutional and programme evaluation procedures.

CLAUSE 3

The Parties mutually delegate and welcome experts to aim supporting the professional work of the organizations. Further objectives of the Parties are to enhance the international presence, as part of mutual information exchange and cooperation.

CLAUSE 4

The Parties agree to establish and develop cooperation in quality assurance and accreditation with the aim of advancing the development and enhancement of higher education. The Parties aim to work to reach an understanding of each other's approach to assuring quality in higher education, and the respective systems in place.

CLAUSE 5

This Memorandum provides the areas of cooperation for developing and implementing joint projects, events and other forms of cooperation. In order to reach common goals and results, Parties consider the following ways (not limited to):

Designing and implementing joint procedures (institutional and programmatic), training, consultation, innovation and research projects;

Facilitating the implementation of European Frameworks for Quality Assurance through jointly developed approach to quality assurance procedures with respect to national legislative frameworks and HE diversity,

Supporting the fulfilment of European and national quality assurance requirements by designing and implementing joint trainings, consultations, innovation and research projects.

Participation in events, seminars or conferences organized by either of the Parties;

Organizing a meeting between the Parties per year;

Exchanging experiences in accreditation and quality assurance; among partners as well as other interested QA institutions in the EU;

Co-publishing the results of the professional work every year;

Staff exchange and developing capacity building of national experts from all organizations.

CLAUSE 6

The Parties undertake to be responsible for V4 Quality Assurance Forum presidency. The presidency changes annually, depending on the rotating presidency.

CLAUSE 7

All Parties agree that all activities specified in Clause 2, Clause 3, Clause 5 and Clause 6 of the present Memorandum are to be realized on the basis of specific contracts, to be concluded by Parties on each joint project and detailed work plans and programmes which shall include specific information on planned joint activities, organizational forms, and implementation requirements.

CLAUSE 8

All Parties regard the present Memorandum as a declaration of intentions, which entails no legal and financial liabilities on joint activities of the Parties. The Parties agree that all practical questions related to the organization of specific activities based on Clause 2, Clause 3, Clause 4 Clause 5 and Clause 6 of the present Memorandum will be separately negotiated and agreed between the authorized representatives of all Parties. The partners respect the principles of mutual interaction and equality.

CLAUSE 9

The Parties shall not disclose any confidential data and information which has become known in the process of the cooperative activities, except such data and information which has become public knowledge through no fault of the Parties.

CLAUSE 10

The Memorandum will take effect from the date of signing for a period of 5 years. The Memorandum may be altered at any time with the consent of all Parties. The Memorandum may be terminated by either Party giving 6 (six) months prior notice.

CLAUSE 11

The Chairman of NAB, the President of PKA, the Chairman of SAAHE and the President of MAB will have responsibility for managing the Memorandum of Understanding. This responsibility may be delegated to a relevant member of their staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.
