



The Bologna Process



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The Bologna Process

The Bologna Process describes the pan-European reform of Higher Education undertaken by 46 countries which aims at creating a common European Higher Education Area.

- May 1998 the Sorbonne Declaration on the Harmonisation of the architecture of the European Higher Education System
- June 1999 the Bologna Declaration





The European Higher Education Area

As planned, after ten years, in March 2010, **the European Higher Education Area** was established.

It includes 46 participating countries embracing a wider Europe from Iceland to Russia and from Norway to Turkey.



The structure of the Bologna Process

There are two political levels:

- The European Ministers responsible for Higher Education who meet and take decisions every two years;
- The Bologna Follow-up Group (BFUG) that manages the process between the biannual conferences. The first conference was in Prague in 2001. London hosted the conference in 2007.

This is an independent and intergovernmental which occurs under the overarching framework of the Bologna Process and a common understanding of its 10 objectives.



In the UK

UK Ministers for Higher Education

UK Governments departments of Education

The Higher Education Funding Councils

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education

The National Union of Students

Individual Higher education institutions



The Bologna Process in 1999

Key goals for the creation of the European Higher Education Area:

- Mobility
- Employability
- Quality
- Competitiveness



The Bologna Process in 2010

10 OBJECTIVES:

- Qualifications frameworks and a three-cycle system which are easily readable and comparable;
- Cross-border study programmes and joint degrees;
- Staff and student mobility;
- Recognition of qualifications by institutions and employers through the establishment of a system of credits and a statement describing qualifications in comparable ways;
- European cooperation in quality assurance;
- Wider access to higher education and support for students;
- Enhancement of graduates' employability;
- Focus on lifelong learning;
- Promotion of the European Higher Education Area;
- Focus on doctoral studies in order to create synergies between the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area.



EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

- Cross-border readability
- Comparability of qualifications

Credits to each cycle:

- 1st cycle: 180 to 240 European credit transfer system credits (ECTS);
- 2nd cycle: 90 to 120 credits
- 3rd cycle: no credit normally rated

Three-cycle system



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The Erasmus Mobility Programme

Student exchange programme:

- Incoming Erasmus Students
- Outgoing Erasmus Students



Staff mobility programme

- Incoming European Lecturers
- Outgoing European Lecturers



What Erasmus students say:

- “I am very glad I’ve decided to study at BG Lincoln. It’s been an impressive experience.” “I am indeed very glad to be able to experience this programme which is a very impressive opportunity to shape, improve & evolve my language and education skills” (Michael)
- “All people were very friendly and helpful, liked the contact with all students and staff” (Claudia)
- “Everybody was very helpful: I felt the good atmosphere right from the beginning.” “It was great that the campus was rather small and so it was easy to meet and get to know a lot of different people” (Simone)
- “All the staff was very friendly. I enjoyed the school, the accommodation + the free time. Every person helped us to make our time at BG at most pleasant as possible. The trips, which were organised from school (from the chaplaincy) were great. Thank you!” (Corinne)



EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA AND BG

AS STUDENTS IN A UK HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION THAT IS INVOLVED IN THE EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA, BG STUDENTS ARE EUROPEAN STUDENTS:

- 10 YEARS of the BOLOGNA PROCESS
- EUROPEAN CREDITS (ECTs)
The European Diploma Supplement
- 46 PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES ACROSS EUROPE
- MULTICULTURAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE



Looking forward to a European future

Europe in the wider world:

- Reputation and quality of the European Higher Education: UK as well European hallmark of excellence
- Readability and comparability of Qualifications;
- the European Research Area;
- World-wide employability;



BG looks forward to an international future

- European/US partnerships
- Joint degrees
- MA course taught simultaneously
- Work/School placements
- Research projects and links

Case studies: Kingston University, the University of Kent, Swansea University, St Mary's University College Belfast, Leeds Metropolitan University, Edinburgh Napier University.