



Working Group II

BFUG meeting in Sarajevo

24 – 25 June 2008

Finalising present agenda – (1)

introductory remarks

- **Focus on real implementation**
- **Not reformulate Communiqués – stick to what was once agreed**
- **Steps ahead:**
 - **minimising weak points starting with removing „theoretical implementation“ from our agenda**
 - **Find methodology how to evaluate and analyze what we have really achieved**
 - **Next to the stocktaking exercise which measures the absolute fulfilment of action lines elaborate methodology measuring the progress in particular countries (motivation)**

Finalising present agenda underlying principles – (1)

- **Autonomy and accountability of universities**
 - **trust and balance between the institutional freedom , state influence and responsiveness of universities to the society**

It includes
 - **quality assurance consisting of**
 - **functioning systems at institutions ensuring quality control as well as developing internal quality culture**
 - **external quality assurance/accreditation is in place which includes accountability towards the labour market**
 - **autonomy to define mission and goals and chose appropriate tools and structures for their fulfilment;....**

Finalising present agenda
underlying principles – (2)

- **Social dimension regarding studying conditions and better conditions for academics**
 - **access and success – social cohesiveness**
 - **mobility of young researchers and doctoral degree students**
 - **Staff - pensions**
 - **Data evidence**
 - **Intergovernmental support needed - beyond the competence of the educational ministers only**

Finalising present agenda action lines – (1)

■ **Mobility**

- intra European mobility highlighted
- student as well as staff
- social aspects – huge differences among countries
- Incentives for mobility
 - Portability of grants and loans
 - Curriculum addressing horizontal mobility
- Better data collection - BA - MA structure

■ **Intergovernmental support needed - beyond the competence of the educational ministers only**

Finalising present agenda action lines – (2)

■ **Qualification Frameworks**

- Common understanding – methodology developed at European level serving the national level implementation
- Dynamic tool – Understanding is needed
- Vision on system is needed
- Implications for QA as well as recognition (incl. prior learning) and lifelong learning concept
- Unique opportunity to evaluate how we managed restructuralisation (LOs based methodology) – innovation of curricula; stakeholders participation

■ **Intergovernmental support needed - beyond the competence of the educational ministers only**

[New challenges]

- How to ensure that institutions not overburdened by constant reforms without fully implementing the previous
- are able to adapt the challenges posed by
 - demography
 - global competition,
 - pressure/demands on universities – incl. shortage of resources (human as well as financial)
 - new technologies (ICT)

New challenges

Action lines (1)

- **Lifelong learning – concept – mainstream – incl. flexible learning paths**
 - An „old“ action line – new understanding of the concept
 - Connection to the QFs at European as well as national level
 - Widening body of learners – diverse abilities, needs, expectations

New challenges

Action lines (2)

Diversity

- **Diversity**
 - Social, economic, political and cultural
 - Kept as characteristic of EHEA
- **Diversification serving different demands from the society**
 - Diversification of purposes and missions of universities -diversity of provisions
 - Different governance structures
 - Funding mechanisms

New challenges

Action lines (3)

- **Synergies between teaching and research**

- there is not only one type of research
 - knowledge transfer
 - Innovations with strong regional roots
 - creative activities
 - connection with all degrees in the QF for EHEA
- more competitive and attractive institutions

New challenges

Action lines (4)

Student centred learning

- Not absolutely new but still little done – new goal
- Mental change in the approach
- Individualisation; career guidance
- More freedom for students to choose their learning paths (fulfilment of the LOs required)
- Funding mechanisms (social dimension)

[At European level]

- **Common understanding of mutually agreed principles – if possible common methodologies to help national implementation**
- Identification of examples of good practices
- Learning from each other
- As far as possible not to repeat wrong experiences
- **Looking for national models**
 - **Incl. new legal provisions if necessary**