

# Benefits and challenges of external quality assurance abroad: Moldova 2015

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Nice 2016



EESTI KÕRG- JA KUTSEHARIDUSE  
KVALITEEDIAGENTUUR

# Estonia welcomes



Population: 1,3 million

45 000 sq km

1500 islands

Forests 52,3 % of land area

Average monthly salary 1065 EUR

Unemployment rate 6,2 %

GDP per capita at current prices 15 589 mil EUR





Founded **January 2009** on the basis of  
Estonian HE Accreditation  
Centre

Full member of **ENQA**, registered in **EQAR** since 2013

EQA activities **Institutional accreditation of HEI**  
**Quality assessment of study programme**  
**groups in HE**  
**Accreditation of study programme groups**  
**in VET**

Two councils **Quality Assessment Council for HE**  
**Quality Assessment Council for**  
**VET**

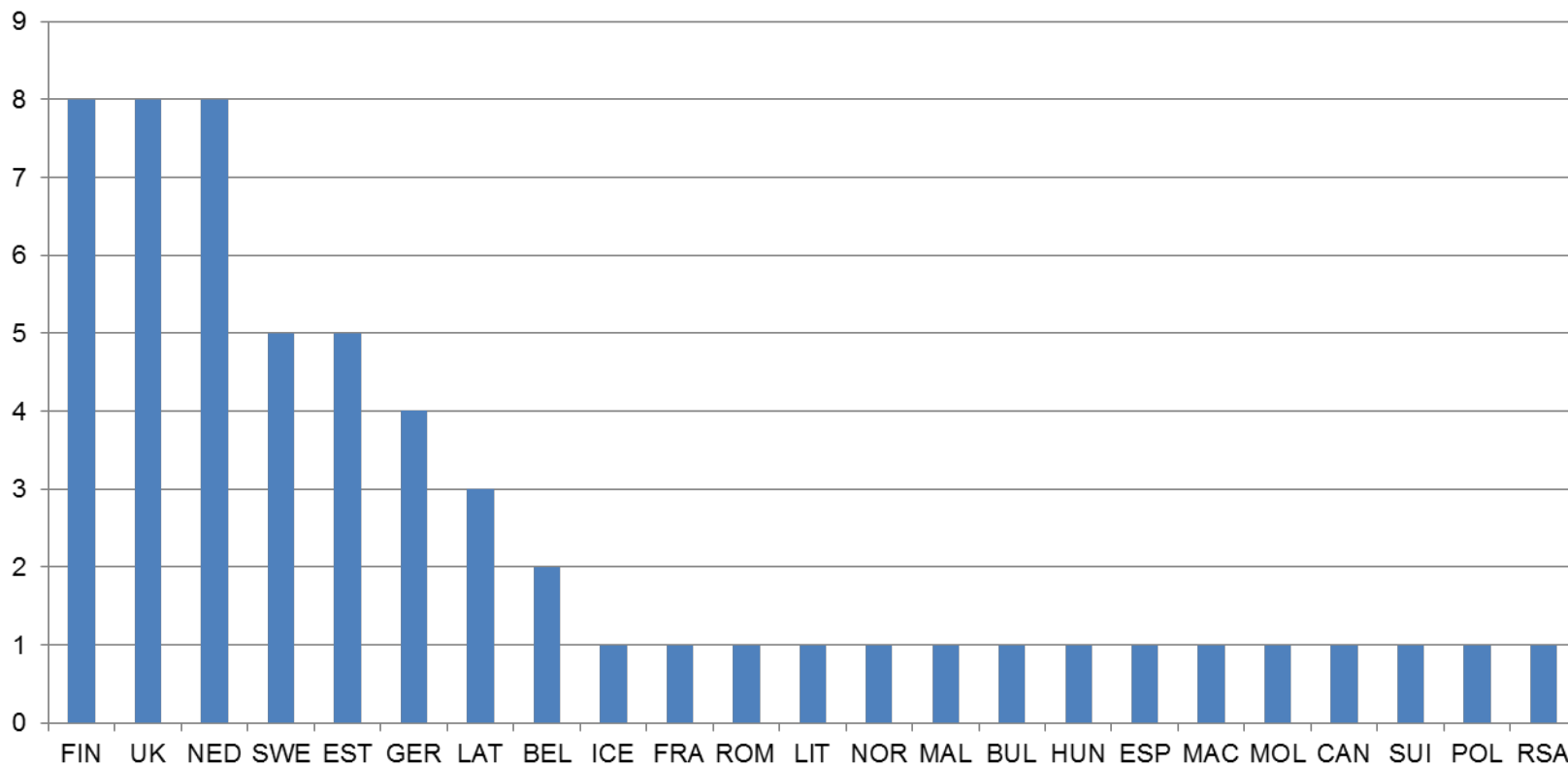
Staff **9**



EKKA's mission is,  
in cooperation with its partners,  
to promote quality in the field of education  
and thereby increase the competitiveness  
of the Estonian society.

public funding

# Foreign experts in 2015 – 58 experts, 23 countries



# Internationalisation - continuous peer-learning



- Full member of ENQA, EQAR, INQAAHE, CEENQA
- Cooperation with Baltic and Nordic agencies
- EKKA's Director for International Cooperation – Director of the Board of INQAAHE
- Board members at the quality agencies in Russia (NCPA) and Kazakhstan (IQAA)
- Experts at evaluations in Lithuania, Kosovo, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Germany, France
- EKKA's staff members participated as experts in Twinning projects in Kosovo and Armenia

# Internationalisation - continuous peer-learning (2)



- Twinning project with FINEEC in Azerbaijan: „Support to the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan for Further Adherence of the Higher Education System to the European Higher Education Area
- Lead the project „Creation and Capacity Building of Quality Assurance Agency for Professional Education in Republic of Moldova“, 2014-2015. Outcome: Quality Agency in Moldova (ANACIP)
- Conducted accreditation of 26 Master study programmes in Law in 13 HEI-s in Moldova

# Time frame



- In **October** 2014: the procurement by the MoE (26 Law study programmes on Master level in 13 universities - 11 in Chisinau, 2 outside)
- **November**: bid submitted by EKKA and approved by MoE
- **December/January**: development of the methodology (national context, ESG, EKKA's methodology adopted) and approval by the MoE and HEI-s
- **January** 2015: 2-days trainings of HEI-s and Moldovan experts in Moldova
- **February** 2015: composition of committees and timetable approved
- **April** 2015: SER-s submitted by HEI-s; training for Estonian experts
- **May** 2015: review visits (+ introductory trainings for experts)
- **August** 2015: final assessment reports to EKKA
- **October** 2015: decisions made by EKKA council and composition of general report
- **December** 2015: accreditation decisions approved by the MoE





- 26 Law study programmes on Master level
- 13 universities: 11 in Chisinau, 2 outside
- 5 accreditation teams, 4-5 people in each team
- 16 experts from Estonia, Moldova, Romania, Austria, GB, The Netherlands, Ukraine, Lithuania
- Visits in May 2015 during two weeks
- 1 training for HEI-s in Moldova
- 2 trainings of experts: 1 in Moldova, 1 in Estonia; + 2 introductory trainings in the beginning of accreditation weeks
- Coordinators from EKKA at each team + general coordinator of the whole process
- 5 people from EKKA (out of 9) involved

# Accreditation decisions

UNIVERSITY/PROGRAMME	STUDY PROGRAMME	TEACHING AND LEARNING	TEACHING STAFF	STUDENTS	RESOURCES
EUM Criminal Law	Y	Y	Y	Y	P
COMRAT Criminal Law	Y	Y	P	Y	P
MIA Criminal Law	Y	Y	P	P	Y
MIA Criminal Law (Criminal Investigation)	Y	Y	P	P	Y
MIA Economic Law	Y	Y	P	P	Y
AESM Customs Law	N	P	P	P	Y
AESM Economic Law	Y	P	P	P	Y
AESM Financial-Fiscal Law	P	P	P	P	Y
TUM Property Law	Y	Y	P	Y	Y
SAUM Patrimonial Law	N	P	N	P	P
MSU Business	Y	P	P	P	P
MSU Civil Judicial	Y	P	P	P	P
MSU Civil judicial procedures	Y	P	P	P	P
MSU Criminal Law	Y	P	P	P	P
MSU Criminal Procedure	Y	P	P	P	P
MSU Customs Law	Y	P	P	P	P
MSU International Law	Y	P	Y	P	P
MSU Labour Law	Y	P	P	P	P
MSU Public Law	Y	P	P	P	P
TUCUM Public Law	Y	P	P	P	P
LULIM International and institutional Law	Y	P	P	P	P
IRIM International Law	N	N	N	N	P
APA Constitutional and Administrative Law	N	P	P	N	P
BALTI Business Law	N	N	P	P	P
BALTI Criminal Sciences and Criminology	P	P	P	P	P
USPEE Business	P	Y	P	P	Y



**ACCREDITED FOR 5 YEARS;** Y - area conforms to requirements  
**ACCREDITED FOR 3 YEARS;** P - area partially conforms to requirements  
**NO ACCREDITATION;** N - area does not conform to requirements



- Come „out of the box“
- Sharing experience
- Testing the team in another environment, flexibility, ability for change
- New challenge as motivation for staff
- Success experience, personal fulfillment
- promoting transparency and comparability within the field of EQA
- Making a difference
- For the country – external feedback „where we stay“
- Recommendations for developing the system as „added value“

# Challenges



- Resource consuming
- Regulatory framework, context
- Adopting the methodology while sticking to ESG
- Language, cultural differences
- Experts
- Distance from HEI-s
- Follow up?
- Resources?

Look also

<http://ekka.archimedes.ee/en/international-cooperation/accreditation-study-programmes-moldova/>



**International approach as a tool,  
not an aim**

