

HRK

Recognition and Quality Assurance from the Institutional Perspective – Examples from Germany

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Structure

1. ESG 1.4 and what they mean for QA in Germany
2. The FAIR Project
3. Recommendations by HRK-Nexus to HEI
4. Institutional good practice: examples from Germany

ESG 1.4 Student admission, progression, recognition and certification

Standard: Institutions should consistently apply pre-defined and published regulations covering all phases of the student “life cycle”, e.g. student admission, progression, recognition and certification

ESG 1.4 Student admission progression, recognition and certification

Guideline:

Fair recognition of higher education qualifications, periods of study and prior learning, including the recognition of non-formal and informal learning, are essential components for ensuring the students' progress in their studies, while promoting mobility. Appropriate recognition procedures rely on

- institutional practice for recognition being in line with the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention;
- cooperation with other institutions, quality assurance agencies and the national ENIC/NARIC centre with a view to ensuring coherent recognition across the country.

German QA Regulations

Accreditation Council, Rules for the Accreditation of Programmes and for System Accreditation (2013):

Experts will verify that the concepts of all study programmes contain clear regulations for the recognition of study periods and results obtained elsewhere, in accordance with the LRC

FAIR Project (Focus on Automatic Institutional Recognition)

Feedback to German participants

- Insufficient info online for international applicants
- Legal responsibilities (Land, HEI) sometimes intransparent
- No or little info on appeal possibilities
- Admission decisions take too long
- Insufficient info on RPL
- Insufficient info for refugees
- *Link to QA systems unclear*

Recommendations by nexus to HEI: Transparency and Service

- Explain legal framework (LRC), define responsibilities
- Organise „one stop“ procedures for recognition
- Provide information and templates (for applications, decisions)
- Ensure consistency across the institution

Recommendations by nexus to HEI:

Possible tools

- One „recognition officer“
- Standardised templates for the entire HEI
- Clear process cycles
- Guidelines/handbook (FAQs etc.)
- Check lists
- Websites (internet, intranet)
- Data bases
- Platform/forum for exchange

Recommendations by nexus to HEI: Characteristics of high quality recognition

- Legally binding
- Practice-oriented
- Standardised
- Suitable for large numbers
- Sustainable
- Transparent



Institutional good practice: Examples from German HEI

Legally binding: Mainz University

Recognition Charter for

- Programme/ study achievements
- Degrees
- RPL, plus:

Commission for transdisciplinary recognition
issues

Practice-oriented:

Technical University of Munich

Guidance on the recognition of programme achievements

- In German and English
- Explanation on how to assess learning outcomes for recognition in three steps
- How to organise recognition in procedural terms
- Template for advising applicants on their rights

Standardised: Göttingen University

Recognition data base:

- Monitoring recognition decisions
- High hit rates
- Public consultation possible
- Preparing study abroad
- Facilitation of recognition decisions

Suitable for large numbers: Duisburg-Essen University

Standardised electronic forms

- Study programme-specific forms
- Easy to handle, no programming needed (Excel)
- All modules of a study programme included
- Quick and easy: paperless procedures

Sustainable: Hannover University

Institution-wide Working Group on Recognition

- objective: standardised institutional recognition practice, legally binding
- Members: all stakeholders in recognition
- Outcomes: institutional recognition framework, various on-line tools, constant updating/adaptation

Transparent: Bielefeld University

Standardised Recognition

- Transparent procedures across the institution
- Online Portal with clear descriptions of the different steps and responsibilities
- Forms for download

Recommendations for high quality recognition

Make recognition an issue in quality assurance/ enhancement

Curriculum development that fosters mobility

**Positive
Recognition Culture**

Fair and transparent procedures

Learn from others: examples of good practice

HRK

Thank you!

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