European Quality Assurance in Education and Romania’s Position within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)

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Abstract
The Bologna Declaration - adopted in 1999 by the education ministers of the EC Member States - has encouraged European cooperation in the field of Quality assurance in Higher education, mainly aiming to develop comparable and compatible criteria and methodologies for assessment. EHEA (European Higher Education Area) was invented, drafted and started to be implemented in order to offer some perspectives of progress to European universities, respecting both national diversity and the principles of university autonomy. But EHEA is barely an early stage and further development of it demands new efforts to eliminate existing barriers and to develop a favorable framework in order to promote higher education policies which have to be consistent and adequate to all requirements, both nationally and at European level. Within this process, internal and external assurance quality of higher education can be a catalyst since its purpose is to generate, consolidate and develop the confidence/trust of all stakeholders in the capability of universities to satisfy all stakeholders’ requirements. In spite of the fact that, currently, all the EHEA Member States have already established their own systems of external quality assurance, many researches have found multiple differences - especially regarding philosophy, policies and strategies to address internal quality assurance within universities. This paper refers to progresses made in developing both internal and external quality assurance within the EHEA, focusing on features that are approaching or differentiating the Romanian approach in respect to international references and national requirements.

Keywords: higher education, quality assurance in education, internal quality assurance of education, referentials

References:


