



European
Commission

EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE WORLD

Flemish Education Council

Harald Hartung

05 December 2013, Brussels





A changed global higher education landscape

- The **demand for higher education** is increasing.
 - A **need** for different types of **skills**.
- **Technology and expectations** are changing ➡ students decide what, how and when to learn.
- ➡ Higher education is given more focus for Europe – **2020 strategy** with its emphasis on innovation and research.
- ➡ HEIs and governments are **rethinking** their models and role and the EU wishes **to support them** in their efforts



A changing international student population

Increasing number of students
from 100 million in 2000 to 400 million in 2030

Increasing number of mobile students:
4 million today to 7 million by the end of the decade

Changing flows in student mobility – new regions attracting students
China already hosts 7% of the world's internationally mobile students



Internationalisation at home

Less than 20% of EU students are mobile

How to make < 80% non-mobile students benefit from internationalisation?

- ⇒ Exposure to international staff & students
- ⇒ International curricula for the benefit of all
Language learning
- ⇒ Digital learning & wider use of ICT technology





So how would a comprehensive internationalisation strategy of a HEI look like?

- International mobility
- Internationalisation of curricula & digital Learning
- Strategic cooperation and partnerships



International mobility

- Focus on a strong **student, researcher and staff** mobility
- Supported by a **quality framework** including guidance and counselling services.
- **Two-way mobility** schemes with non-EU countries
- **Recognition** for competences gained abroad
- **Visa** procedures must be more supportive.



International curricula & digital learning

- Develop **international curricula** for the benefit of both non-mobile and mobile learners;
- Increase the opportunities for students, researchers and staff to develop **language skills**;
- Develop opportunities for **international collaboration via online learning** and expand the use of ICTs and Open Education Resources.



To exploit the potential of ICT, OER and MOOCs:

A new European Commission proposal on digital education: "Opening up Education" : September 25th , 2013

- provide broadband access and upgraded digital equipment for schools
- foster new teaching and learning methods (teacher training, blended learning ...)
- support the production of new teaching material (adapted to digital use)
- facilitate the creation of a repository of available on line courses
- tackle copyright questions to facilitate free access to course material
- develop the assessment, validation & academic credits aspects for MOOCs



Strategic cooperation and partnerships

- Develop **joint and double degree programmes**, and improve provisions for quality assurance and cross-border recognition;
- Provide entrepreneurial and innovative curricula, and create international **training opportunities with employers** from inside and outside the EU;
- Ensure **coherence between internationalisation strategies and development cooperation policies** through equity and partner country ownership;
- **Exploit the potential of students, researchers and staff** from non-EU countries as vectors of cooperation.



EU Contribution to Internationalisation: programmes

Programmes:

- Erasmus+
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie
- EIT & KICs

Actions:

- Credit mobility
- Joint Masters & PhDs
- Strategic partnerships
- Knowledge alliances
- Capacity building
- Policy support



EU Contribution to Internationalisation: policies

- Promote **comparability of qualifications**, credits and registration systems through international cooperation and dialogue;
- Enhance the **quality of mobility**: a reinforced Erasmus Charter by the end of 2013, including through guidelines for HEIs for self-assessment and monitoring;



EU Contribution to Internationalisation: policies

- **U-Multirank:** multi-dimensional tool for HEIs to enhance the transparency, comparability and benchmarking between HEIs;
- **Support cooperation with national promotion agencies and alumni associations** to promote Europe as a high-quality study and research destination (e.g. student fairs and the design of joint promotion tools).



THANK YOU