

The Euro-Inf-Quality Network – Accessing and Improving Informatics Education in Europe

Wilhelm Schäfer
Department of Computer Science
University of Paderborn
Germany



Overview

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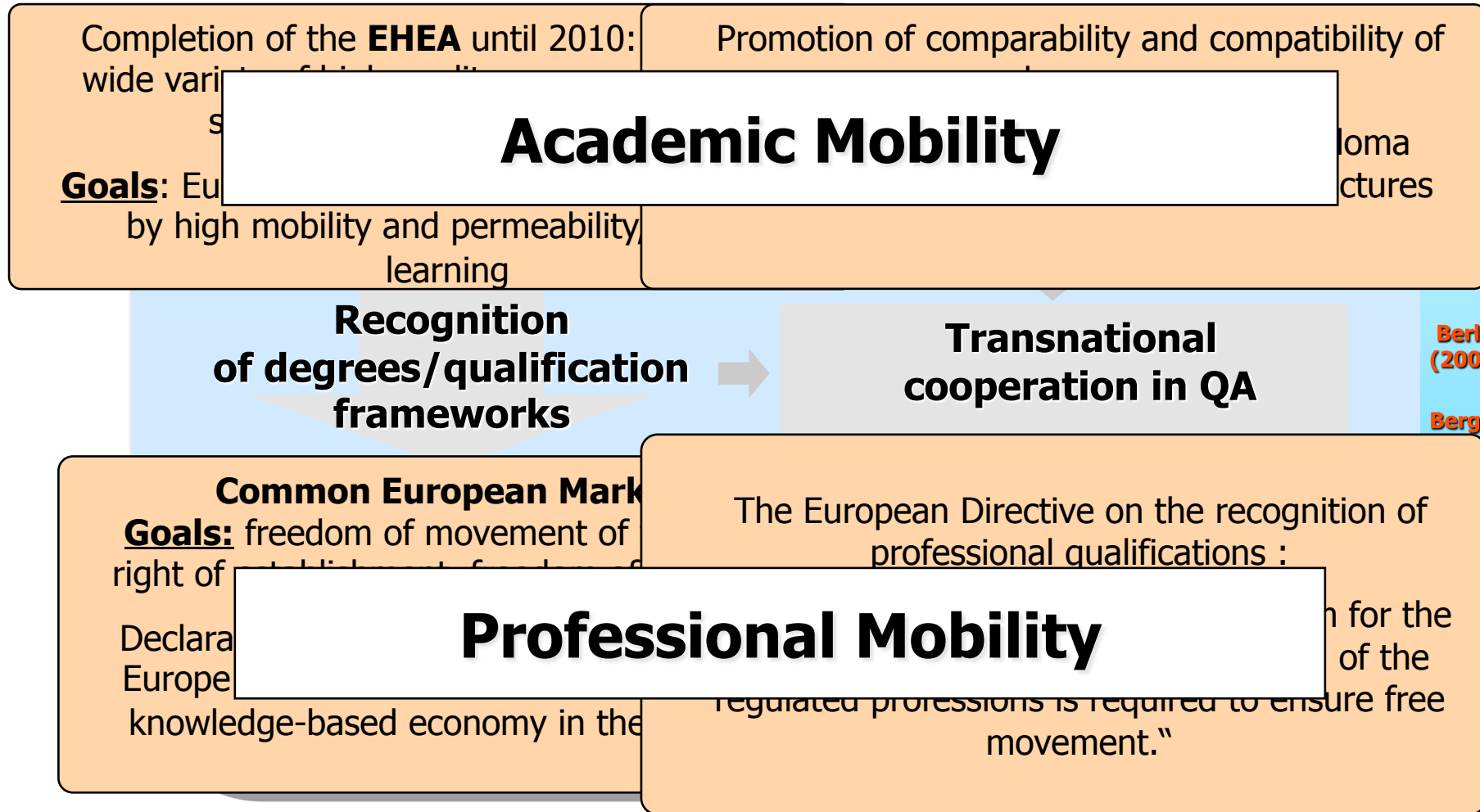


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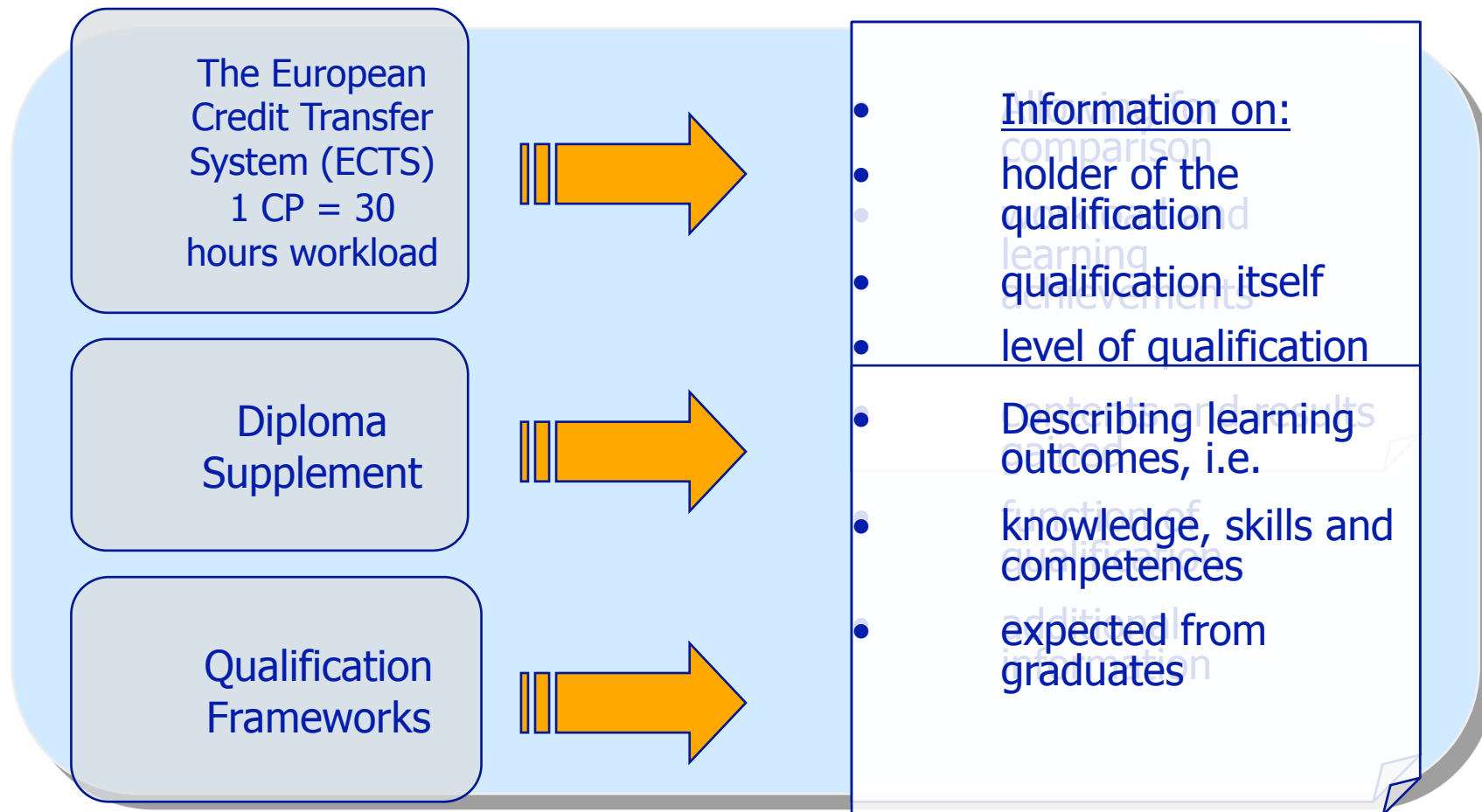
Political Background

- **Lisbon-Strategy:** „European Knowledge Society“
 - **Bologna Process:** Creation of a European Higher Education Area (EHEA) until 2010
 - **Copenhagen Process:** Life Long Learning

General Context of QA in Europe



Bologna: Tools for transparency



The decisions of the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Higher Education in Bergen and London



The degree system/qualification frameworks

- A three-cycle degree system is being implemented all across Europe
- Adoption of an overarching framework for qualifications in the EHEA, comprising three cycles; formulation of generic descriptors for each cycle based on learning outcomes and competences; fixing of credit ranges in the first and second cycle (180-240 ECTS / 60-120 ECTS).
- Commitment of the 46 Bologna countries to develop national qualification frameworks until 2010.
- Complementarily between the overarching qualification framework for the EHEA and the proposed broader framework for qualifications for LLL (Copenhagen Process)

The decisions of the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Higher Education in Bergen and London II



Quality assurance

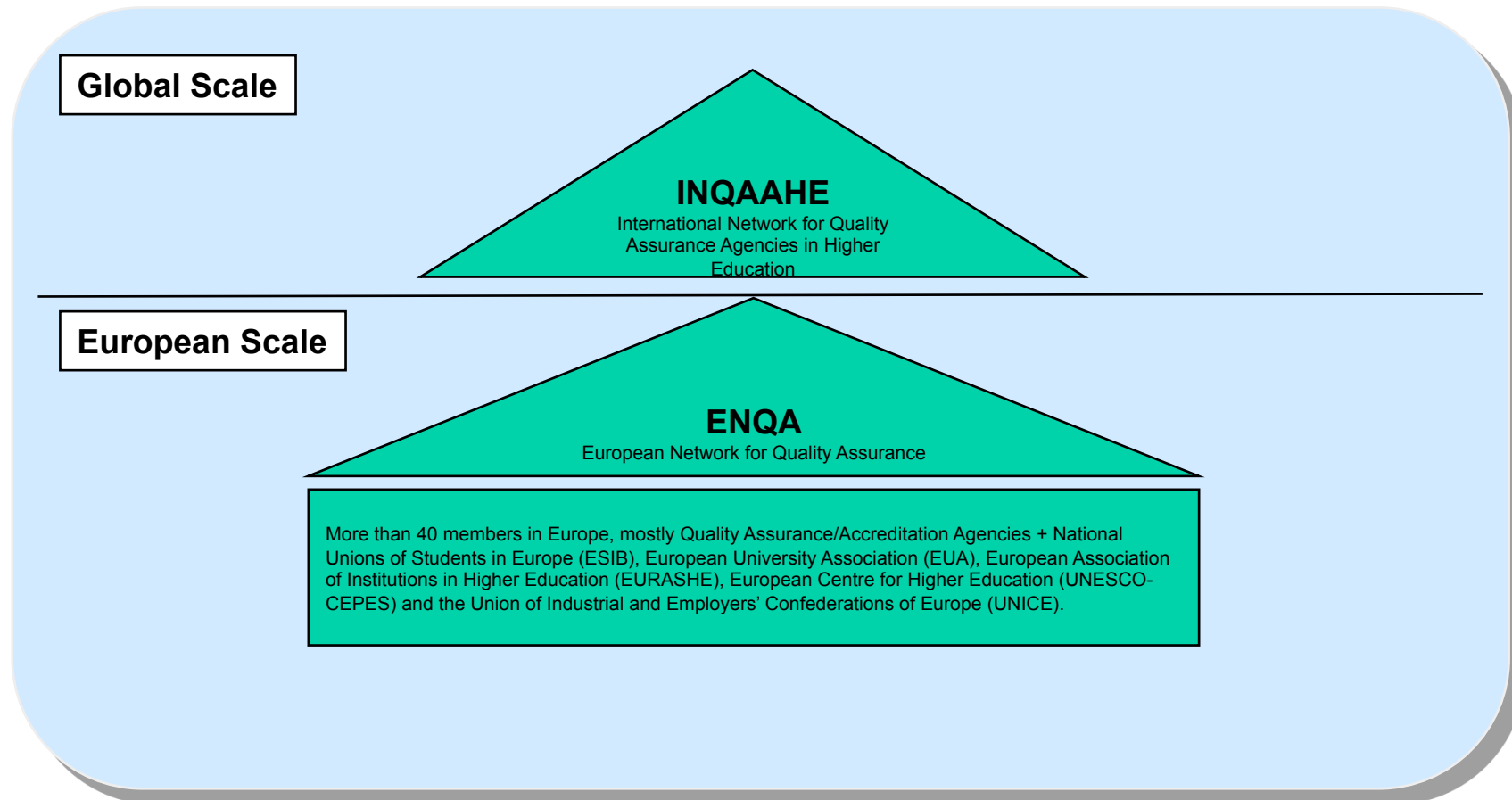
- Request vis a vis the HEIs to continue their efforts to enhance the quality of their activities through the systematic introduction of internal mechanisms and their direct correlation to external quality assurance.
- Adoption of the model of peer reviews of quality assurance agencies on a national basis, while respecting commonly accepted European standards and guidelines (ESG)
- **Introduction of the principle of a European register of quality assurance agencies based on national reviews by fall of 2008**

Impediments for Academic and Professional Mobility in Europe



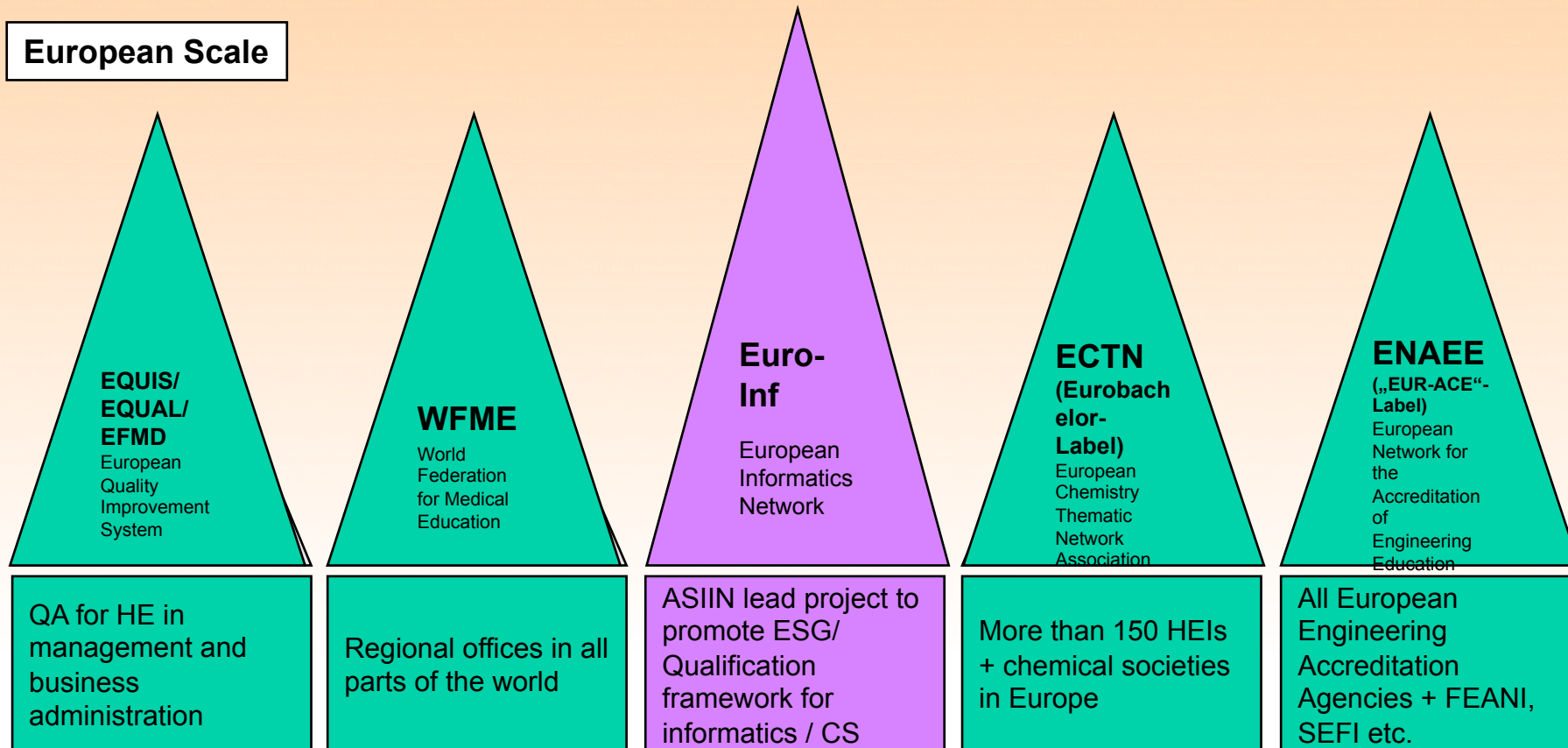
- 1.) Europe is characterized by mostly public higher education systems; institutions and programmes derive their formal degree-awarding capacity from the state. Because of the diversity of both degrees and institutions, public knowledge about their quality is not sufficient across national borders.
- 2.) In some countries the academic degree constitutes the automatic admission ticket to the job market whereas in others additional prerequisites are demanded to acquire professional status (e.g. registered engineer)
- 3.) Degree and institutional diversity is matched by a great variety of national quality assurance and accreditation systems (some of them are national, others decentralized).
- 4.) Problem of a growing non-official higher education sector and the phenomenon of trans-national education with a lack of regulatory codes.

International QA/Accreditation Networks Generic



European Disciplinary Accreditation Networks

European Scale



Euro-Inf Project initiated by:

- **ASIIN** (coordinating partner)
- **CEPIS** – Council of European Professional Informatics Societies
- **HAW** - University of Applied Sciences Hamburg
- **University of Paderborn**



Euro-Inf Project initiated by:

ASIIN

- Accreditation Agency for Degree Programmes in Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics
- One of the leading institutions in developing international QA standards in the field of engineering
- Ca. 300-400 accreditation decisions / year



Euro-Inf Project initiated by:

CEPIS

- Council of European Professional Informatics Societies
- Non-profit organisation seeking to improve and promote a high standard among Informatics Professionals
- Representing 37 Member Societies in 33 Countries across greater Europe.



Euro-Inf Project initiated by:

HAW

- Graduating computer scientists for more than 30 years
- Offering a degree in European Computer Science (joint effort of universities in 5 different countries) at both Bachelor's and Master's level
- running at Diploma level since 2004/2005
- supported by the EU.



Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

Euro-Inf Project initiated by:

University of Paderborn

- Contributed to development of the German reference curriculum in Informatics
- Coordinating several EU-funded TEMPUS projects dealing with quality assurance and accreditation of (esp. Computer Science programs) in Bosnia-Herzegovina and further Balkan countries.

Euro-Inf International Advisory Board

- Prof. Agostino Cortesi (Ca' Foscari University Venice, IT)
- Prof. Andrew McGettrick (University of Strathclyde, UK)
- Prof. Gabriel Michel (University of Metz, F)

Objectives:

Contributing to establishing the EHEA

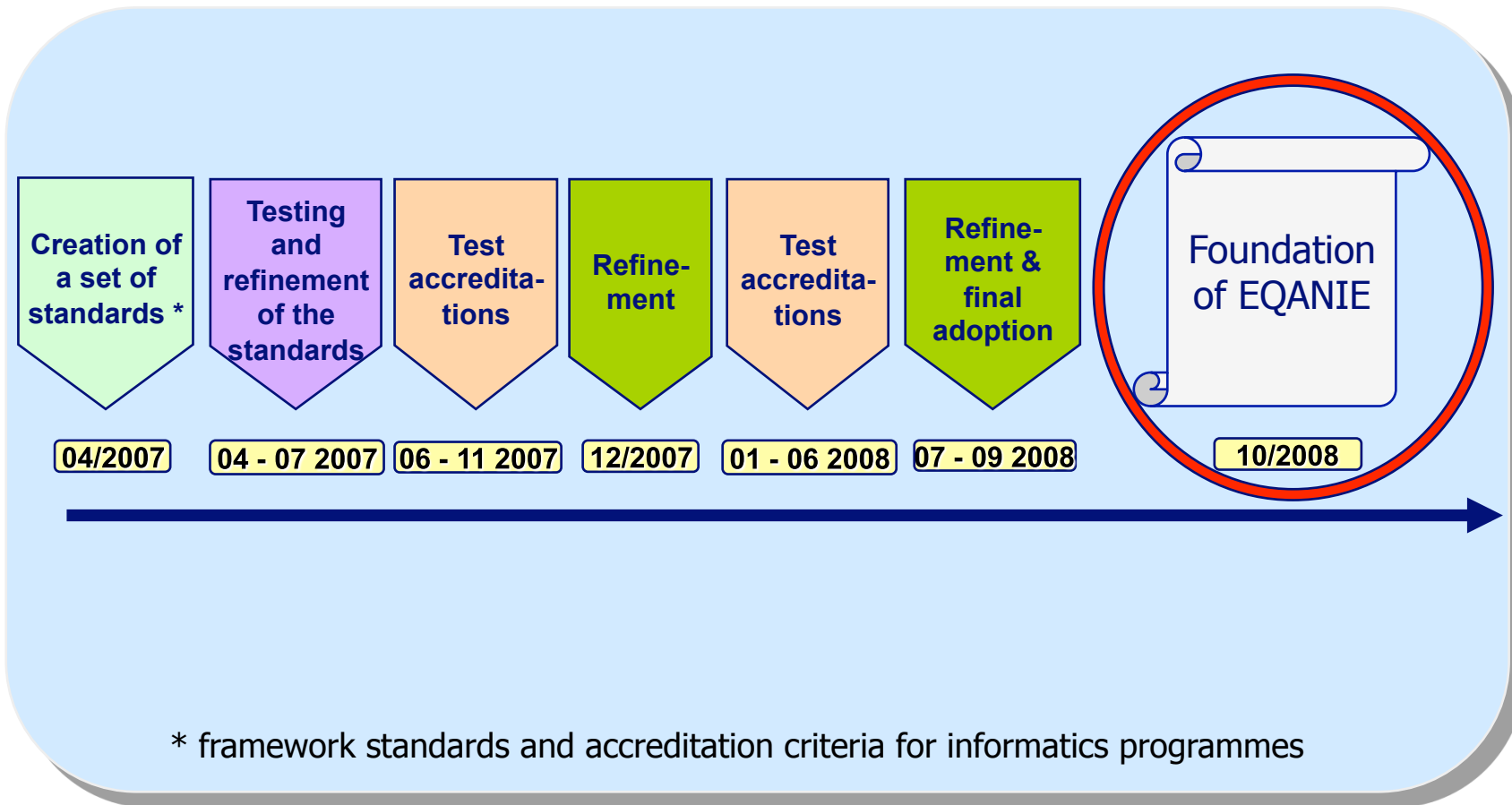
- improve and assess the quality of FCD and SCD programs in informatics
- facilitate mobility of students and graduates
- provide a reference framework for a European-wide quality assurance/ accreditation of informatics programs
- facilitate mutual recognition by competent authorities
- provide an appropriate “European label” for accredited educational programs
- help establishing accreditation systems in European countries

Scope

The Euro-Inf Framework Standards are intended to:

- be **widely applicable** and inclusive, enabling eligibility of a wide range of possible approaches to informatics higher education
- handle the **diversity** of content of informatics degree programmes
- be relevant for (academic) informatics study programmes leading to a **First** or to a **Second Cycle** Degree
- facilitate in particular accreditation of trans-national **joint- and double degree** programmes

Project Steps



* framework standards and accreditation criteria for informatics programmes

Contents of the Euro-Inf Framework Standard

- Learning Outcomes
 - a) First Cycle Degree
 - b) Second Cycle Degree
- Accreditation Standards and Criteria
 - a) Guidelines
 - b) Procedures
 - c) Template for Publication

Testing phase I

Trial accreditations conducted in 2007



- ✓ University of Sarajewo (Computing and Informatics) 
- ✓ University of Tuzla (Technical Informatics) 
- ✓ University Dzemal Bijedic, Mostar (Information Technologies) 
- ✓ University of Banja Luka (Computer Engineering and Information Technology) 
- ✓ HAW Hamburg (BA & MA Applied Computer Science, BA European Computer Science) 
- ✓ HfT Stuttgart (Ba Information Systems) 

Testing phase II: Trial-accreditations conducted in 2008



- University of Aberdeen (several BA programmes, with BCS)
- University of Bozen (BA Applied Computer Science)
- WSHE Lodz (BA/MA Computer Science)
- University of Debrecen (BA Software Development)
- Instituto Superior de Engenharia de Coimbra, (BA European Computer Science)
- Technical University of Prague (Ba Ma Informatics)
- Reykjavik University (Ba Ma Computer Science)



Benefits for the HEI

- Raising awareness for the importance of Quality Assurance at HEI in general
- Encouragement for teamwork among teaching staff
- Identifying room for improvement within the study program/faculty
- Training and preparation for “real” label application



Education and Culture

Socrates



Euro-Inf - Home - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Favoriten Extras ?



Adresse http://www.euro-inf.eu/

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Home

Welcome to the Euro-Inf Website!

The programme for the Euro-Inf Final Conference 4-5 September 2008 in Cagliari, Sardinia, is now available for **download**.

Click **here** to open the registration form and **here** for more detailed information.

The registration deadline has been extended until July 30, 2008!

The Euro-Inf Project - European Accreditation of Informatics Programmes

The Project officially started on October 1, 2006 and will be concluded on September 30, 2008.

In the section "**News**", you find information on past and ongoing developments, meetings and other events in the context of the Euro-Inf Project.

In the section "**About Euro-Inf**", you find information on the Euro-Inf Project itself, such as background, project objectives and phases.

In the section "**Project Partners**", you find information on the institutions participating in the project.



Where do I find the Euro-Inf Standards?



A screenshot of the Euro-Inf website's 'Downloads' page. The page has a navigation menu on the left with items like Home, News, About Euro-Inf, Project Partners, Boards, Downloads, Members, and Euro-Inf Glossary. The main content area is titled 'Downloads' and shows a list of documents. The first document is 'Survey on National Accreditation Systems' (10.08.2007, 133 hits). The second is 'List of Participants to the Euro-Inf Workshop on 12. April 2007' (20.04.2007, 275 hits). The third, highlighted in yellow, is 'Euro-Inf Framework Standards and Criteria Version II 2007-03-07' (21.08.2007, 170 hits). The fourth is 'Draft Agenda Project Board Meeting I, 24. Oct. 2006' (11.12.2006, 321 hits). The fifth is 'Agenda Project Board Meeting 13. April 2007' (17.04.2007, 188 hits). At the bottom, there are navigation buttons for '<< Start', '< Prev', '1', '2', 'Next >', and 'End >>'. The footer shows 'Results 1 - 5 of 6' and '© 2007 Euro-Inf'.

Euro-Inf Website:
www.euro-inf.eu

Contact:
contact@euro-inf.eu

Get involved!



- ✓ Send us your comments & suggestions
- ✓ Participate as expert in an auditing team
- ✓ Apply for a Euro-Inf Quality Label
- ✓ Support the establishment of EQANIE

Contact:

Dr. Iring Wasser
Euro-Inf Project Coordinator, ASIIN

Mail: contact@euro-inf.eu

Web: www.euro-inf.eu

phone: +49 (0)211 / 900 977 -10

The End



Thank you for your attention