

Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del  
sistema Universitario e della Ricerca



National Agency for the Evaluation of  
Universities and Research Institutes

**Experience from a staff mobility.**

***#StaffMobilityWeekNVAO***

**Den Haag (and Bruxelles) 23rd-27th January 2023**



*Stefano Santoli – AVA Officer*

5th December 2023

# Staff Mobility Week NVAO



## Participant Agencies

ANQA (Armenia), ANVUR (Italy), SAAVS (Slovakia), UKÄ (Sweden)

<b>Monday January 23</b> Brief introduction by Host Agency (NL/FL) Presentation by participant agencies		
<b>Tuesday January 24</b>  European Approach for QA of Joint Programmes  Institutional Review. Legislative Framework & ESG. Appreciative Approach.  <b>WORKSHOPS:</b> Stakeholders involvement. Experts training. Thematic analysis.	<b>Wednesday January 25</b>  <b>DAY IN BRUXELLES</b>  Theme: European Universities  Experiences with European Approach and QA (Presentations by European Universities )	<b>Thursday January 26</b>  <b>Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science</b>  Microcredentials. European Universities. European Approach.  <b>WORKSHOP:</b> Microcredentials
<b>Friday January 27</b> Evaluation forms / individual meetings at NVAO / Take home message		

# Participants from Italy

- **Stefano Santoli**

ANVUR

*(National Agency for Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes)*

AVA (Self-assessment, periodic assessment, accreditation)

- **Maria Lucia Pittalis**

MUR

*(Ministry of universities and research)*

Directorate General for Internationalization and Communication

# Main Subjects

- ❑ European Approach for the QA of joint programmes
- ❑ Appreciative Approach
- ❑ Cross-border QA
- ❑ Micro-credentials

# European Approach: *solution to a problem*

## QA for Joint Programmes: *Problem*

*Different* national QA regimes and assessment frameworks;  
*many* national rules for the same international Joint Programme accreditation

## QA for Joint Programmes: *Solution*

### European Approach for QA of Joint Programmes

*adopted in May 2015 by EHEA Ministers, in Yerevan*

- a framework for evaluating Joint Programmes
- assessment by EQAR registered Agencies
- an integrated approach to QA

# European Approach: obstacles and opportunities

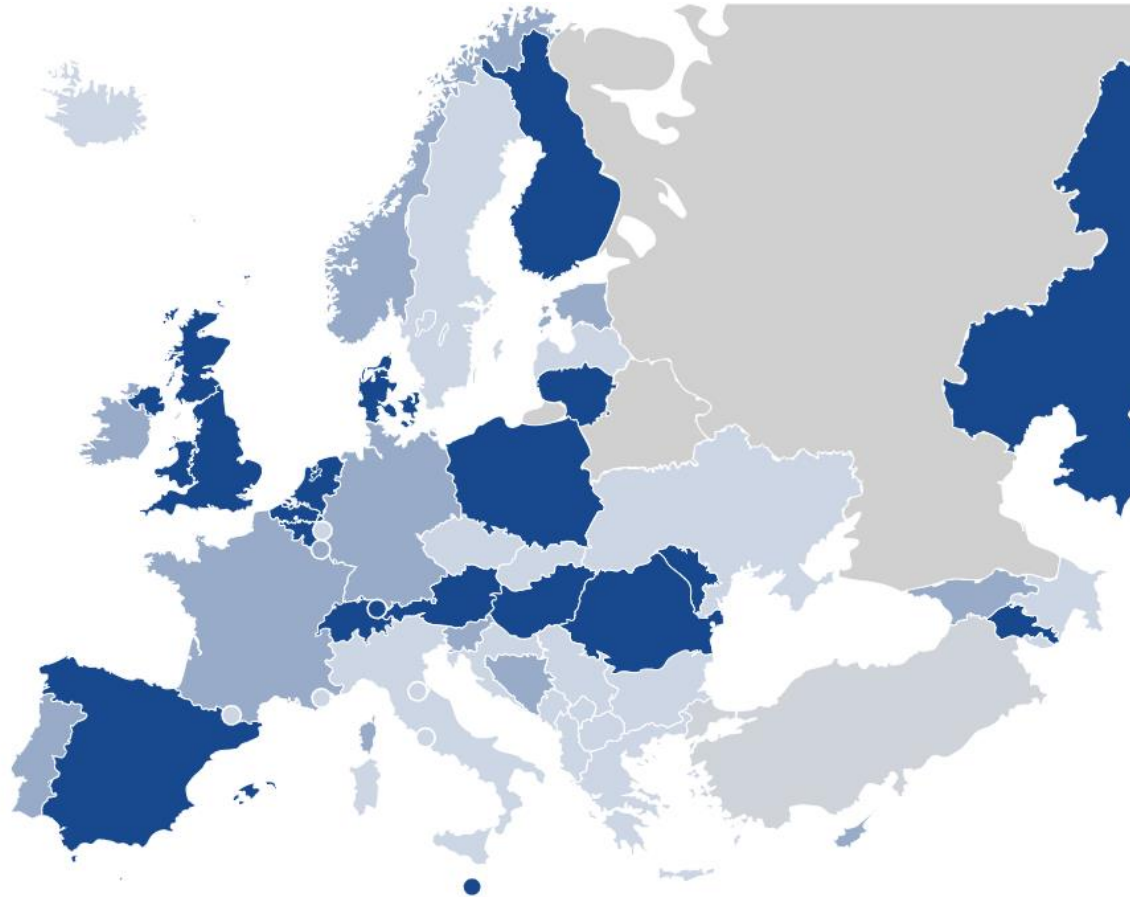
## Obstacles

- *Not (yet) recognized in all EHEA countries*
- Alignment of evaluation and accreditation periods

## Opportunities

- Effective to measure quality of Joint Programmes
- Cross-country quality assurance

# National implementation of the European Approach



- European Approach available to all HEIs
- European Approach available *to some HEIs – or only under specific conditions*
- European Approach not available to higher education institutions

# Main Challenges – *international level*

- **Mutual trust amongst QA agencies**
- **Mutual trust amongst Governments / Ministries**
- Differences in terminology
- Different needs for accreditation
- Time needed to reach consensus on
  - *Budget*
  - *Equal level of involvement of all partners*



# Italy and ANVUR

ANVUR is working

- for making the implementation of European Approach for QA of Joint Programmes **possible in Italy**
- for facilitating the participation of **Italian Universities in the European Alliances**

ANVUR applied for ENQA membership renewal and for inclusion in the EQAR in 2024. Inclusion in the EQAR register will allow ANVUR to manage procedures for the accreditation of Joint Programmes

ANVUR and Italian Ministry are cooperating to **update the regulatory framework** so that **ANVUR can operate comprehensively on an international level**

# Other issues and lessons learned

Appreciative approach vs. «ticking boxes»

Alliances (European Universities): appear to be a testing ground for the EHEA's integrated system

Alliances take care of the QA and the Quality Culture:  
*stimulating and monitoring initiatives, providing suggestions, identifying challenges*

Ultimate goals:

- *increase international mobility*
- *increase European University experience*
- *deepen European cultural integration*

# Appreciative Approach Main Challenges

- Assessment focused on contents, more than procedures
- Institutional review aimed to **understand the contexts** (*«catch the unexpected!»*)
- Looking for good practices in order to catch **diversity**
- To overcome «checklist» (standards, templates), judgments ...and comparisons
- *Let the Quality Culture emerge – Do not pretend to teach it*
- **Expert training**  
*Do not «check»: be curious instead*

Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del  
sistema Universitario e della Ricerca



National Agency for the Evaluation of  
Universities and Research Institutes

# Thanks

*Stefano Santoli – AVA Unit Officer*  
5th December 2023

